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AMHERST, MASS.

# THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

VOLUME THE SECOND.

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JANUARY TO JUNE, MDCCCXXXV.

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*The Cattle Co. 1834.*

The Property of Mr R Smith of Burley

# THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

JANUARY, 1835.

No. 1.]

[VOL. II.]

## ON THE DESPOTIC POWER GIVEN TO THE LANDOWNERS, IN THE POOR LAW AMENDMENT BILL, AS RESPECTS VOTING FOR NEW WORKHOUSES, EMIGRATION, &c.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE."

Nov. 28.

SIR,—As an occupier of land in a pauperized village, I have hoped much from the projected reform of the Poor Laws. I need scarcely add that I have been much disappointed in some of the leading points of the new law; particularly in what may be termed its political features, or its apparent tone or spirit, where the rights and interests of the farmers, and the superfluous labourers are concerned. The bill was especially recommended to the House of Lords as a means of saving their lordships' estates from being engulfed in the all-devouring vortex of pauperism. This was perfectly right and just; but was it right or liberal to pass over the interests of the farmers, whose property every one knows is liable, as the laws stand, to be swallowed up by the landlords themselves, before their estates were touched. The Lord Chancellor—like many other learned in the law—evidently considered it doubtful, or more than doubtful, whether the farmers could be compelled to support the able-bodied poor at all, by the 43. Eliz. The direct inference from which is, that it is doubtful whether the farmers have not, in a long course of years, been plundered of many millions of money, by an illegal interpretation of that Act. Yet this burden which, *if legal*, was the result—as his lordship said, of "the worst law that ever was made," is still laid on the farmers, by what ought to be one of the best laws which ever was made, if the reformed parliament was intended to administer equal justice to all parties. Again, the Scottish poor law was eulogized, and very deservedly; but its great and peculiar merit, that which in fact has led to all the rest, the *equal division of all assessments between the landlord and tenant*, was altogether omitted, or neglected.

The right of the landlords to vote, in the Scottish Kirk session, was however, not forgotten to be transferred to the English vestries, and that in a very extraordinary manner, in clause 40 of the new poor law bill.

This led Mr. Hume pointedly to remark, in the House of Commons, in answer to some observation on the Scottish poor law, that "the Scotch landlords had to pay as well as vote." To this some member replied, that "English landlords also virtually paid the poor-rates." I had no opportunity of seeing much of the debates on this bill in the House of Commons; but Mr. Hume's is the most striking, and, indeed, almost the only remark that I recollect that showed any sympathy with the cause of the occupiers of land. The answer to Mr.

Hume appears, in my view, as one of the shallowest dogmas of the pretended science of political economy; a science which appears to me to contain a strange mixture of solid truth and baseless theory, and which is especially inimical to the poor and the poor laws, and to all the poorer class—an immense majority—of the occupiers of land.

The professors of this science seem to look at mankind only through a telescope; great part of what they see or think they see is 50 or 100 years distant; and thus over-looking almost completely all the affairs of the present generation, they are necessarily themselves little regarded by the existing race of man. In opposition to the observation which lead to this digression, I will venture to assert that the difference between the landlords *actually*, or only *virtually*, paying the poor-rates, and *that alone*, has led to nearly all the evils which have attended the poor-laws of England; evils which, never will, nor can be cured by continuing to burden the tenants with superfluous labourers, with the modern extras of new workhouses, education, chaplains, emigration, &c. which the despotic legislators of the age of Queen Elizabeth left to be enacted by a reformed parliament, in an age when liberality, equal rights, &c. are much talked of for all parties, *excepting only the cultivators of the earth!*

To illustrate the effect of clause 40, in connexion with clause 23, &c., suppose his Majesty's ministers were to deem it desirable that certain public buildings—of much probable or possible ultimate utility—should be ordered, *and paid for*, by the individuals composing the House of Commons. And suspecting (as well they might) the extent of their patriotic feelings, as to sacrificing their own money for the public good, the ministers should get half a dozen proxy votes from each of the peers to enforce their *vetos* in the lower house, they would of course gain their cause.

But what would the public think of such a measure? What would the radical reformers say, who speak disrespectfully of the upper house in their own sphere, and ridicule the proxy system as implying that a peer knows better how to vote without hearing a debate, than a commoner who listens to all the arguments?

Clause 40, however, in my opinion, out-goes the ultra Toryism of the above illustrative example. The landlord whose rates amount to 150*l.* is to have six votes in the Vestry, the tenant rated at 200*l.* is to have but one. The landlord's proxy is to vote away the tenant's property. The tenant may vote against it *if he dare*; but still he is under an uncontrollable despotism, and must purchase land and build a house of which neither brick nor a stone will then be his own, but which will belong, to all intents and purposes, to the landowners of the parishes.

It might perhaps be replied that, in this case,



despotism is necessary; because it would be in vain for the poor law commissioners to unite parishes and order a district workhouse to be built if the dissenting vote of the farmers in some of the parishes should be allowed to frustrate the whole scheme. I am willing to allow that absolute power in this point is indispensable; for the principle of calling on the tenantry to pay for what, when paid for, is to belong to the landowners, must, I should suppose, excite the determined opposition so far as votes go, of every tenant at will, and most of the leaseholders throughout the country.

The original clause was opposed by Lord Wyndford. He is reported (in the *Times*), to have said it was very unjust that the landlord might have as many as six votes, while the tenant could only have one, and proposed an amendment which was agreed to.

I consider the original clause to be very little worse than the amendment, for the power of the landlords cannot be more than absolute. The amendment which is needed, is, that they who vote should also pay, and that in proportion to their present and permanent interest; and the result will be, I conceive, instead of the farmers paying all, they will pay nothing towards the new workhouses. Of course nothing will be done in this matter till parliament meets again: and if the tenantry do not then petition and remonstrate against being called upon to build not only workhouses, but gaols, county halls, bridges, and churches; and against having the farm-buildings they have erected, and all other permanent improvements they may have made, confiscated for the use of the landowners, they will indeed deserve to continue under that sort of semi-feudal slavery from which no party in the state seems inclined to emancipate them. I beg here particularly to recommend to the consideration of the farmers—and their political friends, if they can find any—the opposition made by the Duke of Richmond to a clause for ordering the tenantry to contribute money towards the establishment, &c., of Provident Societies. That nobleman (according to the *Times* paper), “thought it most unjust that the occupiers of land should be taxed for the benefit of their successors. Let the tax be laid on the landowners, and he, as one of them, would cheerfully contribute his share toward the expense of management of those Provident Societies.” His Grace made nearly a similar observation both on the 4th and 7th of August; and the Bishop of London said, that “unfortunately this was the only clause in the bill which bore on the face of it the semblance of kindness to the poor—he felt anxious that it should be inserted.” Amongst all the severe reflections which have been excited by this famous bill, it would be difficult to find any thing more to the purpose than that of the Rev. Prelate, considering his connection with the Report on which it was founded. But where, I would ask, is there a single clause which bears on the face of it the semblance of kindness toward the tenants of farms? Yet some such clauses might very readily have occurred to any one, to say nothing of my own unaided exertions for this especial purpose during a long series of years.

How honourable it would have appeared had the land proprietors at once taken on themselves the charge of building new workhouses, aiding friendly societies, promoting emigration, and, indeed, finding public or private employment for the whole surplus population!

The rich, the great, the noble, and they alone have the power of obtaining the requisite aid from

the trading classes, the moneyed interest, or the general government, for such purposes; and have they not been told by Lord Brougham, and told truly, that the law, or rather the misinterpretation of it, by which the surplus poor were first sent to the farmers for support, was “the worst that ever was made?” Has not the impolicy, the injustice, the impracticability, the demoralising effect of sending surplus labourers to tenants-at-will for work, been telegraphed nightly over South Britain for four years, and written in letters of blood and fire? To counteract all this, what have we but (as in part observed by the Duke of Richmond) the district workhouse system as a ten thousand power, high pressure, Malthusian anti-population engine, *without a safety valve*. The Duke of Richmond proposed a safety valve, viz., a *labour-rate*, but, alas! instead of such a one as above alluded to—viz., a *labour-rate on the landlords and the public*—I fear his Grace meant to lay the burden, in the old style, on the tenantry; although it is easy to prove that such a measure is diametrically opposite to the principles he so liberally advanced in the debate (above quoted), respecting the establishment and encouragement of Provident Societies.

The plain fact is—which I challenge any one to disprove—that whoever employs the surplus labourers the benefits thence resulting cannot be immediate, but must fall perhaps, in some degree, to the tenantry of a few years hence, but almost entirely to the owners of land (and tithes) or their heirs and successors. If the farmers of England wish to use the Reform Bill as a means of breaking the iron yoke under which they have long groaned, let them strenuously impress on their present or future representatives, the necessity of amending the new poor law—and all other laws relative to landlord and tenant—on the principles alluded to (on provident societies), by the Duke of Richmond, and entrust petitions to parliament, to his Grace, with the same view. The first hint of giving to landlords a right to vote in vestries seems to have been taken from a communication of Mr. Courthope, a magistrate of Ticehurst, Sussex (vide first volume of “*Extracts*,” &c., in 1833, p. 52.) That gentleman is however generous enough to allow that landlords should pay half the expense of emigration. The commissioners, however, and the reformed parliament, leave the whole burden on the tenantry, and do not even hint that a sense of justice has induced some landlords to pay two-thirds, or even the *whole expense of clearing incumbrances from their estates*, in which their interest must be four or five times more than that of the tenants. Among the most remarkable *curses* with which the Jews were threatened, in case of disobedience, it is said (Deut. 28, 30), “Thou shalt build a house and shalt not dwell therein: thou shalt plant a vineyard, and shalt not gather the grapes thereof.” The old laws of England, relative to “*Waste*” and “*Reversions*,” have inflicted this “*curse*” on many an honest farmer, nurseryman, &c., and the writer of this paper is almost the only person who has earnestly protested against such manifest injustice. Had not the farmers, by their silence under oppression, tacitly allowed that they are fit only for slaves, I should have deemed it impossible that a legislature, chosen under the Reform bill—the essential principle of which is to diminish the power of landlords and house-lords over their tenants—should have ventured to tell the great body of the tenantry, “you shall build houses by our order and for our final benefit; but,



unless as paupers, you shall not dwell therein, nor claim them as your own." Even Zophar, a pagan, and one of Job's "miserable comforters" (Job, 20, 19), mentions among the short triumphs of the wicked, that "he hath oppressed and hath forsaken the poor, he hath violently taken away a house which he builded not." With particular reference to the objectionable clauses in the new poor-law bill, and the general laws relative to landlord and tenant, the preacher who may be called to address a new parliament might find some not inappropriate words in Isaiah, 65, 21, 22, 23,—*"They shall build houses and inhabit them—they shall plant vineyards and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build and another inhabit, they shall not plant and another eat. They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble."* Would legislators act in the spirit of these texts, we should hear no more of tenants-at-will being called upon to build district workhouses, or any other public buildings whatever—nor to pay for emigration—nor to support surplus labourers in any shape, either on the highways, or in draining, marling, &c., because (as before quoted from the Duke of Richmond), it would be, in each case, *"to tax the present occupiers for the benefit of their successors, or, rather, the landowners."* On the same principle land-proprietors would never more be suffered to take possession of farm-buildings, cyder-mills, pumps, fruit-trees, &c., built or planted by the outgoing tenant, on the paltry pretence that *they are fixed to the freehold.*

Neither would it ever again be left to the honour of the landlord to give something or nothing by way of recompence to an outgoing tenant who had spent his property, and employed surplus hands in permanently improving another's land.

I remain, Sir, your's, &c.

THE AUTHOR OF THE RIGHTS OF THE FARMER.

## YORKSHIRE CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

The members of this Association dined together on Friday, Nov. 14, at Lockwood's White Swan Hotel, York. E. S. Cayley, Esq., M.P. took the chair; Thos. Laycock, Esq., and Mr. Hodgson, secretary to the Association, were vice-presidents. Among the company were the Hon. Sir E. Vavasour, Bart., W. C. Harland, Esq., M.P., F. Worsley, Esq., H. Vavasour, Esq., D. Saunders, Esq., W. Worsley, Esq., John Cayley, Esq., Colonel Croft, John Dunnington, Esq., C. Howard, Esq., R. Cattle, Esq., Edward Parker, Esq., Wm. Burton, Esq., John Flintoft, Esq., John Jolly, Esq., Henry Spence, Esq., Edward Brearey, Esq., S. Key, Esq., J. Micklethwaite, Esq., &c. &c., in all 88.

On the removal of the cloth the PRESIDENT commenced the toasts with "The King," which was followed by "The Queen," and "The Princess Victoria, and the rest of the Royal Family."

THOMAS LAYCOCK, Esq., the Vice-President, then rose and proposed the health of the Chairman, which was received with the warmest demonstrations of applause, and drank with three times three.

The CHAIRMAN, in acknowledging the toast, begged to assure the company that, at that moment, there was nothing more acceptable to his feelings than the hearty good wishes of such an assemblage, expressed as they had been. During the last three or four days, he had been so unwell, that had not the welfare of the agricultural interest

lain at his heart, he should not have ventured to have come to York. He sincerely rejoiced to see that the meeting was so numerous, even more numerous than the spacious room would contain; he trusted that it argued well for the cause of agriculture, when the agriculturists had come to a determination to give this public expression to their opinions. He conceived this expression of opinion must be beneficial here as elsewhere. It perhaps might have come to the knowledge of many, that at a meeting of the Market Club at Northampton, Lord Althorp, now Earl Spencer, had declared that he was exceedingly glad to find that the Market Club of Northampton was determined to steer clear of politics. With all due deference to the noble Lord, he thought worse advice could not be given to the farmers than that they were to steer clear of politics. For what were the objects—what the immediate wants of farmers, which led them to associate together in these societies? Were they not that they might obtain a remunerating price for their produce,—that they might be enabled to live? And those associations which had for their object only the production of fat stock, were but little calculated to produce those important ends. He was exceedingly glad that this association was not so much an association for the fattening of stock, as for the promotion of that more worthy motive, the enabling agriculturists and all other classes to live together in harmony; and he hoped that, ere long, societies of the nature he had alluded to, would blend themselves in associations of this kind. The fattening of stock was in itself an object very commendable; but it was much more desirable, in times like the present, that the agriculturists should unite for the purpose of expressing their decided opinions on the policy pursued by Government, and for endeavouring to rid themselves of the grievances under which they laboured, than that they should engage in competitions productive, at the present prices, of little profit to individuals. Though Lord Althorp, one of his Majesty's Ministers, had expressed the opinion he had stated, he was glad to learn that his Majesty had ventured so far to differ with his Ministers as to contribute 50*l* to the funds of the Buckingham Agricultural Association, at the head of which was Lord Chandos; and had thus set the example of patronizing a political association. The gentlemen he addressed were, in fact, and ought to be, a political association; at least so far a political association, as to have a unity of purpose in contending for the preservation of their property; a privilege enjoyed by every other interest. With respect to the distress of the agricultural classes, that was a subject on which all felt interested; it existed in all quarters, and was uniformly attributable to the low prices. It was quite impossible, considering the weight of taxation, that they could long go on with those low prices—with wheat at 4*s* 6*d* a bushel; it was necessary that something should be done; the question was, what should they do? He was aware it was a very prevalent opinion that low prices came naturally; Ricardo, in 1822, and others of that school, had promulgated that opinion, and that we had a superabundance of corn. But very shortly afterwards, it was maintained that we had an over-population, as well as over much corn. But had it been true that there was a superabundant population, it would have been exactly what was wanted to meet the evil of over-production; and yet it had been seriously maintained that, at the same time, we had too much corn and too great a population. It is well known that, since the peace, wheat had continu-

ally fallen, except in the intervals of 1817, 18, and 1823, 4, 5. At the latter period wheat rose from 38s (its price in Oct. 1822) to 64s per qr. For the express purpose of effecting this rise in price, Lord Londonderry introduced his one pound note act in 1822. The measure was entirely successful in producing a rise in prices; but was followed, as persons acquainted with currency predicted it would, by the panic of 1825. The ministers of that day had brought the country into the dilemma of low prices, by the sudden fall of prices which was the necessary consequence of Peel's bill of 1819; and in 1822 they found the country in such a dreadful state of ruin and adversity, that they were obliged to retrace their steps. They had showed their ignorance as to the results of the change in 1819; they equally showed their ignorance in the change of 1822. They expected one pound notes and a larger quantity of paper to circulate on the present gold standard, than it could possibly carry. If the gold standard had been altered, so as to be adapted to an increased issue of paper, and an increase of prices in 1822, no panic would have occurred in 1825. The increased quantity of paper would have circulated as safely and as steadily (indeed more steadily) on the altered standard,—as the present quantity of paper circulated on the present standard. No effect could be more distinctly traced to its cause than the panic of 1825. Gold, by law, was tied down to the fixed price of 3 17s 10½d the oz.: the increased issue of paper caused by the one pound note act of 1822, made every other article, except gold, rise in price. Speculators in London then went to the Bank of England and demanded, as they had a right to do, this cheap article gold, in exchange for Bank of England notes: so much currency was thus withdrawn. Well, when they got this gold out of the Bank, it did not take the place of the paper withdrawn from the circulation—for it would not sell in this country at more than the legal price of 3 17s 10½d the oz. So they took it abroad and bought silk, wool, or any other commodity; which, when it was brought to this country, was not tied down to any particular price, and thus a profit was made on this drain of gold from the bank. In consequence of all the paper being withdrawn, which was taken to the Bank for this gold, prices suddenly fell—there was a stagnation in trade—a panic, and nobody would trust his neighbour. No one denies the evils of the panic of 1825. But many persons imagine that a change of currency involves a panic—no such a thing. Every one who understood any thing of currency in 1822, knew that an over-issue and a sudden contraction, and probably a panic, must sooner or later be the consequence of Lord Londonderry's act. But if the price of gold had been altered by law to such a price as would have been equivalent to 64s per qr for wheat: or possibly, if there had been the old silver standard—if this alteration had taken place in the nominal price of gold before the alteration in the nominal price of corn and other goods—there would have been no more temptation to take gold away in 1825, than there is now, and we should have been as little in danger of panic as now—perhaps less: for lately we had, been very near one, notwithstanding the boasted security of the present system. This then was, in short, the history of the panic of 1825. It was his (Mr. C.'s) wish, that this history should be thoroughly understood, because the friends of low prices took advantage of the ignorance generally prevailing on the subject of this panic, to prevent any alteration of the present system of currency. Any one who

advocated one pound notes or an extended currency, was stigmatized as being friendly to an unlimited issue of paper. Nothing was more untrue, and those who brought the accusation, if they understood anything of the subject, knew it to be untrue. He for one, was as much against an unlimited issue of paper as any man in the kingdom: he would not accept one pound notes even, except on a standard different from the present; a standard on which they would securely rest. He was anxious for an altered currency, for no other reason than this, that British agriculture, with all its taxation and engagements, could not go on at a price of 5s a bushel for wheat; and he was perfectly assured that there was no other means of raising the prices, except by an altered currency, unless it was by scarcity, which was an advantage to neither grower nor consumer. So long as prices were kept up to a certain standard, and he conceived that 8s a bushel for wheat ought to be the regulating price, with wages in proportion, they might be enabled to meet certain engagements. After the 17 notes were done away with, there was a gradual fall in the price of corn until 1828, which was a scarce season, and was followed by three other scarce seasons. That, of course, produced a rise in the price, as the result of a natural cause. During those three or four years, the price of wheat in this country which generally prevailed was about 64s per qr. At that time he had said that this was not a fair criterion of the value of the article, the rise being entirely produced by the scarcity; therefore when that scarcity ceased, the price of wheat again fell to 44s. The beginning of this fall was in 1832; it had continued ever since, and we were now experiencing its effects. He was perfectly aware that some farmers were doing well, and it was natural that they should do so. The upland farmers, whose wheat crops were good even in the wet seasons, would do well; but the poor lowland farmer, who had no wheat crop during those seasons, and besides, lost all his sheep by the rot, was in a very different predicament. The wet seasons suited the other class, because they got a good price for their wheat, although, as they were well aware, from 1828 to 1831, an immense quantity of wheat came in from foreign countries. Persons might naturally ask why wool continued so high whilst corn had fallen, when both had been so scarce owing to the wet seasons. He would answer at once, the land was an old ewe, that if she died one year, she sprung up as fresh as ever the next. This was not the case with the old sheep ewe; if she died one year, she never rose again to produce another crop. Besides, we had much greater facilities in importing corn than wool; our long wool was peculiar to our own country. It had been calculated that at least one-fourth of the sheep stock died from the rot in those wet years. The number of sheep had been estimated in this country at 32,000,000; at least, therefore, 8,000,000 sheep had to be supplied. But when the capitals of the farmers were gone, how were they to replenish their stocks, especially at the present scarcity prices? And beef had risen in price as well as mutton, for the scarcity in one meat will produce scarcity in another. And if it had not been for Irish pork selling at Leeds last winter for 2d and 3d per pound, mutton would have been 7d or 8d per pound instead of 6d. Wool was the article that would remain the longest high, because, although the Scotch sheep would supply the carcass to us, they would not supply the wool. Nothing could prove the scarcity of wool more, than that we imported 10,000,000 lbs. more of



wool last year than the year before, and yet the price rose in the face of it; and that not owing to any increased demand for wool for manufactures, because at present, in particular, the Leeds trade was much depressed, and operatives thrown out of work, as he had heard from one of them that very morning, but because the manufacturers were obliged to purchase at any price for fear of losing their place in the foreign market, which, if they left off supplying for a year or two, the trade might never return to them. To talk, then, of prosperity from the rise in wool, although a certain class of farmers did benefit by it, was a delusion, and a mocking to those innumerable farmers who had been ruined by what produced a temporary benefit to the upland farmer; temporary it would only be, for as we gradually supply the scarcity in sheep, the price of wool and stock would fall on a level with wheat; as would barley and oats, which had only been deficient from this dry spring. The honourable gentleman dwelt at some length on the different results which those seasons of scarcity would bring to the Highland and Lowland farmers. He then referred to the causes which had been adduced, insufficiently as he contended, to account for the prevailing low prices. In Lancashire it had been imputed to the importation of Irish corn; but this at most he considered would only produce a fall of 4s. per qr. in the price; for wheat was 36s. in Lancashire, while it was about 40s. in the rest of England; and it was not a depression of 4s., but of 24s., which they complained of. In fact, however, there had been considerably less Irish wheat imported into Liverpool last year than the year before; so this plea fell to the ground. In explanation of the prevailing low prices, it had been seriously alleged that a great quantity of corn was smuggled into England from the Channel Islands. Nothing could be more absurd than this allegation; for the prices were at present so low that it was not worth the while of any person running the risk of smuggling it. Were corn 64s. or 84s. a bushel, there would have been some plausibility in this representation; but it was impossible that low prices, and the smuggling of corn from the Channel Islands, should exist together to any extent. So fully convinced was he that this was not the cause of the evil complained of, that it was his intention, at the earliest opportunity in the next session of Parliament, to ask for a committee to inquire into the truth of the alleged smuggling of corn from Jersey and Guernsey. It was also alleged that the present low price was owing to two good harvests. This was the last resource of the friends of low prices—they always wanted to attribute our distresses to a natural cause, well knowing that it was a violent artificial one that had caused it. Before Peel's Bill of 1819, good harvests were always esteemed a blessing to the farmer and to the whole community; it was only the philosophers who had discovered they were a curse. But, in fact, he did not believe that the present and the last harvest were more than what used to be considered average harvests. After the scarcity in the previous years, we naturally enough imagined any thing to be a good harvest. He was not complaining of the harvests; but let them refer, on this subject, to the report of the house of Scott and Co., corn-factors, of Liverpool, which he had lately seen in the *Mark Lane Express*. He had not seen, for a long time, a more comprehensive, and, in his opinion, a more faithful account of the harvests and the crops than this, and it tallied with the farmers' experience on the subject. Last year,

the wheat was in many places only thin upon the ground, although undoubtedly the yield was almost invariably excellent. Taking both yield and straw together, he did not think that more than an average crop was the consequence. Then again this year, if his memory served him, the harvest, as described by the above report, was bad in the western districts in Scotland, and notoriously very deficient in Ireland. On the east and north-east coasts, the harvest was good; but then the corn was much mildewed, and the yield was very indifferent. Oats and barley, too, were exceedingly light crops, and that accounted for their comparatively higher price than wheat. Plentiful crops, therefore, in his opinion, did not account for the present low prices. Under any other circumstances than those now operating, wheat would have kept up rather than down after four successive bad harvests. Some gentlemen were of opinion that the remedy was to be found in a fixed duty on all foreign grain. He might say, with a gentleman whom he lately heard converse on the subject, that if ever such a measure was proposed, he should consider it his fixed duty to oppose it. As regarded both the grower and the consumer, he did not believe that any man, even a philosopher, could devise a better mode of impost than a fluctuating duty.—The hon. gentleman then gave a rapid sketch of the operations of the corn laws, and traced the steps by which the agriculturists had been reduced to their present distressed condition. He said that the corn laws had never had the effect of raising the price of corn, except inasmuch as they prevented corn coming in from abroad. Did not the present corn laws, which operated to the extent, at this moment, of 44s. per qr. duty on the importation of wheat, give protection as far as corn laws could do it? It was not, therefore, the importation of foreign wheat which caused the low price. He had been down to the city last session, to the first house in the corn trade, Scott, Garnett, and Palmer, and he there learnt that no wheat had been let out on bond (beyond a chance quarter or two of damaged corn) for a year, and now the duty is higher than it was then. We did not begin our corn laws in 1815. We had had corn laws for three or four hundred years. But in 1815 we had a corn law passed on the basis of 80s. for the quarter of wheat. Did that raise the price? No. Wheat fell in 1816 to 60s., not in consequence of the importation of foreign corn, but in consequence of the withdrawal of the Bank of England notes. Another corn law passed in 1822, on the basis of 70s. for the quarter of wheat. This was 10s. lower than the former, and yet wheat rose immediately after; but that, as he had shown before, was in consequence of Lord Londonderry's one pound act. Another corn law passed in 1828, on the basis of 64s. per quarter for wheat,—still lower, yet wheat rose immediately after; but this, as before stated, was owing to the three or four successive deficient harvests. An enemy to the corn laws, who wandered wide for cause and effect, would say, on hearing all this, "See the injury which corn laws have been to you." But this would be erroneous reasoning; the corn laws had no effect whatever on those changes in the prices he had described. If corn be entirely prohibited, corn, in an average season, can only fetch a certain price, under our present currency standard of value; that price, as was predicted 15 years ago, cannot be more than 40s. What our corn laws do under our present currency is, to protect us between, say 45s. and 30s. or 35s.—whatever the price, on an ave-

rage, would be at which foreign corn could be introduced here duty free. The present low price was to be attributed to no other cause under heaven than the final consummation of Peel's Bill of 1819, which only came into full operation in 1829, and the effects of which were concealed for three years by the deficient harvests increasing the price of grain. He was sorry to have detained them so long on this point, but he considered it of the first importance to have this question fairly investigated; for if the farmers really wished to be relieved from this oppression of low prices, they had one, and only one way of effecting a relief of that kind; and that was by altering the currency,—not by an unlimited issue of paper, which he was against as much as any man, but by an alteration which would produce, in fact, a much safer currency than the present, and at the same time higher prices. In conclusion, he trusted that the day was not far distant when the farmers and the country, disappointed in every other plan and expectation of relief, would turn to this; the effect could only be removed by removing the cause. When he looked round on the company assembled, and called to mind other pleasing indications in various parts of the country, he was led to entertain stronger and firmer hopes that the result of another election (if it were not done in another session of this Parliament) would be to confer some measure of permanent relief on the suffering agricultural classes. Monetary changes produced an effect not only on agriculture, but on the other productive interests; and indeed, the idea that the manufacturers of the country should prosper by the depression of its agriculture, was contrary both to experience and to common sense. He concluded by proposing—"Prosperity to the York Central Agricultural Association." He was extremely glad to see so numerous and respectable a company round him; and he called to mind that this association was the cause of one of the best petitions on the subject of agricultural grievances being sent up to the last Parliament; he did not remember seeing any petition so ably conceived, and so temperately worded, as that which proceeded from the proprietors and occupiers of land in the city and vicinity of York. He was exceedingly glad to learn, from conversations with many tradesmen in this city, that they and other classes were becoming convinced of the error they had so long and generally entertained, that low prices were good for them. The labourers also, if not in this town, in many others, were beginning to see that unless their masters made a profit, it was impossible for them to pay remunerating wages. He was extremely glad at finding a disposition manifested on the part of the farmers, tradesmen, and labourers generally of this district, to unite together for their common welfare, and he trusted that an example so worthy of imitation would not be lost upon the neighbouring market towns. The country must unite for its own relief; and if it be firm, the remedy is in its own hands. Every farmer had not only a right, but it was his duty, to be a politician whenever his ruin was threatened. The hon. gentleman sat down, after proposing the toast, which was drunk with the customary honours. During his address, he was repeatedly interrupted by the loudest expressions of applause.

The toast was followed by a song from Mr. BULMER.

A question having been put to the Chairman, as to whether it was more advantageous to the farmer for the duty on foreign corn to be paid on its

importation, or when it was taken out of bond, he replied that he had no hesitation in saying it would be much better for the farmer that it should be paid on its importation. He then proposed the health of the Hon. Wm. Duncombe, which was received with loud applause.—A note had been received from Mr. Duncombe, expressing his regret at being unable to attend the meeting.

The Lord Lieutenants of the three Ridings was next given from the chair. A song by Mr. Seymour followed. "The Members for the East and West Ridings"—and "Agriculture, Manufactures, and Commerce," were also given from the Chair, and drunk with enthusiastic applause.

The health of the Hon. C. Langdale, M. P. for Beverley, was proposed by the Chairman, who, in the observations he made on it, said that from his own experience of Mr. L. in Parliament, he knew not a more upright or independent member, or one who was a truer friend to the agricultural interest.

Sir E. VAVASOUR, on behalf of his brother, acknowledged the toast. He was surprised at meeting so numerous an assembly on the present occasion, and said he was desirous of learning what were the intentions and feelings of what might be called a palpable meeting in this county. Although the association had been termed a political one, by the Hon. Chairman, he hoped it was not tainted with party feeling, or it would quickly sink into insignificance. When he observed the combinations which were forming against the agricultural interest, he thought it important that agriculturists should come forward to protect themselves; and it was that which induced him to become a member of this association. He concluded by proposing the health of W. C. Harland, Esq. M. P. for Durham. (*Loud applause*).

W. C. HARLAND, Esq., rose to return thanks. He observed, that the advantages resulting from an association like the present, were, the introduction of a more improved system of agriculture, and a kindlier feeling between landlord and tenant, whose interests were in common; for, in his opinion, they must stand or fall together. He knew that it was the opinion of many respectable persons, that their efforts ought to cease with these objects; and that they ought not to interfere with legislative proceedings. He decidedly differed from those individuals, and should continue to do so, until the present state of agriculture was wholly out of the way of legislators—until Acts of Parliament had nothing whatever to do with it.—What were the causes of the present low prices, but as his hon. friend had so clearly explained, the increase in the value of money?—and what led to that, but an act of Parliament? That act was passed in 1819, and is known by the name of Mr. Peel's act. In plain terms it reduced prices one-third, and in some instances one-half, and thus the agriculturist and the labourer had to pay all that extra to the fund-holder. He did not believe there were any gentlemen present who would talk lightly of the national faith; but were there not two parties to the national compact; and it was just as much a breach of faith, to lay on one-third or more to the claim of the creditor, as to wish to sponge off any part of the liability of the debtor. They were willing to pay what they had borrowed, but they had no right to be called upon to pay one stiver more. (*Applause.*) But, said the hon. gentleman, the opponents of agriculture told them, there was another rod in pickle for them. It was to come from the free-trade school of philosophers;—it was another Act of Parliament, and was to be



entitled "An Act for the free admission of corn under certain restrictions." This country was now groaning under an unnatural debt, and still these philosophers expected the farmer to compete with foreign countries. So long as his capital and labour were taxed, to pay the interest of this debt, which, be it remembered, was contracted not for agricultural but for national purposes—so long he was entitled to national protection, to prevent his sinking under the burden of his difficulties. (*Applause.*) He had already enough of difficulties to contend with; but if the protection was withdrawn, and he trusted the day would never come when that would be the case, then would the country gentleman be driven from the house of his fathers; the farms be tenantless, and the tenants and labourers sent to the workhouse. Would the agriculturists of England submit to this? If they did, then this country, which had been lauded above all others for her manufactures, her commerce, and her agriculture, would be left a mournful example of bastard philosophy. (*Loud applause.*) He feared he had trespassed too long on their time, and begged to return his thanks for the kindness with which his health had been drank. In his opinion, agriculture must eventually prosper,—she had justice on her part, and he trusted they would soon see her rise again from the difficulties and distresses under which she is now labouring. (*Great applause.*)

MR. SHEPPARD, of Fulford, said that although he was not an agriculturist in this neighbourhood, no one present felt more than himself in the welfare of the English farmer. He had been in the corn trade for 34 years, and during that time had lost as many thousand pounds. If he had not gained money by experience, he had gained a little knowledge. Free trade in corn had been mentioned. In his opinion it was impossible for the English farmer to compete with the foreigner, who paid little for his land, and almost nothing for labour. He held in his hand a sample of Barley grown in Denmark, which he sold yesterday for 18s. per quarter, and which was bought in Denmark at 13s. 6d. Better grain could not be. He would press on the farmer the necessity of his immediately thrashing out his barley to keep up the averages. Mr. S. then pointed out the fallacious system of taking the averages, and contended that the returns ought to be made by the farmer only.

Song, "Hebe," by MR. ANDERSON.

THE CHAIRMAN said that he always wished to steer clear of party, and he trusted that the association had not the slightest glimpse of it. It had for its object the promotion of the agricultural interest, and the public weal. He was about to propose the health of a noble Lord, who was not only the head of the agricultural interest in the House of Commons, but the leader of agricultural associations. He was fully convinced with the great Burke, that "when bad men combined, good men must unite." He had great pleasure in drinking "the health of Lord Chandos, and success to his exertions in promoting the interests of agriculture."

WILLIAM WORSLEY, Esq. said that he had received permission to give a toast. He was sure that it would be given with that demonstration of feeling which it deserved, for a more zealous friend to the cause which they had that day met to celebrate did not exist, than their worthy vice-president, Mr. Laycock. He begged leave to give his health. (*Cheers.*)

MR. LAYCOCK, in acknowledging the compli-

ment, said he was one of the first who originated the association. He was sorry to say that it had not effected much good hitherto, but yet he hoped it ultimately would do. He was sorry to see, by that morning's paper, that a gentleman who had been nominated as sheriff for one of the southern counties, had stated his inability to serve, on the score of the low price of agricultural produce. True, the Lord Chancellor had told him he could not admit his plea, because he (the Lord Chancellor) was of opinion that the agricultural interest would improve. He (Mr. L.) hoped it would, and that the Lord Chancellor would prove to be, what he never took him for,—a witch. (*Hear, hear.*) Mr. L. concluded by again returning his thanks for the honour conferred upon him.

THE VICE PRESIDENT then gave "The Patron of the York Agricultural Association—Lord Harewood"—which was drank with applause.

THE PRESIDENT, in giving "The Press," expressed the obligation to which the agricultural interest was indebted to the local part of it, for the independence it had shown in advocating the interests of agriculture. To it they were principally indebted for the prevailing opinions of the country, and he trusted, and believed that the press at York, would be of still greater benefit to the agricultural interest. (*Applause.*)

THE EDITORS of the *York Chronicle*, the *Yorkshireman*, and the *Yorkshire Gazette*, severally returned thanks, and expressed their determination to do all in their power to promote the welfare of the agricultural interest.

THE PRESIDENT then said that he had omitted before to state that Mr. Thompson, of Escrick, had sent a letter expressive of the regret which he felt at not being able to be present.

THE HON. SIR E. VAVASOUR next gave the health of Mr. Cayley, one of the members for the North-Riding, which was drank with three times three.

THE HON. MEMBER returned thanks, and said there was no interest so dear to his heart as the agricultural interest. He went into Parliament as an agricultural member, and as an agricultural member he trusted he should come out. He had done his best in Parliament to promote the interest of the agriculturist, and if the measures which he had, from an honest conviction of their truth, supported, were not acted upon, it was not his fault. He rejoiced to behold the present assemblage, viz. an union between the trading community and the farmers; and hoping to meet them in good health next year, he begged most sincerely to thank them for their kindness.

FREDERICK WORSLEY, Esq. impressed on the minds of the meeting the necessity of Poor Laws for Ireland.

THE PRESIDENT gave "Prosperity to the City of York," which was drank with applause.

THE VICE PRESIDENT next gave "The worthy Secretary of the Society," drank with great applause.

MR. HODGSON returned thanks, and said that nothing would give him greater pleasure than to be of benefit to the Society. The approbation of the Association amply repaid him; and he trusted that it would increase in numbers and in usefulness.

THE PRESIDENT having left the Chair, it was occupied by R. Cattle, Esq., who addressed the meeting on the importance of agricultural associations.

MR. SAUNDERS, of Askam; Mr. Wiley, of Bransby; H. Graham, Esq., and several other gentlemen, addressed the meeting, but our limits prevent further detail.

## SCENES IN HUMBLE LIFE,

BY MRS. R. J. HARTWELL.

## THE ARREST.

But come, ye generous minds, in whose wide thought  
Of all his works, creative bounty, burns  
With warmest beam, and on your open front  
And liberal eye, lifts, from his dark retreat,  
Inviting modest want \* \* \* \*

Surprising oft  
The lonely heart with unexpected good!

There was a mysterious stillness pervading the whole scene; twilight had commenced, but no ray of light appeared to illuminate the little dwelling. The once thickly-peopled shop was now deserted except by one singular-looking individual, who was faintly to be descried in its most distant recess. He was a tall, gaunt personage, of somewhat austere demeanour, and the air of perfect self-complacency with which he gazed around, bespoke him, at least in his *own* opinion, the superior of the occupants of that humble habitation.

The shadows of evening deepened rapidly, and the stranger, as though impatient of delay, stepped hastily towards a door leading to an inner apartment, and half opening it, exclaimed, "My good people, I can wait no longer. Woodbourn, you must prepare to depart." Again he was in his former position.

The group within consisted of five persons; at a small table, upon which a few piles of silver stood erected, sat a female, whose wan cheek and swollen eye betokened her the subject of some heavy affliction. Alternately she turned her restless gaze from the object before her to her husband, who was pacing the chamber with irregular footsteps, his lips compressed, his eye downcast, and sighs frequently issuing from his agitated breast. Near the fire, with her head resting against the chimney-piece, stood a young girl, who was striving vainly to repress her tears, whilst at his feet, encircled in each other's arms, crouched two younger children, looking all the astonishment and fears their little bosoms experienced. As the door opened, a simultaneous start was given, and as it closed, the mother, turning a look of deep despondency on her husband, exclaimed, "Woodbourn, what is to be done?"

"Done!" he repeated mournfully, "what can be done! I—"

"Father!" suddenly interrupted the young girl, as though a thought at that moment presented itself to her mind, "Could we not collect the money among some of our rich neighbours?"

"Of them, child!" returned the parent unhesitatingly.

"Yes," she continued, encouraged that a positive negative had not been put to her suggestion—"Yes, I should think if they knew the *urgency* of the case they *could not* refuse you."

"What, ask their *bounty*!" he resumed, "or borrow it of them!" rejoined the wife, perceiving that the idea was on the point of rejection.

"Nay," was the reply, "for I could never repay them."

There was a pause.

"Well, father, what do you say to my proposition?" the daughter at length timidly asked.

Woodbourn stopped, and prest his hand upon his brow in silence; every eye in the apartment was fixed with intensity upon him;—"No," he said, dropping it in utter hopelessness, "No—I can go with them to prison, but I cannot ask for *charity*." The Mother sunk her face upon her hands, and wept. The Father approached to comfort her, and the Daughter darted suddenly from the apartment.

"Oh! Sir," she exclaimed, addressing the stranger, into whose presence she had entered, "Will you extend your kindness by assuring me you will not take my Father from us till my return?"

"No, indeed, young woman, I can make no such unconditional promises," replied the man of law, drawing himself up commandingly—"How can I know but you may—*may never return*?"

"Oh! dear kind Sir," she cried with eagerness, "I shall be back within an hour, and I hope able to save you farther trouble, if you will but wait so long; do not refuse me."

"Well, child, we shall see," he returned in milder accents, "perhaps I may; at any rate, go you and procure the cash if possible."

"Oh! thank you, thank you a thousand times! I knew you were too kind to deny my request," cried the weeping girl, and she was out of sight in an instant.

"Margaret!" exclaimed Woodbourn, after a lengthened silence, "This delay is unavailing, we must *part*."

She threw herself upon his bosom in uncontrolled despair; he could add no more, but the burning tears which fell upon her forehead, told her most eloquently all hope was indeed over.

"Kate, child, come and make what preparations are necessary for my departure," he at length articulated in a low husky voice, and he turned towards the fire.

She was gone.

"Why, where is the girl?" he added quickly; "Jemmy, my boy, where is your sister?"

"I don't know, Father," said the child timidly, but she ran out of the room just now."

"Ah!" cried the Mother, starting from the sinewy arms which supported her, and a smile of joy lit up her countenance, "is she gone? Then you may *yet* be spared to us," and she clasped her hands in thankfulness.

"Gone! gone where, Margaret? what do you mean?" interrogated Woodbourn eagerly.

"To try to save her Father from a prison," was the reply.

"I trust she is not gone to ask for charity," he added hastily.

"Better ask for any thing than lose her parent, though it were barefoot or on her knees," returned the wife, whose joy at the idea of success could not be damped by any thought of humiliation.

"What, my child sue like a common *beggar*?"

"And would she not *become one* if deprived of him who is her only support?" asked his companion."

"Ah! Margaret," he answered, "she will *yet* be deprived of him, for they will spurn her from their threshold."



"Nay, nay, we will hope otherwise."

"I cannot hope; alas! I know them too well."

"Nay, husband," exclaimed Margaret, somewhat reproachfully, "you are unjust."

"We shall see," he replied, with a mournful smile, as he threw himself upon a chair. There was a pause.

"It is growing late," continued the anxious Mother, walking to the casement—"and the night is dark; I wish she were safe back again." She returned to the fire.

Again the silence was unbroken, until the younger children creeping stealthily towards their Father, clambered up the back of his chair, as one of them whispered, "Then you wont go away from us after all, will you?"

The parent answered not, but folded them both to his bosom.

At that moment a sudden gust of wind rushed fearfully down the neighbouring hill, and as it rapidly passed the cottage, every window it contained shook with violence, a heavy shower of hail-stones followed; on the instant Margaret uttered a faint exclamation, and hastened towards the outer door. Woodbourn arose, snatched up his hat, exclaiming, "I will go find her myself!" and was striding across the shop when his progress was arrested by the stranger, who, springing forward, laid his hand upon his shoulder, as he sternly said, "You forget, Sir, you are my prisoner."

"Prisoner!" he repeated, startled by the word, no less than the action;—"Ah! truly, I had indeed forgotten!" and he turned towards the inner apartment.

Minute after minute passed slowly on, an hour had elapsed, and still Kate returned not. The hail-storm had given place to a heavy fall of snow, and the unhappy Mother passed alternately from her husband to the open air, to give reports of the increasing inclemency of the night.

"A bad business this, and I cannot possibly put up with any more delays," was the observation of the stranger as she last passed him, and she hastened with sorrow to communicate it.

For some time Kate Woodbourn pursued her way with unabated rapidity, but as the night more entirely closed in, she slackened her pace, and began to gaze around her with apprehension.

A small wood now presented itself before her, through which her path lay. Should she turn from it to those leading to other dwellings, might not *their* inhabitants be as likely to give attention to her tale? Darkness and gloomy solitude was before her, but hope had pointed out the habitation to which they led, as the one most likely to become successful. She hesitated, listened, and endeavoured to pierce with her eye the dense obscurity. To her right stood a mansion whose proximity seemed inviting her to approach; to her left another, although a little farther removed, presenting no such formidable obstacle, but yet she was unable to persuade herself to give up her primitive intention. Could he but obtain the assistance of Lady Mulgrave, others, she rightly judged, would be more willing to listen to and assist her. "I must overcome this foolish fearfulness," she cried aloud, at the same time darting forward, "and the God of heaven will protect me!" She raised her eyes, but nothing save the closely-entwined

branches of gigantic trees met her view; a few moments and she was almost lost in darkness.

With a swift and noiseless step, the trembling girl issued from the dreaded spot, and it was with a thankful heart that she beheld lights passing and repassing in the mansion, towards which she was so rapidly hastening. Breathing a silent prayer for success to attend her undertaking, she gently opened the gates before her, and endeavoured to collect her thoughts, but the nearer she approached, the more her agitation increased, nor was it lessened by perceiving through the long windows which surrounded the right wing of the building, a numerous party assembled round the dinner table with their hostess at its head. She stopt, and her heart died within her; engaged as she now was, how could *she* hope to gain admittance to her presence, and delay would be fatal. After a few moments spent in unavailing regret, she ventured to advance a few paces towards the apartment, keeping carefully in the shade lest she should be observed. Her ladyship was talking earnestly with those around her, and the benevolence of her countenance, and the smile which seemed to dwell within her eyes, partially reassured the trembling girl by bringing back hope to her desponding bosom. "Surely," she mentally exclaimed, as she bent forward more closely to examine her features; "she cannot refuse to see me when she knows how important is my mission. They say she is good, as she is beautiful; and if so, oh, how amiable must she be! at all events I will make the attempt," she added, and with the swiftness of lightning darted round to a side entrance.

Her request to be favoured with a few moments' audience by her ladyship, was made in a timid though earnest tone to the livery servant, who admitted her, but upon being informed by him it was utterly impossible that evening, as she was particularly engaged, she could no longer command her feelings and burst into tears.

In extreme surprise the attendant inquired the cause of her sorrow.

"Ah sir," she answered, turning away, "if you knew but the consequence of this delay, you would pity and excuse me." She looked once more towards him.

"Stay my good girl!" he returned, softened by the genuine expression of grief depicted in her countenance, for Kate Woodbourn was not one to be contemplated with indifference, nor are woman's tears weapons to be easily withstood, "Come in and I will see what I can do in delivering your request."

Kate was in an extacy, and knew not how to sufficiently express her thankfulness.

"Our lady is a kind good creature as ever breathed on earth," he said, opening a door leading from the hall to a small retired apartment, "and if any one in the world would leave a gay assembly to attend you, it is she, so dry up your tears my good girl," and he quitted the room.

Some time elapsed, but her ladyship came not. Kate was all impatience and anxiety; perhaps though successful, she might be too late, besides she had other applications to make, for she could not expect so large a donation as that

required for her purpose at the hands of a perfect stranger; at length the sound of a light footstep met her ear, the door opened, and she was in the presence of Lady Mulgrave.

"Be seated my dear, be seated," her ladyship kindly said, taking a chair beside her, "and then tell me as briefly as possible the purport of your mission."

Kate was at a loss how to open the subject. "I hope your ladyship will excuse the liberty I am taking in applying to you," she at length began "but nothing but the urgency of the case could have made me presume to trouble you in such an affair." She hesitated.

"Speak freely my good girl" said her companion encouragingly.

"Your ladyship perhaps knows that my father keeps a little shop in the village."

"I do."

"Well," she resumed "he used to find it answer the wants of his family, and provide comfortably for us all, but lately, my lady, it has been otherwise, from some unaccountable cause his business has declined, and—and"—she stopt, "he has got into some little difficulty I suppose."

"Yes, madam—not I assure you from any extravagance or imprudence, but—but when his last payments became due—he found it impossible to procure the sum requisite, and to day, Oh lady, to day, he was arrested for the amount!"

"Poor fellow," feelingly ejaculated her ladyship, at the same time taking her purse from her reticule.

"Oh lady" continued the agitated girl with earnestness, "nothing but the thought of seeing them drag my beloved father to prison, of the anguish my mother has already suffered at the idea, the helpless condition of my little brothers, the disgrace into which we should all be plunged, could have emboldened me to apply for assistance, even to you, kind and good as I have heard you to be, but those who have never been in danger of losing a parent by such means, know little of the agony, the deep agony of the very thought!" Here she hid her face in her hands, and burst into a paroxysm of tears.

Lady Mulgrave would have interrupted her, but a sensation she could not conquer impeded her utterance. "Come," she at length said, "you have not told me the amount yet," and she laid a hand upon her arm.

Kate strove vainly to reply.

"I will ring for some refreshments," she added, rising and approaching the bell, "you stand in need of them to compose you."

"Oh lady," the weeping girl began; she could not proceed.

"Here, my dear, take this, it will revive you," continued her ladyship, herself presenting to her some wine, which an attendant had brought at her request.

Kate wept with renewed vehemence.

"Come, come, my young friend, I cannot allow you to weep thus, *indeed* I cannot," she exclaimed, taking both her hands; whilst tears stole rapidly down her own fair cheek, "we shall arrange everything to your satisfaction; then why this agitation?" Kate flung herself upon her knees be-

fore her, and covered the hands she held with kisses.

"Nay, nay, my good girl, you make me quite ashamed by this show of intense gratitude," her ladyship continued, attempting to raise her; "it looks as though a kind action was so scarce a thing in the world, that it is regarded with astonishment. Come, come, you must not throw such an imputation upon the wealthier portion of your fellow creatures, believe me they are less to blame than you may imagine; they are ignorant not only of your *worth*, but in many cases of your *wants* also, and although it is true that ignorance is culpable, yet it is more excusable than where neglect proceeds from *pride* and *hardness of heart*."

"Dear lady, if they were all like you," sobbed the excited girl.

"Well, well, we will talk this matter over to-morrow, when I intend calling upon you," added her ladyship; "in the mean time take some refreshment, and tell me the sum you require."

"The debt, lady, is twenty pounds," Kate replied, speaking with difficulty, "eleven of which my father had laid aside towards it, and the rest—"

"Then this note will be sufficient for the present," interrupted her auditor, placing one of ten pounds within her hands, "and to-morrow we shall have more leisure to see what can be done for you."

"Oh lady," exclaimed the delighted girl, half-hesitating to accept it, "I had no idea—"

"Never mind what were your ideas on the subject," she gaily replied.

"But my father," continued Kate, her eyes again filling with tears of gratitude.

"Oh, as to him, tell him he is my debtor, but the day of payment must be when I ask him for it, and not *before*, on pain of my eternal displeasure. There," she continued, perceiving a profusion of thanks were about to be poured forth from the lips of the grateful daughter, "There, you must now begone, I cannot possibly spare another moment; and your parents, think of their anxiety." She hurried her into the hall. "I wish I could send some of my people back with you, it is a gloomy night for a young female to venture out in alone."

"Oh, dear lady, *Heaven* will protect me. I care for nothing *now*," she interrupted.

"Well then, a good night to you; you will see me to-morrow; good night," her ladyship said, affectionately pressing her hand, and before another syllable could be uttered she had ascended towards the drawing room.

"Bless her," murmured Kate, as she quitted the mansion, and she kissed the memento of her kindness.

As she approached towards the gates she turned to take another look at the abode of her benefactress, when, to her surprise, she perceived her standing at a window, evidently gazing after her, although the darkness concealed her from her sight. "Bless her," she again articulated, and she moved onward. Once more she turned, she was still there. She raised her eyes towards Heaven, but her heart was too full for words. She reached the gates, and the impulse she felt was altogether irresistible. She sunk upon her knees on the green



herbage; but she could not pray, she could only weep forth her gratitude. Yet, were those tears not prayers? Ah, yes! and prayers which the Almighty will never listen to in vain.

A few moments and Kate Woodbourn arose; she turned to pursue her path. It was at *that* instant the hail-storm commenced in all its fury. She was but thinly habited, and the wind blew bitterly around her slender frame. The darkness of the wood was again before her, but its recesses offered her a partial shelter; she shuddered, and grasped the treasure she possessed with tenacity, as she entered its gloomy solitude. One half its length was passed in silence, when she thought she heard footsteps following her; alarmed for the safety of her treasure, rather than her own, she hurried forward, but the footfalls gained rapidly upon her; and finding it impossible to increase her celerity, she slackened her pace that the stranger might pass. Her heart beat violently. He approached—he was at her side; she could just discern that it was the figure of a man. He looked towards her—he passed on, but continued his glances backward; at length he stopped, as though awaiting her approach. She almost gasped for breath, and hid the note within her bosom. To walk quietly towards him, knowing that he was waiting to address her, she could not, she darted past him with velocity.

"Kate Woodbourn, is that you?" exclaimed the stranger in surprise; a faint exclamation of joy escaped her.

"Oh, Herbert, how you terrified me," she ejaculated, and stopped abruptly.

"Why, how could I for a moment suppose it was you, Kate?" he returned as he approached and took her hand, "at this time of night and in such a spot; what could have possibly brought you here?"

"Ah, I would tell you, if I *might*," was the reply, as she put her arm within his own.

"*Might!* who shall dare to forbid you telling any thing to *me*," he asked proudly.

"My father, Herbert."

"Your father! he could not require it, surely."

"He does, and I dare not tell you."

"How strange!" murmured the young man, and they walked on in silence.

"You know my father is a *strange* man sometimes, Herbert," she resumed, anxious to clear away all suspicion; "but have you heard no rumours in the village to-day?"

"Heard! no; what *should* I hear?"

"Oh, nothing; but I thought—Though it is no matter—my father, humble as we are, has his pride, you know; and he forbade me—." She stopped. "Oh, I do so wish I might tell you *all*," she concluded.

"There, there, Kate; don't distress yourself about it," he returned, touched by the simple earnestness of her manner.

"Oh!" she exclaimed, "I am so unspeakably happy, that I feel as though my heart could not contain the intensity of its joy."

Herbert pressed her hand in silence; they reached the extremity of the wood, and as they emerged from its shadows, he for the first time observed the slightness of the outer garments in which his companion was attired. The snow had

already begun to strew the earth with its unsullied purity, and the wind drove it obliquely in their faces as they proceeded. The youth knew not how to shelter his trembling charge from its bitterness, and could only support her with his nervous arm, but she careless and reckless of all danger, now he had become her protector, bounded joyously on, only eager to relieve her parents of that anxiety she knew they must be suffering.

"Herbert, you must leave me now," she said, as they came within sight of her own habitation. "You can come, as usual, in about an hour, but you need not say that we have met, good bye," and she sprang towards the cottage. "I have it, I have it, it is here," she exultingly exclaimed, exhibiting her treasure as she burst into the presence of her family, and she threw herself on the bosom of her father.

"Thank God!" fervently ejaculated the wife, raising her hand towards Heaven.

"Amen," added Woodburn, straining his daughter to his heart. "But my child," he continued, "you must tell me how you procured it, ere—he stopped."

The narration was eagerly began, and at its conclusion every eye was overflowing with grateful feeling.

"Come," the husband at length exclaimed, "let us put an end to this business. But where is Herbert I wonder? It is past his usual hour; he could have helped me to settle this affair; surely he has not heard of our misfortune, and deserted us."

"Deserted us," repeated Kate, indignantly; "no father, I have already seen him; but I thought as you forbade me to mention—"

"What girl, do you think I could be so ungrateful to this dear lady as to wish to *conceal* her benevolence," cried Woodbourn in his turn, with indignation; "no, go for him, Kate; for all the world shall know of her goodness. Bless her!" he added emphatically.

"May I then tell him *all*?" asked the delighted girl.

"All! aye child," added the mother, and tell him he shall be no son of *mine* if he does not pray for her the rest of his life for saving thy father's."

Kate bounded from the apartment, the very personification of rapture.

#### WEST KENT PLOUGHING MATCH.

On Monday, Nov. 24, a match took place in West Kent, near Gravesend. Thirty-two ploughs started, of which thirty-one were the Turnurest, with four horses and a driver, and the other one of Ransom's two-horse ploughs, without a driver. Half an acre of clover ley was allotted to each, which was ploughed very excellently by several of the ploughmen, but by none of them, in the opinion of many of the spectators, better than by the ploughmen of the Suffolk plough. The task was completed in several instances, amongst which was the two-horse plough, in two hours and thirty-five minutes. Some very fine teams were exhibited which, with the plough, cannot be estimated at less than 170*l* each, whilst the Suffolk plough and its slight pair of horses are not worth more than 50*l*. As ploughs of this description are

used by only one person in that neighbourhood, there was no competition, and therefore no prize; but the judges were so well pleased with the performance that they gave the ploughman a sovereign; indeed, the best testimony to the merits of the plough was the surprise expressed by many of the spectators at the successful competition of this apparently insignificant implement, contrasted with the imposing appearance of the Kentish plough. [See subjoined letter from a correspondent at Frindsbury]

### TO THE EDITOR OF THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS."

Frindsbury, Nov. 29, 1834.

SIR,—In consequence of the very kind and handsome treatment which my communication (made to you at the commencement of the last month) received at your hands, I take this opportunity of giving you an account of a very interesting Meeting, which took place on Monday last, in a field at the back of Chalk Church, near Gravesend, in order to try the skill of the different ploughmen in the neighbourhood. On account of the novelty of the scene in this part of the county, the company was large, and 31 ploughmen entered as competitors, with four-horse and three-horse ploughs, and after each plough had finished half an acre, the judges commenced their task, and a task indeed it proved to decide which was the best work, but their decisions gave general satisfaction. After the distribution of the prizes by the Earl of Darnley, who took great interest in this pleasing scene, the major part of the respectable spectators bent their steps to Gravesend, where they dined together in the Town Hall, the Earl of Darnley presiding, supported by the Magistrates of the Division. The day was here finished very pleasantly, and an arrangement entered into that the like may take place another year, and that good shepherds, faithful and industrious servants, of long standing, may publicly receive the rewards they so justly deserve. A subscription will be opened, which there is no doubt will receive the attention of very many. The conduct of Lord Darnley gave general satisfaction, and was worthy the imitation of all Peers in the Kingdom. I am sorry to inform you the spirit of incendiarism prevails among us, and that on Saturday night last we had another fire. A barn filled with corn, belonging to R. Knight, Esq., of Cliffe, was burnt, and had indeed must have been the man who committed this malicious act, as two labourers' cottages, containing ten children, were placed in imminent danger. It cannot be that the labourers are badly paid here, because those who are at piece-work earn 15s. per week, if able-bodied, and those who work by the day, which number is comparatively small, earn 12s per week. The labourers worked well at the fire on Saturday last, and their general conduct expressed good feeling. We have formed an Association in this neighbourhood to offer rewards, and we each agree to attend at fires with five efficient trustworthy men, with fire-buckets, who are paid from the Society's fund.

Your paper last Monday gave an account of an incendiary fire at Deal, which proved to be a stack of radish-stubble, set on fire by the stupid farmer himself in the dark of night, which has drawn on him the censure of the whole of his neighbours, who promptly flocked to his assistance, and which censure he richly deserves. At a meeting of this neighbourhood, about three weeks since, called in consequence of the fire which had

taken place in the parish of Hoo, the Earl of Darnley, who had been present at the examination of several men taken up on suspicion, declared it to be his opinion that their deplorable ignorance, and utter want of proper feeling, and a knowledge of spiritual matters, was in great measure to be attributed to the non-residence of the clergy. Of course we hailed his declaration. The Hundred of Hoo contains five parishes, some very large, and there are only two resident clergy, and they not a credit to their profession. The average payment per acre for tithes in the Hundred is 10s. and upwards. You will, I hope, excuse my thus occupying your attention, but I have several objects in view. The principal object is to extol the conduct of the Earl of Darnley, which conduct has very materially raised him in the estimation of his neighbours. We are unaccustomed to Peers of the Realm publicly expressing themselves as his Lordship did concerning the non-residence, or other misconduct of the clergy, and I sincerely hope it may act as an example to others.

I cannot finish without again requesting you to excuse my long epistle, and permit me to subscribe myself,

Yours respectfully,

JOHN OAKLEY.

### TO THE EDITOR OF THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS."

SIR,—In your valuable Journal of the 17th ult., I have read, with much interest, a letter signed, "A Country Banker," in which he suggests a "remedy for the existing agricultural distress," by means of an alteration in the circulating medium of the country, of a very novel kind, but, at the same time, it appears to me one by no means unworthy of the serious consideration of the Legislature, being (as the writer states, and very justly so,) "based on the wealth and property of the country, at half its valuation." Now, although I consider myself by no means so competent to enter upon a subject of such a nature as the currency as your correspondent (who is of course just in his element) yet perhaps a few remarks from a plain man, who has seen a little of the "world, and the things of the world," may not be unacceptable. I quite agree with your correspondent, that a paper circulation on a sound basis, is by far the most desirable, in fact, the only advantageous, kind of currency for this country, to enable us to carry on the vast concerns which necessarily require such immense amounts of money to be exchanged from one party to another daily. Mr. Mundell states the gross income of this country to be about six hundred millions per annum, and, as the highest amount of gold in circulation at any time has been only twenty-eight millions, here is a plain proof (if any were wanting,) that a metallic currency will not do. The circulation of Bank of England notes we may reckon now as about eighteen millions, (although, after the passing of the Restriction Act in 1797, the circulation rose from nine to nearly thirty millions!) the circulation of country bankers we will reckon at seven millions, which was the amount in 1822, (three years after the passing of Peel's Bill,) although for some years before it had ranged from eleven to sixteen and twenty millions; thus we have a circulation of only twenty-five millions of paper payable on demand, at this calculation, which, to any person at all conversant with business, must appear to be very inadequate for carrying on the enormous business of the nation; but the deficiency which appears at first sight to exist, is made



up by a very large amount of Bills of Exchange, which are constantly in circulation. As an instance, I may mention, that, at one period, the amount of Bills of Exchange paid into a private bank in Lancashire, as compared with all other kinds of currency, was as fifty to one. From 1803 to 1816, the quarterly average of Bills and Notes under discount by the Bank of England alone seldom fluctuated below ten millions, generally as high as thirteen, and, in 1810, exceeded twenty millions. Two more facts I will state, merely to shew how intimately the agricultural interests are connected with the currency of the country, and that, in the same ratio as the circulation of the country is reduced or increased, so are the prices of every kind of agricultural, as well as other, produce. In proof of the former assertion, the price of wheat, in 1822, when the country bank circulation was reduced to seven millions, averaged only 43s.; and, in proof of the latter, I may add, that, in 1799, (two years after the passing of the "Bank Restriction Act,") fine Jamaica coffee rose from 70s. to 196s.; West India and American cotton, from 1s. to 5s.; Cochineal, from 12s. to 54s.; Carolina rice, from 14s. to 40s.; and Jamaica sugar, from 38s. to 87s. I fear, Mr. Editor, I have trespassed too long on your valuable time; but I trust the facts I have adduced are sufficiently corroborative of the "Country Banker's" assertions, that a good sound paper currency (such as he has so ingeniously suggested,) is alone wanting to ensure to a great commercial country like this that healthy and prosperous condition it so justly merits.

I remain, Sir, YOUR CONSTANT READER.  
Liverpool, 20th Nov., 1834

### LINES,

SUGGESTED BY THE HOUSES OF LORDS AND COMMONS  
BEING DESTROYED BY FIRE.

A sudden and a fearful glare was seen

Across the evening sky,—a light arose,  
Subduing the pale moon's-ray, which had been  
Shedding on all around its calm repose.  
From the proud city's ancient halls it came,  
A wild, o'erpowering, and destructive flame.

Laying in ruins—mingling with the dust—

The structure that Time's dull and withering  
hand

Had spar'd—had hallow'd—would have spared  
we trust,

Long to have been a glory to the land.  
For there undauntedly the patriot stood,  
One motive ruling him—his country's good.

There, too, bath mind exerted its full sway,

And throngs have listened to the voice that  
woke

The hushed, hid feelings of the heart, which lay  
Chained to their home, till he the fetters broke.  
He, who perchance bath fled, but left a name  
Enrolled for ever in the leaves of fame.

All that makes England great, her children free,

Received a guiding strength—a guardian power  
Within that edifice, which now must be

With all the past, but seen by Memory's dower;  
For to the ground its dusty fragments fall,  
And nought remains of pillar, arch, and wall.

Kimbolton.

B. B. B.

## AN ACCOUNT OF THE DUTY ON HOPS

OF THE GROWTH OF THE YEAR 1834, DISTINGUISHING THE DISTRICTS, AND THE OLD FROM THE NEW DUTY.

| Districts.          | Duty.       |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Barnstaple.....     | £ 40 4 0    |
| Bath.....           | 0 1 8       |
| Bedford.....        | 132 18 8    |
| Bristol.....        | 19 7 6      |
| Cambridge.....      | 14 14 4     |
| Canterbury.....     | 67,086 19 4 |
| Chester.....        | 0 14 3      |
| Cornwall.....       | 13 3 10     |
| Derby.....          | 1,125 0 10  |
| Dorset.....         | 76 10 6     |
| Essex.....          | 1,773 17 4  |
| Exeter.....         | 92 4 4      |
| Gloucester.....     | 4 3 2       |
| Grantham.....       | 163 8 4     |
| Hants.....          | 9,876 3 0   |
| Hereford.....       | 19,594 12 2 |
| Isle of Wight.....  | 4 2 0       |
| Lincoln.....        | 4,945 2 10  |
| Lynn.....           | 3 19 6      |
| Northampton.....    | 21 16 4     |
| Oxford.....         | 47 12 6     |
| Plymouth.....       | 4 11 10     |
| Reading.....        | 18 15 0     |
| Rochester.....      | 108,468 3 6 |
| Salisbury.....      | 6,126 13 0  |
| Salop.....          | 0 15 0      |
| Stourbridge.....    | 1,319 16 0  |
| Suffolk.....        | 1,182 4 8   |
| Surrey.....         | 59 16 4     |
| Sussex.....         | 102,942 9 0 |
| Uxbridge.....       | 55 8 0      |
| Wales (Middle)..... | 44 16 6     |
| Wellington.....     | 125 10 0    |
| Worcester.....      | 4,551 2 1   |

Total.....£329,936 17 9

Old Duty at 1d 12-20 per lb. 189,713 14 2½ 18-20  
New ditto 3d 8-20..... 140,223 3 6½ 2-20

Total.....£329,936 17 9

G. A. COTTRELL, 1st General Accountant.  
Excise-office, London, Nov. 27.

THE PITCHER PLANT.—There is not a more interesting spectacle of the kind, than the fine plant of *Nepenthes*, which exists in the stove of the Botanical Garden at Edinburgh. Planted in a tub, whose soil is kept moist by a covering of mosses, its stem, 18 to 20 feet long, rises from the midst of these; it is branched and climbs amongst the rafters of the roof, bearing towards the extremity very many leaves, which have quite an artificial appearance. The whole leaf, including the stalk, is two feet and more in length. The leaf, instead of being flat, is hollowed out, like an elongated pitcher; it is nine inches long, attenuated at the base, where it is curved or arched, and then it suddenly turns upward. It is ventricose, slightly expanding at the mouth, in a young state completely covered by a lid, which is flat; after a time, this lid opens, still continuing attached by a point at the back; the colour of the pitcher is pale green, spotted with red, and purple within. It has also the property of secreting a fluid, slightly acid, but transparent as the purest water,

## POOR LAWS—IRELAND.

*(From the Courier.)*

Mr. Inglis has just published a valuable and a well-timed work on Ireland. It does not, indeed, supply any new facts or profound observations, but it gives what is, we believe, on the whole, a faithful as well as a lively picture of the present condition of the people of Ireland. This, we regret to say, is *as bad as possible*. A notion has been gaining ground in this country, that the great increase in the trade and exports of Ireland, that has taken place of late years, furnished unequivocal evidence of a corresponding improvement in the circumstances of the people; but it is a radical mistake to suppose that an increase of trade necessarily brings along with it an increase of wages, or an improved mode of living. Certain other circumstances must conspire to make it have such consequences; and in Ireland these have been entirely wanting. The extraordinary increase in the exports of corn has been caused far less by the improvement than by the extension of tillage; and how paradoxical soever the assertion may at first appear, it is certainly true that any very material improvement in the mode of managing and occupying land, would be, in the first instance at least, productive of additional misery among the mass of the people.—There are in many extensive districts four or five times as many people huddled on the land as are required for its proper cultivation; and supposing they were displaced, and an improved system of agriculture introduced, there would be a decided increase in the disposable produce of the land, but there would be, at the same time, a considerable increase in the number of unemployed, houseless, starving paupers. The fact is, that owing to the vicious system that has prevailed, and continues to prevail, with respect to the occupancy of land, there is not, at this moment, *employment for half the people*. Wages are, in consequence, reduced to a miserable pittance. Mr. Inglis says, he is quite confident that if the entire amount of wages paid in Ireland, were divided amongst the whole number of labourers, they would not afford *fourpence* a-day to each!

Nothing, therefore, can be a greater mistake than to imagine that an increase of exports implies, or is any evidence whatever of an increase in the comforts and conveniences of the poor. Speaking generally, it may be unhesitatingly affirmed that there has been no visible improvement during the last two centuries in the condition of the mass of the Irish people. They are, at this day, in almost all respects, as ill-fed, ill-clothed, ill-lodged, destitute, and degraded, as in the days of Sir William Petty. The export trade of Limerick has increased with unusual rapidity; and yet the authentic details given by Mr. Inglis in the work referred to, show that the lower classes of that city suffer privations of which no Englishman can form any just idea, and which far exceed in universality and intensity the worst of those endured by the American Indians, or the savages of New Holland.

Various circumstances have doubtless contributed to bring about this deplorable state of things; but the endless division and sub-division

of the land has had ten times more to do with it than all the rest put together. But had a compulsory provision for the support of the poor existed in Ireland, this subdivision would not have taken place, and land would have been held in it as it is held in Great Britain. An English or Scotch landlord will not allow his estate to be parcelled out into minute portions, or unnecessary cottages to be built upon it, because he knows the Poor Laws will make him responsible for their occupiers should they become unable to maintain themselves. But in Ireland there has been no check of this sort to hinder the subdivision of the land. Its proprietors have looked only to the amount of rent derivable from their estates; and Ireland being a country without manufactures, or any means of employment except those connected with the culture of the soil, the competition for small patches has been very great, and higher rents have been frequently paid for estates occupied by cottiers than would have been obtained had they been let to extensive farmers. Hence the subdivision of the land, the excess of population, and the poverty and misery of the people. Such a system, if allowed to run its full course, must obviously end in the destruction of all wealth and civilization, and the division of the country into mere potatoe gardens occupied by beggars. A good number of landlords have, at last, become sensible of this, and have endeavoured to arrest the progress of subdivision, and even to consolidate the small occupancies. Still, however, they are, as compared with the great body of landlords, but few in number; and subdivision continues in most districts to be the common practice.

The introduction of a compulsory provision for the poor would at once arrest the spread of this enormous evil; and it is the only thing effectual to this end. But it would do much more than this. It would render the progress in an opposite direction safe and certain; while, by raising a bulwark between the poor and absolute want, it would put an end to the recklessness, the outrages, and the crimes inseparable from destitution and despair.

In Ireland, when an estate is cleared of its superfluous occupants, there is not one case in five in which the landlord troubles himself in the least about the fate of the wretches that are ejected. Whether they join Captain Rock, or die by the way-side, seems to be deemed immaterial. But whatever the ex-Chancellor may say to the contrary, we contend that no landlord, be he ever so good, ought to be entrusted with a power of this sort—a power far more liable to be abused, and which, in fact, has been productive of incomparably more misery than any ever enjoyed by the proprietors of slaves in the West Indies. If a landlord resolve upon consolidating the small occupancies upon his estate, and if their possessors be unable to find employment in the neighbourhood, every principle of justice and expediency requires that he should be compelled to proceed with caution, and to provide, in the meantime, for the subsistence of the persons ejected. Now, a Poor Law would have the double advantage of making landlords anxious to get rid of the idle and unprofitable occupiers of their estates, at the same time that it would hinder them from dealing,



as they too often do at present, with these persons, as if they were not men but noxious vermin; it would lay them under the necessity of providing those they meant to eject, with the means of emigrating to the Colonies, or of settling somewhere else. The former, we have no doubt, would be the mode most generally adopted; and it would be in all respects most advantageous for the parties and for the country. But it is, at all events, essential that an end be put to the present practice. The landlords are far more responsible than any other class for the present disastrous state of things; and it is not to be endured that they should be allowed to attempt to extricate themselves from the difficulties in which they are entangled, by the adoption of measures that are uniformly fatal to the public tranquillity, and never fail to occasion the sacrifice of a greater or smaller number of the poor.

But, apart altogether from these considerations, there is abundant evidence in Mr. Inglis's book to prove that nothing but the institution of a compulsory provision will ever make the landlords and people of fortune in Ireland take a sufficient interest in the well-being of the poor. It is said that a Poor Law is destructive of spontaneous charity; but if experience may be relied on in a matter of this sort, the fact would seem to be distinctly and completely the reverse. Besides what they are obliged to contribute, the landlords and opulent classes of England expend ten times more in proportion to their means, in voluntarily relieving the wants of the poor, than is expended by the same classes in Ireland. The so much talked of Irish generosity exists only among the lower orders: it is a consequence of the sympathy of one beggar for the distress of another, and not of the sympathy of the rich for the miseries of the poor. There are many exceptions, no doubt, but taking them in a mass, it may be truly affirmed that the landlords of Ireland act towards their tenants and the poor on their estates and in their vicinity, in a way of which the landlords of England, and we believe we may say of most other civilized countries, would be utterly ashamed; and which is as prejudicial to their real interests, as it is discreditable to their humanity. Mr. Inglis gives some very striking examples of what has now been stated; and we may, perhaps, lay one or two of them before our readers.

Poor Laws are, therefore, indispensable to Ireland. It is not easy to exaggerate the advantages of which they would be productive. They would shut up by far the most copious source of poverty by preventing the further subdivision of the land; they would stimulate landlords to consolidate small patches, and would make such consolidation be effected without injury to the occupants; they would give the poor a "stake in the hedge," and an interest in the stability of the existing order of things; and would go far to repress disturbance, outrage, and bloodshed, by obviating that extreme distress whence they principally proceed.

We have no confidence whatever in the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the condition of the Irish poor, and the expediency of introducing Poor Laws into Ireland. It is next to impossible that they should be able to communicate any new facts; and as for their theories, we can

tell pretty well before hand what they will be. We never, indeed, looked upon the thing otherwise than as a juggle—as a clumsy device got up to delay for a while the discussion of a most important question—and to give the Reverend and Honourable Members of the Central Board an opportunity of playing second fiddle to the ex-Chancellor, by enforcing the "sound Christian principle" of leaving it to beggars to provide for beggars. We shall be glad should it turn out that we have taken an erroneous view of the matter; but we apprehend that those who except little that is good from the Report of the Commissioners will be least disappointed.

Mr. Inglis obtained copies of the queries and instructions addressed to the peripatetic Commissioners. Some of the queries are foreign to the purpose, and others do not admit of any distinct or general answer. But Mr. Inglis, though not a Commissioner, has briefly and ably replied to those that are most important; and as his answers embrace the pith and substance of his remarks and observations on the condition of the people, we shall take leave to lay them, on the first opportunity, before the reader.

#### ANCIENT BRITISH HUSBANDRY.

The acute historian of the middle ages has justly observed, that "even in the least civilised periods, there were not wanting partial encouragements to cultivation, and the ameliorating principle of human industry struggled against destructive revolutions and barbarous disorder. The devastation of war, from the fifth to the eleventh century, rendered land the least costly of all gifts, though it must ever be the most valuable and permanent. Many of the grants to monasteries, which strike us as enormous, were districts absolutely wasted, which would probably have been reclaimed by no other means. Although the monks were vulgarly considered as an idle and worthless class, yet Mr. Bakewell shows that the agricultural riches of great part of Europe are due to them, and the earliest improvements in English husbandry are ascribed to their intelligence and industry. They were, in that early age, the only persons acquainted with the learned languages, in which alone were found the records of the agriculture of the Romans, which those who are conversant with Georgical literature know to have been carried to a considerable degree of perfection; their correspondence with Italy, as well as occasional missions to that country, and other parts of Europe, made them acquainted with foreign modes of culture; and their education, their habits, and their wealth, enabled them to apply the knowledge thus acquired with more skill and effect than could have been exerted by a warlike nobility more devoted to arms than to the arts of domestic life. They were indulgent landlords; their large revenues secured their tenants from the exactions which they suffered under less opulent proprietors, nor were they so much exposed to the hazardous services required of the retainers of the military landholders. They paid more attention to the moral conduct and the welfare of their dependants, and the courts under their jurisdiction were less arbitrary than those of the great feudal lords. The protection thus afforded, attracted many free settlers to the neighbourhood of the religious houses; the lands belonging to them were more thickly inha-

bited, and better cultivated than other estates; and the remains of agricultural buildings, the vestiges of orchards, and other improvements, then but little understood, together with the records of abbeys, both in this country and on the continent, incontestably prove that even at the remote era of the Norman conquest, much care and attention were bestowed upon rural economy by the monastic orders.

Although agriculture gradually advanced from this period, yet the paucity of the population, and the insecurity of the country, still confined cultivation to the land adjacent to the mansions of the nobility, in which the Norman Baron, as well as the Saxon Thane, lived in solitary independence, surrounded by his vassals, and owning no superior but his sovereign. Such a state of simplicity and freedom from those "trammels of the law," by which the interests of more civilised society are guarded, may have charms for the admirer of uncultivated nature, but the enjoyments which it afforded belonged only to the owner of the soil. The condition of the lower classes was wretched. Their huts contained neither beds nor moveables of any kind, except the few common utensils requisite to the preparation of their food: the peasant reposed on straw, spread upon the floor, with a log of wood for his pillow, or stretched himself in the stable with his cattle; and even the upper sort of husbandmen fared very little better. Of these, at a much later period, we are told by an accurate observer of the manners of his day, that, "if within seven years after their marriage they had purchased a flocke bed, and thereto a sacke of chaffe to rest their heads upon, they thought themselves as well lodged as the lorde of the towne, that peradventure laie seldome in a bed of downe or whole feathers." Their houses were constructed of wattles plastered over with clay, and without either glass windows or chimnies: the fire was either made upon the earthen floor in the centre of the room, or against a "reredosse," or hob of clay placed before the wall; and the oxen were stalled under the same roof. Their furniture was correspondently mean, and we learn from that strange medley of satire, morality, and manners, "*The Vision of Piers Ploughman*," which is supposed to have been written by a Shropshire priest, about the middle of the fourteenth century, that the bread then in common use was composed of peas and beans.

The accommodations of the higher orders were not much superior. Even the baronial hall was only lighted through wooden lattices, or, where unusual grandeur and delicacy were effected, through windows closed with horn or parchment; the naked walls of the apartments were occasionally hung with loose tapestry, to conceal the rudeness of the masonry; the floors were strewn with rushes instead of carpets; the beds were partly, if not wholly, composed of straw; and the lord of an extensive domain indulged in fewer luxuries than a modern farmer. More than a century later, the most distinguished families ate off wooden trenchers, or pewter plates; forks were unknown; and even in 1572, the princely residence of Skipton Castle held only eight mattresses and bolsters in the lodging of thirty-five household servants. Even the homely fare of which they were possessed was dealt out to their domestics with a parsimonious regard to economy, and nothing is further from truth than the idea, so commonly entertained, of the abundance and profusion of ancient times. But, in fact, they were not rich, even according to the estimation of money at that period.

An income of ten or twenty pounds a year was reckoned a competent estate for a gentleman; and a knight passed for extremely wealthy with one hundred and fifty pounds per annum: yet this, according to the calculation of Mr. Hallam, (who supposes twenty-four to be a sufficient multiple when we would raise a sum mentioned by a writer under Edward I.,—ann. 1300,—to the same value in our money,) was only equal in command over commodities, to 3,600*l*. The cause of this comparative poverty can only be ascribed to the imperfect state of cultivation, for many of the estates in the hands of individuals were larger than at present, and the price of corn was comparatively higher: but the same quantity was not gained from a similar space of ground. The stimulus of trade was also still wanting; and without that there is no incentive to labour for a surplus beyond the wants of mere sustenance. Living in the midst of his retainers, the feudal chieftain was supplied either from the produce of the land surrounding his dwelling, or by the contributions of his more remote tenants; his expenses consisted principally in the exercise of a rude hospitality; and the few foreign luxuries which the habits of life then rendered necessary to enjoyment, were obtained in exchange for the wool and hides of his flocks and herds, in which, from the great extent of its pasture, the kingdom abounded, and which, for the opposite reason, were scarce in Flanders, to which country and France, commercial intercourse was nearly confined. But the industry of the Flemings having extended to agriculture as well as to manufactures, afforded no market for grain. France was fed by its own fertile territory: and Italy, through which were procured a few articles of Eastern luxury, for which a taste had been acquired during the Crusades, was equally independent of the products of the English soil.

The annals of agriculture at that remote epoch are scanty and uninteresting: there is no work extant on the subject, and so little has it been noticed by historians, that it is involved in much obscurity. But from an ancient Latin tract, supposed to have been written about the latter end of the thirteenth century, and which, although chiefly a treatise on law, yet contains many passages relating to rural economy, we learn, that husbandry was conducted with more regard to precision than might be thought consistent with the rude habits of the times. It points out the several duties of the steward, the bailiff, and the labourers; from which it appears, that even in that age, when education was so rare, the farm accounts, on large properties, were kept with scrupulous accuracy; and it gives many directions respecting the tillage of land, and the management of cattle, that are not inapplicable to the practice of the present day. Yet the learned author estimates the possible returns from the soil so low, as to inform us—that unless an acre of wheat yielded *three times the seed sown*, the farmer would be a loser, if corn were not unusually dear. His calculation is as follows:—

|                               | s. | d. |
|-------------------------------|----|----|
| Three ploughings . . . . .    | 1  | 6  |
| Harrowing . . . . .           | 0  | 1  |
| Two bushels of seed . . . . . | 1  | 0  |
| Weeding . . . . .             | 0  | 0½ |
| Reaping . . . . .             | 0  | 5  |
| Carrying . . . . .            | 0  | 1  |
|                               | 3  | 1½ |

which is about the value of six bushels of wheat



at the time he wrote, and exclusive of rent, of which nothing is said. But Sir John Cullum and Sir F. M. Eden, who have devoted much attention to the subject, assume the average crop to have been about twelve bushels; and the former remarks, that "Supposing 4s 6d to be about the mean price of a quarter of wheat, and 4d a year's rent of an acre of land, the disproportion between the produce of the land and its rent is almost incredible: for if an acre produced in general only a quarter and a half, it would, if the ground was cropped only two years together, give the husbandman thirteen times the rent of his land, one year with another; a profit which the best farmers in the present state of improved agriculture can rarely reach." This, however, supposes the ground to have borne two crops of corn in every three years, which, under the system then pursued, was barely possible on the best soils; for, independently of the disadvantage of indifferent tillage, manure was so scarce, in consequence of the cattle being almost entirely pastured on the wastes, that it was not uncouth to the lord of the manor to reserve to himself the privilege of having his tenant's sheep folded upon his own farm; and lime, since so extensively applied to the melioration of some soils, was so dear, that an account in 1437 shows the price, near the kiln, to have been one-third more than that of oats. There can be little doubt, therefore, that the land, after having been exhausted by repeated cropping, was necessarily allowed to recover its fertility, during a series of years, in a state of fallow, or unproductive natural grass, for an artificial mode of laying it down to meadow seems to have been unknown; and we have, besides, records of the frequent and almost entire failure of the crops, of murrian among the cattle, and consequent extraordinary fluctuations of price, accompanied with frightful details of famine, unknown to modern times in any even tolerably cultivated country. Wheat often varied from four to sixteen shillings, and Stow mentions its being sold, in 1315, at forty shillings the quarter. He says, in his account of that dearth, that dogs and horses were used as delicious food; and he adds, that—"Theeves that were in prisons did plucke in peeces those that were newly brought amongst them, and greedilie devoured them half alive: some (it was said) compelled hunger, in hidden places, did eate the fleshe of their owne children; and some stole others, which they devoured."

This surmise respecting the state of arable land is in a great measure corroborated by the comparatively high value of meadow, which usually let at six and even eight times its rent; a disproportion which can only be accounted for, by the greater certainty of its produce, as it exceeded the difference between the expences of tillage and grass, and may be justly regarded as one of the strongest proofs of imperfect culture. There is also reason to believe, that twelve bushels of wheat per acre, is too high an estimate of the average product; for in the history of the parish of Hawstead, in Suffolk, the returns in 1387, of the manor farm, which may be presumed to have been at least as well cultivated as others of similar medium soil, are stated thus:—

|                                                    |  |
|----------------------------------------------------|--|
| 66 acres of Wheat produced 69 qrs. 2lbs. of Grain. |  |
| 26 — Barley — 52 — 2lbs. —                         |  |
| 62 — Oats — 40 — 4lbs. —                           |  |
| 25 — Peas — 25 — 3lbs. —                           |  |
| 25 — Haras — 28 — 0lbs. —                          |  |

and in that of the manor of Dorking, in Surrey, about the same period—

|                                                      |  |
|------------------------------------------------------|--|
| 30½ acres of Barley produced 41 qrs. 4lbs. of Grain. |  |
| 28 — Oats — 38 qrs. 4lbs. —                          |  |
| 5½ — Tares — 1 qr. 6lbs. —                           |  |

Hawstead farm contained 572 acres; of which 321 were in tillage, 30 meadow, and the remainder wood and pasture. The stock, consisting of 26 cows and a bull, with 6 heifers and 6 calves: 10 working oxen; 4 cart horses, and 6 colts; and 92 muttons, with 10 score of hoggerills, or two-year old sheep. The cows were fed, during the winter, with rack meat in the yard; and, as the whole of the hay was devoted to their support, the rest of the cattle must have been maintained throughout the year, either along with the sheep upon the pasture, or with the straw and halm. Such a system naturally produced an inferior stock; and, accordingly, the produce of a cow, during the summer half-year, which is the only time mentioned, was rated at 128 pounds of cheese, with half a gallon of butter, weekly. The price of a cow with her calf varied from six to ten shillings, and the produce of the milk of an ordinary one was valued at twopence three farthings per week: Ewes were also milked, and twenty, if well kept, were thought equal to three cows.

The number of working cattle at Hawstead is at variance with other accounts, and in one kept by the bailiff of the manor of Flaunchford, near Ryegate, from 1382 to 1386, twelve plough oxen are stated as the number used upon fifty-six acres of arable, of which sixteen were fallow. But it is not improbable, that part of the work at the former was performed by the customary service of the tenants of the manor, for more than five hundred persons were employed to get in the harvest, which was thus completed in two days, while in other places its average duration was five weeks. It was then, as now, a season of festivity; and harvest-home appears to have been a scene of much rustic jollity, accompanied with some customs that have since fallen into disuse.

About that era, the reign of Edward III., may be dated the dawn of general improvement in this country.—*Hereford Times.*

### THE MILLERS' MONOPOLY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUFFOLK CHRONICLE.

Sir,—Having in a former letter endeavoured to draw the attention of the public to the extravagant high price of flour compared with the low price of wheat, I should have been content to remain silent, and left the further consideration of the subject to correspondents more able than myself, to expose and combat this most odious monopoly; but, as silence may be misconstrued, and having been challenged and assailed in no very courteous language, by Mr. Albion, in your paper of Nov. 1st, I crave your indulgence to give publicity to the following remarks:—

It cannot be denied, without the most gross falsehood, that the present high price of flour bears any proportion to the very low price of wheat, and it shows both ignorance and knavery for any man to assert it, and to submit such logic through the medium of the press, proves consummate impudence and insulting to the meanest capacity. Sir, I contend, as in my first statement of the 25th ult., that the millers, at the present time, are exacting from the public a profit of more than 50 per cent.; to prove which, the calculation is easily construed, and this enormous impost the farmers, knowingly and willingly, accede to, for unfortunately it is too true—such is the extent of this powerful monopoly—that the majority of the

farmers are compelled to submit to the dictation of the great millers; and, however willing and anxious some of the smaller millers may be to follow the example of other tradesmen, in the field of competition, they dare not attempt it—they must, like the stream which turns their mills, go with it, or be crushed in like manner as their grain is, or, in other words, be sent to Coventry, for attempting to undersell their powerful superiors. Sir, custom is a dangerous law, and by the custom of this trade, unknown to any other, if there are twenty millers on one stream, they regulate each other by one uniform price, and generally the most wealthy, or the one who does the largest business is censor, and sets the price, and woe be to him who differs from that censorship. Call you not this, ye starving labourers and artisans, monopoly, and one of the most base and cruel? nor is it confined to flour alone, but applicable to every description of meal.

The sapient Mr. Albion tells you, the poor do not purchase flour of the millers, but of the bakers; to whom they allow from 2s. 6d. to 4s. per sack for selling, and he discovers a mare's nest, by stating, that the public may purchase their wheat, and send it to the mill to be ground; that upon an average of years, milling will not be found a profitable speculation; that at the present time flour is not proportionably dear. But he does not tell you they are not in the enjoyment of a baneful monopoly, which allows them to take advantage of the bounty of Providence to make milling a profitable speculation.

Most wonderful and Jesuitical Counsellor—can the poor man, can the tradesman, can the public generally, with the least propriety, go into the market to purchase wheat to send to his mill to be ground, and subject themselves to the craft and heavy tollage thereon—why, I admit it is not impossible, and also admit that his own suggestion strikes at the root of the monopoly, and if acted upon, with the aid and assistance of steam apparatus, both wind and water-mills would, at no very distant period, be totally annihilated.

This monopoly has not that baneful effect in London, as in the country—for when flour arrives there, it must be sold, and the large bakers frequently purchase it at their own price, and it is sold to the public, by the bakers, under great competition.

In conclusion, I am constrained to make these remarks, prompted by no other motive than a desire to expose and eradicate an abuse injurious to the public, and more particularly that large portion which now unhappily pines in poverty and want; for, from the extremely low price of corn, the farmers have been obliged to lower the price of labour, in the full and warranted expectation that their scanty pay would be compensated by a proportionate reduction in the price of flour and meal, whereby their extreme poverty would have received some alleviation.

Hoping and trusting that every parish throughout the kingdom will adopt the system and suggestion of your Palgrave and Blything Hundred correspondents, inserted in your paper of Nov. 1st, and to whom I proffer my thanks, and that the community at large will use their most strenuous exertions to obtain for the poor, cheap bread, by encouraging, as in every other necessary of life, a fair and honourable competition, divested of an injurious and interested monopoly, is the sincere wish of

Your respectful and obliged correspondent,  
Sudbury, Nov. 25, 1834. AN OLD FARMER.

## THE CORN TRADE.

Sir,—It has been given in evidence before the Agricultural Committee (May, 1833), "That the produce of our harvests on the average is deficient each season, one month's quantity of the annual consumption of the nation; that for the last 10 years the stock reserved at the end of any season has scarcely equalled a month's consumption, and the alarming fact was stated in evidence, that if we were now to have had so bad a harvest as that of 1816, the deficiency could not be supplied from all the world." Besides this unquestionable deficiency of produce and want of stock to meet, we have the intolerable pressure of the middle men, by whose doings the grower is deprived of from 30 to 40 per cent. on the value of wheat, and the public charged from 30 to 40 per cent. over the value of bread. As the matter stands at present either the farmer should be getting 52s per quarter for wheat, or the price of the four-pound loaf should not exceed *sixpence*. Allowing the miller 9s per quarter for profit and expenses of manufacturing into flour, and the baker 12s per sack for manufacturing into bread; but instead of this the grower is getting but an average of about 37s or 38s per quarter for wheat, and the public is charged *eight-pence* for the four-pound loaf, which difference of 2d per loaf on the consumption of London alone for one week amounts to 19,193l.

It may be asked who are the middle men, and point out their doings? The merchant who buys of the grower either upon his own account, or on commission for another, and lays five or six per cent. on the first cost for outlay, &c. The speculating merchant who purchases of the latter, also lays on at least six per cent., and the charges attending delivery, &c., amount to about three per cent. The Speculator consigns to a factor on the Corn Exchange, who demands a price to cover freight, carriage, *del credere*, commission, charges, interest, &c., amounting to about 10 per cent. The miller purchases through a party who advances payment for him at 2½ per cent. The miller consigns the flour to a factor, whose *del credere*, commission charges, &c., amount to about 10 per cent.; from whom the baker receives it thus encumbered with 30 to 40 per cent., and consequently the price of bread enhanced upon the consumer; and even if the impositions extended to 90 per cent., as might be the case in like manner, the existing corn law is incompetent to prevent it.

So far for one part of the system arising from inadequate corn laws; but it is in the power middlemen possess of causing prices to decline, duties to advance, and to check importation, or prices to advance, duties to reduce, and increase importation, as it may suit their purpose either for making purchases or selling out, that the great and serious injuries arise to the grower as well as the consumer, and the miller and baker, in their turn, not only by glutting the market at one time or withholding supplies at another, but by means which the present corn-law system of returns and averages actually afford them for working this dangerous influence, prejudicial as it is to the interests of the nation.

In September last certain corn returns were detected in London, in which *foreign* qualities were included as *British* growth, and were found to make a difference of 8s per quarter on the week's averages. The detection having been by mere chance, there is no knowing to what extent that artifice has been practised. It is also known that certain extensive speculative contracts have been recently made, the returns of course sent in and included in the averages, yet the delivery is ex-



tended to July, 1835, and even to 1836. It is further known that frequently A sells a considerable quantity of corn to B at a certain price, of which a return is made and included in the regulating averages. A re-sale of the same lot of corn takes place back again from B to A at another particular price, of which a return is, of course, made, and goes into the averages; but no delivery or transfer of corn at all takes place between the parties; probably the article only existed in name and not in grain. But these are only a few of the various modes practised by middlemen in order to reduce or enhance the averages, and the consequences of such operations, and the before-mentioned impositions, are, the farmers complain of unremunerating prices and agricultural distress, at the same time the working classes cry out "Dear bread!" and thus the agricultural and manufacturing interests of the country are, to the prejudice of the national welfare, disunited.

The present system of returns and averages answer no other purpose than the middleman's; it is the machinery of their artifice, and fraught with mischief in its prejudicial tendency and effect upon value and prices, incompetent to adjust the relative value of corn and bread between grower and consumer, and therefore an improper means by which to regulate the duty on foreign corn for home consumption. I would suggest the abolition of the return and average system altogether, and propose that foreign corn and flour be allowed into consumption in certain quantities, and at several periods of the year by the Privy Council, at a duty according to the present scale, to be fixed by the Board, and according to the produce of the harvest, the extent of stocks, the state of prices, or other existing circumstances.

As the corn law is also defective in providing against the event of a failure of the wheat crop, and in insuring a certain stock being held over from year to year to meet the usual deficiency between the produce of the harvests and the consumption of the nation, and with a view to prevent the imposition of enormous commissions and charges of middlemen, which reduce the value of wheat to the grower, and at the same time enhance the price of bread on the consumer, and to remove the operations of such middlemen from the corn market altogether, except one particular class, I would propose,—

That merchants in the united kingdom purchasing, holding stocks of, and selling *home-cultivated corn*, and *home-made flour*, should register and enter into bond to hold the following stocks:—Any quantity of *home-cultivated wheat* and *home-made flour*, not less than 2,000 quarters, or more than 4,000 quarters, or any quantity of *foreign wheat* and *flour in bond*, not less than 3,000 quarters, from whom only, and out of their said stocks, whatever quantities of foreign wheat and flour the Privy Council may deem expedient to allow into consumption shall be purchased and taken, and foreign wheat and flour not to be sold for, or permitted into consumption through any other channel. No other merchants than those so registered and privileged to purchase, hold, or sell any quantity of wheat of home growth or home-made flour, exceeding 50 qrs.

The stocks of registered or privileged merchants to be exchanged or renewed as frequently as they may wish; but at all times the quantities stated to be kept up, or in default thereof the privilege of the defaulter to cease for the remainder of the year or season.

Direct trade between the growers of corn in the united kingdom and millers, maltsters, distillers, other

manufacturers and retail corn-dealers, and between millers, bakers, and retail mealmen, to be free, and their respective stocks unlimited.

Persons acting between parties in the sale and purchase of home-cultivated corn and home-made flour, shall be sworn brokers, whose charge for agency, factorage, brokerage, commission or delcredere, shall not exceed *one per cent.* on the price.

The import, bonding, and export of foreign corn and flour to be free and open to all indiscriminately, and to be extended to all the bonding ports in Great Britain and Ireland.

The proposed plan would secure to the nation the reservation of a certain stock of wheat and flour, from year to year, by the privileged merchants, and as their stocks could not exceed a certain quantity of home growth, the produce of the country could not be stored up in any greater extent in order to withhold it from the consumption. Direct trade between growers and millers, and millers and bakers, would become more fixed and extensive; the difference between the relative price of wheat to the grower, and of bread to the consumer would be but a reasonable remuneration to the miller and a fair allowance to the baker; and this direct trade would serve to regulate the stockholding merchants' prices. Foreign corn and flour would go regularly through one channel into consumption, and the duties thereon levied as at present. It would place in the pockets of the growers of corn and consumers of bread, some millions annually, now exacted from them by means of the middlemen. J. F. S.

[We give insertion to the above letter, as it evidently proceeds from one who thoroughly understands his subject. In doing so, however, we do not pledge ourselves to an approbation of his plan, further than to say that it is worthy of consideration.—Ed.]

## SOME ACCOUNT OF THE FAIRS IN SCOTLAND.

(From the *Quarterly Journal of Agriculture*.)

BERWICKSHIRE.

**I. DUNSE FAIRS AND MARKETS.**—Dunse is a small town, situate on the northern margin of the richly cultivated Merse, at the southern base of the Lammermuir Hills. It contains 3469 inhabitants. It lies in a N. W. direction from Berwick-upon-Tweed 14 miles; 10½ miles N. from Coldstream; and 44 from Edinburgh. Ten fairs and markets are annually held at Dunse. Of these three are old established fairs for cattle, sheep, and horses, and the hiring of servants; the others have been recently instituted for the sale of sheep. We shall first describe the old established fairs.

**1. DUNSE JUNE FAIR** is always held on the first Thursday in June. About 2000 cattle are brought to this fair, the greater part of which are fat short-horns; a few half-fat and fat black coloured cattle from the northern and midland counties; and the remainder a good show of milch cows. One-half of the cattle are fit for the butcher, and are mostly purchased by English dealers, who drive them to Morpeth, Darlington, Skipton, Wakefield, &c. A small portion only is purchased by the Edinburgh dealers and butchers, though Mr. Gray, flesher in Edinburgh, has been known to purchase 100 of them; but this seldom happens, as fat beef at this season is generally worth more in the English market than in Edinburgh, the latter market being well supplied at this season from East Lothian, Fife, and other counties north of the Forth. This fair is considered to contain the best

show of fat cattle in the south of Scotland. About one-fourth of the number is composed of half-fat and lean short-horn steers and heifers, chiefly two years old, which are mostly purchased by dealers from Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, and other English counties. Of these, most of the steers go into Lincolnshire, where they are sold to farmers, who keep them twelve or eighteen months, and then send them to Smithfield market, where they are called Lincolns, although bred in Scotland. The heifers generally go no farther than Yorkshire, where they are also sold to farmers, who keep them as cows till they are five and six years old. Should they be in calf when sold in Dunse, the dealers like them the better. When aged, the Yorkshire farmers sell them to dealers, who either send them direct to London, or dispose of them at convenient markets, where they are picked up by the London cow-dealers, who, in selling them to the cow-feeders in Smithfield, call them Yorkshire cows, although they were bred in Berwickshire. The quality of the short-horns in this county is now so much improved, that the breeders may challenge any county in England for steers; and breeding being extensively cultivated, the show of fat is very superior at this fair; but since the establishment of so many winter and spring cattle markets in the county, it has rather fallen off in numbers, but improved in quality. It is not uncommon to see two-year olds from 60 to 70 stone of 14lb. The great bulk of the cattle are now fed off at two years old in that county. We have seen the late Mr. Robertson of Ladykirk receive twenty-five guineas a piece for his two-year-olds. The milch-cows make a conspicuous figure at this fair. All the aged cows are purchased by dealers for the Edinburgh market. Young cows are purchased by farmers and farm-servants for country use. Young heifers in calf meet a ready sale from the Yorkshire dealers, a vast number of whom attend this market.

The show of sheep at this fair is but middling, generally not exceeding 700 or 800, of all sorts,—Leicester, half-bred, and Cheviot hogs,—Cheviot and black-faced wethers,—Cheviot and black-faced ewes and lambs. Some of the lots are fat. They are bought by farmers and graziers in the neighbourhood and East Lothian; and a few are purchased by gentlemen for the use of their own tables. There is also a horse market, but very few good ones are shown, being mostly of the inferior sorts. This is a fair of great importance in Berwickshire. It generally clears the hands of the farmers of all their disposable fat stock at this season.

2. DUNSE AUGUST FAIR is held on the 26th of August, or the Tuesday after, in case that date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Monday. Some years ago this was a large fair, the number of cattle being fully as great as at the June fair; but lately it has fallen off very much, the numbers seldom exceeding 700 or 800, mostly short-horns, and a few black-coloured cattle. One-fourth of them may be termed fat, but not many of them prime fat, which are mostly purchased by dealers and butchers from Edinburgh, Morpeth, and Newcastle. Very few dealers from the midland counties of England attend this market to buy fat cattle. About one-half of the cattle are lean, and half-fat, short-horn steers and heifers, two years old. When a scarcity arises from any cause in England, these are purchased for grazing by the Lincolnshire and Yorkshire dealers; the steers for Lincolnshire, and the heifers for Yorkshire. A few of them are bought by farmers and

graziers in the country around, and particularly in East Lothian. The remainder are milch-cows, fat and half-fat black coloured cattle. The former are purchased by Edinburgh cow-dealers, and the latter for home feeding. Sometimes, however, they are driven south. Mr. John Thomson, of Mungoswalls, purchased last year from 80 to 100 half-fat for Woolpit in Suffolk. The show of sheep at this market is very middling, consisting generally of about 300 or 400, with a few lambs and fat sheep, the latter being purchased by Morpeth dealers and Berwick butchers, and the former by graziers in Berwickshire, and the adjoining counties. The show of horses, like that of the June fair, is very middling, and the same remarks will apply to both. This is also a hiring market for shearers, whose wages are regulated by St. James's fair at Kelso on 5th August.

3. DUNSE NOVEMBER FAIR is held on the 17th of November, or the Tuesday after in case that date should fall on Saturday, Sunday, or Monday. This fair, like the August one, has fallen off very much. About the same number of cattle are shewn, and generally of the same description both in quantity and quality. The fat are generally purchased by the same customers as at the August fair. The half-fat and lean cattle, whether short-horns or the black-coloured kind, are purchased by farmers and graziers in Berwickshire, and particularly East Lothian, where many go to be fed on turnips, and distillery offals, and wintered on half turnip and straw. Very few milch cows are shown at this season, and these few are purchased by the Edinburgh cow dealers. A few lots of small lean black-coloured cattle from All-Hallow Fair are generally exposed for sale, and which are purchased by farmers for wintering on straw and rough winter pastures. The show of horses is scarcely so good as at the two preceding fairs.

4. DUNSE SHEEP-MARKETS. These constitute the recently established markets which have been alluded to. There are four of them held at Dunse, and were established about eleven or twelve years ago through the exertions of Mr. James Dickson of that place. The first takes place on the fourth Wednesday of March, principally for the sale of ewes in lamb, although several lots of hogs and wethers are brought forward. The numbers may be about 1000 to 1200. The ewes are mostly of the Cheviot and black-faced breeds from the Lammermuir hills, with a few Leicester and half-bred ewes. They are principally purchased by farmers and graziers in Berwickshire and the adjoining counties, particularly East Lothian. Most of the proprietors and farmers who kill their own mutton and lamb supply themselves at this market with small lots of ewes for what are termed "pot flocks." The hogs and wethers are purchased by the same customers. Sometimes a few lots of fat sheep are presented, which are purchased by the Morpeth dealers.

The second sheep-market is held on the third Wednesday of May, principally for hogs and wethers. The number shewn may be about 1500, one-half of which are Leicester and half-bred hogs, the other half, Cheviot hogs, Cheviot and black-faced wethers, Cheviot and black-faced ewes and lambs, and a few fat sheep. The largest proportion of the whole is purchased by farmers and country dealers in the neighbourhood and adjoining counties, particularly East Lothian. Some of the Leicester hogs are nearly fat, and only require a few weeks' feeding after being clipt. The prices of this market, like all other rough hog



markets, are a good deal regulated by the price of wool.

The third sheep-market is held on the second Wednesday of July, principally for the sale of lambs, although a few others of different sorts are brought forward. Of 2000 lambs and sheep shewn, two thirds of the lambs are Leicester and half-bred, between the Leicester ram and the Cheviot and black-faced ewe, and the remainder Cheviot and black-faced. The Leicester and half-bred lambs are purchased by farmers who keep no breeding stock. They buy lambs at this season, turnip them well during the winter, clip them and feed them the following season. A few of the Cheviot and black-faced lambs are purchased for the same purpose, but most of them, if fat, are bought by butchers and dealers; or they are purchased by farmers, who graze them on high land, and keep them in only growing condition, as this kind of stock does not come so early to maturity as the finer sorts. The fat sheep are purchased by the Morpeth dealers and country butchers, the half-fat and lean by farmers and graziers from the neighbourhood and adjoining counties.

This is also a great wool market, and is attended by almost all the wool-staplers from Yorkshire. By the time of this market they have seen the stock of wool in the farmers' hands; and as the Yetholm fair is over, and the price to a certain degree fixed, sales are more quickly effected here than at Yetholm. Much business is done at this market, perhaps more than at any other wool market in the south of Scotland. Berwickshire being a great sheep-breeding county, an immense quantity of wool is raised in it, and it forms one of the principal commodities which the farmer has to dispose of. The Berwickshire farmer is therefore much interested in the wool-market, and looks forward to it with great anxiety. We have reason to believe that some of them have 1000*l.* worth of wool to dispose of this season.

The fourth sheep-market is held on the fourth Wednesday of September. Fully 2000 are shewn, principally draft ewes, about two-thirds of which are Leicester and half-bred, the remainder Cheviot and black-faced draft ewes, and a few wethers and fat sheep. The ewes are purchased by those farmers in the county, and from East Lothian, who keep no breeding stock, but what is called a "flying stock." From these ewes a lamb is taken, which is sold fat off the ewes the following May, June, or July. The ewe is immediately thereafter fattened and sold. It is considered fair payment to get the lamb and the wool of the ewe for ten or twelve months keep of the ewe on good feeding farms. The average profits may be 25*s.* for Leicesters and half-breds, and 20*s.* for Cheviots, greater profits than which are often realized, particularly by East Lothian farmers, who can force lambs early into the Edinburgh market; but the pursuit of this system is attended with a considerable expense. When draft ewes can be bought cheap, they leave a profit considerably above cost price under this management; but taking one year with another, and deaths into account, farmers seldom receive a greater profit than the cost price. The high as well as the low lands of Berwickshire being now completely drained, the ewes are generally very sound, and thrive well with those who purchase them, and they generally change their ground for the better.

When these markets were first established at Dunse, the numbers of sheep shewn were small and the buyers limited; but they are every year becoming more important, and bid fair to benefit

both the buyer and seller. Before their establishment the lambs in Berwickshire were often driven to Yetholm and St. Boswell's, the hogs to Whit-sunbank, and the ewes to St. Ninian's; and they were frequently purchased at these markets by Berwickshire and East Lothian farmers, who had to bring them back over the same ground they had travelled. This playing at "cross purposes," as it might be termed, imposed a heavy expense on both buyer and seller, besides being very detrimental to the stock. It is no wonder, therefore, that these Dunse markets are improving, and found useful and convenient to that part of the country.

II. BERWICK FAIRS.—Berwick is a considerable town, containing 8920 inhabitants. It stands on a corner of land, on the north bank of the River Tweed, at its confluence with the German Ocean. Its corporation lands form a neutral territory between England and Scotland. It is the principal shipping port for the exportation of agricultural produce from the counties of Berwick, Roxburgh, and North Durham. It was the first port north of the Tweed which fitted out snacks for the London trade. Two hundred thousand qrs. of grain are said to be annually exported from it to London; and during the war 30,000*l.* worth of eggs were annually exported; but since the egg market in London has been inundated with importations from France, that trade has been completely destroyed. Three fairs are annually held in Berwick. The first is held on the second Friday after Whit-sun Tuesday. The number of cattle generally shown at this fair amounts to 800 or 1000, one-half of which are fat, the other half-fat and lean. The fat are of superior order, not inferior in kind and condition to those shewn at the Alnwick and Dunse fairs. The same buyers attend this fair as at Dunse, for it often happens the day after Dunse June fair. It is unnecessary to repeat our observations on Dunse June fair, as they strictly belong to this Berwick fair. No sheep are shewn at this fair. A few north country black-coloured cattle attend it. The second fair is held on the Wednesday before the 26th of August, but it is more useful for the hiring of shearers for the ensuing harvest than the sale of stock, though a few scores of milch cows, half-fat and lean cattle, are brought forward, but they are unworthy of notice to strangers. The third fair, held on the first Wednesday of November, is also unworthy of notice.

III. COLDSTREAM MONTHLY MARKETS.—Coldstream is a small town on the north bank of the Tweed, containing 2897 inhabitants. It is situated up the Tweed above Berwick 14½ miles; from Dunse 10½ miles in a south-west direction; east of Kelso 9½ miles. A fine bridge which spans the Tweed at Coldstream, connects England and Scotland, and forms the extension of the mail road from Edinburgh to Wooler, through Cornhill, from which last place it is 1 mile, Wooler 15½ miles, and Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 61 miles.

These monthly markets were established about twelve or thirteen years ago, and for some years were held on the last Thursday of the month from December to May, both inclusive; but they are now held on the last Thursday of every month throughout the year. But the former period from December to May still embraces the most important time of these markets. During those months, about 600 or 700 cattle are shewn. The greatest proportion, at least three-fourths, of which are fat short-horn steers and heifers, two and three years old, with a few half-fat and lean steers and heifers and milch-cows. The fat are principally bought by the Morpeth dealers, although it occasionally

happens that the Edinburgh and Glasgow dealers can afford better prices and drive them to these markets. If fat is scarce in the south, Yorkshire dealers attend, and sometimes in considerable numbers. The Newcastle, Shields, and Sunderland butchers also buy at this market. As the fat cattle at this market in the spring months, is inferior to none in the kingdom, dealers can supply themselves with cattle of all descriptions for the cutting and shipping butcher, their weight being 40 to 80 stones, and sometimes as high as 90 to 100 stones. Occasionally some superior lots of north country black-coloured cattle are shewn. The half-fat and lean short-horn steers and heifers shewn here are excellent, and seldom will any one regret buying bred cattle at these markets, as they invariably thrive well, the neighbourhood of Coldstream having long been famed for breeding good short-horns; the true blood being in almost every man's stock, and it will always tell on good keep. In the other months of the year, a good show of cattle may sometimes be seen, but there is no calculating on a fine show but in those which we have mentioned. The milch-cows are bought by the Edinburgh cow-dealers. A few of the young cows are bought for country use. The sheep shown throughout the year constitute a more regular market than the cattle, being from 500 to 600 monthly, principally Leicester and half-breds. The sheep are all intended for the butcher. In the spring months are to be found Leicester and half-bred dinmonts and gimmers, and Cheviot wethers, the former weighing from 16 to 24 lb. per quarter. The Morpeth dealers pick them up, but since the introduction of steam navigation from Leith to London, a few have been bought for the Edinburgh market, and thence sent to London alive, or in carcass. From May to September, clipt hogs of young dinmonts and gimmers, and yeld ewes, with a few fat lambs, are presented; and from September to January, dinmonts, gimmers, and fat or cast ewes that have had lambs, and Cheviot wethers, are to be found. Very superior lots of fat sheep are shewn at these markets. Mr. Thomson, of Scrammerston, has shewn dinmonts in spring from 26 lb. to 28 lb. per quarter, and his ewes 24 lb., but his sheep have a dash of the Tees-water blood in them, and that gives the weight. The sheep shewn at Coldstream are of a superior cast, but how can it be otherwise on Tweedside, which has long been famed for Leicesters and the quality of its land? These markets appear to improve every year.

*(To be continued.)*

### A COMIC RURAL SONG, UPON THE POTATO CROP.

AND SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN WRITTEN BY THE POTATO.

*(Sung at the Meeting at Market-Hill.)*

When first we came to this Green Isle,  
By fam'd Columbus brought,  
The natives boiled our tops like kale,  
For roots they never sought;  
Until the spring of the next year,  
When turning up the ground,  
More rich than a Peruvian mine  
Our roots the natives found.  
For centuries then, it is well known,  
A friend we ne'er deceived,  
And with 'cead mille falta still,  
We always were received.

A few years back we must confess,  
And do confess with pain,  
Of partial failures in the crops  
The farmers do complain.  
Why this is so, all wish to know,  
Is it nature, charm, or spell?  
Bright sovereigns twenty he will get.\*  
Who can the reasons tell?  
Some say, the failure was because  
The seed were cut, if so,  
Why did not that affect the crops  
An hundred years ago?

Some say that we were hous'd too soon,  
Shut up from air and light,  
And there got leave to heat and sweat,  
And that's what caused the blight.  
Some say the seasons were too dry,  
Too much heat in the ground;  
Our moisture thus extracted was,  
And we became unsound.  
Some say the sun's hot scorching rays  
On us got leave to shine,  
Which caused the failure—and some say,  
These causes all combine.

*But we do know the very cause,  
To us it is no puzzle,  
You all remember Thirty-one,  
You would sow mangel wurzel.  
And turnips too nought else would do,  
To them your dung must go,  
Whilst we were set on lime and soil,  
And as we could might grow.  
The dwarfish seed of this bad breed,  
Next season you did set,  
And now you see the bad effects,  
Old friends for to forget.*

When farmers thus deserted us,  
A charm then we found,  
That all their watching could not keep  
Their turnips in the ground.  
This charm quite puzzled Mr. Bruce,†  
No cause he knew at all;  
But just to please the farmers, said,  
The *linnets* done it all.  
But as we're not inclined to spite,  
And wish the country well,  
How you may have good crops again,  
Now listen and we'll tell:

Still keep your seed mixed up with mould,  
Or where we'll get the air,  
And when the ground's a little damp,  
Then plant us out with care.  
These two plain rules, if you observe,  
And give us your manure,  
For generations yet to come  
Good crops we will ensure.  
Of mangel wurzel, turnips, now,  
We only this will say,  
The day you took these plants for us,  
You threw your wits away.

\* In allusion to the premium offered by the Royal Dublin society.

† Mr. Bruce is the Agriculturist on Lord Gosford's estate, and had ascertained that the small birds picked up the turnip seed just as it appeared above ground.



**THE QUANTITY OF MALT CONSUMED BY THE UNDERMENTIONED  
BREWERS OF LONDON AND VICINITY,  
FROM OCTOBER 10th, 1833, TO OCTOBER 10th, 1834.**

|                         | Qrs.  | B. |                    | Qrs. | B. |                  | Qrs. | B. |
|-------------------------|-------|----|--------------------|------|----|------------------|------|----|
| Barclay and Co. ....    | 99674 | 0  | King .....         | 567  | 4  | Harris .....     | 114  | 0  |
| Hanbury and Co. ....    | 74982 | 0  | Cowell .....       | 558  | 4  | Burt .....       | 113  | 4  |
| Whitbread and Co. ....  | 49105 | 0  | Bury .....         | 549  | 4  | Jewitt .....     | 112  | 0  |
| Combe and Co. ....      | 44618 | 0  | Jenner .....       | 529  | 2  | Hudson .....     | 111  | 4  |
| Reid and Co. ....       | 44210 | 0  | Turner, R. ....    | 525  | 6  | Wood, D. ....    | 111  | 3  |
| Calvert and Co. ....    | 31460 | 0  | Higgs .....        | 511  | 5  | Bradfield .....  | 106  | 0  |
| Hoare and Co. ....      | 29796 | 2  | Wicks .....        | 492  | 6  | Mortlock .....   | 101  | 3  |
| Meux and Co. ....       | 26161 | 0  | Harris, R. ....    | 490  | 1  | Lambert .....    | 100  | 6  |
| Elliot and Co. ....     | 25009 | 6  | Hodd .....         | 488  | 4  | Priddle .....    | 100  | 2  |
| Taylor and Co. ....     | 20835 | 0  | Woodward .....     | 485  | 7  | Leathes .....    | 98   | 4  |
| Charrington and Co. ..  | 18197 | 2  | Honeyball .....    | 471  | 3  | Wileman .....    | 98   | 4  |
| Goding and Co. ....     | 15256 | 0  | Wright .....       | 470  | 4  | Norris .....     | 96   | 4  |
| Gardner .....           | 11429 | 7  | Holloway .....     | 469  | 3  | Beamont .....    | 96   | 0  |
| Bricheno. ....          | 9950  | 4  | Chapman .....      | 462  | 1  | Parker .....     | 96   | 0  |
| Thorne and Son. ....    | 8496  | 6  | Baynton .....      | 456  | 6  | Muggeridge ..... | 90   | 2  |
| Goding, Thomas .....    | 8224  | 0  | Collins, W. ....   | 441  | 0  | Sellon .....     | 86   | 6  |
| Courage and Co. ....    | 8079  | 0  | Clarke, R. ....    | 431  | 5  | Rose .....       | 86   | 5  |
| Wood and Co. ....       | 7602  | 0  | Plimmer .....      | 427  | 0  | Denman .....     | 81   | 4  |
| Hazard and Co. ....     | 7094  | 0  | Lock .....         | 422  | 0  | Tubb .....       | 80   | 4  |
| M'Leod .....            | 5479  | 0  | Thurby .....       | 415  | 4  | Sadler .....     | 76   | 7  |
| Tickell .....           | 5294  | 0  | Lloyd .....        | 411  | 6  | Keaney .....     | 75   | 4  |
| Harris .....            | 4940  | 3  | Prescott .....     | 409  | 0  | Sumner .....     | 75   | 0  |
| More .....              | 4713  | 4  | Jones .....        | 375  | 0  | Batt .....       | 73   | 7  |
| Ind and Smith .....     | 4432  | 0  | Bailey .....       | 363  | 7  | Hacker .....     | 73   | 6  |
| Ball and Co. ....       | 4407  | 0  | Reynolds .....     | 359  | 0  | Shepherd .....   | 72   | 5  |
| Halford and Co. ....    | 3545  | 0  | Turner, R. ....    | 341  | 1  | Thorpe .....     | 71   | 0  |
| Richmond and Co. ....   | 3520  | 0  | Lindsay .....      | 328  | 0  | Stalwood .....   | 70   | 5  |
| Laxton .....            | 3508  | 0  | West, J. ....      | 322  | 4  | Brooks .....     | 70   | 3  |
| Hale .....              | 3281  | 0  | Stirling .....     | 319  | 6  | Gould .....      | 67   | 0  |
| Betteley .....          | 3192  | 0  | Elder .....        | 264  | 4  | Pickering .....  | 65   | 4  |
| Satchell .....          | 2515  | 0  | West .....         | 255  | 4  | Remnant .....    | 65   | 2  |
| Cox, John .....         | 2446  | 0  | Adams .....        | 250  | 4  | Craddock .....   | 62   | 0  |
| Nicholls and Co. ....   | 2339  | 0  | Pugh .....         | 241  | 1  | Marlow .....     | 62   | 0  |
| Stains and Co. ....     | 2266  | 0  | Hainstock .....    | 240  | 6  | Larner .....     | 60   | 2  |
| Williamson .....        | 2261  | 0  | Easton .....       | 237  | 0  | Bush .....       | 59   | 2  |
| Hodgson .....           | 2080  | 0  | Clark and Co. .... | 231  | 4  | Mills .....      | 57   | 6  |
| Hill and Co. ....       | 1963  | 0  | Olley .....        | 226  | 4  | Steer .....      | 57   | 4  |
| Masterman .....         | 1810  | 0  | Meaton .....       | 224  | 6  | Busk .....       | 56   | 3  |
| Mann, James. ....       | 1757  | 0  | Wells .....        | 220  | 4  | Danks .....      | 55   | 1  |
| Gray and Dacre. ....    | 1750  | 0  | Stevenson .....    | 219  | 0  | Churches .....   | 54   | 0  |
| Ing, Mrs. ....          | 1743  | 0  | Prosser .....      | 217  | 6  | Hudson .....     | 48   | 6  |
| Griffiths, P. ....      | 1693  | 0  | Brown, W. ....     | 215  | 5  | Smith .....      | 48   | 0  |
| Maynard .....           | 1671  | 2  | Smith .....        | 214  | 0  | Raynor .....     | 47   | 4  |
| Young I. and B. ....    | 1666  | 1  | Carpenter .....    | 204  | 1  | Beedle .....     | 47   | 2  |
| Hume .....              | 1427  | 4  | Ufford .....       | 203  | 0  | Smith .....      | 46   | 4  |
| Sherborne and Co. ....  | 1336  | 0  | Field and Co. .... | 197  | 1  | Brewer .....     | 44   | 4  |
| Collins, Jonathan. .... | 1303  | 2  | Bull .....         | 193  | 2  | Bennett .....    | 42   | 4  |
| Boreham and Co. ....    | 1185  | 5  | Don .....          | 193  | 0  | Cleverley .....  | 41   | 0  |
| Veray, W. and C. ....   | 1140  | 0  | Crouch .....       | 189  | 0  | Fordyce .....    | 41   | 0  |
| Young C. ....           | 1078  | 4  | Turner, W. S. .... | 188  | 6  | Potter .....     | 41   | 0  |
| Kerry and Co. ....      | 1044  | 0  | Griffiths, J. .... | 179  | 0  | Turner, S. ....  | 41   | 0  |
| Clarke, C. ....         | 1003  | 1  | Powditch .....     | 178  | 0  | Godfrey .....    | 39   | 5  |
| Clarke, S. ....         | 938   | 0  | Cox, W. ....       | 175  | 1  | Jones .....      | 38   | 2  |
| Blogg, W. ....          | 915   | 4  | Miller .....       | 171  | 4  | Leach .....      | 38   | 2  |
| Manvell .....           | 875   | 4  | Mulley .....       | 171  | 4  | Cartland .....   | 37   | 6  |
| Mantell and Son .....   | 850   | 0  | Bacon .....        | 168  | 4  | Knight .....     | 37   | 6  |
| Holt .....              | 794   | 0  | White .....        | 168  | 3  | Bull .....       | 35   | 6  |
| Buckley and Co. ....    | 793   | 0  | Baker .....        | 167  | 4  | Phillips .....   | 35   | 0  |
| Kershaw .....           | 770   | 0  | Jackson .....      | 163  | 0  | Theale .....     | 35   | 0  |
| Mattam .....            | 762   | 2  | Williams .....     | 151  | 1  | King .....       | 33   | 6  |
| Braithwaite .....       | 753   | 6  | Keene .....        | 147  | 0  | Hall .....       | 33   | 4  |
| Blogg, B. ....          | 752   | 2  | Brace .....        | 143  | 2  | Whissell .....   | 33   | 4  |
| Clarke, R. ....         | 747   | 0  | Mudie .....        | 142  | 0  | Thompson .....   | 33   | 3  |
| Mann, Joel. ....        | 745   | 4  | Smith, W. ....     | 141  | 7  | Brett .....      | 32   | 6  |
| Turner, J. ....         | 677   | 4  | Turner .....       | 141  | 7  | Townley .....    | 32   | 4  |
| Farquharson .....       | 657   | 2  | Whittaker .....    | 141  | 2  | Knapton .....    | 32   | 1  |
| Addison .....           | 653   | 0  | Crow .....         | 137  | 5  | Abrook .....     | 32   | 0  |
| Dean .....              | 648   | 0  | Smith .....        | 133  | 3  | Potter, E. ....  | 31   | 5  |
| Abbott .....            | 634   | 4  | Debenham .....     | 120  | 0  | Beecroft .....   | 31   | 4  |
| Thomson .....           | 589   | 2  | Ward .....         | 114  | 4  | Shearpoint ..... | 30   | 2  |

Total Consumption . . . . . 662,713 qrs. 5 bush.

JOHN SLATER, Beadle, Brewers' Hall.

## TYLNEY HALL.

A NOVEL.

BY T. HOOD.

The grotesque and fantastic figures with which this work abounds, are all drawn in Mr. Hood's pleasantest manner. We recommend it to the perusal of all our readers, and in order to give them a specimen of its general style, we extract the following description of a Coroner's Inquest held in the county on the untimely death of one of Sir Mark Tyrell's sons—

"Such was the coroner for—shire, and attorney withal, for he was placed on the Rolls before the present high duty on indentures, which makes it a matter of more difficulty for an errand boy to succeed his employer, and stand in the shoes he formerly blacked. His promotion, however obtained, had been far from slow, and the rapidity of his rise seemed to have influenced his character. He bounced into the room, bobbed a hurried bow at the justice, threw himself into the appointed chair, and began dabbling the bill of a pen in the inkstand, with the eagerness of a duck's in a gutter. Whatever portion of time may be a jiffy, in half its usual space he had rubbed his bald head, blown his nose, and put on his spectacles, and then, at his best pace, began on a dozen topics at once, as if talking, not walking, a match against the celebrated Mr. Gurney. As far as the shortest of short-hand could collect, it ran thus:—

"'Strange weather, gentlemen,—devilish dirty though! Dick count the jury. Famous year for birds, they say,—shot seventeen brace myself. Foreman—eh,—Master Tablet? Sharp work, your worship, for one day: two visitations, a found drowned, and an accidental;—posting's unconscionably high.—Mr. Justice, you'll be at the Blue dinner?'

"'I rather think not,' said the Justice, in a dry tone.

"'Sorry for it,' resumed the inquisitor. 'Capital dinners at the Eagle—very good house—wines excellent,—gentlemen, I needn't lay down—we've met before. Mr. Bundy, have patience—slow and sure. A very well proportioned room indeed,—very. Poor Sir Mark!—witnesses all in attendance, Dick? (the clerk nodded.) It's a melancholy event,—hadn't we better open a window? Such a promising young man!—If you please we'll view—where's the body?'—Gregory, show the way—' and jumping up from his chair, as if to pick up a child, or save the post, or catch a wasp, the coroner scuttled along the room, and trundled down stairs with his twelve satellites in his train. The domestics and the tenantry, with the common wish of seeing and hearing all they could, joined the procession, and the Justice and the Creole were left to themselves.

"Guided by the obsequious Gregory, the coroner and jury soon found themselves in the drawing-room, where the dead body, supported on tressels, awaited their inspection. \* \* \* The coroner, to whom such sights were familiar, after a momentary glance, turned away to a window, and found his view in a prospect of the park. \* \* \*

"'Hic jacet,' said the foreman solemnly, 'what a melancholy memento of mortality; he must measure six feet.'

"'Aye, more nor that,' said Mr. Benson, scanning the length with the critical eye of a carpenter, and in a moment his pocket-rule was travelling along the body, and the product was an inch and a half above the two yards.

"'What matters feet and inches of flesh,' exclaimed the loud, harsh voice of the Ranter, all clay—potter's clay—pipe clay.' \* \* \*

"Here he was stopped by the coroner, with his usual hurry.

"'Amen—amen,—better another time. Well gentlemen—what a beautiful room this is! A very fine corpse, eh!—poor young man—who carries snuff? Dr. Bellamy, you've examined the body?'

"'I have had that pleasure,' replied old Formality, with an instinctive bow to the corpse, which during its life, had once done him the honour to become his patient.

"'Then, gentlemen,' said the coroner, 'all we have to do—'

"'Not till I have lifted up my voice,' said the Ranter, 'twenty coroners shan't prevent a word in season! no, nor twenty fiery dragons,—what's the use of death, if it ain't to be improved on?' \* \* \*

"'I say I've to sit on more bodies, and I can't trifle,' said the coroner, raising his voice.

"'And I says eternity first,' said the pertinacious Ranter, 'what's sitting on bodies, to sitting on souls? what can you say to that?'

"'That souls will keep, and the bodies won't,' answered the coroner. 'Gentlemen, you've all viewed?—seen all you can see—follow me? and like an old Young Rapid he trotted off, followed by his company. \* \* \*

"Well, gentlemen, you've seen the body,—warm weather, Mr. Justice, won't keep long,—Mr. Bundy, don't talk,—what's the time, Dick?—I forgot last night to wind-up,—very simple case, gentleman; lies in small compass,—where's the witness?—Dick, swear in Mr. Walter Tyrrell.'

"The Creole took the book from the clerk with some emotion, and repeated an assenting 'So help me God.' He then proceeded to relate the occurrences of the evening up to the fatal discharge into the moving fern, suppressing only the verbal directions which he had himself given for the aim of the weapon.

"'That will do, Sir,' said the coroner; and he was adjusting himself to address the jury, when, after a suppressed remonstrance from the foreman, Mr. Jenkins, more untractable than Tablet had anticipated, persisted in putting a few questions to the witness.

"'By your favour, Mr. Walter Tyrrel,' was his first interrogation, 'and I should wish you particularly to call to mind the circumstance, and take time to consider before answering,—Did he jump up a yard high, as they say people do when they are shot?'

"'I saw nothing of the kind,' answered the Creole.

"'That is very odd,' remarked the pompous Mr. Jenkins. 'Perhaps you will be as good as inform, Sir, where he put his hand first,—his side or his head, or his back? Some say feeling is in the spinal marrow, and some say in the heart, and others say in the brain.'

"'My observation was not so particular, Sir,' said the Creole, with a look of annoyance.

"'One more question, Sir,' said the persevering Mr. Jenkins, 'and I have done. Perhaps you could name the maker of the gun?'

"'Pshaw—any body you like, Sir, interrupted the impatient coroner. 'Gentlemen, you've heard the witness—evidence very clearly given,—Dr. Bellamy will favour us with his post mortems.'

"The personage thus appealed to proceeded with great gravity, and a technical minuteness equally tiresome and revolting, to describe scientifically the complicated injuries the body had received, concluding with his decided mature professional opinion on oath, that the receipt of the united charges of a



double-barrelled gun into the human chest would be sufficient to cause the death of the individual.

" 'Thank ye, doctor,—very clear,' said the coroner. 'Well, gentlemen, you have heard all—right lobe—left lobe—sternum—laceration—hemorrhage, and so forth—capital evidence—needn't read it over—Gregory, go and order my chaise—gentlemen, I am going to sum up. Here's a young gentleman—heir to a fine estate—an elder brother shot by a younger brother—shot by mistake for a rabbit. You must dismiss all prejudice, and so forth. Very ugly case—can't be two opinions. Gentlemen, you'll consult together—and if there's a doubt, you'll give the murderer a benefit,—Dick, take down the verdict.'

"A pause succeeded for some minutes: the twelve jurors turned round and buzzed together in a corner, like so many blue-bottles on a window-pane; and the voice of Mr. Trot at length arose above the rest.

" 'Fratericide, be d—d. I have heard of homicide and suicide, and I'll take which of them sides you like.'

"Then there followed a fresh buzzing, during which Tablet convinced Messrs. Jenkins and Trot that there was but one way of being unanimous; that men of different opinions would never agree between this and doomsday; and that in such a case dinner must be postponed 'sine die.'

" 'Gentlemen,' said the coroner, 'are you all agreeable?'

" 'Very,' responded the foreman. 'We are all in favour of Wilful Murder.' \* \* \*

" 'Sound judgment—a right decision—very correct indeed. Poor Sir Mark Tyrrel—it's a shocking thing for a father—Dick, make out a warrant—a strange thing, your worship, if the Blues should get their man in—Yellow used to walk over the course. I haven't had much shooting this season—I shall come some day, Mat, and look at your birds. By the bye, if you know of a good cocking spaniel—I like 'em oldish and slow, for I'm getting into that way myself—ready, eh, Dick?—there, give it to Gregory, and catch who can,—it's forty pound. Your worship, I've the honour to say good day—good bye, gentlemen, you've done your duty,—Dr. Bellamy, your most obedient,—Mr. Walter, I'm your's. Look sharp, Dick, for I'm late for the Eagle,—and, spurred by the anticipation of the election dinner, the coroner departed with an activity and speed that seemed purposely intended to distinguish him from his subjects—the quick from the dead. In fact, before the bowing head of Old Formality rose again to its perpendicular, the personage he intended to honour was out of sight. The stonemason, emulating the example of the doctor, kept obsequiously ducking at the Justice, and the jurors copied every bend of their foreman as regularly as the crew of a cutter take the stroke from the steersman; after which ceremony they hustled out of the room as from a theatre when the performance is over."

A Royal ordinance of July 8th reduced the import duty on wool by one-third, and declared that the premiums on the export of woollen yarns and cloths should be reduced in the same proportion from the 1st of January next. It having, however, been represented that the sale of all the cloths made of the wool which had paid the higher duty cannot be completed till the end of February, a Royal ordinance of Friday prescribes that the full premium of 13½ per cent. shall be allowed till the last day of February inclusive.—*Galignani's Messenger*.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS."

Sir,—Your correspondent "*A Country Banker*," proposes a singular remedy for the existing agricultural distress. He suggests that the Bank of England, the country bankers, and joint-stock banks, should be *annihilated at the end of three years*; that a gold currency *should be abandoned*, and give place to an universal paper circulation,—and that the whole property of the country (funded and landed) should be pledged to the government, to enable them to establish a "National Bank," upon the principle of advancing a moiety of its value to the owners of such property, above 2,000*l.*, who might be disposed to mortgage it for so hopeful a purpose. He does not, however, entirely lose sight of gold. The trustees of this National Bank would be empowered to purchase a stock of from 10 to 15 millions, from which stock "any person should have the power of purchasing any quantity he might require at the market price of the day, the loss, if any, on such transactions, to be borne by the government." And when this project is once on foot, he thinks matters will then move on smoothly, prices *will be elevated* (which he conceives is just what the farmers want), and with such an arrangement they might "*safely permit the importation of foreign grain at a low fixed rate of duty, WITHOUT ENDANGERING THEIR OWN INTERESTS.*"

There is something so manifestly absurd in this Utopian project, that one can scarcely find patience to expose its fallacy. But the object of the writer is good, however much he may be mistaken, as he conceives that a scheme like this will render prosperity more permanent, and put an end to distrust,—let us see how a "consummation so devoutly to be wished" can be attained by the plan he suggests. It reminds one of the fable of the goose and the golden eggs, and were it possible to be adopted, would bid fair to be an apt illustration.

It is unnecessary to dwell upon the impolicy of a National Bank, to be established upon the plan of *Government* issuing its notes. We are certainly, by the blessing of reform, better protected than formerly, against the abuses of bad government, but enough, God knows, of the heaven remains, to make it a bitter expedient. The fingering of the public purse is too dangerous an experiment to entrust to any, even *the most virtuous* administration; and we have a lasting example before us in the national debt, accumulated solely through the ease by which the Government obtained supplies from the Bank of England, to promote their schemes of war and bloodshed. The end and object of all banking is the promotion of trade and the exchange of commodities. It is a system of credit arising out of the industry of the country, and created by the wants of the people themselves; it is best it should remain in *their*

hands,—the less the Government have to do with it the better.

But the avowed object of the "Country Banker" is to *elevate prices*. What would be the result? He cannot, even by his own project, confine the elevation of prices to the *Agriculturists* for whose interest he is led to propose it. If the prices of our manufactured productions were elevated (which they would undoubtedly be, by our uncontrolled paper circulation), we should cease to be "the workshop of the world," as other nations would naturally seek commodities where a more restricted circulation would enable them to obtain them cheaper. The consequences of such a scheme would only lead to overproduction in our own country. It is true that overproduction would correct itself, but it would be attended with ruin to many of our manufacturers. How would an unnatural elevation of prices, such as his plan would produce, benefit the farmers?—particularly (as he thinks might be done safely) if foreign grain were allowed to come in at a low fixed rate of duty? No plan could be better devised for their destruction. If his scheme for elevating prices were simultaneously adopted in all the markets of Europe *then* our farmers would be improved by it, but as his plan has little likelihood of being adopted over so wide a field, the consequences to our farmers would be just this, (supposing that by the universal elevation of prices in England they were to receive half as much again as they do at present for the quarter of Wheat,) that our markets would be inundated with foreign grain (raised at little expence and admitted freely at a low duty) and the stocks of our farmers, raised amid all the disadvantages of high taxation, high prices, and high wages, would remain unsold! Let the Country Banker extricate himself from the horns of this dilemma.

But the proposition is altogether absurd, and to talk of the stock of gold which is to be kept in the coffers of this Government Bank to regulate the exchanges! why, the very fact of an increased importation, which would assuredly follow the elevation of prices at home, would blow the whole of his theory to the four winds of heaven, and the fancied stock of gold, melting before the paper circulation, would fly away with it. Then would the fable of the goose and the golden eggs be realized with a vengeance. But it is true—the capital of the Bank would remain secure, the *fixed* capital, the land that would not fly away, except from the owners, and an improvement might even be suggested by which the evanescent stock of gold could be replenished; the *fixed* capital might then become truly available, because they might *dig* for gold; and there is no doubt they would get it too, *if they only went deep enough!*

Another Correspondent "your Constant Reader" performs the part of Philo Junius to the *soi disant* Country Banker, and elaborately shows "how intimately the agricul-

tural interests are connected with the currency of the country." The fact is, that *all* the interests of the country, productive and non-productive, are deeply interested in the question; and it is of vital importance to the country at large that a sound system of Banking should be encouraged. But in looking around us for that system which is best adapted for the necessities of a great commercial nation, we cannot overlook the gratifying spectacle which Scotland presents to the eye of a very impartial observer who has turned his attention to the subject, a country, which until the establishment of that safe and satisfactory system of Banking adopted there presented only a barren heath, where corn-fields are now luxuriantly blooming, where a frugal population has arisen, competing in the peaceful arts of industry in the very spots where their forefathers struggled and fought in feudal enmity against each other; we cannot contemplate this scene without reflecting that the elevation to which that once proverbially *poor* country has now raised itself, in manufacture, in commerce, and in agriculture, has been solely owing to the excellent system of banking established there. England can scarcely do better than follow its example. We can witness the effects which that system has produced in a country labouring under every disadvantage. But with all our superior wealth, and with the springs of our industry more widely and gigantically distributed; it is at least doubtful whether in the establishment of this new system of banking advocated by "the Country Banker," we should have much occasion to congratulate ourselves upon the adoption of so questionable a theory. S.

#### TO THE EDITOR OF THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS."

Sir,—I was not a little amused by the letter of your correspondent from Frinsbury, in your last Monday's "Express," professing to give an account of the ploughing match at Chalk, near Gravesend, but omitting all mention of one of the most interesting circumstances of that day, and one which has been much the subject of conversation in the neighbourhood, the exhibition of Rancome's plough with a pair of slight horses, successfully competing with the enormous Kentish ploughs, and the powerful four horses by which each of them was drawn. I say successfully competing, because, in the opinion of very many of the spectators, the ploughing was as well performed, and certainly as expeditiously, by it, as by any plough in the field. If I was not well acquainted with the liberality of your correspondent, I should suppose that the omission was intentional, from an unwillingness to admit that any plough can rival the turn-wrest, of the merits of which, it is well known, the Kentish farmers are very tenacious; nor should I notice the omission, but that I consider it to be the duty of the agriculturist to give publicity to those implements by which the land is best and most cheaply cultivated; and, in



my opinion, there is no implement which has so much benefited agriculture as this very simple and efficient plough. As a proof of its merits, I may mention that after dinner, the Earl of Darnley, the patron of the Association, spoke in terms of great approbation of its performance, and toasted the health of the owner for having introduced it that day.

I remain, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
THOS. BENTLEY.

Hermitage, near Rochester,  
4th Dec., 1834.

## COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

MARTIN v. COLEMAN.

LORD DENMAN said that this was an action of assumpsit brought by an outgoing tenant against his landlord, to recover the value of dressings of the fields and of manure left on the farm. The declaration contained a special count on the custom of the country, and there were, besides, the common money counts. The case was tried before Mr. Justice Taunton at the Spring Assizes for York, when the plaintiff recovered a verdict, but as there was scarcely any proof of the custom of the country on which the plaintiff could found his right to recover, and as it was contended that he could not recover on the common money counts, leave was reserved for the defendant to move to enter a nonsuit. The Court were now of opinion that a nonsuit could not be entered, for that where an outgoing tenant left manure, &c., upon the farm, and the landlord took possession and applied the manure to the improvement of the farm, the law raised an implied assumpsit without the necessity of any special custom being proved, and this in favour of agriculture. The rule for the nonsuit must, therefore, be discharged.

## COURT OF EXCHEQUER.

MASH v. DENSHAM.

This was an action to recover damages for a false representation upon the sale of a horse.

MR. RICHARDS stated that the plaintiff, who was a milkman, went on the 12th of July, 1833, to Smithfield to buy a horse, and seeing one which he thought would suit him, inquired if it was sound. A person named Maddox, who was the owner, said it was, and was also a good worker, and referred the plaintiff to the defendant, who immediately said it was a good horse. The plaintiff expressed his doubt as to its wind, on which the defendant said its wind was sound, and it was a good worker; he would vouch for it. Upon this the plaintiff bought the horse for 18*l*, and took it home, but the horse was so desperately broken-winded that at the end of three days he died. The plaintiff sold the carcass for 1*l* 10*s*, and the action was brought for the difference, 16*l* 10*s*, against the defendant, who must have known the condition of the horse at the time he made such a false representation.

WILLIAM WARD.—Went with the plaintiff to Smithfield. They saw a horse tied up. Defendant and Maddox were close by. The horse, at plaintiff's request, was put into a cart and driven about; it seemed to go very well. Maddox asked 18*l*. The plaintiff was doubtful about its wind, and asked defendant if he would vouch for him,

on which defendant said he would warrant his wind sound, and that he was a good worker. The plaintiff paid the money, and took the horse home. Witness drove him next day to Holloway, about three miles distance, his wind very bad. The next day he was driven to Barking, about seven miles, in a light chaise; his breath was very short. Plaintiff drove him once more towards Holloway, but in his way he fell down dead.

WILLIAM THOMAS WALTER, clerk to the plaintiff's attorney, served defendant with the writ. Defendant asked a man of the name of Coleman if he recollected a black horse which they had some time ago in the stable, a little touched in the wind? Coleman said he did. Defendant said "I have been served with a writ about it; it does not belong to me, but to Maddox; but I vouched it for him."

DAVID RICKETTS, a horse-slaughterer.—Saw defendant, who was a horse-dealer, show the horse to plaintiff. By medicinal preparations short-winded horses may be made to appear for some little time as if they were sound; shot was sometimes given for that purpose. The horse was what was called a Bullman, his windpipe was diseased; he opened it.

WILLIAM MADDOX.—Witness was a blacksmith, no relation of the seller of the horse. Saw the horse when it was sold. He had known it for a twelvemonth before. He knew it was unsound, and that it belonged to the defendant, for Maddox was only his servant—what they called a guinea-catcher. Told the buyer he had got a nice thing.

MR. ERLE, for the defendant, said it was the custom in Smithfield-market that a man in dealing with a stranger should bring some person forward who will vouch for him, and for this reason, if the horse is stolen and the true owner comes forward, the buyer will be compelled to give up the horse, and will also lose his money, unless he can come upon the voucher. It was only in this sense and in pursuance of this custom that the defendant vouched for Maddox, for he neither gave nor intended to give any warranty or representation that should make him liable for the soundness of the horse, although he was well content to be responsible for the forthcoming of Maddox. If the representation, however, had been made, the defendant would be answerable only if it were untrue to his knowledge. Now it was not untrue at all, and Maddox himself had before refused to take 17*l* for the horse.

JOSEPH TEASDALE proved that Maddox purchased the horse at Raleigh fair, Essex, for 16*l*. Witness offered 1*l* for his bargain, but he refused it.

FRANCIS MADDOX bought the horse at Raleigh fair. Refused several offers for it. It never belonged to the defendant.

THOMAS FOX.—Offered 16*l* for the horse. Maddox refused, and wanted 20*l*.

MR. RICHARDS, in reply, contended that the representation that the horse was sound in wind was made; that it was an untrue representation, and that the defendant knew at the time that it was untrue.

MR. BARON ALDERSON said the defendant could not be responsible if the representation had been honestly made, however mistaken the defendant

might have been; but if the jury thought that the representation was made, and that it was not a true representation, and that the defendant at the time of making it knew that it was untrue, then the plaintiff would be entitled to recover.

Verdict for the plaintiff—Damages, 16*l* 10*s*.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE 'FARMER'S MAGAZINE.'

Sir,—I some time since endeavoured to show in what manner and on what principle the present Corn Laws had operated beneficially to the landed interest, and it is my intention in this letter, after having stated the causes that I believe principally to have occasioned the present low price of wheat, to enquire what would be the effect, to the farming world, of the repeal of the Corn Laws.

From the passing of the Corn Bill, in 1828, up to the middle of the summer of 1832, the average price of wheat for that period had been somewhat above seven shillings per bushel. The crops during this interval had varied much, and in many situations and counties, had produced below an average growth—consequently the several reports at harvest-time, of the three harvests preceding 1832, differed so much in account, that each crop, at the time of harvesting it, was calculated to be somewhat deficient, and the sequel proved these impressions to be quite correct; but immediately on the universal prospect of the abundant harvest of 1832, and about the time of housing the corn, the price of wheat fell back to 6*s*. per bushel, and so it remained to the spring of 1833, when there was an apparent advance in the price of about 6*d*. per bushel, with an increased demand. This state of things was, however, but of short continuance; for, as the summer advanced, the promise for another abundant wheat crop increased, and the consequence was, that the price again fell back to six shillings per bushel, and with the price the demand also declined.

At the commencement of the harvest of 1833, a great surplus of the old crop remained in the hands of the farmers and dealers—probably to an extent much beyond that which the crop had exceeded as an average produce—and this fact may be accounted for by the immense importations from Ireland during the year; for the Irish, like the English, crop of 1832, had been abundant. The crop of 1833, although excellent, was very far inferior to the produce of the former year: nevertheless, it was beyond an average growth at home, and still more so in Ireland, and this, added to the great supply in hand from the old crop, reduced the price of wheat during the autumn of 1833 rather below 6*s*. per bushel, and so it remained up to Christmas of that year. The oat crop of 1833 had been deficient at home, but in Ireland the crop of this grain had again far exceeded an average produce. Now, the low price of oats during 1833, in the face of a very deficient crop at home, fully illustrates the ruinous effect of Irish importations on our home market; and it was not until the last dry summer had placed beyond doubt the possibility of having a great crop of oats, that the price of this grain revived. But the late summer not having affected the wheat crop in the manner it had the oat crop, but, on the contrary, it being about harvest time pretty generally admitted that on the whole the wheat was quite equal to, and probably a little beyond, an average

crop, the price began gradually to go down to 9*l*. and 10*l*. per load.

This was natural enough—an unusually forward harvest—a vast supply of old wheat in the stores of the millers and dealers—the condition of the new wheat inferior—a complete destitution of wind and water to the mills—the farmers' necessities of a nature not to be denied, and consequently no alternative but to dispose of his commodity at any price it would realize. I may be asked, if I attribute the low price of wheat to arise partly from want of speculation, occasioned on the part of the merchant by the inferior condition of the corn, and on the part of the miller by the late lack of wind and water—why, these causes being removed, the price does not forthwith rise in a degree at least equal to the effect of those causes on the price? To this I reply, that although of course the effect of the mills standing still is entirely removed, yet the condition of the wheat, independent of the late unusually dry and beautiful weather, is of that description as to render it unfit to shoot together in large quantities, for the purpose of keeping, without incurring considerable risk in so doing. Thus I have endeavoured to show, that the low price of wheat, from the harvest of 1832 to the harvest of 1834, is mainly to be attributed to two successive bountiful harvests both at home and in Ireland, and that the further decline of price, immediately subsequent to the late harvest, arose more from other causes rather than from any impression of that harvest being so abundant as the two that preceded it; and, added to the above *natural causes* that have concurred to depress the price of wheat, the *unnatural effect of Peel's Bill* may, I believe, be placed prominently forward in the list, as tending gradually to depreciate prices—together with various causes arising from the *unnatural effect of having a provision for the poor in one part of the kingdom only*: and these two political anomalies will, I fear, continue to neutralise, in a great degree, the original intention of the Corn Laws. If, then, the above views be nearly correct as to the real cause of the present low price of wheat, is it not absurd on the part of those who are opposed in opinion to a graduated scale of duties, to assert that the present low price of wheat proves the Corn Laws to be utterly defective? A certain fixed duty, it is said, would at all events have kept prices as high as they have been since 1832, and I believe that a moderate fixed duty since that year would have had such an effect; but how, I ask, would such a fixed duty have operated from 1828 up to the harvest of 1832, those years of deficient produce, and when an average price of more than 7*s*. per bushel barely compensated the grower? It is not in seasons of abundance that the farmer derives protection from a graduated scale of duties imposed on imported corn. The very fact of that abundance acts precisely the same protecting part towards him in such a year that a high import duty does when he experiences a deficient crop.

Let us now proceed to inquire how the repeal of the Corn Laws and a free trade in corn would operate on the landed interest of this country, and in order to do so I will divide that interest into five classes of persons, thus:—First—the rich aristocracy with large unencumbered estates; Secondly—the smaller landed proprietors, or, country gentlemen; Thirdly—the yeomen, or, owners and occupiers; Fourthly—the tenants; and last—the agricultural labourers. It is admitted on all hands that capital employed in agriculture ought to realize a profit of not less than ten per cent,—I



mean, of course, capital employed in the cultivation, and not in the purchase, of land. Now, the object of the repeal of the present Corn Laws, and a free trade in corn, is, to lower the price of our home produce: and the only question is, to what extent such a course of proceeding would lower the price. Any opinion on this head must, I am aware, be entirely speculative, and the only reasonable guide to be regulated by, is the present price of grain in the other leading markets of the world; and, on the whole, I am inclined to believe that it would occasion such a depression of price that would, on the aggregate, lower the proceeds of the land to an extent about equal to ten per cent. on the capital employed in the cultivation,—or, in other words, destroy the tenant's profit. Well, let us now inquire what would be the effect of this state of things, first, on the rich and uncumbered aristocrat, and I am not aware that he would be seriously injured by the change, because such slight inconvenience that might occur to him from receiving a less revenue from his land, would not, at all events, be difficulties of an insurmountable nature—in fact, he would “ride the storm;” next comes the smaller landed proprietor, or, country gentleman; how will he fare? A few, indeed, of this class may be able also to suffer a reduction of their landed revenue to such an extent, and still maintain their situations; but in this class it would be the exception only that could stand, and the great body of persons now forming the independent and useful characters of country gentlemen and magistrates would, in respect of such situations, be annihilated. The rental of the land being destroyed, their incomes would be gone, and the only alternative that would remain for them would be to take their estates into their own occupation, and become such a class of persons that their occupying tenants had been; and if they could use their land with the like skill and economy that their tenants had done, they would at least partially save themselves—of their tenants we will inquire bye and bye. The yeoman, or owner and occupier, is the next on our list. This class, if I may use the term, was created during the late war, by the benefit from long leases, which existed before the high prices commenced, and which did not expire until several years after the continuance of those high prices, and when that time did arrive, the tenant found himself in possession of considerable capital—perhaps sufficient to pay for half the value of the farm he then occupied; and in instances innumerable, the tenants did actually purchase their farms of their landlords; but it was in few cases only that the tenant had all the money for the purchase—probably, on the aggregate of the immense tract of land that thus changed hands, half the money was borrowed to accomplish this anomalous state of things, and which occurred principally between the years of 1800 and 1812, the average price of wheat for that period being about 10s. per bushel. Now, these farms were sold commensurate to this price of wheat, and it amounts just to this—that if the purchaser had half enough money to purchase the estate at 10s. per bushel, he had just enough to pay for the whole estate had the price of wheat, instead of being 10s. per bushel, been only 5s. per bushel; but now he was obliged to mortgage the property to the extent of 5s. per bushel, leaving its real interest in the estate to be only in the proportion of five shillings in ten: if, then, the value of the bushel of wheat be reduced permanently to 5s., the yeoman's interest in his estate is at once de-

stroyed, and the mortgagee takes the land to secure himself. Now for a view of the tenant's fate from the repeal of the Corn Laws, and indeed he would be entirely dependant on the circumstances of his landlord. I say on the circumstances, because I am satisfied that as far as inclination or will to do so, most landlords would be inclined liberally and justly to meet their tenants in such an exigency; but many, and indeed the great body of landed proprietors, would not have the power to do so without ruining themselves, but would be obliged to resort to the alternative I have before described, of taking their estates to save themselves, into their own occupation. Perhaps in a few instances the ruined occupier would be offered the situation of bailiff under his former landlord, but with the great body of tenantry it would unavoidably be, “turn out!”

The agricultural labourer now only remains to be disposed of, and I feel assured such of your readers that admit the difficulties I have advanced would, by the *megrim* of the repeal of the Corn Laws, be entailed on landlord, tenant, and yeoman, will not have much hesitation in coming to the conclusion that those difficulties, and that ruin, would revert with increased force on the labourer.

I am, Sir, your obedient and very humble servant,  
AGRICULTOR.

Sussex, Dec. 5, 1834.

## A VISIT TO “THE POULTRY.”

BY HENRY W. CHALLIS, ESQ.

A wily fox, much feared for his misdeeds,  
Had long time feasted from a near farm-yard.

To take his prey,

Through corn fields he would stray—

Well knowing CORN-HILL to the POULTRY leads.

In vain his victims strove to give him battle,

He sent them hobbling,

And nightly glided in to FRIGHT them with his GOBLIN.

“All flesh is grass,” so choosing out “CHICK-WEEDS,”

On them he'd pop—

Taking each crop—

Their FEATHERS making DOWN-BEDS, for the cattle!

‘Twas sad to see YOUNG GEESE, with throats so lank!

All BROKEN, with his RUN on “GOSLING'S BANK!”

While the scared ducklings, sprawling on their backs,

Did nought but die—

No aid was nigh—

No regular DIPLOMA—nothing but QUACKS!

Oh! what a sight of mangled wings and legs.

Here was he “tossing heads or tails,” there LAID

THE EGGS—

Here SADLY showed “a MERRY thought,” and there stretched out a neck,

With beak that never more again would “peck o’barley,” PECK

He gorged and stuffed, the ruthless beast, and ruin round him strewed;

First grunched the OLD, then vowed he wished

To “TASTE THE NICE HOME BROOD!”

A REAL WONDER.—A lamb, the property of Mr. Sarson, of Quorndon, was slaughtered last week, which weighed 100 lbs. It was about nine months old, got by a sheep of Mr. Parr's, of Wanlip, and the dam by a sheep of Mr. Smith's, of Dishley.

**AN ACT TO AMEND AN ACT PASSED IN THE THIRD YEAR OF HIS PRESENT MAJESTY, INTITULED AN ACT FOR SHORTENING THE TIME REQUIRED IN CLAIMS OF MODUS DECIMANDI, OR EXEMPTION FROM OR DISCHARGE OF TITHES.**

(15th AUGUST, 1834.)

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the third year of the reign of his present Majesty, intituled *An Act for 2 & 3 W. 4. c. 100. shortening the time required in claims of modus decimandi, or exemption from or discharge of tithes*, certain provisions were made limiting the period within which in cases of claims of a modus decimandi the payment or render of such modus, and in cases of claim of or to any exemption from or discharge of tithes by composition real or otherwise, the enjoyment of the land without payment or render of tithes or money, or other matter in lieu thereof, should be shown to have taken place: And whereas it was by the said Act further enacted, that nothing therein contained should be prejudicial or available to or for any plaintiff or defendant in any suit or action relative to any of the matters therein mentioned, then commenced, or which might be thereafter commenced during the then session of parliament, or within one year from the end thereof: And whereas since the passing of the said Act a great number of suits have been instituted for the recovery of tithes, under the apprehension on the part of the plaintiffs that they would be precluded by the said Act from recovering the tithes to which they claim to be entitled unless they prosecuted their claims within the periods limited by the said Act: And whereas it is deemed advisable to enable the defendants in such suits to cause all further proceedings therein to be suspended until the end of the next session of parliament, upon the terms hereinafter expressed. Be it therefore enacted by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the lords spiritual and temporal, and commons, in this present parliament assembled,

and by the authority of the same, that from and after the passing of this Act it shall and may be lawful for the defendant or defendants in any action or suit which may have been commenced or instituted since the passing of the said recited Act for the recovery of tithes, or for invalidating claims of a modus decimandi, or an exemption from or discharge of tithes, for lands in respect whereof no tithes, nor any composition in lieu thereof, shall have been actually rendered or paid within the space of sixty years previous to the passing of this Act, with the consent of the plaintiff or plaintiffs in such action or suit, to pay the amount of the costs and expences (to be taxed as between party and party) which may have been incurred by or on the part of the plaintiff or plaintiffs in such action or suit into the Bank of England, in the name and with the privity of the accountant general of the Court of Chancery or of the Court of Exchequer, or of the proper officer of the court in which such action or suit shall have been brought, to the credit or on account of such action or suit; and in every case where such costs and expences shall be so paid into court, all further proceedings in such action or suit (except as herein-after provided) shall be stayed and suspended until the end of the next session of parliament.

Plaintiff may give notice to defendant of his intention to proceed; in which case the defendant may have his costs out of court.

II. And be it further enacted, that from and after the end of the next session of parliament it shall and may be lawful for the plaintiff or plaintiffs in any action or suit, in which the defendant or defendants shall have caused the proceedings to be stayed or suspended under the provision herein-before contained to give notice to the defendant or defendants of his, her, or their intention to proceed in such action or suit and to proceed therewith accordingly; and then and in every such case the defendant or defendants shall, immediately after such notice shall have been so given, be entitled to receive out of court the sum or sums which such defendant or defendants shall have previously paid into court on account of the costs of the plaintiff or plaintiffs.

If plaintiff accepts the costs, all proceedings to be abandoned.

III. Provided always, and be it further enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for the plaintiff or plaintiffs in any action or suit in which the defendant or defendants shall have paid into court the costs of such plaintiff or plaintiffs under the provision herein-before contained, to take the sum or sums which may have been so paid for such costs out of court, for his, her, or their own use, and then and in every such case all further proceedings in such action or suit shall be for ever abandoned and relinquished.

Executors, heirs, &c. may act in case of death.

IV. And be it further enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for the successors, heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns of any plaintiff or plaintiffs, whose action or suit may be so stayed or suspended as aforesaid, to revive and proceed with such action or suit after the end of the next session of parliament, or to take such costs as aforesaid out of court, and cause all further proceedings to be abandoned and relinquished, in the same manner in every respect as the original plaintiff or plaintiffs might or could have done.

Judges may, upon sufficient cause shown, permit actions to be proceeded with.

V. Provided always, and be it enacted, that notwithstanding the provision herein-before contained it shall and may be lawful for any party to any action or suit so suspended, upon adducing sufficient proof to the satisfaction of a judge of the court in which such action or suit shall have been commenced that there is danger of some material evidence in support of the right or claim of such party being lost in consequence of such suspension, to proceed in such action or suit to the extent of proving such fact or facts the evidence respecting which shall be so shown as aforesaid to be in danger of being lost through such suspense.

As to previous claims.

VI. Provided always, and be it enacted, that nothing in this Act contained shall prevent the prosecution of any suit in law or equity for the recovery of any tithes claimed or demanded previous to passing of the said recited Act, or for the recovery of the value thereof.



# AN ACT TO AMEND AN ACT OF THE ELEVENTH YEAR OF KING GEORGE THE SECOND, RESPECTING THE APPORTIONMENT OF RENTS, ANNUITIES, AND OTHER PERIODICAL PAYMENTS.

[16th JUNE, 1834].

Whereas by an Act passed in the eleventh year of the reign of his Majesty King George the Second, 11 G. 2. c. 19, intituled *An Act for the more effectual securing the payment of rents, and preventing frauds by tenants*, it was enacted, that where any tenant for life should happen to die before or on the day on which any rent was reserved or made payable upon any demise or lease of any lands, tenements, or hereditaments which determined on the death of such tenant for life, the executors or administrators of such tenant for life should and might, in an action on the case, recover of and from such undertenant or undertenants of such lands, tenements, or hereditaments, if such tenant for life die on the day on which the same was made payable the whole, or if before such day then a proportion of such rent according to the time such tenant for life lived of the last year or quarter of a year or other time in which the said rent was growing due as aforesaid, making all just allowances, or a proportionable part thereof respectively: And whereas doubts have been entertained whether the provisions of the said Act apply to every case in which the interests of tenants determine on the death of the person by whom such interests have been created, and on the death of any life or lives for which such person was entitled to the lands demised, although every such case is within the mischief intended to have been remedied and prevented by the said Act; and it is therefore desirable that such doubts should be removed by a declaratory law: And whereas, by law, rents, annuities, and other payments due at fixed or stated periods are not apportionable (unless express provision be made for the purpose), from which it often happens that persons (and their representatives) whose income is wholly or principally derived from these sources by the determination thereof before the period of payment arrives are deprived of means to satisfy just demands, and other evils arise from such rents, annuities, and other payments not being apportionable, which evils require remedy: Be it therefore enacted and declared by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and

Rents reserved on leases determining on the death of the person making them (though not strictly tenant for life), or on the death of the tenant *pur autre vie*, to be considered as within the provision of recited Act.

with the advice and consent of the lords spiritual and temporal, and commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that rents reserved and made payable on any demise or lease of lands, tenements, or hereditaments which have been and shall be made, and which leases or demises determined or shall determine on the death of the person making the same (although such person was not strictly tenant for life thereof), or on the death of the life or lives for which such person was entitled to such hereditaments, shall, so far as respects the rents reserved by such leases, and the recovery of a proportion thereof by the person granting the same, his or her executors or administrators (as the case may be), be considered as within the provisions of the said recited Act.

II. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act, all rents service reserved be apportioned; on any lease by a tenant in fee or for any life interest, or by any lease granted under any power, (and which leases shall have been granted after the passing of this act), and all rents charge and other rents, annuities, pensions, dividends, moduses, compositions, and all other payments of every description, in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, made payable or coming due at fixed periods under any instrument that shall be executed after the passing of this Act, or (being a will or testamentary instrument) that shall come into operation after the passing of this Act, shall be apportioned so and in such manner that on the death of any person interested in any such rents, annuities, pensions, dividends, moduses, compositions, or other payments as aforesaid, or in the estate, fund, office, or benefice from or in respect of which the same shall be issuing or derived, or on the determination by any other means whatsoever of the interest of any such person, he or she, and his or her executors, administrators, or assigns, shall be entitled to a proportion of such rents, annuities, pensions, dividends, moduses, compositions, and other payments according to the time which shall have elapsed from the commencement or last period of payment thereof respectively (as the case may be), including the day of the death of such person, or of the determination of his or her interest, all just allowances and deductions in respect of charges on such rents, annuities, pensions, dividends, moduses, compositions, and other payments being made; and that every such person, his or her executors, administrators, and assigns, shall have such and the same remedies at law and in equity for recovering such apportioned parts of the said rents, annuities, pensions, dividends, moduses, compositions, and other payments, when the entire portion of which such apportioned parts shall form part shall become due and payable, and not before, as he, she, or they would have had for recovering and obtaining such entire rents, annuities, pensions, dividends, moduses, compositions, and other payments if entitled thereto, but so that persons liable to pay rents reserved by any lease or demise, and the lands, tenements, and hereditaments comprised therein, shall not be resorted to for such apportioned parts specifically as aforesaid, but the entire rents of which such portions shall form a part shall be received and recovered by the person or persons who if this Act had not passed would have been entitled to such entire rents; and such portions shall be recoverable from such person or persons by the parties entitled to the same under this Act in any action or suit at law or in equity.

Act not to apply to certain cases. III. Provided always, and be it enacted, That the provisions herein contained shall not apply to any case in which it shall be expressly stipulated that no apportionment shall take place, or to annual sums made payable in policies of assurance of any description.

A Devon bullock was slaughtered last week at Wymondham, by Mr. W. Bravator, the carcass weighing 83 stone, producing the immense quantity of 16 stone 3lb of fat. It was grazed by Mr. W. Howse, of Fundenhall, Norfolk.

# ANNUAL MEETING OF THE RUTLANDSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual show of cattle, &c. in connexion with this society, took place on Tuesday, Dec. 2, and far exceeded all former meetings, both in the number and respectability of attendance, and the quantity and quality of stock exhibited. The judges having awarded the premiums, and affixed a ticket over each animal shown as they were ranged round the Riding-house, at twelve o'clock the admission of the public on payment of one shilling each commenced, and we think we under-rate our computation when we say that between that time and three o'clock, two thousand persons were admitted; amongst whom we observe nearly all the resident gentry, as well as many eminent breeders and cattle-dealers from distant parts of the country. The following are the officers of the society, and with one or two exceptions, they honoured the meeting with their presence:—

## President.

Sir Gerard Noel Noel, Bart., M. P.

## Vice-Presidents.

|                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Hon. Col. Lowther, M. P.     | Stafford O'Brien, Esq. |
| Sir John Trollope, Bart.     | Thomas Hotchkin, Esq.  |
| Sir John Palmer, Bart.       | Henry Wilson, Esq.     |
| Sir Fred. Fowke, Bart.       | Henry Dawson, Esq.     |
| G. J. Heathcote, Esq., M. P. | Major-Gen. Johnson.    |
| George Finch, Esq., M. P.    |                        |

## Stewards.

Mr. T. E. Pawlett, Tinwell.—Mr. Sam. Cheetham, Hambleton.—Mr. Christopher Smith, Burley.

## Secretaries and Treasurers.

Mr. Henry Stimson, Oakham.—Mr. Robert Smith, Burley.—Mr. Richard Healy, Ashwell.

## Judges.

Mr. William Robinson, of Brandon, near Newark.  
Mr. John Buckley, of Normanton-Hill, near Loughborough.  
Mr. Clarke Hillyard, of Thorpeland, near Northampton.

The following are correct copies of the labels affixed over each lot and the premiums awarded by the judges:

## CLASS I.

Oxen or Steers of any breed, age, or weight, without restrictions as to feeding.

To the feeder of the best fat Ox or Steer, a premium of 15 sovs.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the second premium of 7 sovs.

Mr. Robert Smith, of Burley-on-the-Hill, near Oakham, a four years and eleven months old short-horn ox; bred by Mr. Richard Hough, of Threckingham, from a bull of Mr. E. E. Dawson, of Birthorpe, near Falkingham, and fed by him on oil-cake, beanmeal, carrots, and a few turnips.

Stafford O'Brien, Esq., of Blatherwycke Park, near Wansford, a three years and six months old Hereford ox; bred by himself, and fed by him on oil-cake, flour, and turnips.

Mr. Christopher Smith, of Burley-on-the-Hill, near Oakham, a four years and ten months old Hereford ox; bred by Mr. Thomas Cranston, of Wide Marsh, near Hereford, and fed by him on oil-cake, beanmeal, turnips, and a few carrots.

R. W. Baker, Esq., of Cottesmore, near Oakham, a four years and seven months old short horn ox; bred by Lord Exeter, of Burghley, near Stamford, and fed by him on cake, bean flour, turnips, and carrots.

First prize awarded to Mr. Robert Smith.

Second ditto to R. W. Baker, Esq.

## CLASS II.

Oxen or Steers of any breed, age, or weight, that shall not have had oil, oil-cake, corn, pulse, seeds, or meal of these, previous to the 1st of August, 1834. To the feeder of the best fat Ox or Steer, a premium of 10 sovs.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the second premium of 5 sovs.

Mr. Christopher Smith, of Burley-on-the-Hill, near Oakham, a three years and six months old Hereford ox; fed by him on cake and turnips, since the 1st of August.

Mr. Thomas Lester, of Manton, near Oakham, a three years and two months old short horn steer, bred by himself, from a bull of Mr. V. Baines, of Brooke Priory, and fed by him on cake and turnips since the 1st of August.

Mr. Samuel Cheetham, of Hambleton, near Oakham, a four years and six months old Scotch ox, fed by him on cake and carrots since the 1st of October.

First prize awarded to Mr. C. Smith.

Second ditto to Mr. T. Lester.

## CLASS III.

Oxen or Steers of any breed or age, weight under 90 stone, of 14lbs, that shall not have had oil, oil-cake, seeds, corn, pulse, or meal of these, previous to the 1st of October, 1834.

To the feeder of the best fat Ox or Steer, a premium of 7 sovs.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the second premium of 3 sovs.

Sir John Palmer, Bart., of Carlton Hall, Northamptonshire, a three years and six months old short horn steer, bred by himself, and fed by him on grass, hay, turnips, and mangel-wurzel.

Mr. Christopher Smith, of Burley-on-the-Hill, near Oakham, a three years and nine months old Hereford steer, fed by him on cake and turnips since the 1st of October.

Mr. Samuel Henton, of Saxby, Leicestershire, a Scotch ox, fed by himself on hay, grass, and turnips.

First prize awarded to Sir John Palmer, Bart.

Second ditto not awarded.

## CLASS IV.

Oxen or Steers of any breed or age, weight under 70 stones of 14lbs that have not at any time eaten oil, oil-cake, seeds, corn, pulse, or meal of these.

To the feeder of the best fat Ox or Steer, a premium of 5 sovs.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the second premium of 3 sovs.

Mr. Valentine Baines, of Brooke Priory, near Oakham, a three years and one month old short-horn steer, bred by W. Mills, Esq., Manor House, Braunston, near Oakham, from a bull of Mr. V. Baines, and fed by him on grass, hay, and turnips.

Mr. Richard Healey, of Laughton, near Falkingham, a four years old Scotch Highlander fed by him (on his Ashwell farm) on grass, hay, and Swedish turnips.

Mr. Christopher Smith, of Burley-on-the-Hill, near Oakham, a three years and eight months old Hereford steer, fed by him on grass, hay, and turnips.

Mr. Samuel Cheetham, of Hambleton, near Oakham, a four years and six months old Scotch ox, fed by him on grass, hay, and vegetables.

First prize awarded to Mr. S. Cheetham.

Second ditto to Mr. C. Smith.



## CLASS V.

Cows or Heifers of any breed or weight, under five years of age, without restrictions as to feeding.

To the feeder of the best fat Cow or Heifer, a premium of 7 sovs.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the second premium of 3 sovs.

Mr. John Coverley, of Castle Bytham, near Stamford, a four years and six months old short horn heifer, bred by Lord Exeter, of Burghley, near Stamford, from Emperor, and fed by him on cake and turnips.

Mr. James Clarke, of Burley-on-the-Hill, near Oakham, a three years and three months old Hereford heifer, fed by him on cake and turnips since the 1st of October.

Mr. Richard Healy, of Hambleton, near Oakham, a short horn heifer, bred by himself, and fed by him on grass and hay only.

The first prize awarded to Mr. John Coverley.

Second ditto to Mr. James Clarke.

## CLASS VI.

Cows or Heifers of any breed or weight, above five years of age, that shall not have had oil, oil-cake, seeds, corn, or pulse, or meal of these, previous to the 1st of August, 1834.

To the feeder of the best fat Cow or Heifer, a premium of 5 sovs.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the second premium of 3 sovs.

Mr. Henry Hodgkin, of Edenham, near Bourn, a six years old short horn cow, bred by himself, from Mr. Hand's old Turnill bull, and fed by him on 4 cwt. of oil-cake, turnips and carrots, since the 1st of August.

Mr. John Coverley, of Castle Bytham, near Stamford, an eight years old short horn cow, bred by himself from Lord Exeter's Emperor; has bred five calves, and fed by him on cake and turnips since 1st August.

R. W. Baker, Esq., of Cottesmore, near Oakham, a nine years old short horn cow, bred by himself, from the bull Eclipse (1598), dam Burleigh (page 245), has bred five living calves, and fed by him on cake, cabbage, and turnips since 1st August.

First prize awarded to Mr. John Coverley.

Second ditto to Mr. Henry Hodgkin.

## CLASS VII.

Long woolled fat Wether Sheep, one year old, bred within the limits of this Society, without restrictions as to feeding.

To the feeder of the best Pen of three under 22 months old, a premium of 7 sovs.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the second premium of 3 sovs.

E. W. Wilmot, Esq., of Pickwell, near Melton, three 21 months old Leicester wethers, bred by himself, and fed by him on cake and carrots.

Mr. Henry Stimson, of Oakham, three 21 months old Leicester wethers, bred by himself, and fed by him on turnips, carrots, cabbage, seeds and cake, since the 20th July.

Mr. Wm. Pawlett, of Barnack, near Stamford, three 21 months old Leicester wethers, bred by himself, from rams of Mr. T. E. Pawlett, of Tinwell, near Stamford, and fed by him on clover, turnips, cabbage and carrots only.

First prize awarded to Mr. Wm. Pawlett.

Second ditto to E. W. Wilmot, Esq.

## CLASS VIII.

Long Woolled fat Wether Sheep, one year old, bred

within the limits of this Society, that have not at any time eaten oil, oil-cake, seeds, corn, pulse, or meal of these.

To the feeder of the best pen of three, under 22 months old, a premium of 5 sovereigns.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the second premium of 3 sovs.

Mr. Wm. Pawlett, of Barnack, near Stamford, three 21 months old Leicester wethers, bred by himself, from rams of Mr. T. E. Pawlett, of Tinwell, near Stamford, and fed by him on clover, turnips, cabbage, and carrots.

First prize awarded to Mr. Wm. Pawlett.

## CLASS IX.

Long-woolled fat Wether Sheep, two years old, bred within the limits of this Society, without restrictions as to feeding.

To the feeder of the best Pen of three, above 22 and under 34 months old, a premium of 7 sovereigns.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the second premium of 3 sovereigns.

Mr. James Burgess, of Ridlington Park, near Up-pingham, three 32 months old Leicester wethers, bred by himself, and fed by him on turnips, carrots, beans, and peas.

Mr. Henry Stimson, of Oakham, three 32 months old Leicester wethers, bred by himself, and fed on turnips, carrots, cake, and beans.

First prize awarded to Mr. James Burgess.

Second ditto to Mr. Henry Stimson.

## CLASS X.

Long-woolled fat Wether Sheep, two years old, bred within the limits of this Society, that have not at any time eaten oil, oil-cake, seeds, corn, pulse, or meal of these.

To the feeder of the best Pen of three, above 22 and under 34 months old, a premium of 5 sovereigns.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the second premium of 3 sovereigns.

Mr. John Painter, of Burley-on-the-Hill, near Oakham, three Leicester wethers, under 34 months old, bred by himself, and fed by him on grass and vegetables.

Mr. James Burgess, of Ridlington Park, near Up-pingham, three Leicester wethers, under 34 months old, bred by himself, and fed by him on grass and vegetables.

Mr. Peter Healey, Jun., of Hambleton, near Oakham, three Leicester wethers, under 34 months old, bred within the district, and fed by him on grass only.

First prize awarded to Mr. Painter.

Second ditto to Mr. James Burgess.

## CLASS XI.

Breeding Ewes that have suckled Lambs up to the 1st July, 1834, and that have been fed on grass and seed only for six months previous to the time of showing.

To the exhibitor of the best Pen of five, a premium of 4 sovs.

To the exhibitor of the second best ditto, the second premium of 2 ditto.

Persons who have let six or more Tups in the year 1834, not to show for this premium.

E. W. Wilmot, Esq., of Pickwell, near Melton, five Leicester Ewes, bred by himself, and fed by him on grass.

Mr. Robert Smith, of Burley-on-the-Hill, near Oakham, five Leicester Ewes, fed by himself on grass and seeds.

Mr. William Baines, of Braunston, near Oakham, five Leicester Ewes, bred by himself, from rams of R. W. Baker, Esq., and fed by him on grass and seeds.

Mr. Wm. Pawlett, of Barnack, near Stamford, five Leicester ewes, bred by himself, from rams of Mr. T. E. Pawlett, of Tinwell, near Stamford, and fed by him on grass and seeds.—Commended.

Mr. John Hayes, of Whissendine, near Melton, five Leicester ewes, bred by himself, and fed on grass.

First prize awarded to Mr. Robert Smith.

Second ditto to Mr. Wilmot.

#### CLASS XII.

Pigs of any breed or age, weight above twenty stones of 14lbs, bred within the limits of this Society. To the feeder of the best fat Pig, a premium of 3 sovereigns.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the second premium of 1 sovereign.

Thomas Hotchkin, Esq., of Tixover, near Stamford, a forty-nine weeks old pig, bred by himself, and fed by him on barley meal.

Mr. Thos. Healey, of Ashwell, near Oakham, a thirteen months old pig, bred by himself, and fed by him on meal.

Mr. Everard King, of North Luffenham, near Uppingham, an eighteen months old pig, bred by himself, and fed by him on barley flower and potatoes.

First prize awarded to Mr. Thomas Healy.

Second ditto to Mr. Hotchkin.

#### CLASS XIII.

Pigs of any breed or age, weight under 20 stones of 14lbs, bred within the limits of this Society.

To the feeder of the best fat Pig, a premium of 2 sovs.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the second premium of 1 sovereign.

Mr. Richard Stevens, of Colleyweston, near Stamford, a forty-five weeks old pig, bred by Mr. Gaskell, of Thornaugh, near Wansford, and fed by him on barley meal.—Disqualified as over weight.—Commended.

Mr. Henry Stimson, of Oakham, a twenty-five weeks old pig, bred by himself, and fed by him on barley meal.

Stafford O'Brien, Esq., Blatherwycke Park, near Wansford, a sixteen months old pig, bred by himself, and fed by him on flour and potatoes.

First prize awarded to Mr. Stimson.

Second ditto to M. O'Brien.

The following premiums were offered by R. W. Baker, Esq. of Cottesmore, near Oakham:—

#### CLASS XIV.

To the occupier of Land in the district who shows the best five open Heifers of any breed, under two years of age, 10*l*.

R. W. Baker, Esq., of Cottesmore, near Oakham, five open Heifers, under two years of age, bred by himself, from his bull Gainsborough, and fed by him on grass only.

Mr. Wright, of Exton, near Oakham, five open Heifers, under two years old, fed by himself, on grass only.

Prize awarded to Mr. Baker.

#### CLASS XV.

To the occupier of Land in the district who shows the best bull (in use) of any breed, under eighteen months of age, 5*l*.

R. W. Baker, Esq., of Cottesmore, a short-horn bull, under eighteen months old, bred by himself,

from his bull Gainsborough, dam Graceful, by Emperor, (1014.)

Mr. J. Needham, of Ridlington, near Uppingham, a bull, under eighteen months old.

Prize awarded to Mr. Baker.

#### CLASS XVI.

To the occupier of Land in the district who shows the best Cow Calf of any breed, under twelve months old, 5*l*.

R. W. Baker, Esq., of Cottesmore, a heifer calf, under twelve months old, bred by himself, from his bull Gainsborough, dam Graceful, by Emperor, (1014) —Commended.

Mr. Henry Stimson, of Oakham, a thirty-two weeks old heifer calf, bred by himself, from R. W. Baker's, Esq., bull Gainsborough, and raised by himself.—Commended.

Mr. Thomas Dorma, of Langham, a twenty weeks old heifer calf, raised by himself.

Mr. John Berridge, of Barrow, a twenty-two weeks old calf, bred by himself, from R. W. Baker's, Esq., bull Gainsborough.

Prize awarded to Mr. John Berridge.

#### CLASS XVII.

To the occupier of Land in the district who shows the best pair of Mares of any breed, suitable to the Agriculture of the district, 2*l*.

R. W. Baker, Esq., of Cottesmore, a pair of Suffolk mares, used and kept for his Cottesmore Farm.

Mr. Robert Smith, of Burley-on-the-Hill, near Oakham, a pair of eight years old black mares, kept for agricultural purposes on his Burley farm, both in foal by Oxford, the property of Messrs. Hales and Housin.—Highly commended.

Mr. Charles Rowell, of Ridlington, a pair of mares, kept by him for ploughing, &c.

Mr. Wm. Grant, of Empingham, a pair of mares, bred by himself, and kept for agricultural purposes.

Prize awarded to Mr. Baker.

#### CLASS XVIII.

To the occupier of Land in the district who shows the best Colt Foal of any breed, suitable to the agriculture of the district, 2*l*.

R. W. Baker, Esq., of Cottesmore, a colt foal, foaled in May last, and bred in Suffolk.—No competition.

The following were offered by E. W. WILMOT, Esq.—

To the Labourer in Husbandry who has brought up the greatest number of Children without Parochial Relief, and can produce the best character from his Employer, a premium of three sovereigns.

To the second ditto, a premium of one sovereign.

First prize to John Baxter, of Collyweston, who has been in the employ of Mr. J. Bunning, of Keltorpe, 40 years; has brought up nine children without parochial relief, and still bears an unexceptionable character.

Second prize to Wm. Chamberlain, of Burley, labourer, who has lived and worked upon the Burley Park Farm, near Oakham, (now in the occupation of Mr. Robert Smith,) for 38 years, is 50 years old, has brought up eight children, and has never at any time received parochial relief, and bears an excellent character at the present time.

A gratuity of 5*s*. was given to Wm. Chamberlain, of Hambleton, labourer, 32 years of age, who has lived nearly 21 years in the same family, and brought up five children respectably without parochial relief.



Zachariah Wright, of Cottesmore, labourer and shepherd, has brought up eight children and buried three without parochial relief, and has been in the employ of R. W. Baker, Esq., of Cottesmore, more than 16 years.—Was recommended.

The following extra Stock was also exhibited:—

#### SHEEP.

Mr. Wm. Pawlett, of Barnack, near Stamford, some Leicester wethers, under twenty-two months old, bred by himself, from rams hired of Mr. T. E. Pawlett, of Tinwell, near Stamford, and fed by him on vegetables only.

Mr. John Hayes, of Whissendine, near Melton, four Leicester wethers, under thirty-four months old, bred by the late Mr. Glover, of Whissendine, and fed by him on grass only.

Mr. Richard Healey, of Laughton, near Falkingham, three long-woolled wethers, under thirty-four months old, bred in Lincolnshire, and fed on his Ashwell Farm, upon grass only.—Commended.

E. W. Wilmot, Esq., of Pickwell, near Melton, five theaves, bred and fed by himself.

Mr. Shipman, of Sedgbrooke, near Grantham, three long-woolled sheep, under thirty-four months old, bred and fed by himself on grass only.

#### BEAST.

Mr. Richard Healey, of Laughton, a Scotch Highlander, fed on his Ashwell Farm, upon grass, hay, and Swedish turnips.

Mr. James Clarke, of Burley-on-the-Hill, a four years old Hereford heifer, fed by him on cake and turnips since 1st October.

E. W. Wilmot, Esq., of Pickwell, near Melton, five open heifers, under three years old, fed by himself, on grass only.—One of Mr. Wilmot's heifers commended.

E. W. Wilmot, Esq., of Pickwell, a bull, twenty-three months old, kept by himself.

#### PIGS.

Mr. Everard King, of North Luffenham, a pig, bred and fed by himself.

#### SWEEPSTAKES.

A Sweepstakes of half-a-sovereign each, for the best Pig of any breed, age, or weight, open to all England, until the 1st day of December.

Mr. Thomas Healey, Ashwell.—No competition.

An extraordinary Ewe, the property of E. W. Wilmot, Esq., was slaughtered and hung up in the Riding-House, which weighed 39lbs. per quarter, and was very fine meat.

We understand that the next meeting of the subscribers, for fixing the day of showing, settling the bill of premiums, and transacting other business connected with the show of 1835, will be holden at the Crown Inn, Oakham, on the first Monday in January next.

#### THE DINNER.

At three o'clock, 260 gentlemen sat down to dinner at the George Inn: Sir Gernard Noel Noel, Bart., M.P., in the Chair, and Major-General Johnson, Vice-President. Amongst the company we noticed G. J. Heathcote, Esq., M.P.; Henry Handley, Esq., M.P.; John Humfries, Esq., Lodington Hall; John Eagleton, Esq., Ketton; W. Healey, Esq., Laughton; R. W. Baker, Esq., Cottesmore; Rev. S. Shield, Preston; T. Brown, Esq., Uppingham; E. W. Wilmot, Esq.;—Sherard, Esq., Krossington; J. Morris, Esq., Uppingham; J. Weatherall, Esq., Brampton;—Simpkin, Esq., Whetstone, &c., &c.

As soon as the cloth was drawn, the Hon. Chairman proposed "The King," with three times three.

The CHAIRMAN said as there was much business to get through in connection with the Society, he would be brief as possible, and give, "The Queen, and the rest of the Royal Family,"—three times three.

The "Army and Navy," and "The Rutland Agricultural Society." Three times three then followed, and the Chairman requested Mr. Stimson, one of the Secretaries, to read over the competitors for the prizes, and the awards of the Judges, as given above. This being done,

G. J. HEATHCOTE, Esq., M.P., said he would propose a toast, which he was sure they would all drink with great pleasure. They had all seen the fostering care of the Hon. President for a number of years over the Society; and were indebted to him not only for his liberality but for the use of the Riding-house; but he was sure that in that place and that county, he need not remind them of these obligations to cause them to drink the toast with enthusiasm, and he hoped the good practice they had commenced would be followed up by giving it with three times three. "Sir Gerard Noel, the President," was then warmly received, and three times three hearty cheers succeeded.

The CHAIRMAN said, that the compliment paid him by the speaker and the company was a peculiar and high gratification at this late hour of his existence. He had spent a great number of years amongst them in the county of Rutland, and was pleased to receive such a compliment at the hands of those whom he had known so long. He was now more anxious than ever for the amelioration of the condition of both farmers and labourers, and he was happy that he was surrounded by so many gentlemen who were equally anxious for the accomplishment of the same object, convinced that the prosperity of those classes tended most materially to the national welfare and stability. He also referred in very affectionate and respectful terms to the endeavours of the hon. gentleman's father who had proposed his health, (Sir Gilbert Heathcote, Bart.,) for the accomplishment of the same end, and expressed his thanks for the accommodation he had provided for them that day. He would not enter into a detail of the proceedings of the day, but concluded by giving "The Successful Candidates."

Mr. SMITH, of Burley, returned thanks. He expressed his determination to take the animal which had that day won the first prize, and enter him in the first class at the Smithfield show, let it cost what it would; for they had won the first prize in London two years together with the first prize animal from Oakham, and he believed they could do it again. As a young farmer he was a great advocate for breeding, and had last year proposed a class for ewes, which premium had been awarded to him that day; but as he had proposed the class he should not take the prize, but give it to the funds of the society.

The CHAIRMAN gave "The unsuccessful Candidates."

The CHAIRMAN proposed "The Vice-President."

General JOHNSON, in returning thanks, congratulated the county of Rutland on having that day the largest and most respectable assemblage of agriculturists he had ever witnessed, and also on the superiority of the stock exhibited. Had he known the particulars of their arrangements, he

would have sent an ox, which, although he might be inferior to some there, in some points, he would back for 5*l.* to be heavier. In referring to the condition of the farmers, the General said there was, he believed, only one way to put a stop to those diabolical acts of incendiarism, and that was to institute an immediate and strict investigation into the conduct and proceedings of all about the place where the fire occurred.—He had known two instances where this had led to the conviction of the miscreant, and for three years since no more fires had occurred in those places, because this system was one which deterred them from the commission of the crime. And he knew no way better calculated to put such notions out of the heads of the infatuated than by filling the belly of the hungry; but if an overseer drove away the labourer from his door when he ought to find work for him or relieve him, then he drove him to desperation. He concluded by hoping that all would be done which could be to alleviate the condition of the labouring classes.

The next toast was "The Vice-Presidents of the Society."

H. WILSON, Esq., of Allextion, returned thanks. He approved of these meetings above all things, because they strengthened the bonds of union between the landlord and tenant.

The CHAIRMAN proposed "The Judges," and said that the unsuccessful, as well as the successful, had expressed their approbation of their awards. It was extremely gratifying to him, at the three or four anniversaries at which he had presided, to have witnessed the utmost satisfaction and harmony.

C. HILLYARD, Esq., (one of the Judges), said he hoped they had done their duty conscientiously; if they had committed an error, it was an error of judgment, for they did not know to whom any of the stock belonged, and therefore could not be partial. The show Mr. H. highly commended, as creditable to the county, considering the infancy of the society. The sheep especially would do credit to any show in England. It was needless now to say anything of the general utility of societies like this, and he would therefore only remark that it was in meetings like these that they found out what faults their animals had. While they had their stock at home they fancied they were better than any body else had, but there they found that it was not the case. He was sure they had yet much to do in the way of improvement, for there was yet a great quantity of stock in the country, consuming a vast quantity of meat, which ought to be exterminated.

Mr. T. HEALEY said that, in consequence of the observations of one of the judges, that their great object should be to produce the greatest quantity of meat from the least consumption of food, and in the shortest time, he begged to inform them that the pig he had shown that day was only twelve months and three weeks old, although he had put him down for thirteen months, and his weight was 48 stone. He was got by Mr. Standwell's boar; and he thought it would take a clever fellow to produce a better.

"The Secretaries and Treasurers of the Society."

Mr. CHEETHAM returned thanks for the Treasurers.

Mr. R. HEALEY, Ashwell, for the Secretaries. The opinion that these societies were beneficial to the country was not yet unanimous, but he thought the number of their friends was daily increasing. In the last ten years he was sure that

their breed of cattle and sheep had greatly improved; and when he looked round him that day in the Riding House, and saw the great number of men of experience, and many from distant parts, he thought, "what a valuable Agricultural School is this for the young farmer." He next considered it as a means of strengthening the bonds of union, and was a benefit to the community, from the highest peer of the realm to the humblest labourer who rented his rood of potatoe land. He was sure that this meeting produced the happiest effects, in drawing together the landlord and the tenant, and they (the tenants) valued these condescensions more than they valued their money.—The venerable President had long stood by them, and honoured them with his presence, and he was now happy to see that his example had been followed by the honourable gentlemen who sat against him for the first time.—Rutland was possessed of landlords who need not be afraid to meet their tenants face to face; and he believed no county could boast of more good ones, and no county had to lament fewer bad ones."

"W. E. WILMOT, Esq." was next drank.—In returning thanks, Mr. W. said what he had given was with a willing heart, and the prizes he had obtained he gave back to the society, as he never took any thing from so valuable an Institution. In reference to Mr. Healey's observations on the condescensions of their landlords, he considered it was only their duty thus to co-operate with their tenants; and he heartily wished that all the landlords in the kingdom would thus come forward to perform their duty instead of spending their time and money in the foibles of fashion. There were many present whom he was most happy to meet, and one he observed who was always at his post of duty when any thing was to be done for the Agriculturist, and he would therefore beg to propose the health of—"Mr. Handley."

H. HANDLEY, Esq., M. P., expressed the gratification it gave him to be connected, in any way, with the cause of the agriculturist; and ever since he had been a member he had been the humble advocate of their interests. He had been introduced as a stranger to this meeting, but he hoped it was the last time he should be considered one. In the morning he had been gratified to see such specimens of stock as were a credit to the county, and now he was surrounded by as respectable a class of yeomanry as it was possible to meet. He would not introduce any subject to create a division of opinion, but would briefly allude to a subject which had been his *hobby-horse* during the last session, viz., that of Islington market.—Mr. H. expressed his preference for the new market before Smithfield; he had heard all the arguments, on both sides of the question, in Committee, and lamented that so much secret influence had defeated his aim. The Corporation of London had determined to add to Smithfield three roods of land, but this would not remove the evils complained of, and their only intention was to saddle them with an additional toll. Another bill would be brought forward next session of Parliament, and he hoped they would all unite and instruct their members how to act. Mr. H. concluded by proposing "The Yeomanry of the County of Rutland."

The CHAIRMAN said he had the pleasure of coinciding entirely with Mr. Handley; and he was of a decided opinion, having viewed the Islington market, that it was a desirable project: it was a short distance from London, but it was so much nearer to them.

Mr. HILLYARD also spoke in favour of the Is-



lington market; he had attended meetings on both sides of the question, and had had a good deal of experience at Smithfield; and in consequence of its crowded state, he was sure that their cattle was sometimes given away, instead of being sold. If the Islington market were established they need not submit to this, but could bring their cattle away, and stall them with the salesmen there, and the butchers might come there to purchase.

Mr. HANDLEY said he had sat on the committee, and listened to the evidence and arguments for thirty-five days, and he thought the London butchers a set of most incomprehensible men. Sixteen years ago between 15 and 1600 of them had signed a petition to Parliament for the removal of Smithfield market, and now the number had dwindled down to 15 or 20; the fact was, a few opulent men in the trade had got their hands upon their poorer brethren, and raised a powerful opposition to the bill. He hoped that in the next Session of Parliament the bill would be entrusted in abler hands.

R. W. BAKER, Esq., in returning thanks for the last toast, said that he was proud to be ranked among the yeomanry of Rutland. As a steward, a tenant, and an occupier of land, he was convinced that if the tenants and their landlords co-operated throughout the country, to promote such objects as this society had in view, England would continue to be a great and a flourishing country. He had been the first to introduce the short-horned breed into the county of Rutland, many years ago; and he said at that time that he should be glad to see a hundred where he then saw one. He also alluded to the breed of horses which he had introduced for agricultural use, for one of which (a mare which he had shown that day) he had given 100*l*. Alluding to his annual ploughing matches at Cottesmore, he said that at the first meeting he had only seven competitors in the field, and the last time he had 47 ploughs, and above 3,000 persons present.

Mr. BAKER next proposed the health of "Mr. Healey, of Lougham."

Mr. HEALEY, after some facetious observations, said that contrasting the present with the past state of the county of Rutland, when he was a resident of that part, he could not help observing that day, when he viewed the enclosures and the cultivation and general appearance and condition of the country, that it had been converted from a desert to a paradise, and especially in that part where Mr. Baker resided; and he considered the ploughing matches and this society to have been the grand impetus of agricultural improvement and cultivation. The transformation of the condition of the county in so short a time, appeared to him more like magic than the efforts of human power. In one sentiment uttered by his son he heartily concurred, viz.: that no county was blessed with better landlords, and that they had reason to rejoice in their condescension in thus meeting them; but he regretted that they did not favour other societies of a similar nature at other places with their presence. Mr. H. concluded an eloquent speech by hoping that the spirit of these societies would go on and increase, until they should see throughout the country equal shows of stock, and equally respectable and numerous assemblages, with what they had that day witnessed. He would propose the health of "Major Brown," of Welbourne, as a man who had done all in his power to promote the agricultural interests.

Major BROWN returned thanks, and said he felt that the interests of landlords and tenants were in-

separable, and hoped they would always feel mutual pleasure in meeting each other.

The CHAIRMAN proposed "Success to the Northamptonshire Farming and Grazing society."

Mr. HILLYARD returned thanks. He said they were going on flourishingly under the patronage of Lord Spencer.—Theirs was the oldest society, and this year he believed they should get the first prize at Smithfield with an ox belonging to Lord Spencer, whose weight was 240 stones, 8*lb* to the stone. (Pointing to an engraving of the celebrated Durham Ox, hung in the room), he said he believed he was nearly, if not quite equal, to that gentleman, whom he recollected seeing very well. Mr. H. also stated that he had brought with him in his gig a farmer's son, who had suggested that it would be well to make a match for a farmer's son out of Northamptonshire to plough against one out of Rutland, and he had replied that he had no doubt he should find a friend at their meeting who would be very ready to do so (alluding to Mr. Baker), and he would propose for them to plough first in Rutland, then in Northampton, and if they proved equal, then to plough between the two to decide.—(Many voices were here called for the challenge to be accepted, and in the after part of the evening we believe the match was made up, the particulars of which we shall give when we can obtain them.)

G. J. HEATHCOTE, Esq., said Mr. Hillyard had made some very good humoured allusions to their society, but had designated them as infants compared with the Northampton; and he would therefore beg to say, that infants as they were, they were not afraid (after the result of the exhibitions in London and the prizes they had won,) to compete with them, and he would therefore propose "Success to the Stock which had been shown there that day, and might they be equally successful at the next show in Smithfield."

Mr. HILLYARD said that he did not wish to under-value them on account of their *infancy*; and would add that he no more admired their own society because it was *old*, than he did a lady because she was *old*.—(A laugh.)

The next toast was "Prosperity to the Grantham Agricultural Society."—Mr. BEASLEY returned thanks.

H. HANDLEY, Esq., M. P., would propose the health of a class of men in whom they reposed great trust and confidence—"the Smithfield salesmen,"—and one of whom he was happy to meet on the present occasion, Mr. Leihair.—Mr. L. returned thanks.

At nine o'clock the Chairman, accompanied by Mr. Heathcote and Mr. Handley, left the room, when General Johnson was called to the chair. The General proposed "the health of G. J. Heathcote, Esq., M. P." which was drank with enthusiasm, and several other toasts, interspersed with some excellent songs, prolonged the harmony and conviviality of the meeting till midnight, when the General vacated the chair, and the company separated.

Since our return from Oakham we have received a letter from an eminent farmer there, who says that the gentlemen attending Oakham were so pleased with Mr. Healey's pig that they have prevailed upon him to allow him to be taken to Leicester, for exhibition, that the agriculturists in that neighbourhood may be indulged with the sight of so extraordinary an animal; allowed by all who saw him to be the largest as well as the finest ever bred in this part of the country, and the judges declared him to be without a fault.

## LITERATURE.

THE HORSE IN ALL ITS VARIETIES  
AND USES. By JOHN LAWRENCE. H.  
Washbourne, Salisbury-square.

This book contains much information which will be useful to all those who have not devoted more than ordinary attention to the care and management of horses; we subjoin an extract on the exportation of horses.

"A year or two since, the following calculation was generally supposed to be accurate, or rather below than an exaggeration of the truth. It has doubtless since proceeded *pari passu*. 'Taking the mean price of each horse to have been 500 francs, or 20*l.*, odd shillings (a rate probably too low), the sum expended by France alone has amounted to 1,374,916*l.* in five years.' It was at the same time averred, no doubt with too much truth, and with equal shame to the police of this country, that, a very great, if not the most considerable part, of this export consisted of stolen horses! On this trade, some sage of the most ancient school of political economy in the *Sporting Magazine*, made the following heart-breaking lament. 'Though, during the last month, very few thorough-bred horses have been sent abroad, we regret to learn that many others have. At Horncastle fair, no less than *three hundred* horses were bought by three foreign dealers, most of which were mares. This must very much hurt the breed of riding horses in England, more especially those used for the cavalry. Our farmers being tempted to sell their three-year-old fillies to those dealers (who never buy the worst, or one with splent, spavin, or curb) they must either breed from the blemished ones (*pourquoi?*) or, tempted from the low price they fetch, buy the mares which are imported from Germany, the Netherlands, &c., and breed from them, which are really too bad for our hackney coaches. Mares should not be allowed to be exported, except on paying a heavy duty, or in a few years our breed will be very much injured. If the government do not put a stop, or in some way check the exportation of mares, should a war break out in a few years, the cavalry cannot be mounted, except at a great advance in the government allowance.' Government has already anticipated this writer—mares have at length enjoyed the military honour of becoming cavalry. An official French account of the importation of horses into that country, states the annual number of English horses imported to be from 15 to 25,000.

Certainly, our export of horses to the Continent, to the East and West Indies, and to New South Wales, has greatly increased of late years, and as a natural consequence, the home stock has increased in proportion. A ready and profitable sale for an article, which can be produced, will ever tend to the multiplication, not subtraction of the article. Time has been when our sages, reverently quoted above, were in the horrors at our national luxurious extravagance in devouring lambs and sucking pigs, to the obvious risk of ultimately rooting out those breeds, which, nevertheless, has not yet happened. As to fundamentals generally, I profess myself of the modern school of political economy—with a bar, however, in regard to the scientific verbiage and slang of the scaffolding, which is veritably and actually ludicrous, in the true style of the burlesque. I have a very humble reverence for the prolific and exuberant brains of those economical writers, who decide that, from five to five and twenty pages each are necessary to explain to their unlearned readers, what rent is—

and what capital is. The tenantry are already sufficiently enlightened on the difficulty of obtaining the latter, and the paramount difficulty of discharging the former."

THE MANAGEMENT OF BEES, WITH  
A DESCRIPTION OF THE LADIES'  
SAFETY HIVE; by S. BAGSTER, JUN.—*Bagster, Paternoster-row.*

We have no hesitation in pronouncing this to be the most complete work on the subject which has ever come under our notice.

THE LADIES' SAFETY HIVE EXAMINED  
AND EXPLAINED.

Ladies generally consider keeping bees a task of imminent risk, and that those who are successful in the pursuit are either naturally impervious to the sting, or possess such deep science in the matter that nothing less than the business of a life can insure excellence; or, although unconfessed, that necromancy or legerdemain has *something* to do with it. Now the real secret is a successful application of common sense to common principles, and a general acquaintance with the habits, instincts, and peculiarities of the bee.

Courage is not half so necessary as judgment: an old proverb has it,—

"He that fights and runs away  
Shall live to fight another day."

So it is with your bees: if you find, on approaching your hive on a windy day, that the bees have as much as they can well do, safely to reach home, get out of their way; or the first young fellow who is driven against you by the wind, will make haste into the hive, and quickly give the pass touch of war, when you may expect a regular attack. Common sense says, Do not go near the hive on windy days. Again, bees dislike shaking; for you will find on the least vibration of a hive, a number come to the door in a great hurry to see what is the matter. If the vibration be caused by opening the windows—or cutting off a glass of honey—or removing filth—or feeding, all of which are indispensably necessary, and thus cause a commotion, cease for a short time;—you may be apparently a coward, but really a conqueror. Again, remember that *entire* separation from the queen is one of the most certain means of attaining an ascendancy over the bees, and easy recognition of their queen, the most powerful excitement to keep them in constant activity; this instinct will be found very valuable in your future management of the hives.

An extraordinary instance of attachment to the queen occurred to me in stocking one of my hives. In the very height of the season, just before a hive swarmed, I purchased a stock at a distance from my residence; it was in one of the imperfect, flat-shaped cottage hives, such as is used for working the top glass, seen at p. 61. By means of the bottom box and cloth, recommended at pages 53 and 54, I removed it to my own house without the least personal inconvenience; and late in the evening gave the bees full liberty of air through the night, and a clear egress and ingress at day-light, by untying the cloth and throwing it loosely around; they were in the most deplorable heat in consequence of the removal and their near approach to swarming. On the following night I intended to have removed the hive off the box to place it on a flat board, preparatory to fumigation; but on attempting the removal, to my almost inex-



pressible pain and anxiety, although the combs had been kept in their places by the under box while travelling many miles; yet, when lifted from that support, nearly the whole of the combs, bees, and queen, fell out together in one mass. I confess I was horror-struck at the sight. The moon was just rising full, which, while it gave me light, exposed my person to the attacks of ten thousand infuriated bees. The principle of running away was then useless; the best use of my wits alone got me out of the difficulty. With the teeming thousands before me I employed two hives; the one in which the top part of the combs and multitudes of bees remained after the mass had fallen out, the other a new empty hive; the doorways of which I brought very close together. As I could not get the whole of the comb under the original hive, I placed as much as I could there, and the residue under the new hive, by breaking the combs in half, and placing them on their edge, side by side, within the diameter of the hive, and then covering them with the hives, I expected the bees would have used the two indiscriminately, until I could venture to separate them for my experiment. Then came the fear, "What if the queen should be hurt?" The next day I watched most narrowly, and found that the queen was safe, because the bees were repairing the damages of the removal—but as evidently hard at work carrying the honey from the new hive to their own. The queen being safe, and the bees having left the brood comb where I had hoped to have established a second colony under a new made queen (see page 16), I at once determined to fumigate them, and place the neglected brood comb in my new ladies' hive, in order to save all the valuable brood, which another day would have destroyed, and establish the queen on a new throne.

The fumigator was put to work on the afternoon of the following day; and very soon I had command over all the inhabitants. The puff balls were not very good, which caused me to be longer than usual; so that many of the bees began to get lively again. But before this occurred I had lifted the second hive, under which there was not one bee; and, having adjusted the combs in the ladies' hive, I proceeded to store away the bees, by placing them in the *side apartments*; but, to my mortification, after having almost individually examined the whole for the purpose of restoring the queen to her subjects, I could not discover her. I thought I might perhaps have put her into possession amongst some of the comb; but, to be certain, I gathered up every bee I could find, and put the emptied hives on their side against mine, so that the queen might have every opportunity to get in, if not already there. The profusion of spilt honey, the hot weather, and the bees from my other hives, caused a great commotion, so that the real cause, the absence of the queen, was undiscovered. The next day the same hurly-burly continued: when, having feared my queen was unseated, I took an apiarian friend to form a judgment. He gave the opinion that there surely was a queen in my new hive, or if destroyed, one soon would have been made out of the brood comb. I pointed to groups of bees on the grass and around the stand, still fearing that my queen was in one of them; but he so positively said such was not the fact, that I did not examine any of the masses then. Naturally inquisitive under such circumstances, I visited my perturbed hive late in the evening, and found, while the others were quiet, this was in an uncomfortable state. All the masses or companies of bees, which had been licking up the dropping sweets

through the day, had now all retired, save only one lot about as large and as round as a small cricket-ball. My heart beat high with a sensation which an enthusiast in a pursuit alone can comprehend. I hoped all would yet be right, and left them. At dark I again visited them—hope revived, for the mass remained unmoved: by the earliest peep of day I rose from bed, after a sleepless night, to look for my beauty, and, if successful, witness genuine loyalty.

I confess myself an enthusiast: I laid myself at full length on the grass, and with my hand gently opened the benumbed but still clustering mass: there was the queen, surrounded by her faithful and watchful subjects, paralyzed, and to all appearance quite dead. I picked her up, placed her in my hands, breathed upon and cherished her for a considerable time, until, I think with joy of a new kind, I saw her move one joint of one leg; my tender care was renewed until the sun had mounted high in the heavens, and by his beams renewed the perturbation of the defenceless hive. The demonstrations of misery were renewed ten-fold when anyone approached the hive; and then, indeed, courage was necessary, for the bees had just missed their queen. To those alone who have witnessed such commotion can an idea be conveyed.

Now came the delightful scene—my queen was restored by the genial warmth of my hand, and walked comfortably about it; the bees, her subjects, were whirling in incensed crowds around the hive: the buz of discontent was incessant and clearly marked. At this moment I called all who were in the house to witness the scene. I placed the queen on the alighting board at the door of the hive; she was recognised in a moment; the pass-touch, or pass-word, or pass-hum, was communicated. The great commotion was instantly changed to peace. She was caressed—licked over and fondled—the bees pressing round, who, with an affection worthy of the best subjects of a beloved monarch, showed their attachment in terms that even human tongues could not exceed.

From that instant all was peace, and harmony, and joyful labour. Very few of the brood were destroyed by the accident which gave rise to the development of this peculiar instinct; and, I hope, I treasure up the remembrance of the circumstance as one more proof of the truth of that passage of Scripture, "God doeth great things and unsearchable; marvellous things without number."

Gentlemen must be pleased to remember, that, while I consider my practice so easy, as to be safely placed in the hands of the fair sex, it is equally adapted to their use, being based on the sound principles of cool store-room, easy ventilation, easy deprivation of honey, and similarity to the simplest modes of bee-management.

SPIRITUAL HONEY FROM NATURAL HIVES. BY SAMUEL PURCHAS. A.M. S. Bagster, Paternoster-row.

This work, which was first published in 1657, has been supervised and much improved by Mr. BAGSTER, who seems to delight in every thing which in any way treats upon or is connected with the history of the Bee. The quaintness of the style and the soundness of the observations will recommend the work to many persons.

## HIGH PRICE OF BREAD.

MR. EDITOR,—A great deal has been said lately in the public papers respecting the high price of bread compared with the low price of wheat, and there can be no doubt that those persons who have been paying 8d per 4 lbs. of bread have paid from 20 to 25 per cent. more than they ought to have been charged.

What I would advise to remedy this imposition is to put on an assize again, but not regulated by the price of flour, as returned by the bakers (and which return was false in 49 cases out of 50), but by the average price of wheat sold for the purpose of making flour; you would then find a very different price charged for the best bread, as they call it. The truth is that the full-priced bakers make the living pay for the dead, as the saying is,—that is, you and others who are paying the full price are making up the losses they sustain from bad debts; so that, because they are foolish enough to trust a parcel of people who are entirely unworthy of credit, you and others must make up the loss. Besides, the market price of flour, as they call it, is all humbug, they do not pay that price; they know it well: ask the millers if this is not true. Therefore, I say, there is no remedy but making the price of bread from the price of wheat sold for making flour. Until this is done the public will be imposed upon.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
CERES.

## THE PRICE OF BREAD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—I am sorry that I have not had an earlier opportunity of noticing the two letters contained in your journal in reply to mine on this important subject. The public must feel obliged by the information given by your correspondent "E. J.," from which it appears that the proportion of potatoes used by the metropolitan bakers is about half a bushel to every sack of flour, and that the baker gains from four to five loaves per sack by the mixture of potatoes. What, then, are we to think of the statement made by the other correspondent styling himself "a Practical Baker," who asserts the proportion of potatoes used to be only from 1-88 to 1-100? But leaving the baker to extricate himself as he can out of this striking discrepancy, I quite agree with "E. J." in his conclusion, that without doubt the present price of bread is out of all proportion to the price of wheat; and it is a grievous thing, that notwithstanding the abundant harvests with which we have been favoured year after year, and the unprecedented low price of grain in consequence, the bread of the metropolis is still an adulterated article, not made from pure wheaten flour, but mixed up with ingredients, which private families, who make their own bread, are neither in the habit nor under the necessity of using. The public, and especially the poor, have cause to complain that under the present system they are deprived of their just share in the blessings of a gracious Providence, whilst the millers and the bakers are reaping all the advantages. The unhappy farmer, too, is crushed to the earth beneath the combined oppression of those trades and monopolies which interpose themselves betwixt the grower and consumer. I am not at all surprised at the soreness felt and the rudeness evinced in his letter by the "Practical Baker." It is ever the case with those who dread the light, and therefore would resist investigation. The bakers may

imagine that they have got the inhabitants of the metropolis completely into their power, and dependent on them for the principal necessary of life, in whatever way they may choose to supply it, either with regard to quality or weight. But let them not conclude, that because a tyranny has been long established, it is therefore never to have an end. The idea has been entertained of enabling private individuals in general to brew their own beer. But is it not at least equally important, as it is far more practicable, that they should make their own bread? In order to promote such a plan the beginning should be made by throwing open the Corn-Exchange really and practically to purchasers of every description. And this I consider to be a question well worthy the serious attention of the Municipal Commissioners. It would also be desirable that markets should be instituted in various parts of the metropolis, where grain might be exposed for sale in the sack in any quantity that might be required, instead of being sold, as it is in Mark-lane, only by the sample, and principally, I think, I may say, in wholesale quantities. Only once give the facility of purchasing, and the means of grinding will be readily obtained. Besides, when persons have the liberty to choose their own grain, they will be the better able to avoid the use of "that rubbish (I am using the very language of the "Practical Baker" himself) scarcely fit for anything else than pigs' meat," of which I doubt not that an ample proportion is every day worked up in the manufacture of the bread of the metropolis. Here I must acknowledge that my opponent has furnished an additional argument, if any had been wanting, in favour of home-made bread. The "Practical Baker" may talk as insolently as he pleases from behind his fancied intrenchment of an old monopoly, and tell us about the use of the best wheat in the bread of the metropolis; but who for a moment can believe anything of the kind in the face of all the adulteration that is going forward, or what security can the public possibly have that such is the case? The bakers, therefore, can have no right to assume 54s or 56s per quarter for the price of wheat as the basis of the calculation of the price of bread, when the imperial average is only 42s or 44s, unless, indeed, they call to their aid the monopoly of their friends, the millers, to help them out by swelling the statement? I quite agree with your correspondent "E. J." that the millers are at this moment driving a thriving trade, and making enormous profits, to the great injury and oppression of the public at large, and especially of the farmers; and it clearly appears from the letter of my opponent, that the bakers cannot in any degree clear their own trade in this matter except by making out a case against the millers. According to his statement, the intervention of the millers occasions a considerable advance in the London market. For surely he is not justified in describing, as he does, the present prices of grain to be high, if the true prices are considered, which can only be taken from the average of the different counties named in the Corn Law Act, which, I believe, have been as low as 41s or 42s, and it is well known do not afford anything like a sufficient remuneration to the producer. But really it is lost labour to attempt to reason with a person who is inclined to pay so little attention to facts. I will therefore conclude with expressing a hope that a subject of such extensive importance may be transferred to abler hands than mine. I would only take leave to remind monopolists of every class that the spirit of reform is abroad. Hitherto it has busied itself



chiefly with matters of government. But the day may not be far distant when it will search into the iniquities of trade, and the oppressions of private life.

A CONSUMER.

### MALT TAX.

The following Statement is published for the purpose of enabling the Public to form a correct estimate of the operation of the Malt Duty.

An Account of the total quantity of Malt made in England and Wales in each year, from 1787 to 1828, both inclusive, the Rates of Duty, and the Total Amount of the Duty;—extracted from the Official Returns printed by order of the House of Commons.

| Years ending July 5. | MALT.     |       | Rate of Duty. |       | Total amount of Duty. |       |
|----------------------|-----------|-------|---------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|
|                      | Qrs.      | Bush. | s.            | d.    | £                     | s. d. |
| 1787                 | 3,409,104 | 7     | 10            | 6     | 1,789,780             | 1 2   |
| 1788                 | 3,358,580 | 1     | ..            | ..    | 1,764,264             | 11 3  |
| 1789                 | 3,031,314 | 2     | ..            | ..    | 1,591,439             | 19 7  |
| 1790                 | 2,833,697 | 3     | ..            | ..    | 1,487,691             | 2 5   |
| 1791                 | 3,489,876 | 2     | 12            | 6     | 2,138,908             | 14 1  |
| 1792                 | 3,582,671 | 6     | 12            | 6 1/2 | 2,142,950             | 12 10 |
| 1793                 | 3,056,604 | 5     | ..            | ..    | 1,604,717             | 8 6   |
| 1794                 | 3,194,768 | 7     | ..            | ..    | 1,677,253             | 13 2  |
| 1795                 | 3,086,695 | 7     | ..            | ..    | 1,620,515             | 6 8   |
| 1796                 | 3,517,758 | 4     | ..            | ..    | 1,846,823             | 4 3   |
| 1797                 | 3,865,427 | 3     | ..            | ..    | 2,029,349             | 7 5   |
| 1798                 | 3,370,431 | 6     | ..            | ..    | 1,769,476             | 13 4  |
| 1799                 | 3,968,955 | 5     | ..            | ..    | 2,083,701             | 14 0  |
| 1800                 | 1,810,089 | 3     | ..            | ..    | 950,296               | 18 5  |
| 1801                 | 2,320,868 | 2     | ..            | ..    | 1,218,455             | 16 7  |
| 1802                 | 3,792,297 | 6     | 18            | 8     | 2,642,040             | 6 11  |
| 1803                 | 3,809,900 | 2     | ..            | ..    | 3,555,906             | 18 0  |
| 1804                 | 2,602,724 | 7     | 34            | 8     | 5,772,412             | 9 0   |
| 1805                 | 2,792,923 | 1     | ..            | ..    | 4,841,066             | 15 0  |
| 1806                 | 3,435,990 | 0     | ..            | ..    | 5,955,716             | 0 0   |
| 1807                 | 3,114,020 | 3     | ..            | ..    | 5,397,635             | 6 4   |
| 1808                 | 2,800,787 | 3     | ..            | ..    | 4,854,698             | 2 4   |
| 1809                 | 2,851,598 | 7     | ..            | ..    | 4,942,771             | 7 8   |
| 1810                 | 3,035,401 | 4     | ..            | ..    | 5,261,362             | 12 0  |
| 1811                 | 3,349,760 | 5     | ..            | ..    | 5,806,251             | 15 0  |
| 1812                 | 2,332,336 | 5     | ..            | ..    | 4,042,716             | 16 4  |
| 1813                 | 2,797,741 | 7     | ..            | ..    | 4,849,419             | 5 0   |
| 1814                 | 3,263,785 | 5     | ..            | ..    | 5,657,228             | 8 4   |
| 1815                 | 3,384,004 | 0     | ..            | ..    | 5,865,606             | 18 8  |
| 1816                 | 3,281,929 | 3     | ..            | ..    | 5,688,677             | 11 8  |
| 1817                 | 2,142,002 | 4     | 18            | 8     | 1,999,202             | 6 8   |
| 1818                 | 3,307,866 | 5     | ..            | ..    | 3,087,342             | 3 8   |
| 1819                 | 2,793,282 | 3     | ..            | ..    | 2,607,063             | 11 0  |
| 1820                 | 3,066,894 | 3     | 28            | 0     | 4,675,506             | 8 10  |
| 1821                 | 3,587,132 | 1     | ..            | ..    | 5,021,984             | 19 6  |
| 1822                 | 3,143,873 | 2     | 20            | 0     | 3,714,691             | 12 0  |
| 1823                 | 3,359,241 | 6     | ..            | ..    | 3,359,241             | 15 0  |
| 1824                 | 3,492,384 | 0     | ..            | ..    | 3,492,384             | 4 0   |
| 1825                 | 3,569,174 | 7     | ..            | ..    | 3,569,174             | 17 6  |
| 1826                 | 3,689,783 | 7     | 21            | 4 1/2 | 3,820,548             | 10 5  |
| 1827                 | 3,418,974 | 0     | ..            | ..    | 3,532,939             | 8 0   |
| 1828                 | 3,137,042 | 0     | ..            | ..    | 3,241,610             | 0 0   |

An account of the quantities of Malt used for home consumption during the 50 years ending with 1753. (From Smith's Tracts on the Corn Laws.)

| Years.            | Yearly Averages. |       |
|-------------------|------------------|-------|
|                   | Qrs.             | Bush. |
| From 1703 to 1713 | 2,959,063        | 7     |
| 1713 to 1723      | 3,542,157        | 2     |
| 1723 to 1733      | 3,358,071        | 2     |
| 1733 to 1743      | 3,215,094        | 2     |
| 1743 to 1753      | 3,404,026        | 1     |

From the above tables, it appears that the consumption of malt has been substantially stationary for about 120 years, but it must be remarked, that it was customary, during the latter part of the period which this last table embraces, to allow private families to compound for the malt duty; and many availed themselves of the alternative, a circumstance which shews sufficiently that the quantity of malt then actually made use of must have been greater than the quantity as estimated by the duty from the amount of which the above quantities have been calculated.

During the first ten years of the last century the population of England and Wales is estimated to have amounted to about 5,350,000; and it is supposed that during the remaining forty years of the first half of the century, the population had increased to 6,467,000. According to the Parliamentary returns, the population in 1801 amounted to about 9,100,000, and in 1821 to 12,100,000, and if this rate of increase continued, it would amount in 1828 to about 13,500,000. The supply of malt, therefore, to each person at these respective periods would stand thus:—

In 1713, the population being 5,350,000, and the annual consumption of malt, 2,959,064 quarters, gave to each person a supply of 4 bushels and 27 pints.

In 1750, the population having amounted to 6,467,000, and the annual consumption of malt being 3,404,026 quarters, the average supply to each person was 4 bushels and 2 pints nearly.

In 1801, the population amounted to 9,100,000, but the quantity of malt manufactured in 1800 and 1801, was, owing to the scarcity of those years, considerably below an average. The consumption, however, in 1802 and 1803 amounted at a medium to nearly 3,800,000 quarters, being an average supply of 3 bushels and 21 pints to each person.

In 1828, the population being 13,500,000, and the consumption of malt 3,137,042 quarters, the average supply to each individual was considerably less than 2 bushels;—or more than 1 bushel and 21 pints less than the quantity which fell to the share of each person in 1802;—more than 2 bushels less than each individual, on an average, consumed in 1750;—and more than 2 bushels and 27 pints less than the average consumption of each person in 1713!

Thus it appears, that, when the population, in 1713 amounted to less than five millions and a half, the consumption of malt was nearly as great as in 1828, when the population had increased to thirteen millions and a half!

Malting is, in itself, a very simple process: it consists in wetting the barley till it begins to sprout, and then checking the vegetative process suddenly by heat. This produces a saccharine substance in the grain, which constitutes the essence of malt.

The several Acts of Parliament, under the authority of which the duties upon malt were levied previously to the year 1827, amounted in number to about forty, but their enactments were so vexatious and contradictory, that the manufacturer of malt could scarcely advance a step in his business without subjecting himself to a penalty. To relieve him, therefore, the whole were, in that year, consolidated into one Act, known as the 7th and 8th George 4th, Cap. 52. This Act was no sooner passed, than the maltster found he was no better off than before, for, instead of simplifying the law, the number of oppressive restrictions, prohibitions, and penalties, which it contained, rendered it a matter of very great difficulty for him to carry on his business at all. The repeated complaints of the maltsters at length attracted the attention of government,

and another Act (11th George 4th, Cap. 17.) was passed in the beginning of the present year, to alter and amend the former; and under the authority and subject to the provisions of these two Acts, the duty assessed upon malt is now levied throughout the United Kingdom.

The restrictions, however, which these Acts impose on the making of malt, are, notwithstanding, so numerous and complicated, as to make it very hazardous for any person to attempt to make his own malt; the consumer is therefore compelled to purchase his malt of a maltster, whereby the price is very considerably enhanced.

The process of making barley into malt causes the grain to swell or increase in bulk. This increase varies according to the quality of the barley, and the nature of the season in which it has been harvested; it has, however, generally been estimated, as amounting on an average to *one-tenth*. Now, it has frequently been stated by persons competent to form a correct opinion in the matter, that when barley sells for 4s. the bushel, the price of malt, if the tax were abolished, would be 4s. 3d. per bushel. With the tax, however, although it is no more than 2s. 7d. the maltster charges 8s. 6d. which raises the tax upon the consumer to *One Hundred per Cent.*—For, it must be constantly borne in mind, that, in estimating the amount of a tax upon any given article, it is not the nominal sum assessed by government that constitutes the tax, but the sum paid on that article by the consumer in consequence of the tax, over and above the sum which that article could be purchased for if it were wholly free from any such tax. Thus, for instance, it is seen that a bushel of malt which could otherwise be procured for 4s. 3d. cannot, in consequence of a tax of 2s. 7d. be purchased under 8s. 6d.

If this additional charge of 4s. 3d. be analysed, it will be seen immediately who shares the money,—pre-mising, that from the nominal tax of 2s. 7d. ten per cent. at the least must be deducted to defray the expense of collecting it.

|                                                                                                                                  | s. | d. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|
| Net proceeds of the tax of 2s. 7d. levied upon a bushel of barley made into malt                                                 | 2  | 4  |
| Received by the Exciseman for collecting 2s. 7d.                                                                                 | 0  | 8  |
| The Maltster's charge for indemnifying him for the extra expenses incurred in making a bushel of malt, in consequence of the tax | 1  | 8  |
|                                                                                                                                  | 4  | 3  |

Thus it appears, that in order that the government may receive a net sum of 2s. 4d. the consumer is made to pay an additional sum of 1s. 11d., or, in other words, the *first* tax actually creates a *second* tax of 80 per cent. on the amount of the *first*.

But the tax operates more severely on the labourer who would make his own malt for he can always obtain a bushel of malt for the same price which he pays for a bushel of barley, as the increase in the quantity amply compensates him for the expense attending the making of it. He is therefore, in consequence of the tax, compelled to pay 8s. 6d. for that which he could otherwise obtain for 4s., being an *ad valorem* tax of 112½ per cent.

The natural consequence of the pressure of this tax, has been, to deprive the labourer and his family of one of the prime necessities of life. Fifty years ago, nearly every industrious labourer inhabiting a cottage, brewed his own beer, but from that period to the present, the number enabled to enjoy that advantage has been progressively decreasing, till scarcely one in a

thousand can now be found who drinks his own homebrewed ale. The malt tax, therefore, as it respects the labourer, has ceased to be a tax and become a prohibition. And it cannot be doubted that this prohibition has, for many years past, been one of the primary operating causes of the demoralization of the rural population. The labourer, deprived of his beer, has had recourse, when opportunity offered, to ardent spirits and all sorts of villainous compounds, to obtain which he has come in contact with scenes of vice and profligacy, which have, at last, sunk his morals to the lowest point of degradation.

If any proof be required that ardent spirits have been substituted for malt liquors there is abundance ready at hand. By the official accounts, printed by order of the House of Commons, 20th of March, 1828, it appears, that, during the seventeen years ending with 1827, while the population had increased nearly three millions the *ale* licenses in England and Wales, had hardly been augmented,—their number in 1810 being 49,061, and in 1827, only 49,327, while the *spirit* licenses, the number of which in 1810, was 37,011, had increased in 1827 to 42,599, being an addition of 266 *ale* licenses and 5588 *spirit* licenses.

But much stronger proof than even this, can be offered. The following extract from the report of the Committee of 1828 on Criminal Commitments, will show, that the consumption of spirits is increasing in a still greater ratio than the licenses.

“Your Committee think it right not to let this opportunity pass without remarking the very great increase in the quantity of spirits consumed, and considering the tendency of spirits to brutalize the habits, to inflame the passions, and to prevent all prudent savings, this question is very important.

“From papers laid before Parliament, it appears that the quantity of Foreign and British spirits, entered for home consumption, has, within the last five years, prodigiously increased. The average of the three years, 1820, 21, 22, is, in round numbers, 11,974,000 gallons, while the average of 1825, 6, and 7, is 23,540,000 gallons; the last year gives 24,346,460 gallons. Now, allowing that 6,000,000 of this quantity is derived from the suppression of illicit distillation in Ireland, and the decrease of smuggling in Great Britain, still, the increase is equal to one half the whole quantity consumed in 1821. It may be worth considering, whether the taxes on malt and beer do not increase the consumption of spirits as well as prevent brewing at home.”

These facts and statements require no comment.

It may now be necessary to state briefly, the price at which the labourer could brew his own beer, if the malt tax were repealed. It must be remembered that in brewing, the grains and the yeast will always repay him for the expense of fuel. Assuming then, the average cost to the labourer, of a bushel of malt to be 4s. and that of a pound of hops to be 1s. 4d. making together 5s. 4d. it may be stated, that for this sum, sixteen gallons of beer can be brewed, nearly as strong, and far more nutritious and wholesome, than that which is usually sold at the licensed beer houses for sixteen pence a gallon; or in other words, the labourer will obtain (exclusive of the wear and tear of the brewing utensils) a better beverage for *one penny* a quart, than can be now procured from the licensed houses for *four-pence*! And, what is a most important consideration, he will be enabled to enjoy it in the way he ought to enjoy it, and that is with his wife and family at home.

With respect to the relief which the repeal of the



**Malt Tax** would give to Agriculture, it cannot for a moment be doubted, that it would be very great. The supplies of barley, of which malt is made, are chiefly derived from light lands, which, though naturally the least productive, have, through the application of capital and industry, been made to yield excellent crops. But every one conversant with Agriculture must be aware, that the light soils are at present cultivated, in some instances, with a positive loss, and in none with great advantage to the farmer.

It appears from the Records of the House of Commons, that in the interval between 1801 and 1827, both inclusive, that no fewer than 1826 Enclosure Acts have been passed; and deducting a fourth from this number for Scotland and Ireland, 1370 remain for England and Wales. Now, it is stated, in the Report of the Committee of 1796, on the waste lands, that each Enclosure Act included at an average 1600 acres; and supposing this proportion still to be maintained, it will follow that 2,192,000 acres have been brought into tillage since 1800.

But a vast deal of land lying in smaller portions, has been enclosed without any Act of Parliament; and during the period in question, very great improvements were made on land previously enclosed, so that, taking these circumstances into account, we may on the most moderate estimate, compute the increase in the produce of English agriculture since 1800, as equivalent to the produce derived from three millions of acres of land of medium fertility. And yet there has been no increase in one of the principal crops suitable for such lands! No augmentation of the demand for barley, nor, consequently, of the supply of that valuable species of grain. But even under the late ruinous system of taxation as it affected Malt and Beer, the quantity of Barley made into malt may be stated on an average as amounting annually to about 3,200,000 quarters, which, supposing barley to sell at 32s, is equivalent to 5,120,000*l*, and as there is every reason to believe that if the duty upon malt were abolished, the demand for barley for malt would be doubled or even trebled, it is immediately seen that the repeal of the Malt Tax would give greater relief to agriculture, than the adoption of any other measure that can possibly be devised for that purpose.

**DESTRUCTION IN CATTLE.**—The neighbourhood of Montgomery has lately been put into a high state of excitement, in consequence of a dreadful disease breaking out at Gwernybearth Farm, near Llandyssil, in the occupation of Mr. Evan Brumwell, and causing the death of 18 fine young cattle in the short space of six days: another was seriously injured, but is now in a convalescent state. A labouring man about 300 yards distant from the above farm, lost his only cow, by which his family was mainly supported. Some neighbouring gentlemen, aware of the probability of the disease extending itself, sent a veterinary surgeon, (Mr. Cooper, of Montgomery,) to investigate its cause and nature, and he at once recognized it as being the *Malignant Epidemic Murrain*, (a disease of the most contagious nature). Means were immediately resorted to, and happily its progress was arrested. Had not the unfortunate owner been persuaded by ignorant persons that the disease was not of a contagious nature, preventive remedies might have been adopted, before it ran on to such an alarming extent, and the majority of his animals probably saved.—*Shrewsbury Chronicle*.

## BATH AND WEST OF ENGLAND SOCIETY

FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF AGRICULTURE, THE ARTS, MANUFACTURES, AND COMMERCE.

### THE ANNUAL MEETING

took place at the society's rooms, on Tuesday, Dec. 9, and it was very numerously attended. On the motion of Dr. Parry, seconded by Mr. G. W. Hall, J. Adam Gordon, Esq. took the chair until the Marquis of Lansdowne should arrive.

The meeting then proceeded to the re-election of officers. The only alterations consisted in the substitution of the names of Lord Kerry and Sir J. C. Hobbhouse instead of Lord Arundel and W. Hanning, Esq., deceased. Captain Scobell moved Lord Kerry's appointment, which was seconded by Dr. Parry. On the nomination of Sir J. C. Hobbhouse, (seconded by J. Stone, Esq.) Dr. Parry said it could not but give him considerable gratification to nominate the son of a highly respected baronet who had formerly done so much honour to this society as its president, and who had also added materially to its funds. The nomination which he had now made ought to have been attended to before, from respect to the distinguished individual whom he had now named, and from gratitude to his honoured father.

Dr. PARRY begged to move the re-appointment of Mr. B. L. Lye as sub-treasurer and secretary to the society. He would not say a word on what was a mere matter of course.

Captain SCOBELL said he had in common with the other members of the society, admired the great zeal and unwearied activity of mind displayed by their respected secretary in promoting the welfare of the society. He begged most cordially to second the resolution.

The name of J. Bleak, Esq., was added to the committee of manufactures, &c. Various alterations in the rules and premiums were then submitted.

On the motion of Mr. G. W. Hall, seconded by Captain Scobell, it was agreed that, instead of the premium in class 2 for wool, there be substituted 5*l* for the best fleece of combing wool, and 5*l* for the best ditto carding wool. It was also agreed that thirty minutes be added to the time for ploughing, in the society's matches, half an acre of ground, with two horses, and a proportionate additional time in the other cases. It was proposed by B. Gray, Esq., that the next ploughing match should take place in August or September next, at Stourhead, Wilts. Sir R. C. Hoare, bart., Capt. Scobell, T. S. Bailward, T. Davies, R. Gray, John Bailward, Webbe Hall, Esqrs., and J. Bennett, of Pyt House, M.P., for South Wilts, were chosen judges of the ploughing match.

The Secretary then read the minutes of the general meeting which had been held throughout the year.

The report of the judges of live stock (Messrs. E. Davies, Mathew Paull, and Henry Kaines) was then read and approved.

The Secretary then read the following report of the committee of superintendence:—

“Hetling-house, Nov. 29, 1834.

“Your committee report that the ploughing match for the premiums offered by the society in the year 1833, not having taken place, in consequence of circumstances communicated to the last annual meeting, the same was held according to arrangements directed at that time, on a piece of land belonging to George Wyndham, Esq., one mile from Wincanton, on the

11th day of March last. Seventeen ploughs were in the field, 15 of which were drawn by 2 horses, and 2 by 2 oxen abreast. The society's premiums having never before been offered in this neighbourhood, the competition excited great interest, and a large concourse of spectators assembled to witness the operation. T. S. Bailward, Esq., V.P., presided upon this occasion, and the proceedings were conducted with great spirit.

The Ploughing Match for the premiums offered in 1834, having been left by the annual meeting to the discretion of your Committee of Superintendence, it was arranged to take Place on the 14th day of August, on a piece of old ley in the occupation of Mr. R. Wigmore, two miles from Tetbury. Twenty-three ploughs appeared in the field, 15 of which were drawn by two horses with a driver; the remainder by three or four oxen, with a driver. T. G. Bucknall Estcourt, Wm. Blathwayt, and H. Shute, Esqs., acted as the committee. The proceedings of this meeting were marked by a very spirited competition, and by the cordial approbation of a numerous body of spectators. The able conduct of T. G. B. Estcourt, Esq., who acted as chairman, greatly added to the pleasures and efficiency of the meeting, both in the field, and at the festive board.

An essay having been received from an author who signs himself "An Observer" in claim of premium 4, class 10, on the subject of Mr. Lyon's experiments on barking as a remedy for barrenness in fruit trees, the same has been referred to a special committee to report thereon.

Your committee have pleasure in stating that the notices received in claim for exhibitions of breeding and fat stock, are this year more numerous than usual, including four competitions for the Hobhouse premium, five for breeding heifers, several for extra stock, four for stallions, besides others for breeding ewes, fat wethers and pigs.

It is also satisfactory to them to be able to state, that notwithstanding the secession of some members, in consequence of the establishment of two neighbouring Agricultural Societies since the last annual meeting, the finances of the society, by the payment of many arrears, are in a somewhat more prosperous state than they were in the last year.

The secretary read the report of the committee, to whom had been referred an essay on Barrenness in Fruit Trees. The committee stated that the essay was a very valuable one and contained many important suggestions, but that it did not enter sufficiently into the principal object required—that, namely, having reference to the experiments of Mr. Lyon. The report of the committee was confirmed; premium not granted.

The secretary then read the following correspondence between himself and his Grace the Duke of Bedford:

"London, Nov. 30, 1834.

"The Duke of Bedford begs to acquaint Mr. Leigh Lye that not having had it in his power to attend any meeting of the Bath and West of England Society for the last thirty years, he requests he will withdraw his name from that society. If any subscription is due, Mr. Lye will be so good as to inform the Duke of Bedford."

"To Mr. Leigh Lye."

"Hetling-house, Dec. 2, 1834.

"My LORD DUKE.—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt this morning, of your Grace's note of the 30th of November, and I beg most respectfully to state that I am sure the society will learn with the utmost regret that your Grace has withdrawn

your support. The name of the Duke of Bedford is so associated with the best days of the institution; the bust in marble of his Grace adorns the great room of the society; his 'Bedford Gold Medal' is annually offered in the list of the society's premiums; and the very name is held in such high honour and respect by the oldest members of the society, that to have your Grace withdraw your support in this our hour of need (two neighbouring societies having been established within the last year) will, I am sure, be considered one of the most unfortunate events that could befall us. The committee does not meet till Saturday next, and I have ventured, with feelings of the most profound respect, to offer these observations to your Grace, in the humble, but fervent hope, that I may be spared the grief and mortification of announcing the intention conveyed in your Grace's note of the 30th ultimo.

"Trusting that your Grace will pardon my having presumed thus to evince my anxiety to serve a society which has for so many years enjoyed the honour of your Grace's support,

"I have the honour to be, my Lord Duke, &c.,

"B. LEIGH LYE."

"Woburn Abbey, Dec. 4, 1834.

"SIR,—I have received by this morning's post your letter of the 2nd instant. The infirm state of my health and the impossibility of my ever attending the meetings of the Bath and West of England Society, was my sole motive of desiring to withdraw my name as a member, and I had not the remotest idea that such a step could be considered as of any importance. I readily, however, yield to your suggestions, and am willing to continue a member of that Society, as long as it shall please God to prolong my existence.

"I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

"B. Leigh Lye, Esq."

"BEDFORD.

Capt. SCOBELL said that his Grace's letter reflected on him and on the Society considerable honour. The Society was placed in a novel position. New societies of a similar nature had sprung up around it, and though they had not tried to injure their parent, they had certainly tended to circumscribe her means. He alluded to this point for the purpose of remarking that it was the duty of the friends of the Society to crowd more numerous and more energetically around her. He begged to move the thanks of the meeting to his Grace the Duke of Bedford for his determination to continue his support. He could not sit down without adding that the members were under great obligations to Mr. Lye for having adopted the wise and well-managed course to which reference had just been made. (*Cheers.*)

The Secretary read a petition from the Rev. Canon Bowles in favour of Wm. Collins, aged 89 years, who, as a garden labourer, had lived with the father of Mr. Bowles 20 years, and for 35 succeeding years with Col. Rogers, at Uphill, in this county. The petition stated that this old man had led a most industrious and laborious life, and now lived on an allowance made up by the parish and the contributions of the family with whom he had last lived, and of the rev. petitioner. The object of the application was that the Society would bestow upon the old man some mark of its favour in the shape of a bounty.

Dr. PARRY said that no premium being directly applicable to this case, the committee had thought it better to refer it to the consideration of the Annual Meeting. He would propose that a bounty of three guineas be awarded to the individual in



question. This proposition was seconded, and, after some discussion, was unanimously agreed to.

The Secretary then read the following report of a Committee appointed to examine an improved bit which had been submitted to the Society by Mr. W. H. Higman, saddler, &c., of Cheap-street, in this city :

"December 9th, 1834.

"It appears to your Committee, that the curb bit is an ingenious improvement on those in ordinary use. When its power is but partially required, it is a plaything in the horse's mouth, and likely to induce him voluntarily to carry a better head, but having the usual power of a common curb bit, when it is required. Its construction is also simple, and not liable to be out of order. The certificates from persons who have tried this curb bit, represent it as humane to the horse, and pleasant to the rider or driver. As a useful improvement to this important part of a horse's equipment, we recommend the silver medal to the inventor.

"G. T. SCOBELL,  
"GEO. WEBB HALL,  
"J. R. SMYTHIES."

Capt. SCOBELL said, that this improvement was one of very great merit. It had called forth many strong certificates in its favour from persons well qualified to judge of its value. He (Capt. Scobell) had himself used the bit, and though his horses went pleasantly before, they went much more pleasantly on his making use of this ingenious invention. The bit was quite as powerful as any other; and it presented the additional advantage of acting only when it was absolutely wanted.

A conversation then took place on the subject of presenting Mr. Higman with the society's silver medal; but it appeared this could not be done in accordance with the society's rules, which required that the invention should have been submitted previous to the first of November, which had not, through mistake, been done. It was therefore resolved, that the thanks of the society be presented to Mr. Higman, for his ingenious and deserving invention; and the noble chairman observed, that it could be submitted for a premium at the society's next meeting.

Dr. PARRY produced the model of a window frame, which had been sent to him by the Rev. W. Meyrick, of Bath, and the object of which was to enable domestic servants to clean window sashes with safety to themselves.

J. STONE, Esq., attested the usefulness of the plan, which he had for some years tried in his own house.

Capt. SCOBELL then rose to submit a motion to the notice of the meeting. He felt that he was about to open a most important subject—namely—how far the introduction of Poor Laws into Ireland would affect the property of the English Agriculturist. The subject, he thought, was a legitimate one for the society to entertain, as he thought that the agriculturists of England suffered very much from the abundant importation into this country of Irish produce and of Irish labourers. (*Cheers.*) If he dwelt not upon the wants and distresses of the Irish population, it was not by any means because he was indifferent to them; in the discussions of this society it was necessary to adhere to questions affecting English agriculturists. He would also guard against entering into politics. His resolution was that the Bedford Gold Medal be given to the writer of the best essay on the effect which the introduction of Poor Laws into

Ireland would have upon the agricultural interests of this country. If the depression of England had the effect of exalting Ireland, we might, perhaps, say, "Let Ireland reap the benefit of the present system;" but this was not the case. Ireland was not the better on account of our suffering. There was an old saying, that "Patience is a quiet nag, but will sometimes bolt." Now the English agriculturist had long been quiet. He knew no society better qualified to take up the subject than the Bath and West of England Society. It was universally admitted that English agriculture was at present in an unprecedentedly depressed state; that wheat and other produce were as low in price as they ever had been within the memory of man. The object of his resolution could not, therefore, be considered other than a most important one. England and Ireland might be compared to two men struggling in the water. England was the better man of the two; but Ireland clung so close, that both must swim or sink together. He would rather lift Ireland than put down England. The introduction of Poor Laws into Ireland would, in all probability, do good to both countries, but certainly to England. If Ireland were joined to England by a neck of land, it would be thought absurd if she had not, in some sort, the same laws as England. Yet she was joined to this country much more effectually than by a neck of land; floating bridges were coming over almost every hour laden with Irish produce and labourers, brought here at an extremely low cost. The longest side, or hypothense of England, was opposite to the longest side of Ireland, and there was consequently an immense intercourse between the ports of the two islands embraced in those two lines. The cattle imported into Liverpool alone had amounted to 12,000 per week; and into Bristol there had been imported, in one year, about 624,000, including pigs, &c. Mr. Sadler had stated the yearly importation of Irish grain into England at 2,000,000 quarters. According to Mr. Porter's tables, the total value of Irish imports into Liverpool was—

|               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| In 1831 ..... | £4,497,000 |
| 1832 .....    | 4,451,000  |
| 1833 .....    | 7,456,000  |

If this were the natural surplus of the country, there was no reason why it should not be imported into England, but it was not a natural surplus. If Poor Laws were introduced into Ireland, there would be more comfort, and consequently more home consumption of the produce now sent so abundantly out of the country. He would now refer to a darker shade of the question—the immigration of Irish labourers, who beat down the labourers of England. There were, perhaps, 300,000 Irish labourers in England, and the support of these persons was so much taken out of our own labour market. It had been said, that the assistance of Irish labourers was convenient at the time of housing the crops; but it was not sufficiently considered, that the wages paid to these individuals was so much taken from the English poor; and that, in fact, the farmers had, in consequence, to pay so much the more poor rates. He would repeat, that the introduction of Poor Laws into Ireland would prevent this immigration of poor, by promoting employment, and of course comfort, and greater consumption of produce. If produce be allowed to circulate freely through all parts of the country, equal laws ought also to circulate. The laws which affect nine-tenths of the Irish people, ought not to be dissimilar to the laws which affect England. If Poor Laws were impar-

tially distributed over the land, their local pressure would be most considerably diminished. The new Poor Law he trusted would work well; it would, in his opinion, work much better if it were extended to Ireland; but it would not produce the benefits hoped for if we were still to have an unchecked influx of Irish labour. He would refrain from entering further into the subject, and would conclude by moving the adoption of the resolution to which he had drawn the attention of the meeting. (*Cheers.*)

J. A. GORDON, Esq., seconded the motion.

Dr. PARRY did not see how the resolution could be objected to as interfering with politics. The resolution of Capt. Scobell referred to a question bearing on English agriculture. This question could not be properly considered without entering into an examination of the state of Ireland. The writers of the proposed essay must inquire into the causes leading to the influx into England of Irish commodities and labour. This must be done before it could be effectually shown how that influx could be prevented. The causes were, the lowness of wages and price of produce in Ireland, as compared with the different state of things which prevailed in England. The main object to be accomplished was to find labour in their own country for the Irish poor. On this point both the advocates and the opponents of poor laws agreed, and also that a fund should be provided in Ireland for the sick and infirm, and that employment should be provided for the able-bodied poor. How could the agricultural depression of England be remedied if a remedy were not applied to the present state of the Irish poor. The evils of this class were to be found, first, in want of employment and low wages—secondly, in the competition for farms, and, consequently, high rents; and, thirdly, in starvation and emigrations. Dr. Parry offered some very judicious observations on the many mistakes which had occurred in the consideration and discussion of the Irish question, and described the results of some successful endeavours which had been made to improve the condition of that country. The proposed essay, he observed, would be one of very considerable importance, and he hoped it would be undertaken by those who were well qualified to write on the subject. (*Cheers.*)

The Rev. J. R. SMYTHIES said that, so that the essay did not take up party politics, it should not be circumscribed in its matter.

The most noble PRESIDENT did not hesitate to say that the proposed essay was strictly within the scope of the society. It would be absurd if this were not the case. The society was established to consider what was best for the community in an agricultural point of view. He begged to suggest that the writers of the essay should not be limited with regard to time. Upon the judicious discussion of the information collected by the commission, now employed in Ireland relative to the poor laws (which he believed would make its report in the spring), the merit of the essays would mainly depend.

After some further discussion, the motion for the premium was put to the meeting and unanimously carried.

Mr. G. W. HALL then rose to submit a motion which, simple and, to some, even ridiculous as it might appear, was one which effected to a most extensive degree the agriculturist interest of this kingdom. The motion which he had to propose referred to the devastations committed on agricultural stock by dogs. The protection of the species of prop-

erty in question, and the safety of human life from that most terrible of diseases, hydrophobia, called for the prompt interposition of the legislature. At present the owner of a dog was not liable for any damage which the animal might commit, excepting in extreme cases. He (Mr. Hall) had been obliged by a Gloucestershire Jury to pay 20*l* damages, involving, with the cost of the action, an expense of 200*l* for shooting a mad dog which had made its appearance on his own estate. Was not this most monstrous? He then read some extracts from a publication, showing that the evil of which he now complained had been rife for the last forty years, and that meetings of agriculturists had been long since held with a view to the suppression of the mischief. He concluded by moving the following resolutions;—

Resolved—That, in the opinion of the Bath and West of England Society, the agricultural property of this county, as far as its live stock is concerned, amounting in value to fifty millions sterling, is almost entirely without the protection of the law, against any devastation committed upon it by dogs, which is a constantly occurring fact; and

That the welfare of society at large, involving in addition to security of property the safety of still more valuable human life, especially from the deadly and appalling disease of hydrophobia, most loudly calls for the speedy and efficacious interposition of the legislature, as far as the same may be practicable.

Mr. BAILWARD narrated several cases of hydrophobia, and considered with Mr. Hall that some legislative steps were necessary on this head.

Dr. PARRY thought that the meeting would agree with Mr. Hall with regard to the importance of endeavouring to secure for agricultural property adequate protection against the devastations under consideration. The owners of dogs ought to be made responsible for injuries inflicted by animals in their possession. Dr. Parry then gave some highly interesting details respecting the symptoms and general character of hydrophobia, and concluded by seconding Mr. Hall's resolutions.

After some discussion, in which Capt. Scobell, Mr. Webb Hall, Dr. Parry, &c. joined, the resolutions were unanimously carried. Mr. Hall said that Mr. Miles intended to bring the subject before the notice of Parliament. The Secretary then read communications from T. S. Bailward, Esq., on apple trees and cider, for which the thanks of the society were voted to him.

It was announced that J. A. Gordon, Esq. had offered a premium of 10*l* for the best plan of constructing suspension bridges, in which, as in Switzerland, wire should be used instead of chains.

Thanks were voted to the judges of the last year's ploughing match.

Mr. JILLARD, of Oakhill, laid before the meeting some fine specimens of potatoes, in the raising of which kiln-dust had been used instead of the usual manure.

Thanks were then cordially voted to the most noble chairman, and the meeting separated.

#### THE DINNER

took place, as usual, at the White Hart, and was very numerously attended. The Marquis of Lansdowne presided, and B. L. Lye, Esq., officiated as Vice-President.

On the removal of the cloth, the following toasts were proposed:—"The King"—"The



Queen, and the rest of the Royal Family"—"Mr. Bennett, Member for Wilts"—"The Army and Navy." The last-mentioned toast was acknowledged by Col. Daubeney.

Captain SCOBELL returned thanks on behalf of the navy. Half his life had been spent in the navy, the other half on the land. One of the most satisfactory circumstances of the latter portion of his career had been his connection with this society. (*Cheers*).

Col. LANGTON said, that it needed no eloquence to recommend the toast which he had risen to propose. He was confident that it would be received with the most rapturous applause by the members of this society. He begged to propose the health of the noble president, (*cheers*) of whose high character it was not possible for him to say too much. The zeal and utility which he displayed in the cause of this society, reflected on him the highest honour. It was most delightful to see a nobleman of his high standing, affording his most strenuous aid to an institution which had for its object the benefitting of all classes of the people. Col. Langton concluded by alluding to the great meliorations which the noble Marquis had effected in the condition of the poor by means of his extensive adoption of the allotment system. (*Three times three*).

The noble PRESIDENT returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him, which he said was enhanced in value by being proposed by a respected gentleman who was one of the oldest members in the House of Commons. He (the noble Marquis) could not apprehend any diminution of zeal on behalf of a society which produced so many valuable public benefits, after having heard it that day announced, that, notwithstanding the depressed condition of the agricultural interests, the funds of the society were in a better state than they were at the time of the last annual meeting. He attributed this to the high spirit which impelled the British agriculturists to promote, in defiance of all opposing difficulties, the great objects of the furtherance of which this society was established. He had heard without pain the allusion which had that day been made to the infant societies which had sprung up around the Bath and West of England society. He did not grudge them their existence. It was the common lot of old established societies, as well as of old countries, to give rise to off-shoots and colonies. But while we do not grudge them the vigour of their youth, we must take care that we do not exhibit the decrepitude of old age. He hoped that this, the old society, would go prosperously on, and make the young societies proud of the character which this institution had first bestowed on them. The noble Marquis concluded by proposing the health of the members for the county of Somerset. (*Cheers*).

Col. LANGTON returned thanks.

The NOBLE PRESIDENT then proposed, "The Mayor and Corporation of Bath," and said that the public not only of this city, but of the country in general were under the deepest obligations to them for their great liberality as evinced in the admirable improvements of the Abbey Church and its neighbourhood. (*Cheers*).

The MAYOR of BATH returned thanks on behalf of himself and the corporation. He observed that they could not but feel highly gratified at receiving the approbation of so important and respectable a society. The corporation and inhabitants of Bath were fully aware of the advantages resulting from the annual assembling in their city

of so many gentlemen of rank, talent, and influence; this however was but a narrow view of the question when he looked at the important services which this society rendered to the agricultural interests at large. He begged to repeat his thanks to the company for the compliment conferred on the corporation and himself. (*Cheers*).

The noble PRESIDENT said that he had the pleasure of seeing present the Minister Plenipotentiary of the King of Belgium—M. Vanderweert. He (the noble Marquis) would beg to propose a toast—"The health of the King of Belgium, and success to agriculture in that country." The toast was connected with the name of M. Vanderweert.

M. VANDERWEERT returned thanks in pleasing and appropriate terms.

The distribution of the prizes to the successful candidates then took place, and in the course of which Mr. John Nicholls enlivened the company with his usual amusing observations.

The following toasts were afterwards proposed and duly acknowledged—"Lord Kerry—the Judges of Live Stock—the Vice-Presidents—Sir Wm. Cockburn, bart.—the Members for Chippenham—the members for Calne—Col. Horner and the North Somerset Yeomanry Cavalry—the Exhibitors of Live Stock, &c."

The company separated at an early hour much gratified with the occurrences of the evening.

The following is a list of the premiums and bounties awarded:—

| LIVE STOCK.                                                                                                                            |    | £ | s. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|---|----|
| To Mr. Wm. Winkle, Stourton, Wilts, for the best bull, cow, and offspring, Hereford breed, Sir B. Hobhouse's premium.                  |    |   |    |
| To Mr. John Nicholls, Harnhill, near Cirencester, the best fat ox, Hereford, a bounty of .....                                         | 10 | 0 |    |
| To Mr. Jasper Hewer, jun., Aston, Gloucestershire, for the best fat steer, Hereford, a premium of .....                                | 15 | 0 |    |
| To Mr. John Nicholls, Harnhill, for a steer, Hereford, a bounty of .....                                                               | 5  | 0 |    |
| To Sir Hungerford Hoskyns, bart., Harewood, Herefordshire, for the best fat cow, Hereford, breeder and feeder, a premium of .....      | 10 | 0 |    |
| To Mr. John Nicholls, Harnhill, for a fat cow, Hereford breed, a bounty of .....                                                       | 5  | 0 |    |
| To Mr. John Haine, Glastonbury, for a fat heifer, Devon, feeder only, a premium of .....                                               | 5  | 0 |    |
| To Mr. Chas. Stevens, Port Farm, Cirencester, for the best fat wethers, improved Leicester breed, a premium of .....                   | 6  | 0 |    |
| To Mr. Geo. Limbrick, Horton, Gloucestershire, for the second best wethers, improved Cotswold, a premium of .....                      | 3  | 0 |    |
| To Sir Hungerford Hoskyns, bart., Harewood, Herefordshire, for the three best heifers for breeding, Hereford breed, a premium of ..... | 10 | 0 |    |
| To Mr. John Stephens, Hurcott, Somerset, for the six best breeding ewes, Devon and Cotswold, a premium of .....                        | 10 | 0 |    |
| To Mr. Josh. Hall, Coates, Gloucestershire, for six breeding ewes, improved Leicester, a bounty of .....                               | 5  | 0 |    |
| To Mr. Wm. Pearce, Kington Langley, near Chippenham, for the best stallion, 4 years old, premium of .....                              | 10 | 0 |    |

## EXTRA STOCK.

|                                                                                                                       |      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| To Mr. C. Lewis, Woolley, near Bradford, Wilts, for a long horned cow, to a bounty of .....                           | £ s. |
| To Mr. Robt. Joliff, Long Ashton, near Bristol, for a fat ox, Hereford, a bounty of .....                             | 2 0  |
| To Mr. Robt. Joliff, for a fat steer, short-horned and Hereford, a bounty of .....                                    | 2 0  |
| To Mr. Jas. Fussell, Laycock, Wilts, for a cow, long and short horned breed, a bounty of .....                        | 3 0  |
| To Mr. Charles Usher, Weston, near Bath, for a fat pig, 11 months old, Berkshire and Chinese breed, a bounty of ..... | 5 0  |
| To Mr. Josh. Hall, Coates, Gloucestershire, for a fat wether sheep of great merit, a bounty of .....                  | 1 0  |
|                                                                                                                       | 1 0  |

## THE VILLAGE ALEHOUSE.

A PICTURE IN DETAIL.

Dear Ramblers all—an Alehouse sign  
 You'll own as good a sight as greets ye;  
 When summer's long, long morning's shine,  
 Where leisure reigns, and "All hail" meets ye.

There rests the waggon in its track,—  
 A corn-bag round each horse's nose is;  
 There comes the miller and his sack;  
 And there at ease the beggar dozes.

There limps the hostler with his pails,  
 And there the landlord stalks inspector;  
 Two farmers there discuss their sales,  
 And drain by turns one goblet's nectar.

Hay-ricks are near, and orchard fruit;  
 The cock's shrill crow and flapping wing;  
 The low contented neigh of brute;  
 The pipe's perfume, and tankard's ding,

The fiddle's scrape,—the milking cows,—  
 The snapping cork,—the roaring joke;  
 The birds by thousands in the boughs;  
 The creaking wheel and whip's loud stroke.

Sunshine strews all the kitchen floor,  
 Reposes on the home-field crop—  
 Blisters the Doctor's fine new door,  
 And kisses copse and chimney top.

Clouds fleecy dot the blue immense—  
 Farm-houses, cities, vales, and streams,  
 And seats, and parks, and forests dense,  
 Sleep, stretched afar, in floods of beams.

Z. Z.

**PARMAZAN CHEESE.**—Parmazan cheese is a valuable Italian production, and is formed in the following manner:—Two evening meals of milk, after standing for sixteen hours, and a morning's meal after it has stood six hours, are mixed together, consisting of about seventy English gallons. These are placed in a large copper vessel, suspended over a slow fire made of wood. The milk is frequently stirred, and in the course of an hour allowed to reach the temperature of eighty-two degrees. A ball of rennet, the size of a walnut, is then placed in a cloth, and squeezed through it into the milk, while it is constantly stirred. It is removed from the fire, and coagulation ensues in about an hour. The curd is then well stirred up, and permitted to stand till the

they has separated. In about an hour after, the curd is wrought by means of a stick armed with cross wires, in which process it is reduced into small pieces, and left till the whey has completely subsided. Part of the whey is then taken off, and the copper again placed on the fire. It is now brought to a heat nearly approaching the boiling point, and a quarter of an ounce of saffron is mixed with it, while the curd is constantly stirred with a wooden spatula, to prevent it from singeing. The superintendant examines it, by rubbing it betwixt its fingers from time to time, to ascertain when it has assumed sufficient tenacity. During this process the heat is raised to one hundred and twenty-four degrees of Fahrenheit's thermometer, and sometimes even so high as one hundred and thirty degrees. During this time it is permitted to remain about half an hour on the fire, when it is taken off, and the curd allowed to subside. About three-fourths of the remaining whey is then separated from it, and three or four gallons of cold water poured round the bottom of the vessel, to cool the curd so that it can be handled. It is raised from the bottom of the vessel, a cloth slipped under it, and then removed into a tub to clear. When properly drained, it is put into a hoop, and pressure equal to about half a hundred weight is placed upon the top of it, and allowed to remain an hour in this state. The cloth is now removed, and the cheese again placed in the hoop, and afterwards laid on a shelf, where it must be turned every day for three days, and at the end of this period it is salted all over. This operation is repeated every day for the space of thirty days if in summer, and forty days if in winter, which completes the process, and finishes the making of the cheese. During the time of salting, two cheeses are placed above each other, which is supposed to facilitate the process. They are then scraped clean, rubbed every day with a cloth, and anointed with linseed oil to protect them against insects. They are not considered marketable till about six months old.—Would it not be worth while for Scotch and English dairy-keepers to try their hand at making this delicious kind of cheese?

**EXTRAORDINARY WEN.**—On Wednesday, the 27th of Nov., a Wen was taken off a horse by Mr. Smith, Farrier, Great Scotland Yard, Westminster, of an extraordinary size, being thirty-four inches in circumference, and weighing nineteen pounds and a-half. This astonishing excrescence was on the upper part of the fore leg of a valuable Cart-horse belonging to Messrs. Edward Wood and Co., of Northumberland Wharf, Strand, and the horse is doing well. Any of our readers may see the Wen at the Farriers.

**DUCHESS OF TYRCONNEL.**—It is a curious fact that the Duchess of Tyrconnel, the Lady of Richard Talbot, Lord Deputy of Ireland in the reign of James II., after that monarch's abdication, was driven by distress to keep one of the stands in Exeter Change in the Strand (the original English Bazaar) at that time a fashionable place of resort, at which she sold millinery, the labour of her hours by night, in an obscure apartment in which she slept. It was then the custom for women, in public, to wear masks, and the Duchess, in her little shop, uniformly appeared in a white mask and dress, and was called by the loungers of that day, "The White Widow." Her rank was accidentally discovered, and she had afterwards a pension granted her from the Crown during her life.



## THE OPERATION OF THE POOR LAW AMENDMENT ACT.

We have made inquiries as to the operation of the new Poor Law Amendment Act, of a number of parish officers in the metropolis, who, it may be supposed, are by no means inclined to overrate its advantages, and they admit, that whilst the change has been attended with some present trouble to them, the operation of the new act has been extremely beneficial to the extent to which it has been carried into execution.

One object of the act, it will be remembered, was to discontinue out-door relief in money and substitute relief in kind, as a step to the entire discontinuance of out-door relief, and the substitution of relief in a well-regulated workhouse, where the aged and infirm will receive proper care, and the indolent and sturdy "buckled to work." In some parishes the officers have revised their pension lists, and effected savings by the detection of imposture; but the reductions have been mainly effected by the adoption of the chief preliminary measure, recommended by the late Commissioners of Inquiry: the substitution of relief in food, bread, meat, cheese, fuel, and clothing, to those who declared they were hungry and destitute, and medicine to the sick.

The following is the amount of saving which we are assured has already been effected in the parishes hereunder named.

We have been informed of similar reductions having been effected in other parishes, but we have not yet information sufficiently accurate to induce us to insert it. In one or two instances, items, having been stated to us more than a week ago, may not correspond with the actual reduction during the last or the current week; but we believe that on the whole it will be found that the amount of saving is understated:—

|                                                  | Weekly<br>Reduction. |       | Being at the rate<br>per Annum, |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------|---------------------------------|
| Lambeth .....                                    | £120 0               | ..... | £6,240                          |
| Newington .....                                  | 40 0                 | ..... | 2,080                           |
| Camberwell .....                                 | 50 0                 | ..... | 1,560                           |
| Wandsworth ....                                  | 30 0                 | ..... | 1,560                           |
| St. Clement Dane.                                | 25 0                 | ..... | 1,300                           |
| St. Paul, Covent G.                              | 12 0                 | ..... | 624                             |
| Barking, Essex, out<br>of 5 <i>l.</i> per week.. | 3 10                 | ..... | 182                             |
| Ratcliffe .....                                  | 34 0                 | ..... | 1,768                           |
| St. Bride .....                                  | 12 0                 | ..... | 624                             |
| Rolls Liberty ....                               | 11 0                 | ..... | 572                             |
| St. Giles .....                                  | 130 0                | ..... | 6,760                           |
| Islington .....                                  | 70 0                 | ..... | 3,640                           |
| St. Andrew and St.<br>George .....               | 30 0                 | ..... | 1,560                           |
| St. Martin .....                                 | 50 0                 | ..... | 2,600                           |
| St. Andrew, Saffron<br>Hill .....                | 6 0                  | ..... | 312                             |
| Clapham .....                                    | 13 0                 | ..... | 676                             |
|                                                  | £616 10              |       | £32,058                         |

The partial saving, then, in these sixteen parishes alone is probably double the expense of the new machinery to the whole nation. The saving has been effected, as we have stated, chiefly by offering to the applicants bread and other food, such as an Irishman or Highlander never tastes, sometimes with the alternative of workhouses, which a large proportion of the hard-working population of the two kingdoms would find to be palaces as compared with their own huts, in which they never see such profusion. This change has, we are assured, been effected without producing any cases on which the most sensitive could found any just claim for sympathy. Nearly

all cases presented as such at the police-offices have been cases in violation of the act, or of the express recommendations of the Commissioners. Most of these cases, it may be observed, are cases of the absolute refusal of relief, which refusal wherever the party is ready to make oath that he is absolutely destitute, and ready to accept the relief which a destitute person and proper object can never refuse, is as illegal now as it was before the passing of the act.

Many parish officers have endeavoured by their illegal proceedings to throw odium upon the new act, and have for a time partially succeeded; but the repetition of this conduct will, no doubt, be prevented.

We see by provincial papers, that in the case of the neglect of a pauper by the parish doctor, proceedings were taken by an Assistant Commissioner which gave great satisfaction to the paupers and the rate-payers. The neglect being obvious, the parish officers anticipated the decision of the Commissioners by dismissing the offending officer themselves. In Berks, one Assistant Overseer has been dismissed, and rendered incapable of holding office again, in consequence of his oppressive conduct, and an illegal administration of the rates. But we trust that the Commissioners will have little occasion to exercise their authority to this extent.

It is a most important fact, that whilst the out-door relief has been diminished to the extent we have stated, that the number of in-door paupers has not increased, although it is admitted that the workhouse allowances are in many instances still extravagantly profuse, and above the style of living of a large portion of the rate-payers, which the greatest enemies of the act will admit ought not to be.—*Morning Advertiser.*

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS."

Sir,—In your paper of last week I read a letter signed "Ceres," on the high price of bread, in which your intelligent correspondent recommends (I suppose he means the Government), to revert to the imposition of an assize. Allow me to inform Ceres that all Englishmen are not so blind as himself, who wishes more firmly to rivet on the shackles of trade, whilst the general outcry is for the repeal of all laws tending to restrict it. With as much reason might you fix a standard price for meat and vegetables—aye, and for beer and grocery too. To talk of forcing a man to sell his goods at any price which our rulers may be pleased to dictate, is enough to chill one's blood. An assize, instead of lowering the price of bread, would certainly raise it, to all honest and prudent people who wish to pay for everything they have. Does Ceres believe that in the city of London there is not sufficient competition in every trade to prevent undue profits long to remain? If he does, I recommend him to turn mealman, baker, or butcher, and he will soon be undeceived. He says, if the bakers are foolish enough to trust a parcel of people who are entirely unworthy of credit, you and others must make up the loss; I say this is not the case, but if people are fools enough to give 8*d.* for a 4*lbs.* loaf, when they can have one equally good for 6*d.*, that is their fault, and not the fault of the baker, whose bounden duty it is (agreeably to the laws of trade), to get all the profit he can, provided he deals impartially with his customers; but a good tradesman, who deals in articles of universal consumption, of which every customer is a judge of the quality, knows that it is contrary to his interest to be guilty of extortion on the public

—he knows well that he would soon lose his trade—but does Ceres believe that a tradesman can give six or twelve months' credit to a customer, however trustworthy, and yet sell his goods on the same terms as he does to one who pays ready money? Finally—I recommend Ceres, and all persons at the West End of the Metropolis in particular, to go with money in their hands for all eatables, and they will soon find their account in it, and will be able to see clearly that in this country no extravagant profits can be obtained in the necessities of life.

FREEDOM.

17th December, 1834.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUFFOLK CHRONICLE.

SIR—Your Correspondent "Shoy Hoy" presumes, that "the farmers suppose, that if the Malt Tax was repealed, the amount of it would go into their pockets." Now, "Shoy Hoy" has no right to suppose that the farmers are such fools as to believe any such thing. The farmers are quite as well aware as other classes, that the repeal of the Malt Tax would not raise the price of Barley but a trifle; but the farmers are great consumers of malt, and cannot charge the consumers of their produce the extra cost of production occasioned by the Malt Duty, and the cost of what they consume themselves is doubled by the Duty.

Again, he says, "The farmers must not ask for the reduction or repeal of one particular tax, because they fancy it will benefit them alone. No, they must be more patriotic, and come forward boldly and join the people, in demanding a great and general reduction of taxation." Now, Sir, I must think this is one of the most provoking sentences that ever was penned. The farmers never interfere with other classes, never oppose any measure they bring forward, one only excepted; and that they supported in the end. I allude to the taking off the Beer Tax in lieu of the Malt Tax. How the mad policy of the towns' population squares with the liberal and patriotic policy advocated by "Shoy Hoy," I cannot ascertain. The case was this, the tax on Malt and Beer combined, created a revenue of some nine millions. I think; the towns' population clamoured for the repeal of the Beer Duty alone, as they said the poor, and indeed all consumers of taxed Beer, paid by so much more than the rich and the farmers who brewed their own Beer. This is the farmers admitted; but as they were told, and in fact were quite aware, that so great a sacrifice of revenue as nine millions could not be made till the demands on the Exchequer were reduced, and that to petition for the repeal of both the Malt and Beer Duties would be the means of obtaining neither, they advocated the repeal of the Malt Duty in preference to the Beer Duty. Their argument in support of this measure was this—that if the Duty on Beer were repealed, that the towns' population, and others consuming the common brewers' beer, only would be benefited; that, on the contrary, if the Duty were taken off Malt, the whole community would be relieved—that the farmers and labourers would partake of the benefit, which they would not by the repeal of the beer duty—that although they quite admitted the repeal of the malt duty would not place the towns' population, on an equal footing with themselves, yet they would not have less relief; but for reasons of State, that they would be more relieved by the repeal of the malt duty than by the repeal of the beer duty: thus the farmers and labourers not only deny that "liberal and patriotic feelings" were shown towards them,

but that a narrow-minded policy existed, by no means creditable to the party.

We do not presume that the Government were biased in favour of the towns' population; it was the presumed difference in the effect on the revenue which decided them to select the Beer duty for repeal. It was calculated that little deficiency in the revenue would occur from the repeal of the Beer Duty, as more would be consumed, but that a repeal of the Malt duty would cause a decrease to nearly the full amount; and the farmers were told that they would partake of the benefit, from the greater demand, and consequent rise in the price of Barley. Whether Barley has fetched a higher price it is impossible to say, but it could scarcely have been lower than a feeding price, which it has been at till of late, and would not be more now, but from the great deficiency in the crop. We consider, however, that, taking off the Duty on Malt would so far increase the consumption as to increase the price of Barley 4d per bushel, on an average of years and qualities. We know very well it could increase it no more, because, as "Shoy Hoy" truly observes, foreign Barley would be abundantly imported, and fix the maximum of price. We do not advocate the repeal of the Malt Tax on such selfish motives as are insinuated: we believe that the repeal of the Malt Tax would be of all others the most beneficial. It would increase the demand for labour, and its growth, manufacture, and consumption of beer. The labourers would be enabled to keep beer for the use of themselves and families, and would require less food. Thus, if the consumption of Barley required an increased extent of land to grow it, by so much the less would be required to grow Wheat; or in part, at least. But, Sir, until the Landed Interest unite and clear up the questions in dispute, they can never obtain justice.

## REPEAL OF THE MALT TAX.

A meeting of gentlemen took place on Tuesday, Dec. 16, at Brown's Hotel, Bridge-street, Westminster, "to take into consideration the best means of obtaining relief from the destructive consequences of that most cruel and unjust tax, the duty on malt." The meeting was but thinly attended, which was attributed by the gentlemen at whose instance the meeting was convened, to the circumstance of many gentlemen interested in the object of the meeting being engaged in canvassing.

Mr. ELLIS, an extensive farmer of Kent, was called to the chair.

The CHAIRMAN saw that it required but little argument from him to show that to advocate a repeal of the malt tax was to uphold the cause of the poor—and that cause was in his opinion the duty of the rich, and he regretted that there were not more of those who came under the latter designation at the meeting. However, they would do the best they could in the absence of more influential persons to advocate the cause of the poor agricultural labourer—(hear, hear.) It appeared to him to be quite clear, that every man, woman, and child who assisted in the cultivation of the land were entitled to partake of its produce—(hear). It was equally clear that the cultivator of the soil was prevented from this positive right, owing to the operation of the malt tax—(hear). He could not himself state all the evil consequences of this most iniquitous tax; but having been from circumstances all his life amongst the labouring classes of the country, he knew that to them at least that tax worked great injustice—(hear). Fre-



quently had he seen the agricultural labourer in the oppressive heat of the day obliged to drink water to quench his thirst, not being able to get good beer, as, owing to the present state of agriculture, the farmers were not able to provide their labourers with this necessary and wholesome beverage—(hear, hear). It cost him (Mr. E.) 2,000l for beer in three years. He could not now afford to give his men as much beer as he was in the habit of allowing them; but not only himself, but his brother farmers, would be happy to have an opportunity of contributing to the comforts of the poor in this respect if the malt duty were repealed—(hear). He should be happy, if such a result took place, to sow 15, or 20, or 30 acres of barley for the manufacture of malt for the advantage of his labourers; but to cultivate barley now was only to give pain to the labourer, who perceived that, instead of reaping advantages from this circumstance himself, he was only contributing to the comforts of hogs, and other animals in the farmer's yard—(hear, hear). He remembered well when the labourers used to brew for themselves. One of his labourers used to brew from as small a quantity as a peck, which proved that, if the malt duty were removed, an opportunity would be afforded to the agricultural labourer to brew his own beer—(hear). This very man informed him, that in brewing this peck of barley he saved two gallons of flour—(hear, hear)—such was the nutritious character of the barley when made into malt—(hear). This one fact in itself showed the impolicy and injustice of the malt tax. Notwithstanding the pressure upon the land, the farmers would most willingly give up a portion of their land for the cultivation of barley; but if they did so under existing circumstances, they would have to pay a tax to four or five times the amount of the price of the barley grown—(hear, hear). The worthy Chairman then went into a calculation, to show that since 1723, when the population was less than one-half of what it was at present, there was, comparatively speaking, a greater quantity of beer drunk. He then observed, that where spade husbandry was introduced, it was quite necessary, in order that the agricultural labourer should be able to contend in any way with teams of horses, that he should be enabled to obtain good wholesome beer—(hear). There were so many facts in connection with this case, that it was impossible to advert to them all. What he wished to impress upon the minds of the gentlemen present was, that pigs and hogs got that which, but for the malt tax, would be made into good wholesome beverage for the poor labourer—(hear). For the last 14 or 15 years he, and several gentlemen who had acted with him, had made frequent endeavours to rid the country of an impost so oppressive as the malt tax. They had frequent meetings on the subject at Maidstone—they began by asking for the repeal of part of the duty—they now asked for relief from the whole. Since then the duty had been taken off beer, and the consumption of barley was not now more than five millions of quarters, although in 1723, when the population was only five millions and a half, the consumption of barley was 3,800,000 quarters—(hear). Many say that the labourers got too much beer. This he denied—(hear). They might get too much of a Friday or Saturday night, when they got their week's earnings—(hear); but if they had a fair quantity during the week they would not be so anxious to partake of so large a portion at the end of the week, when, instead of doing them good, it did injury—(hear). The Chairman, in adverting to the taxes which

had already been reduced since the peace, said that the reduction of the property tax produced no benefit to the labourer; nor did the reduction of the assessed taxes, the duty upon wine, &c., produce any benefit to the labourer. The tax upon spirits which had been taken off was rather an injury than a benefit to the labourers. Upon the whole, then, it was clear that something was yet due by the Legislature to the agricultural labourer, and that the best course that could be adopted would be the taking off the duty upon malt. In the course of the last year 120 petitions had been presented to the Legislature on this subject from the county of Kent, which had been signed by 26,000 persons; and this year he had no doubt but that they would be greater. What he was anxious for was that they should be prepared to meet the coming Session, to be in such time with their claims that advantage could be taken of them by the Minister, should he be disposed to make any alterations in the financial affairs of the country—(hear);—and here he must say that, for one, he would accept a reduction of one-half of the malt duty, if he could not get the whole—(hear). He had the satisfaction to inform the meeting that the Marquis of Chandos had kindly consented to bring this question before the House of Commons this year; and he (the Chairman) hoped that every friend of his country, and every friend to the poor, would do everything in their power to get rid of a tax which was a disgrace to the country—(hear, hear.)

Mr. RUSSELL, another respectable farmer, addressed the meeting in support of the view taken of the subject by the worthy Chairman, and observed that, according to an account kept by an ancestor of his, it appeared that in 1699 barley was 30s the quarter, while in the spring of this year it was only 25s; but at the period when his ancestor lived the same quantity of malt could be got back from the maltster, and at the same price, as the barley that had been sent to him—a bushel of barley and a bushel of malt at that time being 3s 9d. At the early part of this year, however, although barley was only 3s 1½d a bushel, the same quantity of malt could not be got from the maltster under 8s. This clearly proved the injurious tendency of the malt duty, and explained why it was that the farmers could not afford to give beer to their labourers. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. WELLS quite agreed in the view taken of the subject by the gentlemen who had preceded him, whose practical knowledge afforded them such excellent opportunities of ascertaining how far the tax in question was injurious to the agricultural labourers. (Hear.) He, however, could never agree to the tax being reduced one half, for that would still leave in existence all the complex and expensive machinery of collection, &c.; and when gentlemen recollected that it cost this country upwards of 8,000,000l for collecting the revenue, he was quite sure that they would be anxious to adopt every means by which that expense was to be lessened. (Hear, hear.) He thought that the best course which the meeting could adopt would be to put itself, through the medium of its Chairman, in communication with Sir E. Knatchbull, one of the present Ministers, who was known to be favourable to their views, and that he should be requested to lay before his colleagues the views that were entertained by the meeting in reference to the malt duty. (Hear, hear.)

Resolutions to the following effect were then put from the Chair, and unanimously agreed to:—

"That a supply of wholesome beer is essentially necessary to the poor generally, particularly to the working labourer, and that it is the imperative duty of all to use their best exertions to enable them to obtain that sustenance of which they are now deprived by the excessive duty on malt. That the average individual consumption of malt, having decreased to less than half the amount of what it was before the prohibitory duties were laid on, would rapidly increase, and thereby would greatly relieve the poor-rates by the stimulus given to tillage: and tend to improve trade. That the prohibitory duty is contrary to equity, humanity, and sound policy, and has increased crime and demoralization. That, whilst the meeting feel grateful for the reduction of taxation that has taken place, they respectfully submit that the poorer classes have not had their equal share of reduction, the duty on malt being unaltered. That the meeting earnestly invites the co-operation of all classes in the promotion of measures for the repeal of the malt tax. That, although the meeting studiously avoids stating political feelings in the recent change in the Ministry, yet they cannot help expressing their anxious hopes that the present Ministry will not be hostile to the repeal of the malt tax, the necessity of which this meeting knows has been admitted by several members of the present Cabinet. That copies of the resolutions be presented to Sir Edward Knatchbull, Bart., with a request that he will submit the same to his colleagues in office.

"That the thanks of the meeting and of the country are due to those Members of Parliament who supported Sir Wm. Ingilby's motion last session, as well as to the public press for advocating the repeal of the malt tax.

"That, upon a general election taking place, it is strongly recommended by this meeting that all friends to the cause do have a most decisive answer from each candidate, that they will support a repeal of the malt tax. That this meeting recommend that petitions to Parliament be forthwith proposed and signed as numerous as possible throughout the kingdom. That this meeting be adjourned to the second Tuesday after the meeting of Parliament, to be held at this place."

After a few general observations, it was agreed that the meeting should stand adjourned until the second Tuesday after the meeting of Parliament, it having been previously agreed that Mr. Wells should act as honorary Secretary.

Thanks having been given to the Chairman, the meeting separated.

## THE FRENCH BAKERS.

FROM THE 'MARK LANE EXPRESS.'

We last week alluded to the system adopted at Paris respecting the bakers being preferable to that in London, and promised a short account of the regulations, which we will now briefly detail. Often the tranquillity of Paris would have been endangered by the high price of bread if the Government had not assumed a control over the bakers of the metropolis, as bread is the chief article of food to the Frenchman. The company of Parisian bakers consists of a limited number. Every baker is obliged to record his daily sale, and compelled by a statute enforced by the prefect of police, assisted by the advice of the Syndicat, a body of men selected from among the bakers, with a chief appointed by the prefect, to lay up in the store houses of the city a certain number of sacks of Flour of first quality, which

are taken back, or renewed, according as the season is less or more favourable to keep them in a state of preservation; this stock, the produce of the united bakers, is in order to provide for the subsistence of the inhabitants, in case of dearth. The price of bread is regulated by the prefect of police, and is kept lower than the current price in the country, when too dear; but if cheap in the country, they keep up the price in Paris long enough to make up for the deficiency experienced by the bakers, when obliged to undersell the country retailers. If a baker has not the means to carry him on the length of time, which he is required to supply the "staff of life" at a cheaper rate, he is supplied with money out of the funds possessed by the Syndicat, who are appointed specifically to watch over the interests of the bakers in general and the subsistence and provision of the inhabitants. The bakers are in consequence for the most part wealthy, and, in fact, could not carry on business without being possessed of a large capital.

TO MAKE WOOD-FLOUR IN PERFECTION.—According to Professor Autenrieth, the wood, after being thoroughly stripped of its bark, is to be sawed transversely into disks about an inch in diameter. The sawdust is to be preserved, and the disks are to be beaten to fibres in a pounding mill. The fibres and sawdust, mixed together, are next to be deprived of every thing harsh and bitter which is soluble in water, by boiling them, where fuel is abundant, or by subjecting them for a longer time to the action of cold water, which is easily done by enclosing them in a strong sack, which they only half fill, and beating the sack with a stick, or treading it with the feet in a rivulet. The whole is then to be completely dried, either in the sun or by fire, and repeatedly ground in a flour mill. The ground wood is next baked into small flat cakes, with water rendered slightly mucilaginous by the addition of some decoction of linseed, mallow stalks, and leaves, lime-tree bark, or any other such substance. Professor Autenrieth prefers marshmallow roots, of which one ounce renders 18 quarts of water sufficiently mucilaginous, and these serve to form four pounds and a half of wood-flour into cakes. These cakes are baked until they are brown on the surface. After this they are broken to pieces, and again ground, until the flour pass through a fine bolting-cloth; and upon the fineness of the flour does its fitness to make bread depend. The flour of a *hard wood*, such as beech, requires the process of baking and grinding to be repeated. Wood flour does not ferment so readily as wheat flour, but the Professor found 15 pounds of birch-wood flour, with three pounds of our wheaten leaven, and two pounds of wheat flour, mixed up with eight measures of new milk, yielding 36 pounds of *very good bread*. The Learned Professor tried the nutritious properties of wood flour, in the first instance, upon a young dog; afterwards he fed two pigs upon it; and then, taking courage from the success of the experiment, he attacked it himself. His family party, he says, ate it in the form of gruels or soup, dumplings, and pancakes, all made with as little of any other ingredient as possible, and found them palatable and quite wholesome.—*Quarterly Review*.

A REAL WONDER.—A lamb, the property of Mr. Sarson, of Quorndon, was slaughtered last week, which weighed 100 lbs. It was about nine months old, got by a sheep of Mr. Parr's, of Wanlip, and the dam by a sheep of Mr. Smith's, of Dishley,



## THE MALT TAX.

THE CURSE OF BRITISH AGRICULTURE, AND ITS TOTAL  
REPEAL THE ONLY EFFICIENT RELIEF.

Brother Farmers,—This most noxious impost is consuming your very vitals. It does not merely infringe upon the comforts of your families, but, like the unseen wire-worm in your fields, it is withering your every prospect. It has been the chief cause of driving your younger labourers from the farm-house, where they were under your own watchful eye; in too many instances, to the deadly moral influence of the beer shops. It not only robs you of the just reward of your industry, by severely depressing one of your staple articles in the market, but by fostering monopoly it injures the public to an incalculable degree. At the same time, it is the most unequal tax, for, while it falls with undue severity upon the unkind barley lands of the kingdom, it is almost exclusively a tax upon the poor man's beverage. But the evil does not end there. You not only suffer in the depression of your marketable barley, but these vexatious excise laws prevent your turning that which is not marketable to the best account. It has been stated by high authority, that two quarters of malt will fatten a bullock equal to four quarters of barley-meal, while it is well known that malt is as indispensable for the profitable feeding of horses; whereas this irksome impost leaves you the only alternative of giving it to hogs, which, from the immense importation of Irish pork, makes it now nearly tantamount to throwing it away. So that it will appear, while the Exchequer gains about four millions annually from this tax, it costs the consumers of beer nearly double that sum, and, in one form or other, imposes a tax of from seven to ten shillings per acre upon the greater proportion of the arable land of the kingdom. The limits of a letter will not allow us to go into particulars to prove these statements, but we hold ourselves responsible for what is said, and feel convinced that we underrate the cost which this odious tax is to the country.

Will you then (brother farmers) allow one of your own fraternity to entreat you to shake yourselves from your slumber, and make one more effort to rid the country from this grossly unequal, oppressive, and now insupportable burden?

I know your habits are anything than political, and I am too well aware that the manner in which you have been treated by the legislature is calculated to induce you to settle down into a state of indignant apathy. Still, however, your best friends have hitherto had just cause to say that you have not half supported them. You have wanted unanimity. Hitherto you have not half spoken out. You have suffered yourselves to be beguiled and overawed by a few overgrown maltsters, common brewers, and capitalists, who are fattening upon the spoils of the country, and dread only lest the repeal of this tax, accompanied by the repeal of some others affecting the lower classes, should at length occasion them to have to bear their just share in the support of the state, corresponding with the interest they have in the preservation of order and good government. Let nothing of this kind, however, intimidate you; and if the next parliament, like the present, suffer themselves to be thus frightened from the path of duty, by any threat of the finance minister, and turn and eat up their own words, then they will justly deserve to have their whole properties exposed to the threatened scramble of the Radicals. Say to your opponents, "that we have nothing to do with substitutes." Be united, ask at present for nothing more, and be content with nothing less, than the total repeal of this intolerable burden. And I much mistake if the times are not somewhat favourable to your success. Indeed, I am con-

vinced, in your present distressed circumstances, the legislature could not resist a general simultaneous effort throughout the kingdom.

To accomplish this most desirable object, then, where no agricultural associations exist, it is only necessary that some half-score business-men, in their respective market towns, first form a preparatory committee, to mark out the line of operation, fix upon their proper agents, draw up a short petition, and arrange for the incidental expenses, and then, by hand-bills, call a public meeting, fixing, if possible, upon some influential person to preside. All the precaution necessary is to avoid (that curse of agriculture) party politics. You are likely also to have very shortly another opportunity of strengthening your cause,—you will be solicited for your suffrages. At all hazards, make no promise to men whom you have reason to fear will do nothing to relieve you; give the lie to that statement of your enemies, that while the 10*l.* voters are independent, you are the mere creatures of your landlords.

If any of you should find it your duty to take an opposite course from those you are under, let it only be manifest that you do it from principle, and not for the sake of opposition, and then we can hardly bring ourselves to believe that there is a man to be found who can lay the least claim to the appellation of a nobleman or gentleman, who can be vile enough to resent such conduct.

The repeal of this tax will be popular among all parties except the few individuals noticed above. It will be seen in this measure you are not seeking to benefit yourselves at the expense of others. Above all, be not deluded by procrastination; already remember you are twenty years behind hand. Ministry or no ministry, this is the time for exertion, and be sure to let your motto be, **TOTAL REPEAL.**

And, believe me, brother farmers, I am, &c.

A BEDFORDSHIRE FARMER.

Luton, Dec. 5, 1834.

**ADVANTAGES OF DEEP PLOUGHING.**—A farm and other lands on the estate of Broomhall, having fallen into the landlord's possession, in a state of much dirt and exhaustion, it was found, on examination, that this deterioration was greatly to be attributed to the practice of confining the labour to six or eight inches of the surface, which a two-horse plough could not more than effect in ordinary cases; and to the subsoil being rendered peculiarly retentive by the constant pressure of the plough upon it. At this time, attention had been much excited to experiments, in progress in East Lothian, of deep ploughing and deep delving, in imitation of the practice in Flanders; and also by the introduction of Wedge drains, and the valuable suggestions of Mr. Smith, of Deanston, near Doune, for combining that mode of draining and deep ploughing. Accordingly the landlord proceeded to act upon these two unquestionable principles in good husbandry—that of draining the lands, and deep ploughing, and the consequences have been—1st, That, solely by the admixture of subsoil, and free use of the grubber, the dirt and exhaustion of the original surface have been got the better of, so that the seed has been at once sown without summer fallow. 2d, Any improvement which the quality of the subsoil is calculated to effect is obtained. 3d, The land is rendered pervious to rain to the full depth of the deep ploughing. And, accordingly, from the commencement of the operation, the crops have invariably been beyond comparison far better than ever were before produced on the same ground, and, in most instances, light land is improved, and a cold wet clay is now converted into essentially good turnip soil.

The following lines, by JAMES BIRD, ESQ. of Yoxford, Suffolk, author of "The Vale of Slaughden, &c." were spoken by him after Dinner (forming part of his Speech) at the late Meeting of "The East Suffolk Agricultural Association."

The Earth!—her riches were to all men given,  
The first best boon of an indulgent Heaven;  
And he who tills her bosom, ought to share  
Her bounties freely, equal to his care;  
Yet, oft we hear, in this enlightened age,  
When every penny reader is a sage,  
When the Schoolmaster is abroad—I doubt  
He'll keep *aborad*, since he has late gone out!—  
When steam impels us, and when oft, alas!  
The only light we have abroad is gas!  
We hear men state that COMMERCE is alone  
The staff that props the Peasant, and the Throne,  
That *Farmers* are a sorry, useless race,  
And only born to give the Merchant place:  
One sapient Politician tells us clear,  
Corn never should be *grown* but *purchased here*;  
Purchased from *Foreign* lands—I wish he'd try it,  
And tell us where to find the cash to buy it!  
Another cries—the *Land* is all a joke,  
That nought is good but *Birmingham*, and smoke;  
A third asserts that all is lost in sloth  
That does not smack of *Manchester*, and cloth!  
We grant that COMMERCE is a useful dame,  
And, only where she plays the sauce-box blame!  
Why should she give herself obnoxious airs,  
And kick poor AGRICULTURE down the stairs?  
Her elder Sister too!—a sinful shame,  
And she, poor thing, has been for some years lame!  
But *now*, I trust, a higher prospect cheers  
The Farmer's heart, and shows him brighter years!  
Pleased I behold the meeting here to-day,  
All petty cares and party feuds away;  
Our men of *business*, and our men of *station*,  
Conjoined in one approved ASSOCIATION!  
Its object thus to foster in the mind  
Of Landlord and of Tenant feelings kind,  
To raise an emulation in the Swains  
Who till the soil, and labour for its gains,  
To show the Peasant that his own best aim  
Is *honest industry*, to give his claim  
To self respect a title, and a gift,  
To prove ye are his brothers, and to lift  
His mind above the indolent and vile,  
And give the due reward to honest toil!—  
Shame to the rambling rhymester, thus to keep  
You all so long! (he wonders ye don't sleep!)  
He thus concludes, and will you pledge him now  
In this his Toast!—*God speed the Suffolk Plough!*

#### TIPTREE RACES, A COMIC PUNNING POEM, à la HOOD'S CELEBRATED "EPPING HUNT" BY C. C.—Longman, and Co.

"In it if you should find a *skit* or two,  
Ye people British,  
I trust you'll pardon it, for my Pegasus  
Is very *skittish*!"

C. C.'s Pegasus is not only *skittish*, but sometimes downright *restive*.

His most serious offence is the perpetration of a constant succession of *puns*, for all of which we have no doubt his reader will discover a pun-ishment—(*pun-is-meant*.)

#### THOMAS'S TOWN AND COUNTRY AL- MANACK.

The first step towards taking off the taxes on knowledge was made by Lord Althorp the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, in repealing the stamp duty on Almanacks. But for this, we should not have been in possession of a large, full, and comprehensive sheet Almanack, embracing every thing useful that can be comprised within so small a compass as is now offered to the public by Mr. Thomas, at the low price of three-pence.

#### TUSSIN'S HUNDRED GOOD POINTS OF HUSBANDRY, reprinted verbatim from the original Edition of 1557, printed by CHARLES CLARKE (AN AMATEUR) at his PRINTING PRESS, GREAT TOTHAM, ESSEX.—Longman, and Co.

Mr. Clark himself, as he tells us, an agriculturist, appears to be one of those individuals who delight in devoting such few leisure hours as he can spare from his customary occupation, to the cultivation of some useful science or art. Printing seems to have been *his* hobby, and he has used him most characteristically in reprinting "Tussin's hundred points of Good Husbandry," a work published by an agriculturist nearly 300 years ago. It is printed *verbatim et literatim* as it at first appeared. The language is quaint, and many of the words are so obsolete, that they would have been unintelligible, had not Mr. Clark remedied the inconvenience by adding a glossary. "His pleasure and pride" in having been the means of giving the curious and the public in general an opportunity of justly appreciating the genius and worth of such a man as our old 'right trusty' friend Thomas Tussins, evinces feelings highly creditable to him.

#### SHOOTING.

FROM THE 'SPORTSMAN.'

On first taking the field I would endeavour to impress upon the minds of all noviciates the necessity of being perfectly cool, both before and after the rising of the covey. He may be assured that he will have plenty of time to bring down his bird, to ensure which I earnestly recommend him to select one from the covey, and to cover his bird with due deliberation. It is natural enough for a youngster to fire bang into a covey, en masse, on their first rising, but the real sportsman will select his birds, taking the one that is farthest from him for his right-hand barrel, and one of the loiterers for his left. Some men possess more nerve or coolness than others; indeed so lamentably deficient are many with whom I have had the misfortune to be out on a field-day, that nothing but the intervention of an artificial or an acquired degree of coolness, enabled them to shoot with anything like certainty. An old friend of mine who for ever sinned in this manner, bethought himself of taking a pinch of snuff after the birds rose, and before he fired; to expedite the process he had his dexter pocket lined with leather to contain the pulverized tobacco, and ever and anon as occasion required, the thumb and dexter digit were applied to the store in his pocket, and by the time the powder was applied to the expectant nostril, the nerves had obtained the requisite degree of composure, and I must in justice add that nine times out of ten a bird fell as soon as the gun was raised to the shoulder.



## THE TORY ADMINISTRATION.

## CABINET MINISTERS.

|                                                 |                       |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| The Lord High Chancellor.....                   | Lord LYNCHURST.       |
| First Lord of the Treasury.....                 | Sir ROBERT PERL.      |
| Chancellor of the Exchequer.....                | Earl of ROSSLYN.      |
| The Lord Privy Seal.....                        | Lord WHARNCLIFFE.     |
| Secretary of State for the Home Department..... | Mr. GOULBURN.         |
| Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.....     | Duke of WELLINGTON.   |
| Secretary for the Colonies.....                 | Earl of ABERDEEN.     |
| First Lord of the Admiralty.....                | Earl DE GREY.         |
| Chief Secretary for Ireland.....                | Sir HENRY HARDINGE.   |
| President of the Board of Control.....          | Lord ELLENBOROUGH.    |
| President of the Board of Trade.....            | Right Hon. A. BARING. |
| Paymaster of the Forces.....                    | Sir E. KNATCHBULL.    |
| Secretary at War.....                           | Mr. HERRIES.          |
| Master-General of the Ordnance.....             | Sir GEORGE MURRAY.    |

## OFFICERS OF STATE NOT IN THE CABINET.

|                                            |                                      |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Postmaster-General.....                    | Lord MARYBOROUGH.                    |
| Vice President of the Board of Trade.....  | Lord LOWTHER.                        |
| and Treasurer of the Navy.....             |                                      |
| Chief Commissioner of Woods and Works..... | Lord GRANYVILLE.                     |
| Lord Chamberlain of the Household.....     | Lord JERSEY.                         |
| Lord Steward.....                          | Lord RODEN.                          |
| Attorney-General.....                      | Mr. FRED. POLLOCK.                   |
| Solicitor-General.....                     | Mr. FOLLETT.                         |
| Joint Secretaries of the Treasury.....     | Sir GEO. CLERK and Sir T. FREMANTLE. |
| Secretary to the Admiralty.....            | Rt. Hon. G. R. DAWSON.               |
| Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs.....   | Lord MAHON.                          |
| Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.....            | Not appointed.                       |
| Lord Chancellor of Ireland.....            | Sir EDWARD SUGDEN.                   |
| Judge-Advocate General.....                | Sir JOHN BECKETT.                    |
| Attorney-General for Ireland.....          | Mr. Serj. PENNEFATHER.               |
| Solicitor-General for Ireland.....         | Mr. D. JACKSON.                      |
| General Commanding in Chief.....           | Lord HILL.                           |
| Master of the Horse (Queen).....           | Lord DENBIGH.                        |
| Lord Chamberlain and Comptroller.....      | Earl HOWE.                           |
| (ditto).....                               |                                      |
| Surveyor-General of the Ordnance.....      | Lord EDW. SOMERSET.                  |
| Store-keeper of the Ordnance.....          | Mr. BONHAM.                          |
| Lord Advocate of Scotland.....             | Sir WILLIAM RAE.                     |

Board of Admiralty—Earl De Grey, Sir George Cockburn, Sir John Beresford, Sir Charles Rowley, Lord Ashley, and Mr. Maurice Fitzgerald (Knight of Kerry). Secretary, Mr. G. R. Dawson.

Colonel Perceval—Treasurer of the Ordnance.

Board of Control—Lord Ellenborough, Sir Alexander Grant, Messrs. Planta and Sullivan. Secretary, Mr. Praed.

Sir George Clerk, as Secretary to the Treasury Board, took his seat on Saturday.

**PIG BARGAINS.**—The second day I spent at Gashel was market day: and among other sights I was greatly amused by the country people driving bargains for pigs. A man, a pig dealer, would come to a countryman who held a pig by a string. "How much do you ask?" "Twenty-eight shillings," the answer might be. "Hold out your hand," says the buyer; and the proprietor of the pig holds out his hand accordingly; the buyer places a penny in it, and then strikes it with a force that might break the back of an ox: "Will you take 20s.?" The other shakes his head. "Ask 24s., and see if I'll give it ye," says the pig-merchant. The owner again shakes his head. It is probable by this time some one among the bystanders—for there is always a circle formed round a bargain-making, endeavours to accommodate matters; for it is another instance of the kindly feeling towards each other, that all around are anxious that the bargain should be concluded. Again the merchant says, "Hold out your hand," and again a tremendous blow is struck, and a new offer made, till at last they come within a shilling of each other's terms: when the bargain is struck, and the shilling about which they differed, and probably two or three others, are spent in whiskey punch, screeching hot."—*Ingli's Ireland.*

## SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

The thirty-sixth annual adjudication of prizes, and of gold and silver medals, to fat cattle, sheep, and pigs, took place on Friday last, in the Repository-yard, in Goswell-street.

The general opinion of those agriculturalists who have as yet been favoured by a view of this grand exhibition, state that a finer display of superior stock, and better competition, has seldom, if ever, been witnessed in this metropolis.

The stewards, viz., Mr. R. Griffin, Mr. T. Chapman, and Mr. Thomas C. Beasley, have found it an arduous task to class and arrange them this year; they have placed numbers over each animal, by which the gentlemen judges have decided the prizes.

The judges, viz., Mr. Samuel Druce, of Ensham; Mr. Samuel Bennett, of Bickering's-park; and Mr. Charles Stokes, of Kingston Kegworth; having decided the prizes while in ignorance to whom the several animals belonged, at a very late hour finally signed their award, and during the night the following copy from the labels over each animal was made as follows:—

## CLASS I.—CATTLE SHOWN.

For the best ox of any breed, under five years old; no restrictions as to feeding.

A premium of 20 sovs. to Mr. Robert Smith, of Burley, near Oakham, for his four years and eleven months old short-horned ox; bred by Mr. Hough, of Threackingham, near Falkingham; fed on oil-cake, bean-meal, carrots, and turnips.

A silver medal to Mr. Hough, as the breeder of the above ox.

The other competitors in class I. were—

Sir Felix Booth, Bart., of Brentford, a three years and nine months old Hereford ox; bred by Mr. Turner, of Noke; fed on wash and distillers' grains. The judges commended this ox.

Mr. Christr. Smith, of Burley, a four years and 10½ months old Hereford ox; bred by Mr. Cranston, of Widemarth; fed on oil-cake, bean-meal, carrots, and turnips.

Lord Huntingfield, of Heavingham, a three years and nine months old Durham ox; bred by his lordship; fed on oil-cake and bean-meal.

Mr. W. Yardley, of Grove, Ivinghoe, a four years and ten months old Hereford ox; bred by P. Morris; Esq., of Hurst, near Clunn; fed on cake, turnips, and hay.

Mrs. Elizabeth Earl, a three years and eleven months old mixed East Indian and English ox; bred on her farm at Bellingden; fed on oats and hay.

## CLASS II.

For the best ox of any breed, under six years of age, weight 160 stone and upwards, not to have had cake, corn, or distillers' wash, previous to the 1st of August.

The first premium of 20 sovs. to Earl Spencer, for his four years and six months old Durham ox; bred at his Wiseton farm, and fed on his lordship's farm at Althorp, on mangel wurzel, turnips, and 1127 lbs oil-cake.

A silver medal also to his lordship as the breeder of the above ox.

The second prize of 10 sovs. to Mr. Richard Spraggett, of Chadshunt, Warwickshire, for his five years and eight months old Durham ox; bred by Mr. William Bellamy, of Hasely House; fed on grass, turnips, and 800 lbs oil-cake.

The other competitors in class II. were commended by the judges generally.

The Duke of Richmond, a four years and eight months old Hereford ox; bred by Mr. Thomas Ardlen, of Lacy; fed on mangel wurzel, turnips, 114 lbs of bean meal, and 545 lbs of oil-cake.

The Earl of Oxford, a five years and nine months old Hereford ox; bred by his Lordship at Egwood; fed on mangel wurzel, 750 lbs barley-meal, and 280 lbs of flax-seed, ground together. The judges particularly commend this ox.

W. J. Bailey, Esq., Shenly House, Bucks, a four years and two months old Hereford ox; bred by Mr. Loe, of Pilchfield, near Ludlow, Salop; fed on grass, hay, and 1,500 lbs of oil-cake.

J. T. Senior, Esq., of Broughton House, near Aylesbury, a four years and five months old Hereford ox; bred by Mr. George Proctor, of King's Pides, Hereford; fed on grass, hay, and 700 lbs of oil-cake. Travelled by boat forty miles.

#### CLASS III.

For the best ox of any breed, under five years of age, weight under 160 st., and above 120 st., not to have had cake, corn, or distiller's wash previous to the 1st of August:—

The first prize of 15 sovs. in this class, to Mr. Ralph Oldacres, of Cestersover, near Lutterworth, a three years and eight months old Hereford ox; bred by Sir Francis Lawley, Bart., of Middleton-hall; fed on grass, 560lb of oil-cake, and three bushels of barley-meal.

A silver medal, as the breeder of the above ox, to Sir Francis Lawley, Bart.

Mr. Ralph Oldacres, of Clipstone, a four years and five months old Durham ox; bred by Mr. R. Richard Bagshaw, of Newton; fed on grass, hay, and 406lbs oil-cake.—Was disqualified from this class from being over weight, but possessing considerable merit.

Mr. Richard Spraggett, of Chadshunt, Warwick, a four years and eight months old Durham ox; bred by Mr. William Bellamy, of Haseley; fed on grass, turnips, and 750lbs of oil-cake.

William B. May, Esq., Hadlow castle, near Tunbridge, a four year and 8½ months old Sussex ox; bred by Messrs. John and William Cuckney, of White Ditch, Sussex; fed on grass, hay, turnips, cabbage, and 300lbs oil-cake.

J. T. Senior, Esq., of Broughton House, a four years and five months old Hereford ox; bred by Mr. William Rayer, of Longdon; fed on grass, and 750 lbs of oil-cake.

William James Bailey, Esq., of Shenley House, near Stoney Stratford, a three years and nine months old Hereford steer; bred by Mr. T. Oakley, of the Moat, Stapleton, Salop; fed on grass, hay, and 400 lbs of oil-cake.

#### CLASS IV.

For the best ox of any breed, not exceeding four years and three months old, under 120 st. weight, not to have had cake, corn, or distiller's wash previous to 1st of August.

The first prize of 10 sovs. in this class to Mr. Ralph Oldacres, of Cestersover, a three years and nine months old Hereford ox; bred by Sir Francis Lawley, Bart., of Middleton Hall; fed on grass, 560lbs of oil-cake, and three bushels of barley meal. A silver medal, as the breeder of the above ox, to Sir F. Lawley, Bart.

The second prize of 5 sovs to Wm. Jas. Bailey, Esq., of Shenly House, a three years and nine months old Hereford ox; bred by Mr. Thomas Oakley, of the Moat, Salop; fed on grass, hay, and 800 lbs of oil-cake. Travelled sixty miles in boat.

Mr. George Peach, of Northampton, a three years and eight months old Hereford ox; bred by Earl

Talbot, at Ingestrie; fed on grass, hay, and 423lbs of oil-cake.

Mr. Wm. Wright, of Shoby, near Melton Mowbray, a Scotch ox; bred by himself; fed on grass, hay, and 1,000lbs of oil-cake.

Mr. John Clode, of Sherington, a three years and five months old Hereford steer; bred by Mr. John Walker, of Stormer, near Leintwardine, Salop; fed on grass, hay, turnips, and 500lbs of oil-cake.

#### CLASS V.

For the best fat cow or heifer under five years of age. Freemartins and spayed heifers are not qualified.

The prize of 15 sovs. to the Marquess of Exeter, for his four years and eleven months old Durham heifer; bred by his Lordship at Burghley, near Stamford; fed on turnips, carrots, and 1,460 lbs. of oil-cake, and 800 lbs. of barley flour.

A silver medal also, as the breeder of the above, to his lordship.

The judges commend the other two competitors in this class; viz.

T. F. Johnson, Esq., of Spalding, a four years and six months old Durham heifer; bred by himself, and fed on oil-cake, linseed-flour, oat-meal, and turnips.

William Hayward, Esq., of Aylesbury, a four years and nine months old Durham cow; bred by T. T. Drake, Esq., of Shardelows; fed on oil-cake and oats.

#### CLASS VI.

For the best fat cow, of five years old and upwards, freemartins and spayed heifers are not qualified.

The prize of 15 sovs. to Earl Brownlow, for his five years old Durham cow; bred by his Lordship at Belton; fed on Swede turnips, and 1,200 lbs. oil-cake.

A silver medal also to his Lordship as the breeder.

The other competitors in this class were—

C. Hillyard, Esq., of Thorplands, a six years and two months old Durham cow; bred by the Rev. Henry Berry of Liverpool; fed on turnips, bean-meal, and oil-cake. The judges commend this cow.

William Hayward, Esq., of Aylesbury, an eight years and nine months old Hereford cow; bred by Mr. William Holmes, of Pooland; fed on oil-cake and oats.

Mr. Edward M. Lucas, of Rowsham, a six years and ten months old Yorkshire cow; bred by Mr. Wm. Duncombe, of Dunton; fed on turnips and oil-cake.

A gold medal, value five sovs., to the breeder of the best beast in any of the above classes—to Earl Spencer for his ox, which gained the first prize in class 2.

James Rhodes, Esq., of Islington, a fine Durham cow, but which was excluded for want of the breeder's certificate.

#### CLASS VII.

For fat long-woolled wethers, one year old any-how fed.

The first prize of 16 sovs. to Mr. Wm. Pawlett, of Barnack, for his three twenty-one months old Leicester wethers; bred by himself; fed on vegetable food only. A silver medal also as the breeder of the above.

A gold medal value 5 sovs., as the breeder of the best pen of long-woolled sheep, exhibited in classes seven or eight, to Mr. Wm. Pawlett.

The second prize of 5 sovs to the Marquess of Exeter, for his three twenty-months old Leicester



wethers; bred and fed by his Lordship, at his Burghley farm.

The other competitors were—

Mr. Richard Redgrave, of Bunker's-hill, three twenty-months old Leicester wethers; bred by himself.

Mr. Thomas Inskip, of Upper Caldecote, three twenty-one months old Leicester wethers; bred by himself.

Mr. Thomas Carpenter, of Over Norton, three twenty-one months old Leicesters and Cotswold wethers; bred by himself.

Mr. Wm. Faulkner, of Bury Barnes, three twenty-two months old Leicester wethers; bred by himself.

Mr. Jos. Bull, of Nethercote, three twenty-one months old Leicester wethers; bred by Mr. Carpenter.

#### CLASS VIII.

For fat, long-woolled wethers, two years old any-how fed.

The prize of 10 sovs. to Mr. John Painter, of Burghley, near Oakham, for his three under thirty-four months old Leicester wethers; bred by himself. A silver medal also as the breeder.

The other competitors were—

Mr. Richard Garratt, of Great Harrowden, three thirty-two months old Leicester wethers; bred by Mr. Joseph Faulkner, of Boughton.

Mr. Richard Rowland, of Cresslow, three thirty-two months old Cotswold wethers; bred on the farm of Mrs. Cook, at Aylworth.

#### CLASS IX.

For fat, short-woolled wethers, one year old, any-how fed.

The first prize of ten sovs. to Thomas Ellman, Esq., of Beddingham, near Lewes, for his three twenty-months old Southdown wethers; bred by himself.

A silver medal also as the breeder of the same.

A gold medal, value five sovereigns, as the breeder of the best pen of short-woolled wethers, in classes 9 or 10 also to Mr. Ellman.

The second prize of five sovs. to Stephen Grantham, Esq., of Stoneham, for his three twenty months old Southdowns; bred by himself.

The other competitors were—

His Grace the Duke of Richmond, three twenty-months old Southdowns; bred by his Lordship at Goodwood, near Chichester.

Lord Huntingfield, three twenty-one months old Southdowns; bred by his Lordship, at Heavingham, near Yoxford.

The Honourable P. J. L. King, of Woburn, near Chertsey, three twenty-one months old Southdowns; bred by the late Lord King.

Sir Watkin Waller, Bart., of Twickenham, Middlesex, three twenty-two months old Southdown wethers; bred by himself.

#### CLASS X.

For fat short-woolled wethers, two years old, any-how fed.

The prize of 10 sovs. to Stephen Grantham, Esq., of Stoneham, for his three thirty-two months old Southdowns; bred by himself. A silver medal also as the breeder.

The other competitors were—

His Grace the Duke of Richmond, three thirty-two months old Southdowns; bred by his Grace at Goodwood.

Lord Viscount Gage, three thirty-two months old Southdowns; bred by his Lordship at West Fife.

Henry Boys, Esq., of Waldershare, three thirty-two months old Southdowns; bred by himself.

Sir Watkin Waller, Bart., of Twickenham, Middlesex, three thirty-two months old Southdowns; bred by himself.

#### CLASS XI.—PIGS.

Any breed of the same litter, above four and under nine months old.

The first prize of 10 sovs. to the Earl of Harborough for his three twenty-six weeks old Neapolitan and Chinese pigs; bred by his Lordship at Stapleford; fed on barley and wheat flour, and skim milk. A silver medal also to his Lordship as the breeder.

The second prize of 5 sovs to Mr. George Chandler, of Kingston, for his three sixteen weeks old Surrey pigs; bred by himself; fed on meal and milk.

The other competitors were—

The Hon. P. J. L. King, of Woburn, near Chertsey, three thirty-two weeks old Rudgwick pigs; bred by himself; fed on whey, skim milk, potatoes, gains, and a few peas.

Mr. Luke Guerrier, of Stepney, three twenty-six weeks old Norfolk and Chinese pigs; bred by himself; fed on barley and peas, flour and milk.

#### EXTRA STOCK.—CATTLE.

To the exhibitor of the best beast in extra stock.

A silver medal to R. W. Baker, Esq., of Cottesmore, for his four years and seven months old Durham ox; bred by the Earl of Exeter.

The other competitors were—

Sir Felix Booth, Bart., of Brentford, a three years and ten months old Hereford ox. The judges commended.

Sir Felix also showed a five years old Scotch ox.

Wm. J. Baily, Esq., two Hereford oxen.

Mr. R. Oldacre, a four years and four months old steer.

W. B. May, Esq., of Hadlow Castle, a Sussex ox.

Mr. J. Warmington, of Tottenham, a Scotch ox.

Mr. W. Dearle, of Staines, a Sussex ox.

S. Adams, Esq., of Ware, a Scotch ox.

Mr. W. H. Wills, of Tillingham, a Scotch ox.

#### EXTRA STOCK.—SHEEP.

A silver medal to Mr. John Beasley, of Chapel Brompton, as the exhibitor of the best long-woolled sheep in extra stock.

The other competitors commended by the judges were—

The Marquis of Exeter's two Leicester wethers.

Mr. W. Pawlett's three Leicester wethers.

Mr. Redgrave's Leicester sheep.

A silver medal to Thomas Ellman, Esq., as the exhibitor of the best short-woolled sheep in extra stock.

#### EXTRA STOCK.—PIGS.

A silver medal to the Marquis of Tavistock, as the exhibitor of the best pig in the extra stock.

The other competitors commended by the judges were—

Mr. George Chandler, three Surrey pigs.

Wm. Orchard, Esq., a Hereford and Essex pig.

Mr. B. E. Bennett, a Leicester pig.

#### SWEEPSTAKES.

Lord Huntingfield and the Duke of Richmond five sovs. each, for the best five Southdown wethers—award to the Duke of Richmond.

A great variety of agricultural implements, seeds, &c. were in the yard.

On Monday December 15, the club held its annual meeting in the parlour of the yard, to settle their financial matters, and determine the amount and conditions of their bill of premiums for next year. We are informed that a prize of ten sove-

reigns is added for one-year-old long-woolled sheep that have never eaten cake, seeds, corn, pulse, or meal. Further, the prizes for one-year-old short-woolled sheep is altered from ten to fifteen sovereigns: and a second prize of five sovereigns is offered for two-year-old short woolled sheep.

#### THE DINNER.

In the afternoon between two and three hundred members of this club dined together at the Freemasons' Tavern, in great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, to celebrate the thirty-sixth anniversary of the formation of their society. Earl Spencer presided, supported on the right by Lord Huntingfield, and on the left by Lord Oxford. There were also present Francis Pym, Esq., Clark Hilyard Esq., Henry Handley, Esq., M. P., W. May, Esq., &c.

The cloth having been removed, "the health of the King" was given. It was drunk with no very marked applause. Neither did the toast of "the Queen and the rest of the Royal Family" produce such an ebullition as could be referred to political feeling. Some half-dozen appeared to be disposed to prolong the plaudits, and thus give them the effect of an expression of Tory sentiment; but their efforts met with no encouragement, and their attempt, therefore, was a complete failure.

Earl SPENCER said, it was not necessary for him to preface the next toast he had to propose, with any observations; he would at once give them, "Success to the Smithfield Club" (*cheers*), and that it would be successful he thought there could be no doubt; the best evidence of the fact was to be found in the character of the shows of cattle, year after year; and to this he might add the very numerous attendance that he saw before him this evening. He was most anxious, as indeed he always had been, for the success of this Club, because he was sure, that on examination, it would be found exceedingly beneficial to the farming interest of the country; and for that interest, whatever might be his situation, it would be his earnest endeavour to do what he could. (*Great cheering.*) The toast was drunk with great applause.

His Lordship then read the list of prizes awarded by the judges, and distributed them to such gentlemen as were present to receive them. The health of each successful candidate was given, and drunk by the company with great applause. There was much cheering when his Lordship announced himself as the receiver of the premium of twenty sovereigns for a four years and six months old Durham ox, and of the gold medal for the best ox shown. His Lordship's health having been proposed, the toast was honoured with several rounds of applause.

Earl SPENCER said, it always gave him the greatest satisfaction to be received in the manner in which he had been by the present meeting. His own taste inclined him to follow agricultural pursuits as much as possible. He was interested in every way in which a man could be in the success of agriculture; but independent of his personal interest in it, he felt that to the country its success was of the very highest importance. (*Cheers.*) When he proposed to them as a toast, "The success of the Club," he told them that his endeavours should never be wanting to promote that object; surely he need not repeat that this was his determination. He should now have more time, he hoped a great deal more time, to apply to agricultural pursuits. (*Hear, and a laugh.*) He told them last year, when he gave the gold medal to the gentlemen to whom it was adjudged, that, in his opinion, that ought to be the object they should all have in view. He would use his best exertions to

obtain the prize next year, as he had done this. When he was unsuccessful, he should not feel discontented; but he hoped to succeed in the future years that he promised himself he should have the honour of sitting at this table. (*Great applause.*)

The healths of the unsuccessful but commended candidates having been drunk,

Lord HUNTINGFIELD, in returning thanks, said, though he had not been fortunate enough to succeed this time, he assured them he would try, and try again, and if he failed at last, it would not be owing to a want of exertion. He congratulated them on the numbers he saw present. He had been afraid the interest the public were taking in such business was going down, like the price of corn (*a laugh*); but he was happy to find it was not so. His Lordship having expressed his sorrow at seeing the short-horns beaten by the Herefords (*laughter*), proceeded to say that he thought it desirable there should be a premium for animals not fed on artificial food. The long-woolled sheep, as well as the South Downs, might be produced in as fine a condition as any person could desire, having been raised by natural, and not by artificial means. If they made them fat beyond a certain degree, they became unsaleable. (*Hear.*)

Mr. P. HILLYARD said the gentlemen whose healths had been drunk were the "commended" unsuccessful candidates, and for them he presumed to rise to return thanks. He was rather surprised to see the Noble Lord who last addressed them, get up for that purpose, because his Lordship did not belong to that class—his Lordship belonged to the class that were simply unsuccessful. (*Laughter.*) Now he (Mr. Hillyard) was as nearly a successful candidate as he could be, being one of the unsuccessful who were "commended." He always considered that the judges had a rather difficult task to perform, but their difficulties on this occasion must have been greater than usual. He believed that since the club had been instituted the judges had not been so puzzled as they were to decide between the claims of Lord Brownlow and himself. He rejoiced at having so nearly obtained the prize, and he regretted that he had lost it. At all events, he was perfectly satisfied with the conduct of the judges, and, in conclusion, begged to propose their healths.

Mr. BENNET returned thanks.

Earl SPENCER said, the club being of opinion that a treasurer was unnecessary, Henry H. Hoare, Esq., their banker, had consented to perform the duties of that office. This gentleman was one of the oldest members on their books. His Lordship proposed "Mr. Hoare's health." Drunk with applause.

The following toasts were also given:—"The Marquis of Tavistock;" "The Duke of Richmond;" "The Stewards of the Club;" "The Duke of Bedford;" "T. W. Coke, Esq.;" "The Earl of Talbot;" "Success to the Manufactures and Commerce of the Country;" "Prosperity to the Labourers of the Country;" "The Butchers of the Metropolis;" "Live and let live;" "F. Pym, Esq.;" "The Manchester Agricultural Society;" "H. Handley, Esq., M. P.;" "Sir C. Morgan, Bart.;" "Mr. W. Farey, the Club's indefatigable Secretary;" and "Success to the Agricultural Societies throughout the Kingdom."

Earl Spencer and his friends withdrew at about nine o'clock, when Mr. Hillyard was voted into the chair, and conviviality was kept up till a late hour.

EFFECTS OF TAXATION.—Mr. Coke's estate consists of 40,000 acres of land, rented upon an average at 16s. per acre; and as the four course system of husbandry is pursued in that county, one-fourth



part of this estate, or 10,000 acres, are annually sowed with barley, and which produces on an average, five quarters per acre, or 50,000 quarters of barley annually. Now the duty paid (before the last repeal) to government, on making five quarters of barley into malt and beer, of both sorts, was 14*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*, so that each acre pays, in direct taxes, more than 17 times the annual rent, these 10,000 acres yielding to government 141,660*l.*, while they yield to Mr. Coke only 8,000*l.* Now, the fundholders receive about three-fifths of all the taxes raised, whence it follows that they derive from these 10,000 acres 84,996*l.* 8*s.*, or above ten times as much as the landlord. This sum, too, be it remembered, is exempt from all direct taxation, contributes nothing to the poor, nothing to the state, the church, army, navy, &c., while the landlord's share is burdened with heavy expenses towards them all, and by far the greater part of it ultimately finds its way into the pockets of the same fundholders.—*Correspondent of the Birmingham Journal.*

A Royal ordinance of July 8th reduced the import duty on wool by one-third, and declared that the premiums on the export of woollen yarns and cloths should be reduced in the same proportion from the 1st of January next. It having, however, been represented that the sale of all the cloths made of the wool which had paid the higher duty cannot be completed till the end of February, a Royal ordinance of Friday prescribes that the full premium of 13½ per cent. shall be allowed till the last day of February inclusive.—*Galignani's Messenger.*

## STATE AND PROSPECTS OF THE WOOLLEN TRADE.

During the last month the trade of this district has remained in that state of depression which naturally ensues when the public mind has been suddenly awakened to a sense of insecurity. The explosion of a rotten system, involving one house after another in ruin, and spreading along a connected train so extended and ramified, leaves people at a loss to judge where its effects may stop, or whom it may be prudent to trust. This state of feeling has been aggravated by the stoppage of a few speculating wool houses on the continent, which has induced an apprehension that prices will suffer a further reduction, and the concurrent operation of two separate causes so potent, at a period which, under ordinary circumstances, is usually the dulllest of the whole year, has produced a series of markets here, without precedent for inactivity.

The total reduction in foreign wools, since this time last year, may now be stated at full a shilling per lb. The fall up to the last clip was about 9*d.*, and it brought them down again to about the prices of 1833, before the advance began. But such is the consequence of over excitement and speculation; after a twelve month's contest to establish an advance of 50 per cent. upon a fair and moderate price, we come to a reduction of 10 per cent. below that price, and yet confidence is so far impaired that business is at a stand.

At the same time there appears little real ground for apprehension as to the ultimate stability of prices. The importations up to this time last year, taking round numbers, amounted to 31,000,000 lbs., and this year they are at 29,000,000 lbs.

The prospects in our cloth markets are con-

sidered to be already improving. There was perhaps no very striking difference to be seen in the quantity of goods actually sold last Tuesday, but it was evident that a better tone prevailed amongst the buyers, and that more disposition was manifested to purchase. Another month, and the turn of the year, may do great things towards re-establishing us.—*Leed's Intelligencer.*

## THE BUCKINGHAMSHIRE AGRICULTURAL DINNER.

A meeting of the Buckinghamshire Agricultural Association took place on Wednesday, Dec. 17th, at the County Hall, Aylesbury; his Grace the Duke of Buckingham presided. The meeting was looked upon throughout the county as one of very great importance, and considering the respectability and the numbers of the persons that attended it, it must be generally allowed that it was. Upwards of 800 persons sat down to dinner, the great majority of whom consisted of the farmers of the county. Besides the noble President we observed present the Marquis of Chandos, Lord Boston, Sir Thomas Fremantle, Bart.; Sir W. L. Young, Bart.; Sir Harry Verney, Bart.; Sir John Dashwood King, Bart.; Sir Alexander Croker, Bart.; Sir John Chetwode, Bart.; Sir Robert Gunning, Bart.; Colonel Harmer, M. P.; W. Richford, Esq., M. P.; T. P. Williams, Esq., M. P.; G. S. Harcourt, Esq., High Sheriff; Colonel Chester, Colonel Pigott, Major Bent, Captain Harcourt, Captain Arnol, Captain Swabey, Captain Chase, W. Medley, Esq.; G. Lyall, Esq., M. P.; Mr. D'Iraeli, and a number of other highly respectable and influential gentlemen.

The hall was profusely decorated with flags of various descriptions, and with festoons of evergreens intermixed with flowers. On an elevated platform, at the eastern end of the hall, under a canopy of evergreens and flowers, sat the noble Chairman. Over his head (the only inscription in the hall) was written in large illuminated characters—"Success to Agriculture."

The Duke of Buckingham's band was in attendance, as well as several London vocal performers.

The cloth having been removed, and grace said by the Rev. Mr. Cox, the county Chaplain,

The Noble PRESIDENT said—Gentlemen, I will give you the health of the munificent patron, the gracious friend of the Buckinghamshire farmer—"The King"—(loud cheering). Gentlemen, let us have a Buckinghamshire volley, three times three, God bless the King. (This toast was drunk in the most enthusiastic manner.)

The national anthem was sung by Messrs. Charles Taylor, Fitzwilliam, Robinson, and Hobbs, the company standing, and joining in the chorus.

The Noble PRESIDENT then said—Gentlemen, I call upon the chivalrous feeling of the county in support of the toast I intended to give—"The Queen." (This toast was received with greater applause than the former, although a slight hiss or two were heard at the lower part of the room.)

Song—"Here's a health to the King and the Queen." When the singers came to the word "Queen" they were more than once interrupted by bursts of applause.

The Noble PRESIDENT then gave "The Royal Family," which was drunk with three times three.

Glee—"Glorious Apollo."

The Noble PRESIDENT—Gentlemen, I am now going to give you a toast which of itself you will, I am sure, drink with the greatest enthusiasm, the health of the army of England, but with it I shall combine the name of the hero of a hundred fights—(cheers)—the conqueror of France—(loud cheers)—the deliverer of Europe—(great cheering)—"the Duke of Wellington and the Army of England."—(Loud cheering.) As the cheers were about to cease, the noble chairman again rose, and exclaimed—"Up boys and be at them."

The next toast was "The King and the Navy of England"—(cheers).

Song—"Rule Britannia."

The Noble PRESIDENT then said—I am going now to give a toast which will require but little preface. It is a toast in support of the cause upon which the prosperity of England depends, and concerns every class of the community, from the highest to the lowest; "The health of the English farmer, and prosperity to agriculture!"—(*loud cheers.*)

Mr. Charles Taylor sung "The English Farmer," which was warmly applauded, particularly the following passage:—

"New fangled nonsense an't the thing  
To gull the British farmer."

Mr. HORWOOD, in expressing the gratification of the landed interest at the toast which had been drunk, said he hoped that every man who duly estimated the condition of the landlords and tenant, would join heart and hand to obtain from the Legislature that attention which had been so long withheld—(*hear, hear*). Believing that to be the wish of the country, he should speak in plainer terms, and would at once ask for the unrestricted use of barley, and a repeal of the tax on malt, which was treated so lightly that it became a question whether barley or malt were used in the brewing of beer?—(*a laugh*). He knew that if the tax was taken off malt it would leave him a greater credit for his barley, and make room in the market for his wheat and beans—(*hear, hear*). If the duty were taken off malt it would allow the wife of the labourer to spend sixpence in beer and bread and butter, or a shilling in beef or mutton—(*loud cheers*). The metropolis and the country had been at variance upon the subject of the house tax and the duty on malt, both contending for its repeal. The metropolis, however, had been successful. They had obtained the repeal of the house duty, and he hoped, therefore, that the 50*l* householders who obtained a vote through the influence of the Marquis of Chandos, would come forward and counteract the effect of the votes of the metropolis—(*hear, hear*).

The Noble PRESIDENT then proposed the health of the High Sheriff of the county, which was drunk amidst loud and general applause.

The HIGH SHERIFF, in returning thanks, declared his attachment to the old institutions of this once happy land, and said that he clung more closely to them when he saw many deride them as old-fashioned institutions, in contra-distinction to their own absurd notions—(*cheers*). The hon. Gentleman then proposed the health of the noble President, observing, that his cry was "Liberty!" and his desire to stand hand in hand with one another, as well in liberty as in adversity—(*cheers*).

The noble President's health was then drunk in the most enthusiastic manner, the company standing and responding to the toast with three times three cheers.

The Duke of BUCKINGHAM rose to return thanks:—"Gentlemen and Brother Farmers, it must be most gratifying to any Lord Lieutenant of a county to find himself remembered by British farmers; but what must my situation be when I perceive my health received as it has been done? It is now 38 years since in this hall I first offered myself to your kind acceptance. You then chose me as your Representative, and at every successive opportunity which the King gave you, by dissolving Parliament, you re-elected me. You had an opportunity of telling me if I had forfeited your confidence; but at each successive opportunity you told me that I still enjoyed your confidence; and now, in the sunset of life, I find, by the manner you have so kindly received my health, that I still enjoy your unabated affection and undiminished kindness. Can any man feel prouder than I do, surrounded as I am by such a numerous and respectable assembly? I received your confidence at an early age; and confidence was transmitted to me by those who loved me and went before me, and I have transmitted your confidence *there*—(pointing to Lord Chandos;—*immense cheering*). I am surrounded by British farmers and by friends, and I feel most warmly the kindness with which you have noticed my allusion to my son. This meeting is no party meeting; but still it is a political one, and God

forbid that it should be otherwise. The time never has been, and we hope never would be, in England, when the agriculturists of that country would cease to be, in their assemblies, a political body. It shall never happen whilst I have a voice to prevent it—I say it shall never happen as long as I live, that the agricultural interest shall cease to be a political object. I hold that no Minister, no matter to what party he may belong, or be he who he may, will be supported in this country who does not take into deep consideration the agricultural interests of the country—(*cheers*). I tell you, gentlemen, if there be any to support him, I, for one, will not—(*cheers*). The object of the present meeting is known to all of you, for all your feelings are interested in it—I mean the distress of the agricultural part of the community. Indeed, that distress has flashed on the minds and feelings of every body of men, of each successive Ministry, and even on the mind of the King himself, who recommended that distress to the consideration of Parliament. But how did that Parliament answer the King's appeal on the occasion? What the answer was I will not say, and I leave it to your feelings to judge of that answer. I ask what has been the result of the last Session of Parliament, and what good has it done to agriculture?—Oh, yes, it has taken off the tax from short-tailed dogs—(*laughter*). We asked of that Parliament bread, and they gave us a stone—(*cheers*). But now another era has arisen, another light has dawned upon us, one, I hope, which will speedily illumine the prospects of British farmers—(*cheers*). For myself, I owe it to myself, I owe it to my family, I owe it to my country, to look to the interests of the British farmers. You have one object to pursue, and, as farmers, you are bound to pursue it—namely, the interests of agriculture. You must pursue that by every means in your power, provided they be legal and constitutional. You must follow up that object by petitions to the King, and by addresses to both Houses of Parliament—(*cheers, and cries of 'We will'*). I have seen to-day an address or petition, I know not by whom it has been drawn up, but I have read it, I approve of it, and am willing to sign it, and I hope that the mass of the farmers of the county will follow my example and sign it also. If they do their duty, they may rely upon it I will do mine, for to the last moment of my life all my exertions shall be put forward in their behalf. This I consider a duty to myself, to my family, to the farmer, to those under the farmer, to the labourer, and to the poor. I repeat again, that the last exertions of my life shall be in favour of those classes—that I shall employ those exertions in the most useful way at all times, bearing in mind to use them constitutionally. The noble Duke concluded by again thanking the meeting for the way in which they had drunk his health, and begged to propose to the meeting the following toast—"God speed the plough."—The toast was drunk most cordially.

Lord BOSTON then rose and said that he was about to propose a toast which, he was sure, would be received with the greatest enthusiasm by the meeting; and in doing so he would observe that persons who exerted themselves for their neighbours were entitled to their highest respect. He entered most fully and heartily into the feelings of the gentlemen who had that day assembled, and he should endeavour to uphold and support their interests. He begged, therefore, to propose the health of the Members of the county of Buckingham.

The Marquis of CHANDOS rose to return thanks, and spoke nearly as follows:—"My Lord Duke and Gentlemen, I rise to acknowledge, on the part of my colleagues and my own, the honour that you have done to the members of this county in the way in which you have drunk their healths; and, at the same time, I beg to express my deep regret that I am the only member of the county now present to thank you for this distinguished honour you have conferred upon us. The manner in which the toast has been drunk must be most interesting to us all, and gratifying to every man that values the institutions of his country. There now appears before me in this Court the largest, the most



respectable, the most influential, the most wealthy assembly that has ever within the memory of man graced this large hall to take into consideration the state and condition of the British farmer, and to support him in the best way they can. (*Cheers.*) I have for many years advocated the cause of the British farmers, and I am sorry to say to no effectual avail. However, the distress of the farmers during the last few years has so much increased that it now requires in their favour the exertions of every man who wishes to see the farmers prosperous and happy, and, by consequence, the whole nation equally so. (*Cheers.*) For sixteen years I have represented you in Parliament, and during that time I flatter myself that I have never forfeited your confidence, nor relaxed an iota from the path I promised to pursue with respect to you. (*Loud cheers, and cries of "No, never!"*) I have always done the best to promote the good fortunes of my country, and I hope that I have never been found unwilling to step forward in support of the British farmer. (*Cheers.*) A great crisis, gentlemen, is now at hand—it is a crisis that affects, in particular, the British farmer, for their general state of prosperity was falling off—their prospects were destroyed, their markets were declining. Farmers were quitting farms, and labourers were compelled to abandon their families—therefore I appeal to you if it be not time for all Englishmen to come forward and do their duty. (*Hear, hear.*) I am not vain enough to think that my humble efforts can save the farmers, but knowing them well, and living among them, and not being deemed unworthy of their confidence, I appeal to them if I have ever lost, and I am determined never to lose an opportunity of doing good in their service. As the Noble Duke in the chair has said, we have lately lived under an Administration whose measures, we must all confess, were excessively benign towards agriculture. (*Groans and laughter.*) But we are now arrived at another, and, I hope, a more fortunate period. We have another Administration in England. I am more or less acquainted with the members that are to form the present Administration. *They are men more or less dependent on the soil, and I look to them with confidence, and I hope that being men who, when out of office, did support the British farmer, they will not now, when in office, desert him.* (*Hear, hear.*) I know that many difficulties have arisen and many differences of opinion prevail as to the mode in which relief is to be granted to the farmer. Many have very justly thought that the only relief that could be afforded them was the taking off of those taxes that pressed most heavily upon them, and some thought they might be relieved by taking off the taxes that fell heavily upon their fellow-countrymen in the large towns. For my own part, I have always aided, by my vote, the inhabitants of towns, and I have constantly called upon them and their Representatives to give me their assistance. I have not been supported as I have supported others; for that reason I call upon all in this room—I call upon the whole county—upon all who possess landed property—upon landlords and tenants,—I call upon them all to support one another. I call upon all the holders of property to do the same, because, if but one link in the chain be broken, we may bid adieu to the prosperity of the country. (*Cheers.*) I am of opinion that of all the classes in the community, the farmers mostly require the relief of every man present, and of every individual who wishes to see his country happy. I can say that I have always stood forward in my place in Parliament, and stated the objects, the wishes, and the mode of relief required by the British farmer. I can place my hand upon my heart and say that I have never forgotten the cause that I first advocated. (*Cries of "True, true."*) Since my friends have so much confidence in me, I consider it my bounden, my unflinching duty to pursue every means that may sway England's prosperity—that may make the farmers prosper, and yield to them assistance; and one of the best means I consider is the repeal of the malt tax, for by its repeal we may have the unrestricted use of corn, which would lead the farmers to brew, enable them to drink good beer, and all by their own fire-sides, and save the labourer from the contamination of the beer-

shops. (*Cheers.*) I hope, therefore, that the attention of his Majesty's present Government will, without delay, be directed towards this tax—that they will repeal the whole, or, at least, a part of the malt tax. (*Cries of "They must repeal the whole."*) If we approach the throne in a dutiful and respectful manner, I trust that the Ministers who are at present in power will recollect the support the farmers gave them in times of trouble and uncertainty, and that they will prove that recollection by now, in their turn, supporting the farmers. (*Hear, hear.*) *I, for one, will not answer for any man. I will place no confidence in any bosom but my own, and I think you may place some confidence in me, since, I believe, I have never swerved from the principles I first advocated, nor deceived the confidence they reposed in me at the outset of my political life.* (*Cheers.*) I tell you that you must adhere to your principles, and I can assure you that I will adhere to mine; and if you are not saved you must attribute the blame to men who in politics have not adhered to their principles; and I tell the farmers not to support at the present crisis such men. (*Cheers, and cries of "No Rickford."*) I should regret if any one ever doubted that I should fail you in the hour of adversity, since you know that I have been your friend in the time of prosperity. No, gentlemen, I shall steadily stand by you; I shall for ever support you, and I shall profess to the latest hour—down to that which bears me to my grave—the same principles and the same feelings that have actuated me throughout public life—principles and feelings known and understood by the country at large, and from which I have never deviated, nor in the slightest manner altered. (*Loud cheering.*) We must rely on the justice of the Legislature. We must lay before Parliament our distresses, and I think I may say we must confide in the loyal and honourable men that now form the Administration. In them I believe we shall not want advocates in our cause; we shall find in them the steadfast and sincere advocates of the British farmers. Gentlemen, no language can express the gratitude I feel at seeing that you have not forsaken me; and I sit down promising you with the most heartfelt sincerity that you shall never be forsaken by me.—The Noble Marquis then sat down amidst the loudest applause.

Sir JOHN DASHWOOD, in returning thanks for his son, said that his absence was not to be attributed to any want of respect to the meeting, but to circumstances which he could not avoid. He was sure his son would unite in promoting the cause for which they had assembled, and that if he were present he would have expressed himself in language similar to that which had been addressed to them by the noble lord—(*applause, mingled with some hissing.*) *The company then rose, and again proposing Lord Chandos's health, gave three cheers.*

The HIGH SHERIFF again rose, and said that he had lately experienced the pleasure of meeting 300 farmers in Suffolk, when a toast was proposed with a feeling which he hoped to see evinced on this occasion. It was the Marquis of Chandos, whose health he begged now to propose.

The toast was then drunk, and responded to with nine times nine cheers.

The Marquis of CHANDOS returned thanks for the honour that had been done him. It was truly gratifying to him to perceive that not only in his private capacity but in his public career, it would seem that he was entitled to the approbation of the respectable assemblage by whom he was now surrounded. (*Applause.*)

Song—"The Old English Gentleman."

The Noble PRESIDENT then said he intended to give a toast connected with the religion of the country—that religion which had been handed down to them long before the reign of Queen Elizabeth, in defence of which our ancestors bled, by which they flourished, and which had been handed down to them as the best legacy that could be bequeathed to them. These feelings go home to every mind. If the Church should fall, the nation also must fall. The noble duke con-

cluded, by proposing "the health of the Lord Bishop and the Clergy of the diocese." (*Loud cheers.*)

The Rev. Mr. QUARTLEY said, the infinite importance of the subject on which he was called upon to address them was the principal cause of his offering himself to their notice on this occasion. He felt his utter inability to do justice to the subject which the Chairman had introduced, especially when he observed many men around him possessing superior abilities and talents. But he should do little justice to the profession of which he was a member, and the principles of the Established Church in which he was educated, if he did not bear testimony to the unrelenting zeal of the clergymen of the county. It was owing to their exertions, and to the zeal and attention of the parochial clergy, that the loyalty and attachment which had been manifested throughout the labouring districts was to be attributed. (*Hear, hear.*) Gentlemen, we live in an era when the ties of the Church and State, by disloyal and unprincipled persons, were attempted to be severed. (*Hear, hear.*) All knew that such an attachment was inseparable, and he was sure the company would join with him in giving gratitude to the Clergy for the conscientious discharge of their duties, and to the noble-minded men in the House of Peers for having protected the interests of the Church. (*Hear, hear.*) Not only did he call their attention to the protection afforded to the Church by the House of Lords, but to the determination of the King—the Supreme head of the Church, who had promised to support the interest of the Established Church as long as he lived. (*Cheers.*) Under such patronage and support might we look for the strict maintenance of the Church Establishment. (*Hear, hear.*) As to the separation of the Church from the State, every thinking man must be shocked at the contemplation of such an event; and my fervent wish is that the religious establishments of the country may never be separated; but that as we received them from our forefathers, so may they remain to those who may succeed us. (*Loud and general cheers.*) He entreated the meeting therefore to accept his most earnest wishes that the separation desired between Church and State might never be made. (*Loud, general, and most enthusiastic cheering.*)

Lord CHANDOS could not help calling the attention of the country to the great meeting of the inhabitants of the county of Buckingham, which had taken place that day. That meeting was in honour of the county, and he hoped that it was not only the determination of that county, but of every other in the kingdom, to obtain relief from the Legislature, of their agricultural distress. (*Hear, hear.*) It was not necessary for him to dwell longer on the subject of their distress, and, knowing the feelings of the farmers of the county of Buckingham and the other counties, he thought he could not propose a more acceptable toast than the following:—"Speedy relief to the farmers, and the repeal of the malt tax."

The toast was given from the Chair, and drunk with loud cheering.

Mr. ROLFE then said he was sorry to see that, unless agricultural distress interfered, the generality of landlords were guilty of apparent apathy. Nothing but absolute necessity—nothing but seeing that the farms lay a dead weight upon their hands, made them come forward and open their eyes. (*Hear.*) The Marquis of Chandos, more than once, had thrown out broad hints to them respecting this apathy. He agreed with Mr. Horwood and the Marquis of Chandos that nothing could do so much good to the farmer and to the agricultural labourer as the removal of the malt tax. The removal of that tax would enable the farmer and the labourer to brew their own beer—to remain comfortably by their own fire-sides, and regale themselves with that wholesome and invigorating beverage. The manufacturers might cry out for cheap bread, but they could not do so in justice when the price of agricultural labour was so much diminished. He begged to conclude by proposing as a toast, "The health and prosperity of the Nobility and Gentry of the county of Buckingham."

The toast was received with loud applause.

The Noble PRESIDENT then observed that Mr. Rolfe, who had addressed them on proposing a toast, was an English landlord cultivating his own land. He (the Duke of Buckingham) was in the same situation. The hon. gentleman had said that the landlords did not come forward to complain till their eyes had been opened to the distresses of the people, but he would ask was there a single landlord in the county blind to the distresses of their tenantry or of their fellow men? (*Hear, hear, and cheering.*) The interest of the landlord and the tenant were inseparable—(*hear, hear*), because if the tenant failed the landlord became a beggar. (*Hear, hear.*) It was the landlord's interest, therefore, that the tenant should prosper, and it was the duty of the tenant, likewise, to entertain a favourable feeling for the landlord, and to give the peasantry the best wages that the price of the commodity will afford. (*Hear, hear, and loud cheering.*)

Sir ALEXANDER CROKE, by permission of the noble chairman, would suggest a toast he was sure would be received with heartfelt satisfaction, "the health of the Duchess of Buckingham." The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm.

The Noble PRESIDENT, in returning thanks, said if the company had seen the Duchess relieving poverty, assisting the distressed, and encouraging exertion, they would drink her health as the poor man's comforter and protector. (*Cheering.*)

The Noble PRESIDENT proposed "Sir R. Gunning and the Northamptonshire farmers."

The toast was very warmly received.

Sir R. GUNNING said that he had been lately engaged in canvassing his county, and he could not have believed it possible that such a re-action could have taken place as had happened. That circumstance led him to believe that the people of his county were up and stirring, and most determined to return no one to Parliament except those who would support the farmers in their present crisis. (*Hear, hear, and cheers.*)

Mr. HUTTON observed that three years ago he had recommended the formation of the Agricultural Association, feeling, as he had done at that time, and as he still felt, the severe depression of their circumstances, and the severity under which their property suffered. His apprehensions in this respect had been realized more and more every day, and he lamented that circumstances did not improve, neither did times grow better. (*Hear, hear.*) He congratulated the agricultural interest on the change in the Ministry—(*Tremendous cheers*); but he could not forget that the person at the head of that Ministry, who by altering the nature of the currency, had depressed in the most grievous way the agricultural interests. (*Hear, hear.*) He heartily concurred in the repeal of the malt tax. It was a tax that pressed heavily on the industry of the people, and he hoped the Ministry would be induced to concede a boon which was so strongly recommended by the large meeting that he had then the honour of addressing.

Mr. ROLFE and Mr. HORWOOD rose together; the latter, however, gave way, and Mr. Rolfe proposed "the health of Mr. D'Israeli, which was drunk with loud cheers."

Mr. D. ISRAELI (the younger), rose to return thanks, and said that they had heard more than once that evening that they had arrived at a great crisis in the fortunes of the country, and he was not one of those who would quarrel with the word. For when a new Administration, was formed, and when they were threatened with a dissolution of Parliament, there was no doubt that every one should ponder and be anxious to exercise the suffrage he possessed, in the best way possible. A few days ago he had hoped for extensive relief from the present administration, but his hopes were greatly abated when he saw that a distinguished individual there present—an individual remarkable for his honour, talent, and devotion to the country—he meant their noble representative, was not taking the place every one expected he would take in the Councils of his Sovereign. On



that account alone, he for one faltered in his confidence in the present Administration. The noble marquis in his speech that evening had delicately avoided the subject, but he thought that the noble marquis should have alluded to it, especially when a gentleman, respected by the agriculturists in the same manner as the noble marquis, was called to the King's Council, he meant of course Sir Edward Knatchbull. Ought it to be said that there was any split in their ranks, as surely would be said when the country saw that Sir Edward Knatchbull was called to the Councils of the Sovereign, and the Marquis of Chandos was excluded from them? He would be more explicit and say that he was glad to see that the Cabinet was not as yet formed, and he hoped that the delay was in expectation of the results of this great Aylesbury meeting. (*Loud cheers.*) He looked upon that meeting with feelings of delight, he might even say of admiration, and they all might remember that the only time he ever raised his voice within these walls was to tell them that the way to be defeated was not to be organised. He told them then that when a Government was weak it behaved society, in its own defence, to be strong—(*cheers*); he felt that in an age when trades unions existed, it was necessary to have the protection of Agricultural Associations. (*Cheers.*) Petitions for the repeal of the malt tax should not only be presented by every county, but by every town in the country. They had on their side the gentry of England, and the once unrivalled yeomanry of the country—and dearer than all, and more prized than all, they had (if they deserved it) on their sides the devoted hearts of a brave and numerous peasantry.

The Noble CHAIRMAN then proposed, after passing a high eulogium upon them, "the yeomanry of the country."

The Marquis of CHANDOS returned thanks.

The Noble CHAIRMAN then said—Gentlemen and brother farmers, it is now my duty to bid you farewell. The recollection of this meeting will long dwell in my mind; but that is saying nothing, for I trust that it will long dwell in the minds of the inhabitants of the whole country, and that the echo of it will rattle throughout the whole of England, and produce, what all such meetings ought to accomplish—good to you. I hope the tone of this meeting will go down the Thames and make itself heard in the centre of Westminster. (*Cheers.*)

The Noble Duke then retired amidst loud cheering.

The HIGH SHERIFF was then called to the Chair, and, after a few toasts of local importance, the company separated.

In the course of the evening the following petition was signed by the Duke of Buckingham and by all the company present:—

"TO THE HONOURABLE THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,  
IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

"The Petition of the Nobility, Gentry, Clergy, Landowners, and Occupiers, in the County of Bucks,

"Sheweth,—That the Select Committee of your Honourable House, on the state of agriculture, while it acknowledged the extreme distress under which your petitioners (in common with all those dependent on the cultivation of the soil) laboured, and the heavy burdens by which they were oppressed, expressed a hope that these sufferings might yet prove to be only of a temporary nature.

"That nearly two years have elapsed since the expression of this hope on the part of your Honourable House, and the situation of your petitioners, and of all those dependent on the cultivation of the soil, far from being improved, has been considerably deteriorated, so that their present distress exceeds any degree of suffering experienced in their memory; and while in its progress it ruinously reduces the rent of the landlord, the capital of the farmer, and the wages of the peasant, threatens, unless its progress be immediately and effectually arrested, to shake to its foundation the very framework of the empire.

"That your petitioners recognised with the highest

satisfaction, the allusion which his Majesty made, in his most gracious Speech from the Throne, to the distressed state of agriculture, and the sympathy expressed, by your Hon. House, in following up the report of the Select Committee, by a resolution that not only recognised the existence of their sufferings, but even indicated the method by which they might be alleviated—feelings of satisfaction, however, which were only equalled by the regret and the mortification experienced by your petitioners on learning that this cheering resolution was immediately rescinded.

"That, under these circumstances, your petitioners are again under the necessity of humbly soliciting the immediate attention of your Hon. House to their perilous situation, and of earnestly entreating some prompt and specific measure of relief. And you petitioners, &c."

## THE NEW MINISTRY.

(From the Mark Lane Express.)

"Drowning men catch at straws," it is therefore not wonderful that the agriculturists of England, who are sunk into almost the lowest state of distress, should, seeing that little had been done to relieve them by the late administration, cherish a hope that a change of ministers might lead to an amelioration of their condition. Impressed with a deep sense of their lamentable situation, and feeling confident that however much he might apostatise in other respects, Sir Robert Peel, who owes every thing to *manufactures*, would *not* repeal the duty on malt in favour of *agriculture*, we a short time since put the farmers on their guard against any attempt to trepan them into voting in favour of Tory Candidates under the pretext of so great a boon being in store for them at the hands of a Tory Government. The caution which we gave brought down upon us the animadversion of several of our cotemporaries, who, "measuring other men's corn by their own bushel," thought Sir Robert would be as ready to change his opinion upon the policy of taking off the duty on malt, recorded on the 27th Feb. last, as they are to change their opinions of public men when it may suit their own personal interests. High-sounding and loud as has been the declamation of these generous advocates of the agricultural interest against the late ministers for not taking off that oppressive and demoralising tax the duty on malt, no sooner is it discovered that the new Premier is for once *consistent*, and refuses that relief, and that, too, upon the very same grounds that it was refused by the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, than the subject is passed over in silence, or if it be alluded to at all, *ruined men* as the farmers are known to be, they are told to place confidence in their new friends, and wait a year or two, when, *perhaps*, the relief required may be conceded. This is indeed heaping insult upon injury, and if the yeomanry of England do not show their resentment at such treatment when the proper time arrives, we shall indeed say they have degenerated. A comparison has been challenged between the individuals composing the present and the late administration. Is it

common sense to suppose that military men or *landless* state pensioners are so likely to sympathise with the British agriculturists, as the Duke of Richmond, Earl Spencer, and the Marquis of Lansdowne, all of whom are not only eminent patrons of agriculture, but whose incomes are wholly derived from the soil. The treatment of the Marquis of Chandos is a specimen of what the farmers have to expect from the new Administration, and though in politics we differ *toto cælo* from the noble Marquis, we are proud to bear testimony to his high principled consistency of conduct upon the late occasion. Having been named as one of the new Cabinet, in which he would have been more fittingly placed than very many of those who have since received appointments, as the zealous friend, and we might almost say the organ of the agricultural interest, he fairly and openly made the repeal of the malt tax a positive condition of his taking office. This condition was as positively refused by Sir Robert Peel, and with a magnanimity which will ever gain him respect, he declined lending his aid to an administration composed of individuals, who whilst out of office, railed at their predecessors for not evincing that consideration for the landed interest, which they themselves, when in power, refuse to grant. The scheme of the noble Marquis was conceived with much judgment. The dinner at Aylesbury having been previously fixed, the communication of a repeal of the malt tax, made by a member of the government to 800 individuals, either themselves farmers or immediately connected with and dependent upon the landed interest, would have produced an astounding effect, and would have re-echoed to the credit of the government throughout every village and hamlet in the United Kingdom. The guests were invited, the dinner was prepared, and the noble Marquis set out to join his *brother farmers*, as the Duke of Buckingham emphatically styled them, but not bringing with him "the glad tidings." Possessing, however, good command of temper, he screens his disappointment, and refrains from any observations calculated to injure his *party*, but being compelled to notice the subject, it becomes impossible for him altogether to smother his feelings, and he gives way to the following remarkable expressions, not over much calculated to increase confidence in the consistency of our new governors. "*I for one will not answer for any man—I will place no confidence in any bosom but my own—and I think you may place some confidence in me, since I believe I have never swerved from the principles I first advocated, nor deceived the confidence they reposed in me at the outset of my political life (cheers), I tell you that you must adhere to your principles, and I can assure you that I will adhere to mine, and if you are not saved you must attribute the blame to men, who in politics have not adhered to their principles, and I tell the farmers not to support at the present crisis such men.*" If such

were the feelings of the noble Marquis at the moment he uttered these expressions, how much must they have since been aggravated upon the perusal of the sophisticated address of the new Premier, not intended simply as an address to the electors of Tamworth, but sent forth to the inhabitants of the United Kingdom, as his *new* political creed, wherein the neglected and suffering agriculturists are not once mentioned. It has been objected to the late ministry, that although allusion was made to the depressed state of agriculture in the last speech from the throne, yet no relief was attempted save and except by passing the Poor Law Amendment Act, which we presume cannot fail to be good, having received the full approbation and support of the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel.

The following members of the present administration voted against the motion for a committee to enquire into the propriety of a total or partial repeal of the malt tax in February last:—

SIR R. PEEL.  
MR. GOULBURN.  
SIR H. HARDINGE.  
SIR E. KNATCHBULL.  
MR. HERRIES.  
MR. POLLOCK.

How many of these gentlemen will venture to offer themselves as the representatives of counties at the forthcoming election?

NEW SOWING MACHINE.—We had an opportunity of witnessing last week, on Mr. M'Kenzie's farm of Barnhill, the operations of a sowing machine, which is at all events a novelty in this district, if not in Scotland, and promises to be one from which much good may result, and this in more ways than one. The machine was then depositing seed-wheat in a fine level six-acre field, and so admirable does its construction appear to be, that every thing progressed easily, and with the regularity of clock-work; the works are mounted on two elevated wheels, and operate on a breadth of seven feet, which space contains fourteen small coulters and droppers, each six inches apart, and by these the grain is deposited in regular rows, and not promiscuously as when sown by the hand. The extremity of the droppers is attached to, and immediately preceded by the coulters, and thus no sooner is the rut made in the soil than it is supplied with the seed, and on the conclusion of the day's work, which, on an average, will extend to seven or eight acres, the process of light-harrowing completes the business. The droppers are supplied by tiny iron spoons, moving in the midst of the grain-box, which are kept in continued motion from the action of a revolving roller, and throw their contents in the dropper at each revolution. The velocity of their motion may be increased or lessened at pleasure, and in proportion to their speed may the quantity of grain sown per acre be regulated. When we witnessed it, the machine was drawn by three horses in the tandem style, and followed immediately by its English superintendent, whose duty was that of regulating the machinery, keeping an even course, and anon clearing the coulters and droppers from any obstruction in the shape of weeds, &c. By and bye, however, should the drill be generally adopted amongst us, we may expect it to perform its work with less of power than is contained in the energies of three steeds—if not rendered available by the application of steam itself.



## CHRISTMAS.

Christmas is the happiest time in the year, says an old-fashioned writer. It is the season of mirth and cold weather. It is the time when Christmas-boxes and jokes are given; when misletoe, and red-berried laurel, and soups and sliding, and school-boys prevail; when the country is illuminated with fires and bright faces; and the town is radiant with laughing children.

Christmas Eve formerly was a serious and holy vigil. Our forefathers observed it strictly till a certain hour, and then required their forbearance with cups of ale and christmas candles, with placing the *yule clog* on the fire, and roaring themselves thirsty till morning. Time has altered this. We are neither so good as our forefathers were, nor so bad. We go to bed sober; but we have forgotten their old devotions. Our conduct looks like a sort of compromise; so that we are not worse than our ancestors, we are satisfied not to be better; but let that pass. What we now call Christmas Eve (there is something very delightful in old terms; they had always their birth in reason or sentiment) was formerly *Madrenack*; or, *The Night of Mothers!* How beautifully does this recal to one's heart that holy tale, that wonderful nativity, which the eastern shepherds went by night to gaze at and adore.

The old "Wassail Bowl" was indeed a great composition. It is made of wine, with *some* water, with spices of various sorts, and roasted apples, which float triumphantly upon its top. The proportions of each are not important; in fact, they should be adapted to the taste of the drinkers. The only caution that seems necessary is to "spare the water."

One mark and sign of Christmas is the *music*; rude enough, indeed, but generally gay, and speaking eloquently of the season. Music, at festival times, is common to most countries. In Spain, the serenader twangs his guitar; in Italy, the musician allures rich notes from his cremona; in Scotland, the bagpipe drones out its miserable noise; in Germany, there is the horn; and the pipe in Arcady. We, too, in our turn, have our Christmas "*Waits*," who witch us at early morning, before cockcrow, with strains and welcoming which belong to night. They wake us so gently, that the music seems to have commenced in our dreams, and we listen to it till we sleep again. Besides this we have our songs, from the young and the old, jocose and fit for the time.

Leaving now the *eve* of Christmas, its jokes, and songs, and warm hearths, we will indulge ourselves in a few words upon Christmas Day. It is like a day of victory. Every house and church are green as spring. The laurel, that never dies, the holly, with its armed leaves and scarlet berries, the misletoe (under which one happy ceremonial is still performed) are seen. Every brave shrub that has life and verdure seems to come forward to shame the reproaches of men, and to show them that the earth is never dead, never parsimonious.

Our population looks more alive than at other times. Quick walking and heaps of invitations keep the blood warm. Every one seems hurrying to a dinner. The breath curls upwards like smoke

through the frosty air; the eyes glisten; the teeth are shown; the muscles of the face are rigid; and the colour of the cheek has a fixed look, like a stain. Hunger is no longer an enemy. We feed him, like the ravenous tiger, till he pants and sleeps, or is quiet. Every one eats at Christmas. The rich feast as usual, but the tradesman leaves his moderate fare for dainties. The apprentice abjures his chop, and plunges at once into the luxuries of joints and puddings. The school-boy is no longer at school. He dreams no more of the coming lesson, or the lifted rod; but mountains of jelly rise beside him, and blanc-mange, with its treacherous foundations, threatens to overwhelm his fancy; roods of mince pies spread out their chequered riches before him, and figures, (only real on the 6th of January) pass by him, one by one, like ghosts before the vision of the king of Scotland. Even the servant has his "once a year" bottle of port; and the beggar his "alderman in chains."

Oh! merry, piping time of Christmas! Never let us permit thee to degenerate into distant courtesies and formal salutations. But let us shake our friends and familiars by the hand, as our fathers and their fathers did. Let them all come around us, and let us count how many the year has added to our circle. Let us enjoy the present, and laugh at the past. Let us tell old stories and invent new ones—innocent always, and ingenious if we can. Let us not meet to abuse the world, but to make it better by our individual example. Let us look of *the time*—cheerful and generous, and endeavour to make others as generous and cheerful as ourselves.

## CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS,

COMPILED FROM VARIOUS AUTHENTIC SOURCES.

The customs formerly observed at this season of the year were numerous, and were several of them kept up with a considerable degree of romantic parade and splendour. Some of these are retained at the present day, and some are disused. We shall give an account of the principal, which may be comprised under the heads—Christmas Carols; Celebration of Christmas Eve; Decking of Houses, &c., with Evergreens; Christmas Sports; the Yule Dough; Plum Puddings and other cheer, and Christmas Boxes.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLS.**—Bishop Taylor observes, that the "*Gloria in Excelsio*," the well-known hymn sung by the angels to the shepherds at our Lord's nativity, was the ancient Christmas Carol. The word is said to be derived from *cantare*, to sing, and *rola*, an interjection of joy. Several specimens are preserved of the early Christmas Carols, but they are chiefly interesting from their age.

**CHRISTMAS EVE.**—Next to the preparatory announcement of the joyous season, by the sort of song just described, followed the celebration of Christmas Eve, thus pleasingly described by a poet:—

"Thy welcome eve, lov'd Christmas, now arriv'd,  
The parish bells their tuneful peal resound,  
And mirth and gladness every breast pervade;  
The ponderous ashen faggot, from the yard,

The jolly farmer to his crowded hall  
Conveys with speed ; where on the rising flames  
(Already fed with store of massy brands)  
It blazes soon"—

CHRISTMAS DAY, in the primitive church, was always observed as the Sabbath Day, and was, like that, preceded by an eve, or vigil. Hence our present custom of keeping Christmas Eve. On the night of this eve, our ancestors were wont to light up candles of an uncommon size, called Christmas candles, and lay a large log of wood upon the fire, called a yule clog, or Christmas block, to illuminate the house, and as it were, turn night into day.

The ancient method of spending the Christmas Day is thus curiously described in the scarce tract, entitled, "Round about our Coal Fire at Christmas":—

"An English gentleman, at the opening of Christmas Day, on the morning had all his tenants and neighbours enter his hall by day-break. The strong beer was broached, and the black jacks went plentifully about, with toast, sugar, nutmeg, and good Cheshire cheese. The Hackin (a great sausage) must be boiled by day-break, or else two young men must take the maiden (*i. e.* the cook) by the arms, and run her round the market-place, till she is ashamed of her laziness. At dinner, and during the holidays, the tables were all spread from the first to the last ; the sirloin of beef, the minced pies, the plum porridge, were severally brought upon the board, every one ate heartily and was welcome, which gave rise to the proverb, " 'Tis merry in hall when beards wag all."

The YULE DOUGH, or Dow, a part of these festivities, was a kind of infant or little image of paste, which our bakers used formerly to bake at this season, and present to their customers, in the same manner as the chandlers give Christmas candles. This figure, it appears, was intended to represent the child JESUS, and a something like it is said to be still customary in Yorkshire, where what is called "the vessel-cup singers," (generally poor old women) about three weeks before Christmas, go from house to house with a waxen or woollen doll, fantastically dressed, and sometimes adorned with an orange or a fine rosy-tinged apple, with which in their hands they sing or chaunt an old local carol. This vessel-cup is most probably the remains of the "wassail bowl," which anciently formed another part of the festivities of this season of the year. The

PLUM PUDDING, that great article of modern feasting,

"A mixture strange of currants, suet, meat,  
Where various tastes combine, the greasy  
and the sweet,"

is not mentioned amongst the other cheer enumerated in the preceding quotation, though it certainly was as old as 1676.

EVERGREENS.—The decking of houses, churches, &c. with evergreens, was a very ancient custom, and to the delight of those who do not like entirely to forget old times, is still in a great measure retained. This appears, like several other Christmas observances, to have been copied by the Christians from their Pagan ancestors. Formerly this prac-

tice, at this time, was universal. Stowe, in his Survey, tells us "that against the feast of Christmas, every man's house, as also their parish churches, were decked with holme, ivy, bays, and whatsoever the season of the year afforded green. And the conduits and standards in the streets were likewise garnished. The laurel, a conspicuous object in modern collections of these plants, was used by the Romans, as the emblem of peace, joy, and victory. In the Christian sense, it may be applied to the victory gained over the powers of darkness by the coming of CHRIST. The mistletoe was a plant held sacred by the Druids, and suspended from the ceiling of the apartment where the pleasures of the evening are to take place, still gives rise to a number of frolicsome gambols in the country.

SPORTS AND GAMES.—Our ancestors, among other amusements at this period, had what they called "disguisings," consisting of *mummings*, the *Lord of Misrule*, the *Fool Plough*, and *Sword Dance*, &c. Of these, the mumming was sometimes very splendid. This custom consisted in the changing of clothes between men and women, who, when dressed in each other's habits, went from one neighbour's house to another, partaking of Christmas cheer, and making merry with them in their disguise ; but, on particular occasions, varied, and was formed into a sort of characteristic procession or drama. Stowe has preserved an account of a remarkable mummary made in 1377 by the citizens of London, "for the disport of the young Prince Richard, son to Edward the Black Prince," who then resided at the Palace at Kensington. The dresses, &c. in this, were particularly grand. And the like, he informs us, took place in compliment to King Henry the Fourth, in the second year of his reign, whilst residing at Eltham Palace ; "when twelve Aldermen of London and their sonnes, rode a mumming, and had great thanks." Before this, in the year 1348 there was also a splendid ceremonial of this kind, when, according to Andrews, in his *History of Great Britain*, "eight tunics of buckram, forty-two visors, and a great variety of other whimsical articles of dress, were provided for the disguisings at court, at the feast of Christmas.

The revel-master, called the Lord of Misrule, was a sort of officer appointed on occasion of some of these great Christmas festivities, to keep order during the celebration of the different sports and pastimes which took place. The Universities, and in London the principal Inns of Court, were the most expensive in the preparations and pageantry attending this kind of mock solemnity, which the reader, if he has patience to read about such sort of foolery, will find prolixly detailed in Dugdale's "*Origines Juridicales*." The custom, however, was not confined to these places ; for Stowe tells us there was, at the feast of Christmas in the King's house, wheresoever he lodged, a *Lord of Misrule*, or master of merry disports, "and the like had ye in the house of every nobleman of honour and good worship, were he spiritual or temporal." The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs had their several Lords of Misrule, ever contending, without quarrel or offence, who should make the rarest pastime to delight the beholders. These



Lords, beginning their rule at Allhallowtide Eve, and continuing the same till the morrow after the Purification, commonly called Candlemas-day, in which space there were generally fine and subtil disguisings, masks, and mummeries; with playing at cards for counters, nayles, and pointes, in every house. "More," he adds, "to the shame of modern times, 'for pastime than game.'" The name only of the Lord of Misrule is now remembered. The Lords of Misrule were first preached against at Cambridge, by the Puritans, in the reign of James I., as an appointment unbecoming the gravity of the University, and in Scotland these personages, there called in derision, the "Abbot of Unreason," were thought worthy to be suppressed by the Legislature as early as 1555.

The foot and plough dance was a custom used about this time in the North of England, and still in part kept up. It consisted of a sort of pageant in which were a number of sword-dancers dragging a plough; and one, sometimes two, in strange attire. What was called "the Bessig," in the grotesque habit of an old woman, and the "fool," almost covered with skin, a hairy cap on, and the tail of some animal hanging from his back, acted as a sort of clown; and one of them went about rattling a box amongst the spectators of the dance, in which he received their little donations.

Christmas boxes, which were formerly a matter of bounty, have in late times been almost demanded as a matter of right. This tax on tradesmen, in particular, says the author of the *Commoisseur*, gave him a pretence to lengthen out his bill, and the master and mistress to lower their wages on account of the vails. Gay, in his *Tristia*, mentions the Christmas box—

"Some boys are rich by birth beyond all wants,  
Beloved by uncles and kind good old aunts;  
When time comes round a Christmas-box they  
bear,  
And one day makes them rich for all the year."

Parliament, in 1652, by order, enjoined "That no observation shall be had of the five-and-twentieth day of December, commonly called Christmas Day, nor any solemnity used or exercised in churches in respect thereof. We live now in more liberal times.

REMARKABLE OAK.—Most persons who have wandered on a summer's day among the green glades and leafy avenues of Greenwich-park have probably observed a massive and aged oak in the garden attached to the keeper's house; few, however, are aware of its real magnitude. The trunk is hollow, and there is sufficient room within it for a table, round which 12 persons may sit. At three feet from the ground it measures 31 feet in girth. The circumference of the interior is 22 feet. The door-way was originally a cleft, which is now five feet five inches high, and upwards of two broad. The present height of the trunk is about 40 feet, and its age is unknown. The old tree has been more than once honoured with the presence of royalty, and is now used as a place of temporary confinement for juvenile depredators in the chestnut season.

## AGRICULTURAL INTELLIGENCE, FAIRS, &c.

At NEWTOWN (Montgomeryshire,) FAIR, the number of sheep was but small: fat ones sold from 5d to 5½d per lb., stores were little in demand. A number of pigs were for sale, and fat ones obtained 3d per lb., small stores valued from 14s. to 25s. were in demand, but those at higher prices sold very low. The number of animals in the cattle market on Tuesday was but small at this season; fat beasts brought 5d per lb., good bullocks sold from 20s. to 30s. lower than at the former fair, and of lean stock the prices vary. Cows and calves were much enquired for, and but few were in market. The horse fair was but small, and only very few good horses present.

YORK CHRISTMAS HORSE SHOW.—According to usual custom, our horse show commenced on Monday last. There was a good supply of horses of all descriptions; but the south country buyers being but few, coach-horses did not meet with a ready sale. Hunters and Swimmers, or Mares for exportation, were readily bought up at good prices, whilst other descriptions were not so promptly disposed of.

ASHBOURN FAIR AND STATUTES.—The supply of cattle at this fair was more abundant than at any time since its being established. Good fresh barren beasts and calves were tolerably well sold; the supply of beef was great, selling at about 5½ per lb., but customers were not equal to the quantity on the stones.

ARUNDEL MARKET AND CATTLE SHOW, December 8.—Beef from 2s 10d to 4s 4d; Mutton, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Veal, 3s 8d to 4s 6d; Pork, 3s to 3s 6d per stone. Supply of Beasts rather great, and, for the most part, good; of each kind of small stock limited, but of fair average quality. Trade, for that of a Christmas Cattle Show Market, rather dull.

AWARDS.—To Messrs. Penfold, of Wiggentholt, for the best Fat Ox, a piece of plate, value 10l; to Mr. J. Coote, of Climping, for the best Sussex Ox, ditto, ditto; to Mr. A. Upton, of Binstead, for the best fat Steer, ditto, ditto; to Mr. Duke, of Courtwick, for the best fat Sussex Steer, ditto, ditto; to Mr. T. Duke, of Leominster, for the best Welch Runt, ditto, value 7l; to Miss Rushby, of Goring, for the best Runt, fed on succulent food only, ditto, value 5l; to Mr. T. Chatfield, of Grantham, for the best fat open Heifer, ditto, value 7l; to Mr. Field, of Arundel, for the best fat open Heifer, ditto, value 7l; to Mr. E. Searle, of Amberley, for the best ditto, fed on succulent food only, ditto, value 5l; to Mr. Newland, of Torrington, for the best 10 full mouthed or six-teeth Sheep, ditto, value 10l; to Miss Rushby, of Goring, for the best pen of four-teeth wether Sheep, ditto, value 5l; to Mr. Duke, of Leominster, for the best 10 two-teeth South-Down wethers, ditto, value 5l; to Mr. H. Upton, of Binstead, for the best pen of fat Ewes, ditto, value 5l.—Judges—Mr. Harmer, butcher, of Brighton; Mr. Gains, ditto, of Portsmouth; and Mr. Lintott, ditto, and salesman, of Horsham.

TAVISTOCK FAIR was abundantly supplied with beasts and sheep, but the latter were very limited, and at low prices, except the prime lots which are usually exhibited at this fair for the Christmas market. Three uncommonly fine oxen, from the farm of John Newton, Esq. of Milton House, attracted general notice, the largest of which, a fine animal, seven years old, is supposed to be at least fifteen hundred weight. The sale of sheep, of which there was a large supply, was also very limited, at reduced prices, in part attributable, obviously, to the altered state of the wool market.

At SHREWSBURY FAIR this week, the supply of the finest cattle was most abundant, but, owing to the numerous fairs around (three fairs occurred on the same day in this vicinity), purchasers were scattered, and many beautiful animals went away unsold. The prices for good beef were from 4½d to 5d per lb. Some capital things went higher; two heifers by Mr. Eytton, of Condovery, were sold to Mr. Ludlow, of Birmingham, for nearly 60*l*; and an ox, six years old, bred by Mr. Gough, of Gravel Hill, was sold for upwards of 40 guineas, to the Messrs. Hand, of this town. Store bullocks sold a slight shade better than at last fair. Sheep were not abundant; prime small sheep brought nearly 6d; heavy sheep, 5½d. Small pigs were higher than in November; large ones rather lower. In the cheese fair, skims were very abundant, and nearly unsaleable, at from 26s to 30s per cwt. For middle dairies the demand was rather brisk, at 40s to 47s per cwt. The best brought 50s to 55s, and was all sold. The butter market was greatly overstocked. Lumps, 8d; tubs, 8½d to 8¾d. Bacon, which was in good supply, was nearly all sold at 4½d to 5d per lb. A few hams were offered at 6d per lb, but were not sold.

EXETER ST. NICHOLAS FAIR was held on Wednesday, and a larger show of beef, it is believed, was never seen in it; but, as to the result of the day's business, a very satisfactory account cannot be given. The prime articles were, for the most part, picked up, for Christmas use, and fetched from 8s 6d to 10s per score. On the medium sort, what at other seasons would be called good, the sale was extremely dull, at from 8s to 9s per score. As regards lean stock, it was a small fair, the number of poor heifers, steers, and working oxen, being limited. For the best order of the latter 36*l* per pair was asked; but, taken generally, lean stock was not at all better worth, things having been exceedingly dull in this way, and admitting of little more than nominal quotations at from 5s to 6s per score.

At ROSS FAIR there were as many fat cows and bullocks as usual, which met with a dull sale at 5d to 5½d per lb; a few prime cows fetched 6d; fat sheep sold at 5½d to 6d per lb. But little business was done in the Horse Fair; the show was but indifferent.

At HEREFORD GREAT MARKET fat animals sold at 5d per lb, and some as low as 4½d, and store cattle went on much lower terms than at the last fair. Fat sheep sold at 6d per lb, and the demand rather slack. The show of horses was indifferent, but good animals demanded fair prices.

NEWARK FAIR was well supplied with fat beasts; there were some remarkably fine ones fed by Mr. Hebb, of Buckingham. Purchasers were not numerous.

BRADFORD FAIR.—The town has been quite in a bustle with the motions of the fair folk during the week. The show of cattle and horses has not been very good, and business generally but flat.

The cattle sale of T. W. Coke, Esq., at Holkham, took place on Wednesday, the 3d inst., and was very respectably attended. The superiority of the cattle exhibited excited a considerable degree of interest amongst the company, but the great point of attraction was the beautiful fat Devon ox, bred and grazed by Mr. Coke, and which was the chief cause of the very large attendance. It was five years old, and such perfect symmetry has been very seldom preserved with such a high state of condition, we might add, excessive fatness, as this beast possessed; fully justifying the high opinion which Mr. Coke has always entertained of the established excellence of this

breed of cattle. It was supposed to weigh from 90 to 115 stone, was bought by Mr. J. Sayer for 70*l*., and was sent, at the request of the Duke of Bedford, in a carriage built for the purpose, to Smithfield, for exhibition there. There were other beasts of the same kind very high in condition, which were supposed to weigh from 80 to 90 stone, and many of which sold at from 25*l*. to 35*l*. each.

CHRISTMAS BEEF.—The celebrated Whittleton ox, which has excited the astonishment of all who have seen it, at Hereford, Ludlow, Chester, Shrewsbury, Liverpool, Manchester, and other places where it has been exhibited, has been purchased by Mr. Bright, butcher, of Brecon, at which place it will be shown, on Saturday the 13th inst. and following days, until slaughtered. This prodigious animal, which weighs more than two tons, and is believed to be the largest in the kingdom, was bred and fed by Mr. Shephard, of Whittleton, Salop, and is of the true Herefordshire breed. A fine painting has been taken of it. Mr. Bright's autumnal show of fat Beef at this season evinces a spirited determination to preserve the memory of "the good old times,"—*Hereford Times*.

EXTRAORDINARY OX.—An ox of the Durham breed, aged three years and two months, was exhibited at Abergavenny on Tuesday the 9th instant, which for size and symmetry may be considered as unequalled, measuring nearly 11 feet in girth, and 7 inches in the small of the leg, supposed to be 1 ton 10 cwt. The animal was bred by Sir Chas. Morgan, and was purchased by E. Drew, of Brecon, as a Christmas treat to his friends.

#### GAME AT LEADENHALL.

The Grouse season closed on the 10th instant, but the dealers being allowed ten days to clear their stock, the right of selling closed yesterday. As both Grouse and Black Game are consequently very scarce we can give no quotation.—Pheasants, from 7s to 8s, and Partridges from 4s to 5s a brace.—Hares 3s 6d each.—Woodcocks, from 7s to 8s, and Snipes, from Lincoln and Devon, 2s 6d a couple.—No Marsh Birds.—Wild Ducks, (English), from 7s to 8s; and Widgeon, 4s a couple.—No Teal.—Golden Plover, 2s.—Wild Rabbits, from 8s to 14s a dozen.—A male and two females of that rare and splendid bird the Capercalzie, or Cock of the Wood, have been received from Sweden. They are all in very prime condition. One hundred of the handsomest Turkeys ever seen either in this market or elsewhere, have been consigned to Mr. Stevens, by Mr. W. Moore, of Great Salford, near Cambridge, averaging 27lb, each; in addition to which is one most extraordinary for his age, bred by the same feeder, as, though only eight months old, it weighs 29lb 10oz. This "perfect beauty" was purchased by the Duke of Gordon, intended as a present to her Majesty.—The market is full of goods.

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#### REVIEW OF THE CORN TRADE IN MARK LANE DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER.

A continual depression has prevailed throughout the corn trade during the past month, and which has characterized, not only the business in Mark Lane, but likewise that of the leading country markets. The season of the year also has appeared to have exerted all its customary influence



in checking any speculative spirit, purchasers having only taken off the market sufficient quantities of grain to meet their immediate wants, though the prices from week to week have retrograded, and the quality of wheat as well as lowness of price, has afforded every inducement to the speculator and capitalist to get into stock. There however does not appear much probability of the currencies of wheat further receding, though the quotations of other grain may be still susceptible of further reduction. The consumption of wheat has been unprecedentedly large; the disproportionate value, compared with other grain, having induced its application to purposes seldom resorted to, as distilling, malting, and pig-feeding, &c., and the emptiness of the barns and granaries in many parts of England are beginning to exhibit the demand that has existed for the article; judging, likewise, from the supplies hitherto arrived from Ireland at our principal ports, it seems probable that a much less supply of wheat is to be calculated upon from the Sister Kingdom during the present season than we have received for the three preceding ones. The ricks, however, in this country, for the most part, remain standing, and will not for two or three months, be generally taken down for thrashing; but as at that period the deficiency of the crops of summer corn will have become more apparent by the falling off in the receipts, prices are likely to advance and influence in a corresponding degree the value of wheat. For the bonded holders the chances are still remote, much depending on the appearances of the next harvest, and the forwardness or tardiness of the season, for as the past has been unusually early, and should the succeeding prove the contrary, a difference of from six weeks to two months extra consumption of the present stock may be thus occasioned, and thus an opportunity be afforded for the introduction of foreign supplies to a limited extent; the low rates which have prevailed in the Baltic, and the fine quality and condition of the wheat enabling the importer to pay a high rate of duty.

During the month, from the 24th November to the 22nd of December, the following quantity of grain has arrived in the port of London:—

|              | Wheat.<br>Qrs. | Barley.<br>Qrs. | Oats,<br>Qrs. |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| English .... | 38,318         | 46,255          | 4,663         |
| Scotch ....  | 1,631          | 17,875          | 45,295        |
| Irish .....  | 847            | 5,134           | 49,318        |
| Foreign .... | 510            | 2,432           | 5             |

|              | Beans.<br>Qrs. | Peas.<br>Qrs. | Flour.<br>Sacks. |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|------------------|
| English .... | 5,121          | 1,879         | 37,532           |
| Scotch ....  | 302            | 172           | 350              |
| Irish .....  |                |               | 580              |
| Foreign .... | 789            | 2,162         | 1110 brls.       |

The principal differences in the supplies, as compared with the month of November, are an increase of 3,062 qrs of English wheat; 20,700 qrs

of English, and 8647 qrs of Scotch barley, and 27,391 qrs of Scotch oats, and a diminution of 10,500 qrs in Irish oats.

The fall in the price of flour, and the unwillingness on the part of millers to purchase wheat, has caused throughout the month an additional depression in the trade, added to large supplies, principally from Essex, Kent, Cambridgeshire, and Lincolnshire; white wheat of the better qualities has receded 1s to 2s, red 2s to 3s, and secondary and inferior descriptions 3s to 4s per qr. A considerable proportion of the importations, however, have not appeared on the market, having been shipped on account of speculators, or come direct into the hands of the millers. Fine white runs have been purchased at 48s to 50s; good qualities at 45s to 47s; and best red at 42s to 43s. A very limited enquiry has existed for bonded wheat for export, at low prices, and from the out-ports inferior parcels of Foreign corn have been offering even at 10s, 12s, and 15s per qr. Samples of some thousand quarters of Archangel wheat have been shown, which have been in granary four years, without meeting any offer; prices, therefore, may be considered quite nominal, and old qualities almost unsalable, the little speculation which has existed being confined to fine new Danzig, Holstein, and Mecklenburg descriptions at the prevailing low currencies in the different markets of their growth.

The flour trade has continued in a very languid state at the decline noted at the close of November. Town made remaining at 37s, 40s to 42s; but ship marks have receded 1s to 2s per sack, and are now offering at very reduced rates. Norfolk and Suffolk household, 33s to 35s; Sussex and Hampshire superfine at similar prices; Scotch, 31s to 32s; Irish, 31s to 33s per sack. For bonded sour Flour for South America a demand has been experienced at 17s 6d to 18s per barrel, but few sellers have appeared at these quotations.

The duties have declined 1s per qr on wheat, 3s per qr on barley, 1s 6d on oats, 1s 6d on rye, 1s 6d on beans, and the same on peas. The duty of 13s 10d per qr on barley is the lowest range which that article is likely to attain for some time.

The unusually extensive supplies of barley from England and Scotland, and particularly Ireland, has had the effect of materially depressing the trade, more particularly as the article was ranging in price disproportionately high, as compared with other grain. Chevalier barley has given way in value 3s to 4s; Norfolk and Suffolk malting also 3s to 4s; and other qualities in proportion, particularly the Scotch samples, which coming more freely to hand at the close of the month, and being pressed on the market, realised very depressed rates, say 28s to 30s; fine, 32s. The new samples of Foreign which have appeared at market, have been much approved of by our maltsters, especially the shipments from Kiel, Neustadt, and other parts of Holstein; the cargoes have worked more kindly

than was anticipated, and the article weighs more than our own. At the beginning of the month one or two parcels obtained 23s per qr in bond, or 40s free, but have since participated in the depression of the market. Extensive purchases have been made at the lower Baltic ports at from 13s 6d to 14s 6d, and fine samples 15s per qr, weighing 54 lbs.

The malt trade has worn a heavy aspect, and though the ale brewers have paid high prices for Chevalier malt, yet the porter brewers, having continued unwilling to get into stock, and the decline that has taken place in barley, has caused prices of the best qualities to recede fully 2s per qr, and thin qualities 3s to 4s. By the annual statement made by the Brewers Company of the consumption of Malt in the metropolis and environs, it appears that the present year's consumption has exceeded that of 1833 by 100,000 qrs, and as a remarkable instance of the monopoly of the trade, it may be adduced, that out of the 662,713 qrs which have been returned as consumed by 210 brewers, 13 have used 490,734 qrs, and nearly two-thirds less than 500 qrs, and 60 less than 100 qrs.

The extensive importation of oats, particularly from Scotland, has created a general heaviness in the trade, and as dealers have only purchased sparingly, prices have, in consequence, declined, English feed and Polands being 2s per qr cheaper; potato do, 1s; Scotch common feed, 2s; and potato 2s to 2s 6d per qr; Irish, 1s 6d to 2s per qr. In bonded qualities little actual business has transpired, as the samples are either withdrawn from the market or held firm at the previous quotations; which evinces that speculators consider the present fall in the prices only temporary, and that the acknowledged failure in the crop in this country must eventually cause the currencies to be enhanced, and the duties on foreign qualities consequently to go lower. Irish oats for spring delivery have suffered little depreciation in value, Galways being noted at 11s; Londonderry qualities, 11s 3d to 12s; Waterford, 12s to 12s 6d; Limerick, 11s 6d to 12s; Sligo have sold at 13s, deliverable in February.

Beans having increased in their supply, and experiencing a diminished demand, have become 3s to 4s per qr lower, particularly old qualities. Bonded qualities have partially suffered in the depression, but very considerable purchases have been made on the Elbe, Weser, Eyder, and Baltic, at from 20s to 23s per qr, according to quality and freight; at present, small beans are held at the nearer foreign ports at 23s 6d to 24s.

Fine white peas have sustained no alteration in value, but the common runs have been difficult of disposal, unless at lower rates, as several cargoes of foreign have been shipped for our port, and being weekly expected to arrive, would be entered at the low rate of duty, say 6s 6d. White seed peas have been very scarce, and realized as high as 70s per qr; very superior, 105s. Until towards

the end of the month, grey and maples have been in very limited supply—in fact, scarcely a parcel offering, and prices advanced to 44s and 45s, but the receipts having increased, prices have given way 3s to 4s per qr. Peas in bond realize the same price as English, according to quality, exclusive of the duty. Large purchases have been made abroad at 22s to 24s, and sales are still being made, but at higher prices, say 23s to 25s.

The tendency to advance in the currencies of grain in France has continued throughout the last month. The markets have been only moderately supplied, and have been far from exhibiting that abundance which must always induce a cheapness of the various articles. On the contrary, at many of the principal places of supply, sellers have appeared much less numerous and pressing in their demands, as has been witnessed at a similar period during the two last years. These facts seem to substantiate the complaints of the farmers, as to the result of the crop, particularly of wheat and rye. The fabrication of flour, diminished by the extraordinary scarcity of water, has been barely sufficient to meet the local consumption, and though wheat in consequence has come sparingly to market, yet prices have evinced symptoms of improvement; the context, therefore is, that if the manufacture of the article had been more extensive, it is more than probable that the advance in the prices would have been much higher. During, however, December, the principal month of consumption, the mills have been in full operation and the currency of markets at the close will therefore indicate the character of the future trade. Rye is generally scarce, and held at comparatively low rates, and parts which were accustomed to export to their neighbours, are seeking supplies from Paris. The crop of oats has not yielded a very plentiful return, and prices have been of late enhanced; the heat of July having deteriorated the quality, and lessened much the quantity expected, added to which the scarcity of hay and straw will contribute to keep up the quotations of this latter article. The average price of wheat throughout the kingdom is about 33s 6d. At Paris wheat is obtaining 35s 10d to 40s 5d according to quality. Rye in demand, particularly for Normandy and Beauce, at 19s 11d to 20s 8d per qr., and fine qualities are held as high as 22s 10d. Heavy new Barley has been sold at 19s 3d, other qualities 17s 9d. The farmers in the environs of Paris, principally the postmasters, continue to give their horses barley; oats, though cheaper than last year, are much lighter, and barley is therefore advantageously employed as feed, the inferior qualities being selected, and after being soaked and swelled, are then given to the animals. Oats, owing to the increase of water in the rivers, are arriving in better supply, and obtain for middling qualities 16s 6d to 17s; best, 17s 9d to 18s 6d. Some speculative purchases have been effected of Cloverseed, but confined to the new qualities. The best samples, which were offering at 33s to



34s per cwt., are now held at 35s 6d to 36s; secondary new and old descriptions meet with little attention.

The anticipations entertained at the Italian markets that some of the Spanish ports will be opened for the import of Foreign wheat, owing to the failure of the crops in Andalusia, has served to keep alive a spirit of speculation, and prices have therefore sustained no depression, but on the contrary have in instances improved. At Leghorn, owing to the increased demand for the consumption, Tuscan white wheat is noted at 50s 4d; red 43s 2d; Romagna qualities, 42s 4d. At Genoa, Black Sea wheat obtained 28s 10d, and at Naples, Barletta samples were held at 30s to 31s; at Trieste, soft Italian wheat was worth 34s 7d.

In the United States of America, the arrivals of Flour from the interior having been large, prices at New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore have receded 3d to 6d per barrel, the quotations averaging from 22s 6d to 22s 9d per barrel; wheat is also cheaper, varying according to quality, from 36s to 38s 6d. The cloverseed trade is dull, and almost confined entirely to the local necessities; the quotations, ex store, are 21s 4d to 23s 7d per bushel.

In Canada, as the shipping season was nearly closed, prices of wheat had declined, and best qualities of Upper Canada white were to be procured at 4s 3d to 4s 4d per 60 lbs.

In New South Wales the supply of wheat had been limited, and prices had advanced to 8s and 10s per bushel, and though the receipts were augmenting, yet the previous currency was maintained. Oats, 3s 6d to 5s per bushel.

At Lisbon, the late admission of wheat will, it appears, afford sufficient supply for the consumption, until April or May, and even then the further importation of corn will much depend on the prospects of harvest.

The prices which are being realised for wheat at Odessa, prevent the chance of any exports being made from the Black Sea on speculative account. The last harvest has been a middling good one in the provinces of Russian Poland, but has failed in the governments bordering the district of Odessa. The insufficiency of the crops in general however, apply more particularly to rye, barley, and oats; the currencies of which are disproportionately high as compared to those of wheat, soft wheat being worth 27s 10d to 29s 1d; hard ditto, as high as 36s 11d. Rye, 29s to 30s 4d, and at the close of November the stock of wheat was about 105,000 qrs of soft, and 8,400 qrs of hard wheat. Owing to the failure in the crops of Russia, the transactions at Archangel in grain have been extremely limited, though a few years back it formed the principal branch of the export trade. A few shipments of oats took place, but even these were effected, partly with a view of giving cargoes to such vessels as had come out chartered for seed or grain, and for which no freight had been pro-

vided. This season the crops have turned out satisfactorily, both as to quantity and quality, but there is not any prospect of a demand for exportation. The supplies, however, as to any *probable* demand, are considered almost unlimited; though not warehoused in loco. Wheat has obtained for the consumption, 22s 1d; barley, 17s 6d; oats, 9s 6d; but none of the latter article offering on contract. Good crushing linseed, 36s 7d, and fine qualities had been shipped during the season, which cost as much as 42s 1d.

At St. Petersburg, when the stocks of grain were cleared off, and it became apparent that the harvest in the interior of Russia, as well as the Baltic provinces, was only moderate in the produce of winter corn, and had turned out very unfavourably as regarded summer grain, the market evinced a tendency to advance, and higher rates have begun to be realized. Wheat, has obtained 30s 11d, fine Kubanka. Oats, as high as 15s 8d to 17s. Linseed was maintaining the enhanced quotations, Morschansky having been sold on delivery in August, at 40s 1d, with money paid down, and 42s 1d with hand money. At Riga, prices of wheat remained at 28s 6d; barley, 18s 11d: oats, 12s 8d to 13s 1d. Linseed, crushing, 13s 11d free on board in spring. At Danzig the mildness of the weather had caused the navigation of the Vistula to be re-opened, and some arrivals of wheat had taken place from the neighbouring districts. Fine high-mixed wheats had realized rather more money, say 30s to 31s; fine mixed, 29s, and some fine white wheat of 61lbs for spring delivery has obtained as much as 32s. In the interior of Poland, barley, rye, and wheat, are worth exactly the same money. At Königsberg, wheat is steady at 28s 4d for new best mixed; and high-mixed sowing linseed, 48s. At Stettin, the prices being relatively higher than at other Baltic ports, excludes at present any business being transacted for foreign account. Wheat is noted at 25s to 26s; barley, 16s 6d; oats, 13s. In Mecklenberg and Holstein, the quotations have remained steady, wheat of 62 to 63lbs being quoted at 23s to 24s; barley, 14s to 15s; oats, 11s to 12s 6d. The two latter articles meet enquiry, particularly barley, for English account. In the Danish Isles, barley is saleable at 14s; oats, at 10s to 11s of 35lbs to 36lbs. In Sweden, several parcels of oats have been sold at 12s to 12s 6d, weighing 38lbs. At Ham-burgh, little business has been passing in wheat, Upland qualities remaining at 25s 4d to 26s 4d. An extensive business however has been transacted in barley, beans and peas, for the English account, both for immediate shipment, as well as delivery in spring; barley at 14s to 15s; beans, 22s to 23s; peas, 22s to 24s on the Baltic. Rape-seed, worth 32l to 33l. At Rotterdam the grain trade has continued steady, but dull. The expected alteration in the import duties, has not yet been noticed by the government. All crushing seeds were advancing in value. For good Holstein rapeseed, 35l had been refused.

**CURRENCY PER IMPERIAL MEASURE.**

|                                        | BRITISH.                        |       | DEC. 1.          | JAN. 1. |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------|------------------|---------|
|                                        | s.                              | s.    | s.               | s.      |
| Wheat, red, Essex, Kent, Suffolk, new. | 40                              | to 44 | 40               | to 43   |
| Old.                                   | 46                              | 46    | 44               | 46      |
| White, new.                            | 42                              | 54    | 46               | 52      |
| Ditto, old.                            | 48                              | 55    | 50               | 53      |
| Norfolk, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire.   | 36                              | 42    | 39               | 40      |
| White, do. do.                         | 42                              | 46    | 42               | 45      |
| West Country Red.                      | 40                              | 42    | 36               | 39      |
| White, ditto.                          | 46                              | 48    | 46               | 51      |
| Northumberland and Berwickshire Red.   | 40                              | 44    | 35               | 37      |
| White, ditto.                          | 44                              | 45    | 37               | 41      |
| Irish Red.                             | 32                              | 36    | 32               | 35      |
| Ditto White.                           | 38                              | 42    | 33               | 37      |
| Barley, Malting, new.                  | 34                              | 37    | 30               | 33      |
| Chevalier, new.                        | 38                              | 42    | 32               | 38      |
| Distilling.                            | 30                              | 34    | 28               | 30      |
| Grinding.                              | 28                              | 30    | 22               | 27      |
| Malt, Brown.                           | 44                              | 46    | 36               | 43      |
| Ditto Norfolk pale.                    | 50                              | 60    | 50               | 58      |
| Ditto Ware.                            | 58                              | 64    | 58               | 62      |
| Peas, Hog and Grey.                    | 40                              | 42    | 36               | 40      |
| Maple.                                 | 42                              | 45    | 38               | 42      |
| White Boilers.                         | 38                              | 42    | 38               | 42      |
| Beans, small.                          | 38                              | 44    | 36               | 40      |
| Harrow.                                | 38                              | 41    | 31               | 39      |
| Ticks.                                 | 36                              | 41    | 32               | 36      |
| Mazagan.                               | 32                              | 38    | 32               | 36      |
| Oats, English feed.                    | 22                              | 24    | 19               | 23      |
| Short small.                           | 22                              | 25    | 22               | 24      |
| Poland.                                | 22                              | 26    | 21               | 24      |
| Scotch, Common.                        | 25                              | 27    | 22               | 24      |
| Berwick, &c.                           | 27                              | 30    | 22               | 25      |
| Potatoes, &c.                          | 27                              | 30    | 22               | 27      |
| Irish, Feed.                           | 18s 0d to 21s 0d                |       | 18s 0d to 20s 0d |         |
| Ditto Potatoes.                        | 24s 0d to 25s 0d                |       | 22s 0d to 24s 0d |         |
| Ditto Black.                           | 19s 0d to 22s 0d                |       | 20s 0d to 22s 0d |         |
| Bran.                                  | 11s 0d to 12s 6d per 16 bushel. |       |                  |         |

**PRICES OF FLOUR,**

Per Sack of 280 lbs.

|                                          | DEC. 1. |       | JAN. 1. |       |
|------------------------------------------|---------|-------|---------|-------|
|                                          | s.      | s.    | s.      | s.    |
| Town-made.                               | 40      | to 42 | 40      | to 42 |
| Norfolk, Suffolk, Kent, and Essex.       | 34      | 38    | 30      | 32    |
| Sussex and Hampshire.                    | 35      | 37    | 31      | 33    |
| Superfine.                               | 35      | —     | —       | 35    |
| Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and St. Ickton. | 30      | 32    | 30      | 32    |
| Northumberland, Berwick, and Scotch.     | 30      | 31    | 30      | 31    |
| Irish.                                   | 33      | 35    | 31      | 34    |
| Extra.                                   | 36      | —     | —       | —     |

**AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF THE LONDON AVERAGES,**

From the 22nd November to the 20th of December.

|        | qrs.   | £ s. d. |              | qrs. | £ s. d. |
|--------|--------|---------|--------------|------|---------|
| Wheat  | 30,559 | 2 5 11  | Beans        | 6634 | 1 19 6  |
| Barley | 43,751 | 1 14 8  | Peas         | 2083 | 2 5 8   |
| Oats   | 84,942 | 1 3 8   | Bere or Bigg | 344  | 1 6 0   |
| Rye    | 33     | 1 16 8  |              |      |         |

**IMPERIAL AVERAGES.**

|            | Wheat. | Barley | Oats | Rye   | Beans | Peas  |
|------------|--------|--------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Weekending |        |        |      |       |       |       |
| 7th Nov.   | 42 4   | 31 6   | 21 5 | 32 9  | 37 8  | 42 8  |
| 14th "     | 42 6   | 32 0   | 21 5 | 33 0  | 38 0  | 42 11 |
| 21st "     | 42 4   | 33 3   | 22 3 | 33 11 | 38 10 | 42 1  |
| 28th "     | 41 11  | 33 2   | 22 7 | 30 6  | 38 9  | 43 0  |
| 5th Dec.   | 41 11  | 32 7   | 22 9 | 33 6  | 38 10 | 43 7  |
| 12th "     | 41 1   | 31 10  | 22 6 | 33 6  | 38 1  | 41 1  |

|                                                                                                                                   |      |       |      |       |      |      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|------|-------|------|------|
| Aggregate Average of the six weeks which regulates the duty.                                                                      | 42 0 | 32 5  | 22 2 | 32 10 | 38 4 | 42 7 |
| Duties payable in London till Wednesday next inclusive, and at the Outports till the arrival of the Mail of that day from London. | 44 8 | 13 10 | 13 5 | 21 3  | 12 6 | 6 6  |
| Do, on grain from British possessions out of Europe.                                                                              | 5 0  | 2 6   | 2 6  | 3 0   | 3 0  | 3 0  |

**PRICES OF HOPS IN THE BOROUGH.**

|                        | DEC. 1. |        | JAN. 1. |         |
|------------------------|---------|--------|---------|---------|
|                        | £ s.    | £ s.   | £ s.    | £ s.    |
| East Kent Pockets.     | 6 0     | to 7 7 | 5 15    | to 6 12 |
| Mid-Kent Pockets.      | 5 8     | 6 15   | 5 0     | 6 8     |
| Weald of Kent Pockets. | 4 15    | 6 0    | 4 12    | 5 12    |
| Sussex Pockets.        | 3 10    | 4 15   | 3 10    | 4 10    |
| Yearlings.             | 1 1     | 2 1    | 1 1     | 3 0     |
| Old Olds.              |         |        |         |         |

An Account of the Quantity of Grain and Flour imported into the United Kingdom during the month ending the 5th of December; the Quantity on which the Duty has been paid for Home Consumption, and the quantity remaining in Warehouse.

|                                   | Wheat.  | Barley. | Oats.   | Rye.    |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                   | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    |
| Quantity imported.                | 12,095  | 8,643   | 868     | ..      |
| Do, entered for home consumption. | 7,458   | 1524    | 106     | ..      |
| Do, remaining in warehouse.       | 662,196 | 169,125 | 332,160 | 5,726   |
|                                   | Peas.   | Beans.  | Brank.  | Flour   |
|                                   | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | cwts.   |
| Quantity imported.                | 8,113   | 24,63   | ..      | 4,463   |
| Do, entered for consumption.      | 1,677   | 336     | ..      | 4,373   |
| Do, remaining in warehouse.       | 8,874   | 42,445  | 33      | 578,747 |

**BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS MARKETS.**

Per ton.

|                         | DEC. 1.             |      | JAN. 1.      |      |
|-------------------------|---------------------|------|--------------|------|
|                         | £ s.                | £ s. | £ s.         | £ s. |
| Ware, Scotch reds.      | 2 2 to 3 5          |      | 2 10 to 3 10 |      |
| York kidneys.           | 2 5 3 10            |      | 2 15 3 15    |      |
| Marsh Champions.        | 2 5 3 5             |      | 2 5 3 5      |      |
| London whites.          | 2 2 3 3             |      | 2 2 3 3      |      |
| Shaws.                  | 2 0 2 0             |      | 2 0 3 0      |      |
| Middlings, Scotch reds. | 1 15 2 2            |      | 1 15 2 5     |      |
| York kidneys.           | 2 2 2 10            |      | 2 2 2 10     |      |
| Marsh Champions.        | 1 15 2 5            |      | 1 15 2 5     |      |
| London whites.          | 1 12 2 0            |      | 1 12 2 0     |      |
| Shaws.                  | 1 10 2 0            |      | 1 10 2 0     |      |
| Chat Potatoes.          | 20s to 25s per ton. |      |              |      |

**SMITHFIELD MARKET.**

Per stone of 8lbs. to sink the offals.

|                | DEC. 1.    |       | JAN. 1.    |       |
|----------------|------------|-------|------------|-------|
|                | s. d.      | s. d. | s. d.      | s. d. |
| Inferior Beef. | 2 2 to 2 4 |       | 2 2 to 2 4 |       |
| Do, Mutton.    | 2 4 2 6    |       | 2 4 2 6    |       |
| Middling Beef. | 2 6 3 0    |       | 2 6 2 10   |       |
| Do, Mutton.    | 2 10 3 4   |       | 2 10 3 2   |       |
| Prime Beef.    | 3 4 3 10   |       | 3 8 4 6    |       |
| Do, Mutton.    | 3 8 4 4    |       | 3 8 4 4    |       |
| Veal.          | 3 2 4 6    |       | 3 2 5 0    |       |
| Pork.          | 3 0 0 0    |       | 2 8 3 8    |       |
| Lamb.          | 0 0 0 0    |       | 0 0 0 0    |       |

**WOOL MARKETS.**

BRITISH.

JAN. 1.

|                    |                 |         |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------|
| Down Teggs.        | 1s 6d to 1s 6½d | per lb. |
| Half-bred Hoggets. | 1s 7d           |         |
| Ewes and Wethers.  | 1s 3½d          |         |
| Leicester Hogs.    | 1s 6½d          |         |
| Do, Wethers.       | 1s 3d           |         |
| Blanket Wool.      | 9d to 1s 0d     |         |
| Flannel.           | 1s 0d to 1s 3d  |         |
| Skin Combing.      | 1s 0d to 1s 4d  |         |

**SCOTCH.**

Per Stone of 24 lbs.

|                           | DEC. 1.      |       | JAN. 1.      |       |
|---------------------------|--------------|-------|--------------|-------|
|                           | s. d.        | s. d. | s. d.        | s. d. |
| Laid Highland Wool, from. | 13 0 to 13 6 |       | 11 9 to 13 0 |       |
| White Do.                 | 15 6 16 6    |       | 15 0 16 0    |       |
| Laid Crossed Do.          | 15 6 16 6    |       | 15 0 16 0    |       |
| Washed Do.                | 18 0 19 0    |       | 17 6 18 6    |       |
| Laid Cheviots.            | 18 0 20 0    |       | 17 6 19 6    |       |
| Washed Do.                | 23 0 27 0    |       | 22 0 26 0    |       |
| White Do.                 | 36 0 38 0    |       | 32 0 34 0    |       |

**FOREIGN.**

Per lb.

|                  | JAN. 1.    |       | JAN. 1.          |             |
|------------------|------------|-------|------------------|-------------|
|                  | s. d.      | s. d. | s. d.            | s. d.       |
| Australian.      | 2 2 to 3 0 |       | Spanish Segovias | 1 10 to 2 3 |
| V. Diemen's Land | 1 6 2 9    |       | Soria's          | 1 9 to 2 0  |
| German Electoral | 4 0 5 0    |       | Estramaduras     | 1 4 to 2 7  |
| Primas.          | 3 0 3 3    |       | Lamb's           | 1 3 1 9     |
| Secundas.        | 2 0 2 3    |       | Portugal.        | 1 1 1 5     |
| Tertias.         | 1 6 2 0    |       | Russia Marinos   | 2 3 3 9     |
| Pieces.          | 1 6 2 3    |       | Crosses.         | 1 9 2 6     |
| Lamb's           | 2 0 3 5    |       | Odessa Zigay.    | 1 1 1 3     |
| Spanish Leoneras | 2 0 2 9    |       | Donskoy.         | 0 7 0 9     |



# THE POLITICAL COMPANION

TO

## THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

JANUARY, 1835.

No. 1.]

[Vol. II.

### THE CONSERVATIVES.

(From the Times.)

The proceedings of a Conservative meeting were recorded in *The Times* of yesterday. It was held at Ashford, in Kent, and the avowed object of it was to commemorate his Majesty's late declaration, to support "the Constitution in Church and State." Looking at the names of those who figured on the occasion, and at the toasts which were agreed upon to be given from the chair or otherwise, it may be pronounced one of your regular old "Church and King" meetings, of which the real object has long been understood by all classes of Englishmen, being no other than that the patronage of the Crown in Church and State should be carefully reserved for the exclusive benefit of one favoured party in the kingdom. When we state that Lords Winchelsea and Strangford, Sir E. Knatchbull, and the Rev. T. Manners Sutton, were the chief performers on this *well-timed* stage, our readers may form a pretty shrewd guess at the tone and disposition which prevailed among them. It will be judged at once how much sympathy with the general spirit of reform—how much attachment to the popular branches of our institutions—were manifested by the several speakers and by the company; and last of all, how much service at this particular moment the cause of Conservatism and that of the Duke of Wellington's Administration are likely to derive from the sort of alliance which a leading Conservative journal has since (erroneously we are aware) *insinuated* to exist between his Grace's principles and those of the ultra-oligarchs at Ashford.

### THE EX-MINISTRY.

(From The Morning Post.)

It is amusing to observe the shifts to which the ex-Ministerial papers are put, in order to evade the unanimous verdict of the public, which, notwithstanding all their petty attempts at agitation, *they feel* is about to sentence them and their masters to eternal oblivion. We had stated the fact, in which we were afterwards in greater detail corroborated by other Journals, that Lord Melbourne had acquainted his Majesty that a serious difference of opinion existed in the Cabinet upon the subject of further encroachments on the property of the Church. Now, see how warily, and at the same time how timidly, the *Morning Chronicle* (we willingly adopt its authority as the organ of an expiring faction) ventures upon a hesitating contradiction:—"This, however, we can safely state . . . there were no *actual* (the Italics are not ours) differences in the Cabinet, and Lord Melbourne was not aware of any questions respecting which they were disunited; but who can say what is *possible* or *not possible*?" See how cunningly the *Chronicle* evades the real question and hides himself in the mysteries of special pleading, "No *actual* difference!" That is to say no positively declared schism. But will the *Chronicle* or its

prompter venture to deny what we, in the teeth of all their denials, would still continue to assert, that there were questions of the precise kind alluded to above that were of necessity to be brought before the Melbourne Cabinet previous to the meeting of Parliament, which Lord Melbourne admitted in his conversation with his Majesty to be of a nature to lead to the resignation of Lord Lansdowne and Mr. Rice, and others, in the probable event of these Gentlemen being outvoted in the Cabinet by their more liberal colleagues! Will the *Chronicle* and its prompters deny that Lord Melbourne admitted to his Majesty, that if, on the other hand, the Cabinet could by any management overpower these attempts of the Radical portion of it, his Lordship could not conceal from the King that, in case the same anti-Church projects were broached in the House of Commons by any of the demagogues of the day, the members of the aforesaid Radical section of the Government would vote on a division against their more prudent colleagues in his Majesty's service? We have worded the foregoing sentences as queries. We boldly put them as facts. True it is that the Government, conscious of the inevitable consequence of a decision on these points, come when it might, had carefully postponed all consideration of them to the latest possible moment; and well, therefore, may the *Chronicle*, in its shallow cunning, say that "no *actual* difference" had occurred amongst its members. If by "actual difference" is meant a positive division upon a vote in the Cabinet, the *Chronicle* may, for the reason above stated, be right; but if it pretends to say that there did not, as Lord Melbourne knew and acknowledged to his Master, exist a vital difference of opinion among the Councillors of the Crown, which must sooner or later terminate in such division, and the consequent disruption of the Administration, then we say fearlessly, and we do not speak without warrant, the *Chronicle* is either egregiously misinformed or wilfully mendacious.

Who, then, can blame the King, seeing that the breaking-up of his Government must occur in a very short time, and would in all likelihood take place at a period most inconvenient for the public service, for having manfully determined to face at once the danger which could not ultimately be averted? On the contrary, will any loyal subject or right-thinking man hesitate to give his Majesty the credit which he has so nobly earned for a sound discretion no less than a genuine attachment to his people in dismissing that discordant assemblage of conflicting politicians, who possessed no one quality of a Cabinet except their salaries, and every characteristic of a debating club except its honesty?

### THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

(From the Herald.)

While the public, we suspect, are destined to witness—nay, indeed, are already witnessing—some

changes on the part of the public Press which add neither to its respectability nor to its influence, we have fortunately no such metamorphosis to undergo—no new adhesions to give in. Our party is that of the country—to its interests we have hitherto adhered, and shall adhere, quite regardless of who the persons or the party may be which are at the head of affairs. While their measures are such as in our opinion are calculated to promote the general welfare, they have our unbiassed support—when otherwise, our free and fearless censure.

With these preliminary remarks we proceed to notice the all-absorbing subject of the changes which are now taking place in the Administration—changes which we have long been persuaded were as inevitable as any political event which has ever taken place. The return of the Duke of Wellington to the head of affairs was not so obviously the necessary result of any change. We are not behind the warmest of the Duke's admirers in enthusiastic respect for those high claims on public gratitude and homage which he, above all men of the age, possesses. But it is not in the Cabinet that his Grace's laurels have been won; nor as a Statesman, that any portion of his splendid fame has been acquired. In that character he has hitherto been on all occasions as much behind the spirit of the age, as on the field of battle he has ever been in advance of all foes and competitors. While we admire and partake of the Duke's attachment to the institutions of the country, in mistaking salutary and timely reform for revolution, he has uniformly postponed the one till he brought the country in danger of the other. Since the Duke of Wellington last presided at the helm of public affairs, he has had more both to learn and to unlearn than any man who ever reached so high an eminence. We are not without hope that the interval may have been passed by his Grace in so drilling and disciplining his mind as to enable him to become as eminent in council as in the field. Should such be the case—should the Duke be found willing and prepared to carry out the necessary results of the Reform Bill in its true spirit, the country will hail his return to office with alacrity and confidence; with a confidence not a little enhanced by the conviction that in his hands the ancient land marks and buttresses of the Constitution will be safe from wanton innovation. In no other spirit, in no other tone, can the Duke of Wellington's Administration stand. As an earnest then of what that spirit will be, the country will, in the first instance, naturally look with anxiety to the persons of whom his Grace's Cabinet is to be composed. Perhaps it is fortunate both for the Duke and for the country that, owing to peculiar circumstances, those arrangements cannot be made in haste, but must await the return from abroad of more than of one the persons to be either consulted or included in them. This will give the new Premier breathing time. It will give him time to take counsel not only from his own mind, but from the state of public opinion, in the teeth of which no man can long hope to govern in this country. In the mean time much may be done to propitiate and to influence that opinion. Let the Duke of Wellington, for instance, lose not a moment in disclaiming and discarding the errors of his predecessors—let him begin in Ireland, that fatal scene of Whig and Tory misuse. We hear that Lord Roslyn is destined to replace the Marquis of Wellesley, and Sir Charles Wetherell Lord Plunket. We give these merely as among the rumours of the day. But this we know, that no part of the kingdom presents such a field for a statesman to distinguish himself upon as

Ireland—none where “golden opinions” may be so readily gathered, and where an earnest of good government can have a wider influence on the confidence of the whole community.

## THE IRISH CHURCH.

(From the Courier.)

But what is the system for which such an expense of blood and treasure is incurred? Though alien to the affections of the people, and hostile to the opinions of seven-eighths of the population, is it an aggressive and efficient apparatus? Is it likely soon to gain the inhabitants over to its dogmas, and produce a prevailing harmony? Does it, in the exercise of economy, without an offensive ostentation, silently pursue the good of the nation, and oppose the operation of antagonist and noxious principles? To ask these questions is enough. With a population, even but nominally, attached to the creed of the Protestant Church in Ireland, not equal to half the inhabitants of London, there have been till lately *four* Archbishops, and *eighteen* Bishops; and there are still *one hundred and eighty*, Prebendaries, *thirty-four* Archdeacons, *thirty-three* Deans, *twenty-six* Presentors, *twenty-two* Chancellors, *twenty-two* Treasures, *two* Provosts, and *twelve-hundred and fifteen* other Beneficed Parochial Clergy; and there are to be ultimately, according to modern reductions, *ten* Bishops and *two* Archbishops, who divide among themselves a revenue of *one million one hundred and twenty-five thousand pounds* per annum. Is the Archbishop of Canterbury prepared to maintain that were twice the number of these clergy, and double their revenues, allotted for the City of London, supposing it to be all Protestant and Episcopalian, that he could expect the blessing of God for the preservation of this Establishment. The Author of “Political Christianity,” who appears to have searched into this subject, says—“It appears, by recent Parliamentary returns, that there are altogether one thousand five hundred and fifty-six benefices, or livings, in the Irish Church, of which one (in the Diocese of Down) is of the yearly value of 2,800*l*; ten are between 2,000*l* and 2,600*l*; twenty between 1,500*l* and 2,000*l*; twenty-three between 1,200*l* and 1,500*l*; seventy four between 800*l* and 1,000*l*; one hundred and forty eight between 600*l* and 800*l*; two-hundred and eighty one between 400*l* and 600*l*; three-hundred and eighty six between 200*l* and 400*l*; and four-hundred and sixty five between 30*l* and 200*l*. “I should like,” he says, “to know how many of these last are above 100*l*., and how many are as low as 30*l* and under 50*l*.”

## THE FORTHCOMING ELECTION.

(From the Times.)

The electoral statistics, which would be curious in any circumstances, being now of immediate interest and importance, we hasten to throw together some information as to the extent of the suffrage under the Reform Act. Before we go into the statement it is necessary to observe that the number of electors must be less than the number in the returns, as many are counted twice over, or oftener, in respect of different qualifications; but, nevertheless, the calculations will give an outline of the form and body of the enfranchised sections of the country sufficiently to be depended on.

In England, 40 counties return 144 members, and, previous to the election of 1832, had 344,564 registered electors. The cities and boroughs are 185; they return 327 members, and their register-



ed electors up to the same date were 274,649. The total for England was thus 619,213 electors, and 471 representatives of counties and boroughs.

In Wales, 12 counties return 15 members, and their registered electors, in 1132, were 25,815. The 14 districts of boroughs return 14 members, and their registered electors were 11,309.

In Scotland, 30 counties have 30 members, and their registered electors, in 1832, were 33,114. Seventy-six cities and boroughs return 30 members, and their registered electors of the above date, were 31,332. Total for Scotland, 53 representatives, and 64,447 electors.

In Ireland, 32 counties have 64 members, and their registered electors, in 1832, were 60,607. The cities and boroughs are 34; they return 41 members, and their registered electors are 31,545. Total for Ireland, 105 members, and 92,152 electors, according to the registration of 1832.

The first remark that occurs is upon the proportion of the town to the county suffrage. In round numbers, the gross population of cities and boroughs of England and Scotland is half the population of counties; and the representation of cities and boroughs is about double the representation of counties.

Wales gives an advantage to the counties; and the returns for great Britain stand thus:—

County population, 10,446,241; Borough population, 5,816,060. Members for counties, 189; members for boroughs, 364. So that the county population is two to one against the town, and the town representation two to one against the county.

In Ireland the case is different. The county representation exceeds the borough representation, but the county population is rated at 7,000,000, and the borough at little more than 700,000. In Ireland the registered electors for counties in 1832, about doubled those for towns.

Taking Great Britain and Ireland together, the population of cities and boroughs is about one-third of the population of counties; the electors for counties are to the electors of towns about as four is to three—the numbers of the first being 403,494; of the latter, 317,290; the number of members for counties, is 253, the number of members for boroughs 405. According to the registration of 1832 the electors for the towns and counties of Great Britain and Ireland were altogether, 812,936. But, as we have before observed, this calculation must exceed the truth.

From a view of these proportions, very false inferences may, and doubtless will, be drawn. It will be contended that the landed interest is inadequately represented, and that the towns have an unfair share of representation. In such arguments the material fact will be overlooked—that population has not been made the basis of representation: and that if population be once let in as the governing rule, it will be hard to keep out universal suffrage as a consequence. Property is the basis of the Reform Act, and, according to the adopted tests of property are those numerical relations we have noticed. There is, however, really no disproportion in the case, or if there be any, the disproportion is not where at first glance it may seem. All that is to be said is, that property does not put forth its powers according to the rule of numbers. Were the test of property still further improved in the Reform Bill, as we trust it will, by the removal of the fiscal conditions, the electoral privileges of the borough population would be yet further extended.

When the borough representation and the coun-

ty representation are talked of as measuring the comparative influence of the landed and commercial interests in Parliament, a gross fallacy is involved, for the commercial interest, which has its political power in boroughs, has often a direct connection with the agricultural interest, the like of which the agricultural interest having its political power in the county suffrage has not with the commercial interest. Thus the capitalist, or prosperous tradesman, or professional man in a town, has his landed property, and by it an interest in common with the country gentleman; but the country gentleman who lives on the rents of his farms, has no direct interest in common with the mercantile, and he too often believes in an opposition of interests. To put the proposition in large terms, towns are more affected with the agricultural interests than the agricultural districts are affected with the town interests; and this is not a speculative question—we have something more solid than theory. In the corn laws we see the rural prejudices put forth against the commercial interests, and the powerful hold of the agricultural interest in the borough representation.

### THE LORD MAYOR.

*(From the Times.)*

The Lord Mayor has been pleased to reject the prayer of the requisition presented to him by a deputation of citizens to summon a Common Hall, for considering the measures which ought to be adopted in the present situation of the country. Many a fair and reasonable cause has been ruined by indiscreet supporters, and as we have not time to mince our phraseology, we must be excused for saying that his Lordship's act is that of a short-sighted simpleton. Without affecting to argue the constitutional right of the question, can there be anything more palpably revolting to common sense or to obvious policy, than an attempt to bolster up the interest of the new Ministry by an open acknowledgment like this, that it is a subject which will not bear discussion?

### STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

*(From the Standard.)*

The union of all Reformers against the King's exercise of his prerogative, is now the cry. It is a cry with which we are pleased; because, in the mouths of those who employ it, it is a plain confession of truth—an acknowledgment that all pretence of shades, distinguishing the members of the late Cabinet, from the most violent Radicals, whom they were hanging and transporting, was pretence only. Had the unlucky persons who expiated their reforming achievements upon the several gallowses of Bristol, Nottingham, Derby, &c., escaped that doom by any happy accident—had the Dorsetshire labourers remitted to the Antipodes, been permitted to remain in this country, all these unlucky sufferers by the halter and the chain would now be joyfully accepted as brethren in political faith, and fellow-soldiers in the war against the throne, by their late prosecutors. This is all as it ought to be. The friends of order, they who retain any respect for religion and the rights of property, are now left without excuse, should they suffer themselves to be again cheated under the garb of moderation—should they not see that the policy pursued all along by the Whigs in pressing forward the Radicals to clear the way for them, is but an adaptation to political hostilities, of an

old stratagem to tumultuary warfare. A brute herd of cattle, or of Radicals, as the case may be, is urged forward to break the enemy's line and receive his fire, so as to make an open and a safe passage for the party in their rear. The brutes, biped or quadruped, incur almost all the danger; but it matters little to them, for if not slaughtered in the fray, the drivers will dispose of them afterwards as at Bristol, or Nottingham, or in the butchers' quarters. Now, we would no more think of reasoning with such Radicals as at present now bellow for the Whigs, than we should think of reasoning with the four-legged animals whose functions they exercise. Let them bellow and be hanged. This has proved in the case of some of their brethren more than a chance denunciation. Let them bellow and be hanged. We address ourselves to other classes—to the classes against whom all this artificially-raised fury is directed. They see the cattle urged forward—they see, too, who are urging them, and for what purpose the savage onset is attempted—will they, again, trust the promoters of that onset? will they now encourage them by connivance or neutrality? will they not show as much alacrity and ardour in arising to defend all that is dear to them, as is shown by their enemies? If they do not, we tell them the result; they will be prostrated by the Radicals and trampled upon by the Whigs. The Throne and the Church,—but they are lost for ever, if a manifestation, instant and universal, be not made for the defence.

#### STATE OF THE GOVERNMENT.

(From the *Courier*).

We do not believe that the Duke of Wellington is aware of the tremendous responsibility he is at this moment incurring. Why not give temporary appointments to those vacant offices, to which most important and necessary duties, which may require to be performed, are attached? We have no desire to create embarrassment, but the present state of the Government is calculated to give most serious concern to all well-wishers of the country. It is impossible to foresee the dangerous consequences that may arise from it any day, and as a precedent is it to be tolerated—is it consistent with the theory or practice of the Constitution—that the country is to be subject to the rule of a Military Dictator, without responsible associates in the Cabinet, even for a week? Sir Robert Peel, if he adhered to his plan of travelling to Naples, cannot reach London for ten or twelve days to come. We hear from all quarters that the present state of suspense is creating great and increasing anxiety and uneasiness. Again we urge the Duke, for his own safety and for the safety of the country, to surround himself by responsible advisers, and to fill up the vacant offices. *Is not the Duke of Wellington at this moment setting an example of defiance to the Constitutional law of the Empire?*

#### THE TORIES.

(From the *Chronicle*.)

The Tories already seem to live again in the good old times. We may apply to them what was said of the Bourbons on the Restoration:—"They have learned nothing, and forgotten nothing." The Grey and the Melbourne administrations are already, with them, as if they had never been. The Duke of Wellington's spirit already animates the Tory organs. "County meetings are farces,"

said the great Dictator. "The Members of the Common Council of London are incapable of understanding the Royal Answer to the Address," says the Duke's organ, *The Standard*. Well does our crafty contemporary know that nothing will be more acceptable at head-quarters than abuse of whatever is liberal and popular. Horace Twiss will now regret that he recanted his horror of the middle classes. Two weeks of the Tory Dictatorship have only passed, and already the insolence of Tory domination seems to have attained its maturity.

But *The Standard* only can do justice to *The Standard*, and we will, therefore, allow our contemporary to speak for himself. In this way does he last night preface the Royal Answer to the Address of the Common Council:—

"The following is the King's truly dignified Answer to the *impertinent* Address of the Common Council:—

"*The animals to whom it is offered will probably not understand it; but the temper, grace, and calmness of the Reply, compared with the ill-mannered petulance of the Address, convey the most cutting rebuke.*"

"The people have nothing to do with the laws but to obey them." The members of the first corporation in the kingdom are already insulted by language which no superiority of understanding entitles one human being to apply to another. It is a common observation, that the character of the master may generally be learned from the demeanour of the domestics. "Like master, like man," says the proverb. If the master be contemptuous and insolent in his bearing, so will the servant. Our contemporary has already caught all the insolence of the Duke. Animals, forsooth! And this language is applied to the first corporation in the kingdom, the members of which have in all times been in the foremost rank of the champions of English liberty, and occupy a distinguished place in our history. The representatives deputed by the citizens of London to their Common Council, are considered by this organ of an insolent Dictator, as on a level "with the brutes that perish," as beings who ought not to be reasoned with.

It happens, however, somewhat unfortunately for the Duke, that the middle classes, treated with this contempt, have the power of returning the Members of the House of Commons; and though the Duke be a bold man, the middle classes will beat him. He may instruct his organs to term the citizens of London animals, long or short eared; he may heap abuse on the public bodies of the country; but this will only hasten his discomfiture. The people of England will not suffer themselves to be turned aside from their purpose either by flattery or menaces.

#### STATE OF POLITICAL PARTIES.

(From the *Globe*.)

Now, it is quite clear that the movements throughout the country have had the effect of exciting the electors, and of directing their efforts to a common and definite object. They have brought reformers of every shade of opinion together, given them the opportunity of discussing and settling their differences, and linked them in union against the common enemy. We must confess that when the Duke first accepted office, and the report of an immediate dissolution was prevalent, we trembled for the result of an appeal to the people. The blow was struck at the very moment in which the dis-



sensions between reformers were most violent and most palpable; when it was probable that the animosities of late disputes, distrusts, and affronts were rankling most deeply, and the common cause appeared to run the chance of being sacrificed to momentary schism. The events of the last fortnight have completely dispelled this dread. Let the Duke call parliament together, and he will find the undivided force of public opinion acting on that body. Let him dissolve when he likes, he will find the constituent bodies of the empire united against him. There will be no disunion between his opponents. The votes of the Radicals will not be reserved in sullen discontent, nor swell the ranks of the Conservative candidate, nor will the influence of Whigs be exerted against the popular party. The candidate that will keep out the Tory will be preferred by Reformers of all opinions. Really his Grace has done wonders by the magic of his name. He has soothed the Radical and excited the Whig to pretty nearly the same temper. He alone has reconciled the conflicting partisans of Lord Durham and Lord Brougham, and has achieved the same wondrous task of pacifying O'Connell and silencing the agitation of repeal.

#### PROSPECTS FOR IRELAND UNDER TORY RULE.

(From the Courier.)

We have frequently, and as emphatically as we can, warned our Conservative statesmen that their great error consisted, and consists, in despising and contemning the people, even in the hour of need, when they humbly appeal to them for support. We quote a specimen of what we mean from *The Standard*, and having yesterday quoted its view of the probable foreign policy of the Duke of Wellington, with approbation, it will not, we presume, accuse us of injustice, if we class it for this passage among his mischievous friends:—

"The following is the King's truly most dignified answer to the impertinent address of the Common Council. The animals to whom it is offered will probably not understand it; but the temper, grace, and calmness of the reply, compared with the ill-mannered petulance of the address, convey the most cutting rebuke."

"Animals!" Can any epithet be more contemptuous? Does the Duke of Wellington instruct the Journals in his interest to heap contempt on the Common Council of the first city of the empire, and endeavour, if possible, to provoke their anger? Such cannot be the policy of the Duke, and we do most earnestly deprecate such language, and must remonstrate against its use, let who will be its author.

We find in the following passage, copied from the *Dublin Warder*, into *The Standard* of Monday, without one word of condemnation, and, therefore, approved of, an additional reason for such a remonstrance:—

"All of the leading and influential traitors of 1798 ought to have been hanged, instead of being suffered to live for the purpose of concocting new treasons. We hope the British Government will have learned wisdom from experience, and not commit the mistake a second time. But, at present, what should be done? O'Connell, and those wretched and unprincipled creatures who have enlisted under his Jack Cade banner, are endeavouring to rouse up the King's subjects to oppose and control the King's prerogative in

the choice of his Ministers. He must submit to the dictation of the Irish apostle of sedition—the professor of repeal—the, perhaps, conspirator to separation. His Majesty must submit to this fellow's dictation, and that of the English Mustardine renegade to his order, or the land is to be convulsed, and rebellion lift its horrid head to beard and awe legitimate authority. Again, we ask, what, in such a fearful crisis, should be done? Why, this, the royal prerogative has the power of vindicating itself. While Parliament is not sitting, the King can issue his proclamation against the holding of such meetings as that which the other day took place at the Corn Exchange; and if O'Connell, or any other man, shall, in contempt of such proclamation, procure to be held such interdicted meetings, or attend such, or promote the objects of such, by speaking or writing and publishing, let him and them be taken into custody, and in due time prosecuted; but not with such mockery of public justice as when O'Connell was prosecuted, convicted, and allowed to escape the justly incurred penalties of conviction.

"The state is sick to death, and demands strong remedies—if they are not applied the patient will perish.

"The times must be quieted; the straight waistcoat of a determined and salutary Government must be put upon the *savage and unreflecting hordes* whom O'Connell has maddened to his purpose, or they will leap the precipice of rebellion, and cover the land with calamities and horrors hitherto unparalleled.

"Let not his Majesty fear to use his prerogative in Ireland—let not his Minister fear to be firm—he will have, of *Orangemen alone, a hundred thousand men, disciplined to the use of arms*, and ready to expend the last drops of their blood in defence of the monarchy and its rights, and to the maintenance of British connection against the conspiracy formed to break and dismember it, as announced by the deeply interesting paragraph which we have quoted from the *American Journal*."

Can any person read this without feeling alarm for the continuance of public tranquillity? The small quantum of mercy shown towards the Irish, in 1798, is condemned as criminal, and more fetters and more blood are demanded; and the Government is incited to put down public discussion in Ireland by the promise of support from a hundred thousand Orangemen trained to arms. Why, if it were possible that the present Government could be founded on the principle of contemning public opinion, and were to insist on the people suffering contempt and oppression in quietness—it would be a revolting nuisance which all good men ought to abate. But the present Administration is founded on no such principles. It does not condemn, it it appeals to the good sense of the people. The Duke of Wellington has once in his life most emphatically declared his abhorrence of civil war, and how then can those be his partisans who seem only eager to provoke civil strife, and temper their swords in the blood of their fellow citizens?

With sincerity, and with all the earnestness in our power, we deprecate, in these times of excitement—when the restraints of authority sit loose upon mankind, and when the respect for the law is half obliterated—the use of such contemptuous, exciting, and dangerous language. The Editors of *The Standard* and its opponents are quite at liberty to bandy the lie with each other, which we hope may suffice to carry off their bad humours, but let them abstain from rousing into ferocity the kindling passions of the mass.

## ELECTION STATISTICS.

SUMMARY, showing the population of Great Britain and Ireland, from the returns of 1831; the number of counties, ridings, parts, or division, cities and boroughs returning members to serve in Parliament, from the boundary reports; the number of members returned for each kingdom; the number of electors enrolled previous to the general election of 1832, and the proportions they bear to the population; the number and the proportion which the electors bear to the males of twenty years of age, and the proportion the representatives bear to the gross population and to the electors; the number of houses assessed at 10% and upwards, in cities and boroughs in Great Britain.

| TOTALS.. | Ireland ..... | Great Britain | Scotland.... | Wales ..... | England.... | No. of Counties, Shires, and Towns, exclusive of the Borough Population. | Population of the Counties, Shires, and Towns, exclusive of the Borough Population. | Number of represented Cities, Towns, and Boroughs. | Population of the Cities, Towns, and Boroughs, in 1831. | Total Population of Great Britain and Ireland, in 1831. | Number of Representatives. |                   | Number of Electors enrolled previous to General Election in 1832. |                  | Total Numbers of Electors in Counties and Boroughs. | Proportion of Electors in County Population. |
|----------|---------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
|          |               |               |              |             |             |                                                                          |                                                                                     |                                                    |                                                         |                                                         | For Counties.              | For Boroughs, &c. | In Counties.                                                      | In Boroughs, &c. |                                                     |                                              |
| 114      | 32            | 82            | 30           | 12          | 40          |                                                                          | 8,336,263                                                                           | 185                                                | 4,754,742                                               | 13,091,005                                              | 144                        | 327               | 344,564                                                           | 274,649          | 619,213                                             | 1 in 24                                      |
|          |               |               |              |             |             |                                                                          | 609,871                                                                             | 14 (b)                                             | 196,311                                                 | 806,182                                                 | 15                         | 14                | 25,815                                                            | 11,309           | 37,124                                              | 1 in 23                                      |
|          |               |               |              |             |             |                                                                          | 1,500,107                                                                           | 76 (a)                                             | 865,007                                                 | 2,365,114                                               | 30                         | 23                | 33,115                                                            | 31,332           | 64,447                                              | 1 in 45                                      |
|          |               |               |              |             |             |                                                                          | 10,446,241                                                                          | 275                                                | 5,816,060                                               | 16,262,301                                              | 189                        | 364               | 403,494                                                           | 317,290          | 720,784                                             | 1 in 25*                                     |
|          |               |               |              |             |             |                                                                          | 7,027,509                                                                           | 34                                                 | 739,892                                                 | 7,767,401                                               | 64                         | 41                | 60,607                                                            | 31,545           | 92,152                                              | 1 in 115                                     |
| TOTALS.. |               |               |              |             |             |                                                                          | 17,473,750                                                                          | 309                                                | 6,656,952                                               | 24,129,702                                              | 253                        | 405               | 464,101                                                           | 348,835          | 812,916                                             | 1 in 37†                                     |

| TOTALS.. | Ireland ..... | Great Britain | Scotland.... | Wales ..... | England.... | Proportion of Electors in City, Borough, &c. Population. | Number of Males in Counties and Boroughs, of 20 Years of Age and upwards. | Proportion of Electors to Male Population, of 20 Years and above. | Number of Electors in every 100 of the Gross Population. | Number of Electors in every 100 Males of 20 Years and upwards. | Number of the Gross Population to one Representative. | The Average Number of Electors who return one Representative. | Number of Houses in Boroughs worth £10 and upwards, or assessed at £10, &c. |
|----------|---------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|          |               |               |              |             |             |                                                          |                                                                           |                                                                   |                                                          |                                                                |                                                       |                                                               |                                                                             |
| 1 in 18† | 1 in 22       | 1 in 18*      | 1 in 27      | 1 in 17     | 1 in 17     |                                                          | 3,199,984                                                                 | 1 in 5                                                            | 4.73                                                     | 19.35                                                          | 27,794                                                | 1,314                                                         | 418,116                                                                     |
|          |               |               |              |             |             |                                                          | 194,706                                                                   | 1 in 5                                                            | 4.60                                                     | 18.55                                                          | 27,799                                                | 1,280                                                         | 9,644                                                                       |
|          |               |               |              |             |             |                                                          | 549,821                                                                   | 1 in 8                                                            | 2.72                                                     | 11.72                                                          | 44,624                                                | 1,215                                                         | 35,386                                                                      |
|          |               |               |              |             |             |                                                          | 3,944,511                                                                 | 1 in 5‡                                                           | 4.43*                                                    | 18.27*                                                         | 29,407*                                               | 1,303*                                                        | 463,146                                                                     |
|          |               |               |              |             |             |                                                          | 1,867,765                                                                 | 1 in 20                                                           | 1.18                                                     | 4.93                                                           | 73,975                                                | 877                                                           | —                                                                           |
|          |               |               |              |             |             |                                                          | 5,812,276                                                                 | 1 in 7†                                                           | 3.38†                                                    | 13.98†                                                         | 36,519†                                               | 1,235†                                                        | —                                                                           |

(a) Of these, seven Cities and Towns, and fourteen Districts of Burghs, only return Members.

(b) The principal Borough of each District only.

\* Average proportions of Great Britain.

† Average proportions of United Kingdom.

## NUMBER OF CONTESTED ELECTIONS

IN 1832.

|                         |                        |                     |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| In England.....         | 19 counties contested, | and 21 no contest.  |
| showing in England....  | 139 boroughs           | ditto and 46 ditto. |
|                         | 158 places             | ditto and 67 ditto. |
| In Scotland.....        | 20 counties            | ditto and 10 ditto. |
| showing in Scotland...  | 16 boroughs            | ditto and 5 ditto.  |
|                         | 36 places              | ditto and 15 ditto. |
| In Ireland.....         | 19 counties            | ditto and 13 ditto. |
| showing in Ireland..... | 30 boroughs            | ditto and 4 ditto.  |
|                         | 49 places              | ditto and 17 ditto. |
| In Wales.....           | 2 counties             | ditto and 10 ditto. |
| showing in Wales.....   | 5 boroughs             | ditto and 9 ditto.  |
|                         | 7 places               | ditto and 19 ditto. |

Of the 114 counties and divisions in the United Kingdom, 60 contested, and 54 no contest. Of the 254 cities, towns, and places electing members in the United Kingdom, there were 190 contested, and 64 no contest.



## CHURCH REFORM.

*(From the Courier.)*

Among the members of the Press, the Duke of Wellington has some most mischievous friends. A writer in "Fraser's Magazine," for example, while he pretends to espouse the cause of the Duke, gives the following description of the sort of Church Reform which the Tories are disposed to grant:—

"But now we say to the new Administration, in the words of the Rev. T. Manners Sutton,—'The clergy all expect church reform at your hands.' They do not deprecate it; they desire it without delay and without stint.

"But what is the reform that ought to be proposed? It is just the filling up the beautiful outline handed down to us by our forefathers. It is the adjustment of the supply of religious instruction to the wants of the people, and the disposal of the revenues of the church so as to answer most efficiently the ends for which they were designed.

"Instead of suppressing bishoprics, we want more created. Instead of leaving churches to fall to decay, we want more—hundreds more—erected. Why is it that dissent rears its head with such boldness at the present moment? Not because the people have, of their own accord, forsaken her; but because in such vast masses of population as are gathered together in Leeds, and Manchester, and Birmingham, and our other manufacturing towns, the means of religious instruction within the pale of the establishment have not been provided for them. Hence the growth of meeting houses; hence the strength and audacity of dissent; hence the obvious and pressing necessity for such a church reform as shall remedy, and not increase, that deficiency."

"The people, therefore, meaning thereby not the mere multitude, do earnestly desire a large and efficient church reform? and the clergy themselves 'all look for it.' They desire to see our moral wastes cultivated; and the establishment made, what it ought to be, *sufficient* for the wants of the community. They expect that any funds that may be needed for these purposes shall be taken in the first instance from such surplus revenues as the church may herself possess; and in case a deficiency should still exist, they, the people, by *their representatives in Parliament, will readily supply that deficiency.* We will answer for this. Let the people only see that a real honest church reform is intended, and they *will not be parsimonious in supplying the necessary means.*

The recommendation is not the less important, and excites not the less apprehension, from agreeing with Mr. Goulburn's statement in the debates on the Irish Church Temporalities Bill. A comparison having been drawn between the number of Bishops in England and Ireland, the right hon. gentleman inferred from it, that it did not prove that there were too many Bishops in Ireland, but too few in England. Perhaps the Tories mean, which actually is hinted at by some writers, to restore the abolished Bishoprics of Ireland, and, acting on Mr. Goulburn's principle, increase the number of Bishops in England fully in proportion to the original number in Ireland. All such schemes, and indeed all schemes of new policy or regulations, suggested by individuals, now fortunately require the consent of the nation, obtained through its representatives, to carry them into execution, and the fact of Dissenting Chapels being already established in all the large towns, is quite decisive as to the inclination of a large class of the people not to supply additional funds for the sup-

port of the Church. The Dissenters have in their chapels all which they desire. They already complain of paying to the Church, and, therefore, to suppose that they would willingly supply any money for erecting new bishoprics seems wholly unwarranted. To publish such projects, however, and allow it to be supposed that the Duke of Wellington or Sir Robert Peel will countenance them, must exert a fatal influence on the hopes of their friends at any general election.

## TORY CONSISTENCY.

*(From the Globe.)*

Lord Brougham's arrival in Paris, where his expressions respecting the Wellington ministry are quoted, has created a sensation.

The probable foreign policy of the British Man-Ministry, or of those to whom, in retiring from ostensible power, he may leave our Lilliput, is naturally a subject of much questioning. The first sensation impressed abroad by his Grace's surprise of the powers of government was certainly of the most unequivocal nature. Everywhere the absolutists were elated and the liberals thunder-struck. For ourselves, we gave no impulse to these sudden hopes or fears on either side; but we own we have been amused to see them infect our friends of the Tory journals, and then to see them on second thoughts disclaimed with equal alacrity as quite prematurely taken up by the parties in continental quarrels.

It is now put forward in some of the quarters which used to be most unremittingly occupied in decrying our whole line of foreign policy under the late Cabinet, that exactly the same policy will be carried on by the Man-Ministry. This, we presume, is put forth to obviate all distrust of that policy. The Brussels Correspondent of a morning contemporary says—

"I have ascertained a most important fact, for which I can vouch, as coming from authority on which I place the strongest and most implicit reliance. The Hague was the very first place to which the Duke of Wellington dispatched a messenger after he was sworn into office. The purport of his communication to the King of Holland was that it was *not his intention to depart from the course of foreign policy adopted by the late government.* Dispatches to the same effect were next sent off in succession to Paris, Madrid, Berlin, Frankfort, Vienna, and Constantinople. The quarter from which I have received this intelligence enables me *most positively* to assure you that it cannot be controverted."

What a complete self-conviction is this out of the mouths of those very detractors who have been sedulously blackening for four years past the foreign policy which has preserved the peace of Europe during that whole period! What a compliment to the merits of a system in which even its calumniators can find nothing to change!

## CHURCH AND KING.

*(From the Standard.)*

We yesterday addressed such arguments as occurred to us, in reply to our correspondents' objections to coming forward at this time with addresses to the throne. In the following letter of Lord Kenyon, we have an argument a thousand-fold stronger than any we have been yet able to offer. With a gratification higher than we have often experienced, we lay the letter before those to whom it is addressed, the Protestants of Great

Britain. If they will not come forward now upon such a summons, to rally round the King, who "has stood in the gap and stayed the plague," any further appeal from us must be vain :—

TO THE PROTESTANTS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The crisis in which we stand will, I trust, excuse me for once more addressing my countrymen. In political questions I never interfere. On the question of reform I held my peace. This crisis, however, is a religious crisis—it is one of equal interest to all Protestants—that is to all those who are Protestants (whether Churchmen or Dissenters), from religious principles, and not as political partisans. To those who make religion or Dissent a political engine, I say nothing; for of all created beings, hypocrites, and especially religious hypocrites, are the most hateful. To all true religious Protestants I wish to offer a few observations in this awful crisis.

The time is now come to declare for real vital Christianity, or to let infidelity sweep away all moral restraints, every social tie, every domestic comfort. The battle is to be fought in and for Ireland. Is Protestantism to remain there or not? Is Popery to extirpate it? Are Protestants to be forced either to abjure their religion at home from terror, or to emigrate to save their lives, or to be massacred by Popish fury? Read the speech, my Protestant brethren, of Mr. O'Sullivan, and judge for yourselves, whether the law will be able to preserve the lives of Protestants in Ireland, if you who are electors do not exert yourselves to give them protection in parliament. Judge on reading that impressive, that overpowering speech delivered at the Lancashire Conservative Meeting at Liverpool, if you think it possible that Protestantism can continue to exist in Ireland, if a government favourable to its support is not established in England. What are you told of the conduct of our gracious King? What but this, that on its being asked of him whether he would sanction a partial extinction of Protestantism in Ireland, he replied, like his sainted father, "I WILL DIE FIRST;" and will any, who call themselves by the name of Protestants—I appeal not to the deniers of our blessed Lord's Divinity, but to Christian Protestants—will any such yield to any other motive, or admit of any other sense of duty, than that of maintaining our Protestant brethren in Ireland. The question is not one between the Church and the Irish Romanists. It is between the Romanists and Protestantism in Ireland. Who has been more religiously, more holily zealous in the cause than Dr. Cooke, of Ulster, the head of the old Presbyterians of the north of Ireland? Who has proclaimed more loudly than that pious man, that the preservation of the Protestant Church in Ireland is of vital importance to Protestantism? Shall the head of the Presbyterians of Ireland bear witness in vain? Shall your King, like his sainted father, determined to maintain what he considers his bond under his sacred obligations, be abandoned by those who claim the honoured, the Christian distinction of Protestants, when he, even in his Royal graciousness, has wished to make all possible concessions to the wishes and desires of his people, stopping short of yielding the pure Protestant faith? Shall your King, I ask, be deserted when he who so makes his stand? If Britons deserve to be called Christians, the nation's cry will be—NEVER! WE WILL STAND BY OUR KING. We will not desert our God. Now is the time for Protestants to awake from their dreams, and show that, deluded as they

may be for a time—that, biassed as they may be by the name of liberty—or anxious, as not unnaturally as they be, for political power—yet that they prize that liberty, they value that power, chiefly from its enabling them to maintain that Protestant cause, that pure profession of Christianity which has mainly given to Britain a character above all other nations, and for which we may humbly believe it has pleased God in his mercy to vouchsafe to us, in addition to that his first blessing, all other high blessings by which we are distinguished. Now, my Protestant brethren, is the time for action. Not to protect abuses; no man, no government can wish to preserve any such, not to prevent any reforms which can be shown or felt to be reforms, indeed; but it is the time to prove to our own consciences and to our God, that, wishing as we must wish to be distinguished among the nations of the world, as that country in which pure Christianity flourishes the most, and is the most highly valued, we will not tempt God in his wrath to remove that light and blessing from us, by abandoning our King when he calls on us graciously for our help in its support. In all confidence that this call will not be in vain, I am,

Your respectful Servant and Brother Protestant,  
Gradington, Dec. 1, 1834. KENYON.

HIS MAJESTY'S ANSWER TO THE COMMON COUNCIL.

(From the Standard.)

The King held a council at St. James' Palace on Tuesday at two o'clock, for the purpose of receiving the Common Council of London, who proceeded in the customary manner to present the address voted by that assembly to His Majesty. The same distinguished individuals who attended on the late occasions were summoned to assist his Majesty, and the Duke of Wellington and Earl Rosslyn had private audiences of the King previous to the arrival of the Corporation.

The following is the King's truly dignified answer to the impertinent address of the Common Council.

The animals to whom it is offered will probably not understand it; but the temper, grace, and calmness of the reply, compared with the ill-mannered petulance of the address, convey the most cutting rebuke.

"It has been, and ever will be, the object of my earnest solicitude to correct abuses, and to improve the condition of the country. I trust that the ministers I may appoint will, by the successful prosecution of this, the first wish of my heart, justify my confidence and obtain that of my people."

THE DISMISSAL OF THE MINISTRY.

(From the Scotsman.)

We intimated our belief a week ago, that the present revolution in the Cabinet had been pre-arranged. The time may not have been fixed; but the resolution was taken, and a fit juncture merely waited for to carry it into effect. Without saying, as some do, that the plot was devised by the Queen—an assertion which cannot be proved—we may safely infer, that her Majesty, who is a person of much shrewdness, could not be ignorant of its existence, and that when among her personal friends in Germany, expressions might escape her which would betray the secret. It will be remembered that her Majesty left England on the 5th of



July, just three days previous to Earl Grey's resignation, all the arrangements having been made for her Majesty's continental journey before the circumstances had occurred which led to that event. Now, it is remarkable, that some obscure intimations of a coming change had got abroad in Germany during her Majesty's residence there. In proof of this, we were shown a letter from an English gentleman of rank to a friend in Edinburgh, dated 27th August last, from a German town in which her Majesty had spent some days about a month before. The letter contains the following passage:—"I much fear that the King has foolishly committed himself by unguarded expressions to the bishops, and that he is acting another part to his Ministers, *which will come out by and by.* I have some reason for believing this on German authority that cannot well be doubted." We leave the reader to draw his own inference from these expressions, with this remark, that the writer is too acute and well-informed to attach importance to idle gossip. We shall only add, that perhaps the existence of a Conservative plot in the Court, to upset the Ministry, and place the Government on a footing more favourable to the Church, affords the best explanation of the apparently insensate conduct of the Lords, in rejecting the Irish Tithe Bill—conduct which all persons, not in the secret, regarded as an absolute sacrifice of the Irish Church.

#### LORD BROUGHAM.

(From the Sun.)

Lord Brougham has written a letter to Lord Lyndhurst, which will be found in another column, withdrawing his application for the place of Lord Chief Baron, and alleging as his reason for so doing, that, though he felt anxious to accomplish the two objects of saving a large sum to the public, and of completing the reform of the Court of Chancery, by abolishing the office of Vice-Chancellor, yet that he had recently received communications from persons in whose judgment he could confide, suggesting that his acceptance of a judicial situation, though without any emolument whatever, might appear to others to interfere with his parliamentary duties. We think Lord Brougham's friends have done him great service in venturing on these suggestions, and that he has shown great sagacity in availing himself of them. As a Judge, however exemplary he might have shewn himself in that capacity, he could scarcely have failed to be withdrawn in some degree, from political life—for the judicial duties in the Exchequer are no longer what they were some few years since, little better than sinecures, but have become so onerous as almost to monopolize attention. Fortunately, however, for himself and the country, Lord Brougham has adopted the wise and fitting course, and can now plead the cause of the people with energies wholly unfettered. He can now bring the schoolmaster's primer to bear against the Marshal's baton, and in his hands the weapon will be irresistible. To those who imagine that interested motives have been at the bottom of Lord Brougham's proposition, we who have seen the original letter, have it in our power to say, that it was prompted solely by the loftiest and most disinterested considerations. A morning contemporary endeavoured to make a great deal of the *expenses* necessarily attendant on performing the duties of the Chief Baronship—expenses of circuit and chambers in London. Now, these together, Lord Brougham calculated at about 800*l.*, or, at the utmost, 1,000*l.*, which, subtracted from the Chief Baron's salary of 7,000*l.* a-year, would create

a saving to the country of 6,000*l.* per annum. Besides this saving, the office of Vice-Chancellor would also have been abolished, by which a further saving of 7,000*l.* per annum would have been secured to the country. As a still more convincing proof of Lord Brougham's disinterestedness, he expressly mentioned his intention of declining all the patronage that might be attached to the office of Chief Baron. Now, out of these simple facts, his Lordship's enemies have contrived to weave a "web of lies and sophistry," in which they are themselves entangled! But though Lord Brougham has defeated all their puny machinations, still we cannot but regret that he ever gave them an opportunity of misrepresenting his conduct. There are few more valuable requisites in a statesman than discretion. While on this subject we cannot but express a wish that Lords Brougham and Durham would consent to lay aside their differences, and act in harmony together for the public good. This would be more than discretion—it would be a sacrifice of private considerations on the altar of the public good, worthy of the best days of Greece and Rome. It would, besides, strike a moral terror to the hearts of the Anti-Reformers, and give an impetus to the cause of justice that would ere long be irresistible. Reformers, of all classes, are combining; and we are sure that Lords Brougham and Durham will not be the last to follow so magnanimous an example. Their union is the only thing wanting to perfect the triumph of the popular cause.

#### CHURCH REFORM.

(From the Herald.)

It has been the misfortune of this country that measures of reform, though finally carried, have been delayed so long, that they have almost invariably been wrested with violence from the hands of the party in power, instead of having been conceded on the proof of their own merits or expediency. Many of such reforms and amendments also have not been productive of one half of the benefits which, had they been effected earlier, might fairly have been expected from them. To enumerate instances would, we fear, merely be to recount the delays, to which nearly every important measure of this nature has, during the last forty years, been doomed. The mode and time of carrying the bill for the emancipation of the Catholics, as well as that of reform, without at all alluding to the intrinsic merits or demerits of either measure, present two sufficiently striking examples of the truth of the above observations, which, however, are called forth from us at the present moment more particularly by what we consider the pressing nature of that most important question, Church Reform; and, if history or experience of the past is not wholly thrown away upon those in power, we cannot doubt but that this question will be at once boldly, yet cautiously, entered upon; for here again, may not the real friends of the church establishment, both in this country and Ireland, but more especially in the latter, but too justly complain of the serious evils, to a certain extent, we fear, now irremediable, which have resulted from delay?

On looking at the state of the church question, we find that the evils necessarily arising out of our present system of tithes, and the existence of abuses in the distribution and enjoyment of ecclesiastical preferments, have, during the last thirty years, scarcely been attempted to be denied. Yet, notwithstanding this, and that many most excellent

enlightened churchmen have proposed remedies for these acknowledged defects, the system of tithes, as vexatious to the clergyman as it is injurious to agriculture, exists here still unmitigated. We say *here*, for in Ireland we regret to perceive that, from utter despair of obtaining by legal and constitutional means any relief from this burden, the people of that unfortunate country have taken the remedy into their own hands; and to such an extent has this feeling now spread itself, that we confess we deem it impossible for any government, however well supported, again to collect tithe in that country, *eo nomine*, and in the same manner as formerly. That such a system of redressing grievances, or, in fact, of allowing a portion of the people themselves thus to abrogate laws, if once established, must soon be destructive to all government, no one can deny; and we do not hesitate to attribute to the feeble and vacillating conduct of the government of the day the evils which have flowed, and, we regret to say, may still flow upon the country from this source,—the inevitable result, we repeat, of all such combinations, whether under the name of a Catholic Association or a Political Union, must be the subversion of the constitution, and the dissolution of the present frame of civilized society.

When we thus speak of the absolute necessity of the question of church reform being now entertained we feel confident that we shall not be suspected of wishing to deprive the church of one farthing of its revenues. With respect to tithes, we, with all true friends of the church, are only anxious to introduce such changes, either by composition or equitable commutation for land or otherwise, or by any other plan which may be deemed more advisable, as may put an end to all heartburnings and jealousies between the Pastors and their flocks, and which would take away from the enemies of our church one of their most powerful strong-holds of attack on the establishment. It is not the clergy, we feel sure, who are in fault with respect to the tithes, but the system; and one more ingeniously contrived for the purpose of causing ill blood between the clergyman and his parishioners, more calculated to produce a litigation, and more oppressive to the soil, we defy human ingenuity to discover. As a mode of payment to the clergy, we have no hesitation in saying that there is scarcely a rector in the kingdom who receives what is his due under the present system, while there is not a single vicar who gets more than one-half of what he would be entitled to were he willing or able to put the law into strict force.

It is under such circumstances, then, that we trust that the tithe question will be, early in the next session of parliament, entered upon, and finally adjusted. Ireland has left the ministers, whoever they may be, no choice; there something must be done, and we are only anxious that remedies should be applied here ere the contagion spread, and while they will be thankfully received.

We have only space further to observe, that, with respect to the abuses which exist in our church government, such as pluralities, non-residence, &c., we have always hoped that reforms on these points would have emanated from the church itself; and we still trust that that amiable and excellent divine, the Archbishop of Canterbury, will introduce some sound and effective measure on this subject. No half-measures, or mock reforms, we need hardly say, can be of any use. The country, the great majority of which, we are convinced, are sincerely attached to the church,

are really awake upon this question—the evils they feel and see, and redress is called for. We have prolonged our observations on this subject to a greater length than we had intended, but its importance must be our justification—we say importance, for on it the late administration may be said to have fallen to pieces. On the successful treatment of it, we conceive, will hinge the fate of any future administration.

## THE NEW MINISTRY.

(From the Morning Post.)

Alas, alas! What has become of the wish “father to the thought” of our Radical Contemporaries that Sir Robert Peel would not accept of office at the present moment? How completely have the hopes of Jacobinism been frustrated, the anticipations of ex-emplarism been destroyed, by the prompt and patriotic obedience of the new Chancellor of the Exchequer to the commands of his Sovereign. We have never entertained for a moment the slightest doubts of such a result. We knew that, although the delicate and sensitive feeling of honour, which has ever been an attribute of the Right Honourable Baronet, prevented him from accepting office two years ago, under circumstances which might have exposed his conduct to the misrepresentations of those whose breath is faction, and whose trade is falsehood, that as soon as the time should arrive when Sir R. Peel thought he might accept office, with honour to himself and advantage to his King and country, he would readily and cheerfully come forward. Our anticipations have been realized, and the formation of the Administration has been entrusted to one who has more than fulfilled the splendid promises which early academical distinction held out—to one whose eloquence, statesmanlike views, and unrivalled judgment, combine with unblemished private reputation and the possession of wealth, which places him far above the love of office for the sake of its advantages, to point him out as incomparably the fittest man for rule at this important crisis. With him are associated the illustrious hero whose acceptance of the Seals of the Foreign Department is a guarantee for the honour, peace, and dignity of England, (what a contrast with Lord Palmerston!) and the learned and acute Lord Lyndhurst, who leaves to his successor (if report speak true, no unworthy possessor of his mantle) a judgment-seat which he has raised to pre-eminence and distinction, as a British Court of Justice. Will Lord Stanley and Sir James Graham join? is now the question. For their own sakes, as well as that of the country, we trust the question will be answered in the affirmative. There can now be no material points of difference between Conservatives of any denomination. Loyalty to the King, attachment to the Church, and an affectionate veneration for the ecclesiastical and civil institutions of the land, with an anxious but cautious desire to effect such reforms as may be useful or necessary, are the principles which animate in common the Duke of Wellington and Lord Stanley, Sir Robert Peel and Sir James Graham. The result of such an union cannot be doubtful—a firm, compact, and enlightened Administration, which may bid defiance alike to foes of every description, whether they muster under the banner of destructive innovation or are banded together merely by an inordinate attachment to the honours and advantages of office.



## LORD STANLEY AND THE TORIES.

*(From the Morning Chronicle.)*

Lord Stanley has refused to join the Duke's Administration, and the Tories now say that they will be better without him. This is the old story of the Fox and the Sour Grapes.

*The Standard*, not having yet been instructed to abuse his Lordship, observes—

"We have not heard how far his answer favours the hope that his Lordship will give to the Administration the aid of his great talents and noble character—we mean as a member of the Government, for of his zealously supporting Sir Robert Peel's Ministry, as a member of Parliament, there can be no doubt whatever."

We suspect our contemporary will find that he has here counted without his host. It is understood that he will give his support in South Lancashire to the liberal candidate. This is certain, that he has declined to favour the pretensions of Lord Francis Egerton (formerly Leveson Gower), to the great displeasure and mortification of the Tories. We do not wonder that Lord Stanley should be disgusted at the conduct of the wolves in sheep's clothing, new forming a pseudo-Reform Ministry. Whatever his faults, Lord Stanley is honest and straight-forward. He scorns to conceal his sentiments, and still more to profess opinions which he does not entertain. He may be proud, but he is not mean or hypocritical.

The Peel-Wellington Administration is to be purely and exclusively Tory. *The Standard* tells us that the Earl of Carnarvon is likely to hold the Privy Seal, and that Sir Edward Knatchbull will probably be a member of the Cabinet. The candidates for office are, it seems, numerous. "The Conservatives (says our contemporary) can easily afford three or four every way worthy and competent to discharge the duties of every Cabinet office." They are quite perplexed with this *embarras des richesses*, as our contemporary phrases it. Sir R. Peel has only to say the word, and Mr. Goulburn, or Mr. Herries, or Mr. William Holmes, are ready to take his place of First Lord of the Treasury, Mr. Horace Twiss, or Mr. Praed, or Mr. Halcomb, are equally ready to relieve Lord Lyndhurst from his toils. Mr. Croker can fill every situation. Four Statesmen fit for every office in the Cabinet, amount to about half a hundred in all—a great source of embarrassment, no doubt. Why they should have done such injustice to these prime Statesmen, as to run about the country after Lord Stanley and Sir James Graham, is inexplicable.

## THE "TIMES" AND ITS NEW PROTEGEES.

*(From the Morning Chronicle.)*

What is true of individuals is, we presume, true of the great plurals, the editors of newspapers. In proportion as a man finds himself in the wrong, he works himself into a passion. *The Times*, a great master of the vulgar tongue, was yesterday peculiarly foul-mouthed: "vulgar impertinence," "jackanapes," "simpleton," "conjuror," "conceited prig," "the scribe," "small-minded pedant," "calumniator;" these, together with the more usual elegancies of "abominable falsehood," "impudent liar," are a few of the flowers presented to us, in yesterday's nosegay, out of the rhetorical hotbed of Printing-house-square. The truth is, that not a little of the former success of the leading journal has arisen from the pleasure which the great mass of readers feel in the expo-

sure of their enemies; yes, and of their friends too. There is a satisfaction in seeing such terms as "knaves," "boobies," "poor creatures," "insane wretches," "zanies," "incurable block-heads," &c., applied to anybody and everybody; and it is impossible not to smile when a scavenger, all bemired himself, tosses his mud and filth by shovelfull about him; and is always the most vigorous and active in his dirty vocation, when the best-dressed and most decent-looking man crosses his path. There is scarce a public character which the Blackfriars nightman has not bespattered in his turn. Every honest man must make up his mind to the abuse of the *Times* once at least in his life;—it is like what the wise Frenchman said of marriage—"Il faut passer par là." But our snappish contemporary is never so truly rabid and hard bitten as when he is angry with himself: that is the case just now. He has made a wrong cast, and has a long, miry, roundabout way to run, before he can get upon the right scent, and join the old popular pack again. 'Tis a savage mongrel, it must be confessed; and one of his tricks is, after giving a suspicious growl or two at the heels of his master, to bark when he stumbles, and fly upon him the moment he is down.

The *Times* begins to suspect the experiment will not succeed. According to him the very formation of the new Government is doubtful. His phrase is, "We hope this will be a hint to the new Administration, if it should be formed." If—if: "talk'st thou to me of ifs?" Is it come to this? Why, it was only a day or two ago that, according to the same sagacious authority, the great mass, indeed the whole of the wealth and sense of the community, were pressed to support the Duke and Sir Robert, and it was only the vile mob who raised the voice of clamour and discontent. If so, what does the man mean by his "ifs?" Has Lord Stanley's refusal, or the coyness of dear Sir James, done this? He had better tell the truth at once; but if he will not we will for him.

The Conservatives have no chance—that is the fact. The constituencies are not to be betrayed into self destruction. The people feel that the late government have been treated with less ceremony and decent pretext for dismissal than the confidential servants of any British Sovereign have a right to demand at his hands.

The people know that the real cause of that dismissal was the determination of the government to give to them the full results of the Reform Act.

## TORY TACTICS.

*(From the Herald.)*

Though it is natural enough that Ministers, who ever they may be, should prefer praise to censure, as well as give credit to their Sovereign for partaking of the same inclination, yet that, we think, can scarcely justify the practice, so frequently resorted to, when addresses pour in to the throne, of giving authentic publicity to only such as are of a eulogistic character. This practice, we see, is had recourse to on the present occasion, and would, we are convinced, be far more honoured in the breach. There is an appearance of weak, resentful vindictiveness about it, quite unworthy of the parties or the occasion. The right of petitioning the Throne and the Legislature is undoubted; and, as long as the language employed is unobjectionable, the nature of the communication ought in no respect to influence the tone or manner of its reception. We know of no rule

which requires a public announcement of the receipt of such documents, still less their publication, in the *London Gazette*—a publication seen by none but the very few whom circumstances compel to be its purchasers, and to whom the price is enormously enhanced by this mere empty homage to vanity. At all events, if any of these productions should be published, it surely ought to be applied to all. Unpleasant truths are not always the least valuable; while to treat with contempt those who avail themselves of an undoubted right, merely because they do so in an unpalatable manner, is no proof either of wisdom or firmness.

#### DR. LUSHINGTON AND SIR R. PEEL.

(From the *Standard*.)

If the reported speech addressed by Dr. Lushington to his constituents of the Tower Hamlets be genuine, the Learned Doctor, by whomsoever bitten, must be positively insane. Let our readers take the following specimen, selected *honoris causa*, by the *Morning Chronicle* :—

“ When (said the Doctor) I hear the people say, ‘ Oh, for God’s sake, trust the Duke!—for heaven’s sake, listen kindly to Sir Robert Peel, who carried Catholic emancipation !’—I cannot help exclaiming against such folly and absurdity. The man who patiently listens to such stuff is an idiot—the man who avows his belief in them is a traitor. (Cheers.) How do men act in private life? Do you confide in those you know to be convicted swindlers? (Loud cheers.) If you seek a woman to be your companion for life, do you take as a wife, or as a mother to your families, a prostitute from the streets? (Hear, hear, hear.) If then, men are governed in private life by such feelings, should they not feel equally jealous of the character of those who govern them? Every man of common sense is governed in his dealings with an individual by his experience of his past conduct, and what safe or wiser course can we pursue with regard to those men called to the councils of the Sovereign, than be warned by the past, instead of blindly trusting to hope for the future? (Cheers.) ”

If this be not “ mere midsummer madness,” the learned doctor is something which we do not like to describe; but the reader will have our full approbation if he select the very worst word in the Dictionary expressive of meanness, malice and falsehood. Dr. Lushington has acted with the Duke of Wellington and Sir R. Peel; has acted under the Duke of Wellington and Sir R. Peel; has accepted favours from the Duke of Wellington and Sir R. Peel; and here we have him likening his benefactors to convicted swindlers and common prostitutes! We positively have read nothing so disgusting as this extract, since the celebrated *Suttee* speech in defence and for the continuance of Oriental obomiations. The phraseology is too foul for a gentleman; the Learned Doctor and Ecclesiastical Judge must have formed such a style in the select society of his mistress, Queen Caroline’s servants’ hall! The Duke of Wellington and Sir R. Peel being, or not being, such as Dr. Lushington describes them, who are the immaculate men excluded by their accession to office? Honest Mr. Ellice, honest Mr. Hume, brother Greeks, more honest Mr. O’Connell, and of all, most honest Mr. Littleton, with the whole train of Mr. Hull’s speech, Hill, &c., to complete the galaxy of unspotted integrity? It is very plain of whom Dr. Lushington was thinking when he employed one of his figures: an older recollection was, perhaps, floating in his disturbed mind, to suggest the other. The friend

of the Greeks (English Greeks we mean), and the servant of Queen Caroline, ought, however, to avoid such dangerous tropes. But, pray, what single act of the Duke of Wellington’s, or Sir R. Peel’s, we ask Dr. Lushington, ever justified the use of his “ filthy comparisons?” It is not for us to deny that they were once mistaken; but who, before Dr. Lushington, ever imputed less than a high motive for that mistake? And, if memory does not greatly deceive us, the Learned Doctor was, himself, among the loudest panegyrists of the error, and of the feelings that suggested it. Let Dr. Lushington, however, descending from his poetical diction, say what he would have the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel do? Abandon the King and country to the mercy of himself and his Destructive friends, by leaving the government in the hands of men whose proved weakness, were they good men, the majority of them being very bad men, could make no stand against the advance of the Destructive faction. It is satisfactory to know, and to know it too from the *Morning Chronicle*, that though the Tower Hamlets meeting was not at any time other than a meagre one, the disgusting speech of the Doctor was abundantly hissed.

#### THE NEW REFORMERS.

(From the *Courier*.)

It is stated in the *Standard* of last evening, and we do not suppose that our contemporary would make such a statement on light grounds, that *Sir Edward Knatchbull will probably be a Member of the Cabinet*. We confess we were not prepared for such an announcement. If it be true, Sir Robert Peel’s usual caution must have entirely deserted him, and he must be fully imbued with the daring spirit of his martial colleague. As a private individual, no man is more respectable or more highly esteemed than Sir Edward Knatchbull; but in politics he is, a century, behind the age. He is a star of the first magnitude in the constellation of Lords Whinchelsea and Roden; and by giving him a seat in the Cabinet, the Government substantially and decisively pledges itself to oppose every sort of Church reform. At the great Conservative dinner at Ashford in Kent, so late as the 26th ult, Sir Edward ascribed the late happy change in his Majesty’s councils purely to the intervention of providence, and he declared his conviction that “ *if they kept the Church and State just as it had been delivered to them by their ancestors, they would, in so doing, be consulting the best interests of the country.* ”

This is plain and explicit; and Sir Edward is not the man to doff his principles when he enters the Cabinet. His admission will, consequently, be equivalent to a declaration that the Government is constructed on the principal of opposing all further reforms in Church and State; that all the flagrant abuses and enormities of the Irish church, productive as they have been, and will continue to be, of dissension, bloodshed, and civil war, are to be maintained untouched; that juntos of self-elected corporators are to be permitted, as hitherto, without let or hindrance of any sort, to embezzle and dissipate the property of their fellow citizens; and that not one of the grievances affecting those who do not chuse to gulp down the whole thirty-nine Articles of the Church of England, are to be redressed! Any Government, even one of destructives, with Mr. O’Connell at its head, would be less revolting, less insulting, to the common sense of the country, than one formed on such in-



tollerant, bigotted, superannuated, drivelling maxims as these. If Sir Robert Peel assist in the formation of a Cabinet on such principles, a mighty change for the worse has come over him; and, whatever he may suppose, he may depend upon it he will do more than a thousand O'Connells to shake the foundation of the Throne and the Church, and to precipitate a revolution. His only course if he did not mean to become a leader among the Destructives, was to have filled his Cabinet with moderate men, and to have applied himself honestly and sincerely to the work of reformation. This might, and most probably would, have procured for him the support of the bulk of the middle classes—of those who hate abuse and fear revolution; and, backed by them, he might perhaps, have contrived to get on, and if foiled it would have been without dishonour. But if we may trust the statement in the *Standard*, he has, unhappily for himself and the country, rushed headlong into the arms of the ultra-bigots, and identified himself with the supporters of every abuse, however scandalous; and with the enemies of all change, however anxiously desired, and however advantageous! We are truly sorry for this; but as it is so, and there can no longer be a doubt that the Government is bent upon pursuing an anti-national policy, and is, in fact, insane enough to prefer the interests of 500 sinecure priests, to those of eight millions of laymen, it is the duty of every man, who has any respect for liberal principles, to exert himself to effect its overthrow. The longer a Government, opposed to all reform, and administered by the party of the Knatchbulls, is suffered to exist, the more extensively will revolutionary doctrines be diffused, and the greater will be the risk of our being involved in a *real crisis*.

#### LORD BROUGHAM'S LETTER TO E. L. BULWER, Esq.

This letter, which is subjoined to a new edition of Mr. Bulwer's "Letter to a Cabinet Minister on the present Crisis," published to-day, will be read with much interest. It is a reply to the remarks contained in that pamphlet on some parts of the learned Lord's political conduct, which have lately been made the subject of animadversion. Had our limits permitted, we should have transferred the whole of this letter to our columns. As it is, we must content ourselves with extracting the following, which are among the most important passages:—

"When you would represent me as a partial or doubtful Reformer, you surely have been listening to one or two of the hostile newspapers, and not reflecting on what you must immediately call to mind.

"I think no one need fear being considered a timid Reformer who carried through (without any other person ever taking any part whatever in its defence) the Scotch Borough Reform Bill—the first attempt at municipal reform ever yet made in England—and which was the necessary basis of the great measure of corporation reform in preparation by the late Government. I should be only fatiguing you were I to name the other measures of large and uncompromising reform with which my name is connected, and I will ask any one to point out any one instance in the whole course of my public life in which I have opposed, in any manner of way, any practical measure of reform—be it in Church or in State—in the judicial, or in the political department;—I might almost say any measure at all, for—except that I was against Annual Parliaments, Universal Suffrage, and

Voting by Ballot—I really recollect no case in which I and even the stoutest and most unsparing Reformers ever have been found to differ. My whole life has been devoted to introducing changes of a useful and practical nature, and never at all of a timid or paltry extent, into our establishments and our laws; and when I rely on the good sense and justice of my countrymen, and on their capacity to judge for themselves, and not allow their confidence in me, bestowed upon a uniform experience of above a quarter of a century, to be shaken by a few paragraphs in newspapers—the motives of which all the world plainly sees—I know that I do not indulge a vain hope that I shall continue to enjoy what has always been to me the chief reward of my exertions, next to the approval of my own mind. That my efforts have been always very much less than I could have desired, and that they have often been unsuccessful, I am most ready to grant; but even where I have not been able to do all I would, I have done what I could to prepare a triumph in better times for the principles which have uniformly, and without one single exception, guided my public life. The last occasion on which I took this course, none other being open to me, were the efforts which I lately made to abolish the taxes on newspapers (so hateful to those who would at once instruct the people, and purify the press—but so dear to all who profit, or fancy they profit by them) and to amend the law of libel; and I remind you of this matter that you may be able the better to account for the attacks to which in certain quarters I have been exposed, and also to show you that my attempts at reform were not confined to what was done in Parliament.

"No man who knows anything of our history for the last four years, dares reproach me with being a lukewarm Reformer, or very infirm of purpose in the Government, or very sparing in the measures with which I deal out political improvement. I say nothing now of law reform. All have allowed that there I have done enough for the time I had the power; and all know, though I dare say when it suits them they can forget it, that others prevented me introducing a far more sweeping reform than any yet attempted in our judicial system—I mean the local courts. All have, likewise seen that even when I quitted office, I was so anxious to have the finishing hand put to my Chancery reform, that I offered to work for nothing, instead of leading a life of absolute idleness; and this sacrifice I was ready to make (a great one, all who know my private pursuits are aware it would have proved), not only for the sake of saving the public above 12,000*l.* a year, but (what is far more important) to enable the suitors in Chancery to avoid all the evil of a double appeal. That I have been rewarded for such an offer, as I believe has not often been made to the country, by nothing but abuse, is only a proof, that at a moment of excitement, no party-man ever can expect even the semblance of justice.

"But though my efforts for law reform are not denied (at least as far as I know, for far be it from me to doubt that I may likewise be represented as hostile to that), yet you and others, who do not sufficiently reflect on the facts, and do not at all consider how mischievous such statements are to the common cause, are pleased to question my being friendly to other reforms. Subsequent events may perhaps have taught those who complained of our scanty doings in reform, that our position was not without its difficulties. But this I will assert, that had we met Parliament in office, no man would have said the vacation had been passed without abundant attempts to prepare measures of public usefulness.—IN A WORD, IMPORTANT RE-

FORMS—and I will add, that if any man shall suppose I was behind ANY ONE of my colleagues in the zealous and active support, and in the assiduous preparation of them—that man, be he who he may, will fall into the greatest mistake ever man committed.

"In conclusion, let me ask what right any one has to suspect my motives, when I happen to differ with him? My life, excepting four years, was a continued sacrifice of interest to my principles as a Reformer and friend of liberty; and even in taking office four years ago, I made a sacrifice both of feeling and of interests which some alive, and some, alas! no more, well know the cost of. But all the time I was in opposition did I ever show the least slackness to my duty in the cause of free opinion and of opposition to the Court? What abuse did I ever spare? What bad measure did I ever leave alone? What Minister did I ever suffer to rest while the country was to be served by opposing him? With whom did I ever compromise, or treat, or do otherwise than absolutely refuse all parley? SURELY, EVEN WHERE REFORMERS DIFFER, THESE ARE FACTS WHICH, AS THEY GIVE THE LAST PLEDGE OF SINCERITY ON THE ONE PART, OUGHT TO RECEIVE THE MOST FAVOURABLE CONSTRUCTION AS TO MOTIVE FROM THE OTHER.

"Yours truly,  
"H. BROUGHAM."

#### "TO THE ELECTORS OF THE BO- ROUGH OF TAMWORTH.

"Gentlemen,—On the 26th of November last, being then at Rome, I received from His Majesty a summons, wholly unforeseen and unexpected by me, to return to England without delay, for the purpose of assisting His Majesty in the formation of a new Government. I instantly obeyed the command for my return, and on my arrival I did not hesitate, after an anxious review of the position of public affairs, to place at the disposal of my Sovereign any services which I might be thought capable of rendering.

"My acceptance of the first office in the Government terminates for the present my political connexion with you. In seeking the renewal of it whenever you shall be called upon to perform the duty of electing a representative in Parliament, I feel it incumbent upon me to enter into a declaration of my views of public policy, as full and unreserved as I can make it, consistently with my duty as a Minister of the Crown.

"You are entitled to this from the nature of the trust which I again solicit, from the long habits of friendly intercourse in which we have lived, and from your tried adherence to me in times of difficulty, when the demonstration of unabated confidence was of peculiar value.

"I gladly avail myself also of this, a legitimate opportunity of making a more public appeal—of addressing, through you, to that great and intelligent class of society of which you are a portion, and a fair and unexceptionable representative—to that class which is much less interested in the contentions of party than in the maintenance of order, and the cause of good government, that frank exposition of general principles and views which appears to be anxiously expected, and which it ought not to be the inclination, and cannot be the interest, of a Minister of this country to withhold.

"Gentlemen,—the arduous duties in which I am engaged have been imposed upon me through no act of mine. Whether they were an object of ambition coveted by me—whether I regard the power and distinction they confer as any sufficient compensation for

the heavy sacrifices they involve, are matters of mere personal concern, on which I will not waste a word. The King, in a crisis of great difficulty, required my services. The question I had to decide was this—shall I obey the call, or shall I shrink from the responsibility, alleging as the reason that I consider myself, in consequence of the Reform Bill, as labouring under a sort of moral disqualification, which must preclude me, and all who think with me, both now and for ever, from entering into the official service of the Crown? Would it, I ask, be becoming in any public man to act upon such a principle? Was it fit that I should assume that either the object or the effect of the Reform Bill has been to preclude all hope of a successful appeal to the good sense and calm judgment of the people, and so to fetter the prerogative of the Crown, that the King has no free choice among his subjects, but must select his Ministers from one section, and one section only, of public men?

"I have taken another course, but I have not taken it without deep and anxious consideration as to the probability that my opinions are so far in unison with those of the constituent body of the United Kingdom as to enable me, and those with whom I am about to act, and whose sentiments are in entire concurrence with my own, to establish such a claim upon public confidence as shall enable us to conduct with vigour and success the government of this country.

"I have the firmest conviction that that confidence cannot be secured by any other course than that of frank and explicit declarations of principle,—that vague and unmeaning professions of popular opinions may quiet distrust for a time, may influence this or that election, but that such professions must ultimately and signally fail, if, being made, they are not adhered to, or if they are inconsistent with the honour and character of those who make them.

"Now, I say at once, that I will not accept power on the condition of declaring myself an apostate from the principles on which I have heretofore acted; at the same time, I never will admit that I have been, either before or after the Reform Bill, the defender of abuses, or the enemy of judicious reforms. I appeal with confidence in denial of the charge to the active part I took in the great question of the currency, in the consolidation and amendment of the criminal law, in the revival of the whole system of trial by jury, to the opinions I have professed and uniformly acted on with regard to other branches of the jurisprudence of the country—I appeal to this as a proof that I have not been disposed to acquiesce in acknowledged evils, either from the mere superstitious reverence for ancient usages, or from the dread of labour or responsibility in the application of a remedy.

"But the Reform Bill, it is said, constitutes a new era, and it is the duty of a Minister to declare explicitly—first, whether he will maintain the Bill itself; and, secondly, whether he will act upon the spirit in which it was conceived.

"With respect to the reform Bill itself, I will repeat now the declaration which I made when I entered the House of Commons as a member of the Reformed Parliament, that I consider the Reform Bill a final and irrevocable settlement of a great constitutional question, a settlement which no friend to the peace and welfare of this country would attempt to disturb, either by direct or by insidious means.

"Then, as to the spirit of the Reform Bill, and the willingness to adopt and enforce it as a rule of



government—if, by adopting the Spirit of the Reform Bill it be meant that we are to live in a perpetual vortex of agitation, that public men can only support themselves in public estimation by adopting every popular impression of the day, by promising the instant redress of anything which anybody may call an abuse, by abandoning altogether that great aid of Government, more powerful than either law or reason—the respect for ancient rights, and the deference to prescriptive authority,—if this be the spirit of the Reform Bill, I will not undertake to adopt it; but if the spirit of the Reform Bill implies merely a careful review of institutions civil and ecclesiastical, undertaken in a friendly temper, combining with the firm maintenance of established rights, the correction of proved abuses, and the redress of real grievances, in that case, I can for myself and colleagues undertake to act in such a spirit and with such intentions.

“Such declarations of general principle are, I am aware, necessarily vague; but, in order to be more explicit, I will endeavour to apply them practically to some of those questions which have, of late, attracted the greatest share of public interest and attention.

“I take, first, the inquiry into Municipal Corporations.

“It is not my intention to advise the Crown to interrupt the progress of that inquiry, nor to transfer the conduct of it from those to whom it was committed by the late Government. For myself, I gave the best proof that I was not unfriendly to the principle of inquiry, by consenting to be a member of that committee of the House of Commons on which it was originally devolved.

“No report has yet been made by the Commissioners to whom the inquiry was afterwards referred, and until that report be made, I cannot be expected to give, on the part of the Government, any other pledge than that they will bestow on the suggestions it may contain, and the evidence on which they may be founded, a full and unprejudiced consideration.

“I will, in the next place, address myself to the questions in which those of our fellow-countrymen who dissent from the doctrines of the Established Church take an especial interest. Instead of making new professions, I will refer to the course which I took upon those subjects when out of power. In the first place, I supported the measure brought forward by Lord Althorp, the object of which was to exempt all classes from the payment of church-rates, applying in lieu thereof, out of a branch of the revenue, a certain sum for the building and repair of churches.

“I never expressed, nor did I entertain the slightest objection to the principle of a bill of which Lord John Russell was the author, intended to relieve the conscientious scruples of Dissenters in respect of the ceremony of marriage. I give no opinion now on the particular measures themselves; they were proposed by Ministers in whom the Dissenters had confidence; they were intended to give relief, and it is sufficient for my present purpose to state that I supported the principle of them.

“I opposed, and I am bound to state that my opinions in that respect have undergone no change, the admission of Dissenters, as a claim of right, into the Universities; but I expressly declared, if regulations enforced by public authorities superintending the professions of law and medicine, and the studies connected with them, had the effect of conferring advantages of the nature of civil privileges on one class of the King's subjects from which another class was ex-

cluded, those regulations ought to undergo modification, with the view of placing all the King's subjects, whatever their religious creeds, upon a footing of perfect equality with respect to any civil privilege.

“I appeal to the course which I pursued on those several questions, when office must have been out of contemplation; and I ask with confidence, does that course imply that I was actuated by any illiberal or intolerant spirit towards the Dissenting body, or by any unwillingness to consider fairly the redress of any real grievances?

“In the examination of other questions which excited public feeling I will not omit the Pension List. I resisted, and with the opinions I entertain I should again resist, a retrospective inquiry into pensions granted by the Crown at a time when the discretion of the Crown was neither fettered by law, nor by the expression of any opinion on the part of the House of Commons. But I voted for the resolution moved by Lord Althorp, that pensions on the civil list ought for the future to be confined to such persons only as have just claims to the Royal beneficence, or are entitled to consideration on account either of their personal services to the Crown or of the performance of duties to the public, or of their scientific or literary eminence. On the resolution which I thus supported as a private member of Parliament I shall scrupulously act as a Minister of the Crown, and shall advise the grant of no pension which is not in conformity with the spirit and intention of the vote to which I was a party.

“Then, as to the great question of Church Reform, on that head I have no new professions to make. I cannot give my consent to the alienation of Church property in any part of the United Kingdom from strictly ecclesiastical purposes. But I repeat now the opinions that I have already expressed in Parliament in regard to the Church Establishment in Ireland, that if, by an improved distribution of the revenues of the Church, its just influence can be extended, and the true interests of the established religion promoted, all other considerations should be made subordinate to the advancement of objects of such paramount importance. As to Church property in this country, no person has expressed a more earnest wish than I have done that the question of tithe, complicated and difficult as I acknowledge it to be, should, if possible, be satisfactorily settled, by the means of a commutation founded upon just principles, and proposed after mature consideration.

“With regard to alterations in the laws which govern our ecclesiastical establishment, I have had no recent opportunity of giving that grave consideration to a subject of the deepest interest which could alone justify me in making any public declaration of opinion. It is a subject which must undergo the fullest deliberation, and into that deliberation the Government will enter with the sincerest desire to remove every abuse that can impair the efficiency of the establishment, extend the sphere of its usefulness, and to strengthen and confirm its just claims upon the respect and affections of the people.

“It is unnecessary for my purpose to enter into further details. I have said enough with respect to general principles, and their practical application to public measures, to indicate the spirit in which the King's Government is prepared to act. Our object will be the maintenance of peace, the scrupulous and honourable fulfilment, without reference to their original policy, of all existing engagements with Foreign Powers, the support of public credit, the enforcement of strict economy, and the just and impartial considera-

tion of what is due to all interests, agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial.

‘Whatever may be the issue of the undertaking in which I am engaged, I feel assured that you will mark by a renewal of your confidence your approbation of the course I have pursued in accepting office. I enter upon the arduous duties assigned to me with the deepest sense of the responsibility they inspire, with great distrust of my own qualifications for their adequate discharge, but at the same time with a resolution to persevere which nothing could inspire but the strong impulse of public duty, the consciousness of upright motives, and the firm belief that the people of this country will, so far maintain the prerogative of the King as to give to the Minister of his choice, not an implicit confidence, but a fair trial

“I am, Gentlemen, with affectionate regard,

“Most faithfully yours,

“ROBERT PEEL.”

### THE BUCKINGHAMSHIRE DINNER.

PROSPECTS OF RELIEF TO THE AGRICULTURIST AT THE HANDS OF THE NEW MINISTRY.

(From their official organ, the *Standard*.)

When the health of Lord Chandos was proposed, with what greeting received we need not say, his lordship addressed the meeting. The character of the assembly, as well as its original purpose, required that his lordship should address himself more particularly to the hope which the agricultural population naturally enough rest upon the late happy change in the King's government. The noble marquis spoke with his characteristic frank eloquence of the necessity of a Repeal of the Malt Tax in the whole, or in part. That the Malt Tax is in all attributes of a bad tax, the worst of all our taxes,—that it is the most unprofitable to the Exchequer in proportion to its burthen upon the people, that its tendency is demoralizing, beyond the tendency of any other tax, that at present it burthens the most oppressed and suffering class of the community, we have again and again argued. If its continuance deprive the public service of the Marquis of Chandos in the character of a minister, we shall consider the fact no light aggravation of the mischievous character of that tax. We believe there is no second opinion, indeed, we are sure that there is none amongst public men of whom we know any thing, that a repeal or reduction of the malt tax ought to be the very first object with a finance minister of Great Britain. There is unfortunately, however, a wide interval between what can be done, and what ought to be done. We can see that the Malt Tax ought to have been repealed many years ago; and, as many millions of taxes have been repealed, it may seem, at first sight, strange that such a tax is permitted to continue. Beside, however, the proverbial weakness of the agriculturists as a political body, urging claims, the magnitude of this evil has, as has often happened, supplied its protection. The vice of the Malt Tax lies, at least, as much in its species as in its degree. Were the tax itself reduced from two shillings and sevenpence the bushel, so long as a single penny should be left to subject the manufacture of malt to fiscal superintendence, the farmer would receive no relief, the people would gain no protection, from the vexatious and demoralizing operation of the duty. But a finance minister has rarely such a sum as

four and a half millions, the amount of the malt tax, to surrender in a single session: and if he has, he will find a host of claimants nearer to him, and more clamorous than the farmer. A tax, too, which has been levied to greater or less amount for nearly two centuries, has some prescription to plead. The question, however, now is not, *ought* the tax to be got rid of, but *can* it be got rid off?

We confess that we do not see how the whole can be repealed in any one session; and if the farmers will not content themselves with taking a repeal by instalments, as the opportunity shall arise, we have little hope that the whole tax will be ever repealed; because we do not anticipate that any minister will ever have a surplus fund of four and a half millions to dispose of, and the time for laying on new taxes has gone by.

The Malt Tax constitutes more than a third of the now available revenue of the country. To expect, therefore, that the whole of that tax can be provided for by any practicable reduction of expenditure in any one year, must be very silly. All that the farmers ought to expect, and what, we think, they and the public with them (for as all consume beer the public are really as much concerned as the farmers), have a right to expect, is a beginning, or even a proof of a disposition to begin with the reduction of this tax. A tax is not a principle, a truth of which the *Globe* and *Morning Chronicle* seem to have lost sight when they lecture upon the inconsistency of men who have voted variously upon this same subject, sitting in the same Cabinet. A tax is not a principle, and it is, therefore, a matter perfectly open for compromise. This appears to have occurred to the Marquis of Chandos, for he admitted the possibility of a gradual reduction. We are sorry to observe that one of the persons present objected to anything less than a total repeal. To raise such peremptory objections is, however, the worst possible policy for the agricultural interest. It is as much as if one should say, “What I cannot have at the instant, I will not have at all;” and if this feeling were universal amongst the agriculturists, we certainly should despair of their cause; even now how much would they injure themselves by rendering it impossible for the Marquis of Chandos to take that place in the government, to which the King, the King's ministers, and the country invite him? How much more will they injure themselves, if they destroy as, doubtless, destroy they may, the only government from which they can have any just ground of hope? If ever there was a case for compromise this is the case—let the farmers say fairly, “We generally trust those who have generously served us; we will not proscribe them from those honours and distinctions, to which they have a fair claim, by imposing conditions, impossible to be executed on the acceptance of those honours and distinctions; we will generously confide in our proved friends to do what they can in our service, but we will not disable them by requiring them to do that which they cannot.” Let the farmers take this course, and we think we can confidently promise them relief from the whole of the Malt Tax in a year or two,—perhaps relief from a part in the present year. Let them take another course, and we, no less confidently, predict that they never will be relieved from a farthing of it.

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FIG. 1.  
MOLD WITH WHEEL.



FIG. 2.  
MOLD WITH HANDLE.



FIG. 3.  
MOLD WITH WHEEL AND HANDLE.



FIG. 4.  
MOLD WITH WHEEL AND HANDLE.



FIG. 5.  
MOLD WITH HANDLE.



FIG. 6.  
MOLD WITH WHEEL AND HANDLE.



# THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

FEBRUARY, 1835.

No. 2.]

[VOL. II.

## DESCRIPTION OF PLOUGHS IN THE ENGRAVING.

Many applications having been made to us recently, several of which are from Ireland, for information respecting the best constructed ploughs, we have procured a plate of the six ploughs represented upon the engraving as exhibiting some of the approved varieties of those implements which are used in counties that rank highly for their agriculture, and border upon each other. Much, however, as these ploughs differ in form, they are, nevertheless, constructed upon the same principles. It will be observed, that the iron-frame of the plough is a distinct and separate part, to which nearly all the other parts, viz.—the beam and handle, the breast, bottom-rest, and share, are respectively attached, and may easily be removed and re-placed by the plough-man. By this plan the breast, bottom-rests, and share, may either, or all of them, be varied to suit the circumstances and condition of the land on which the plough is to be used. Improvements upon ploughs have called forth the skill of practical agriculturists and scientific men from time immemorial, and all persons interested in the progress of agriculture, must feel gratified to see the important changes for the better which such valuable implements have, from time to time, undergone; and whilst we desire to pay our tribute of well-merited approval to what has been achieved by those ingenious men who, have preceded our modern inventors, we are also glad to see the latter unremittingly engaged in the pursuit of further excellences in the plough, and we heartily desire their success, not only on their own account, but as a public benefit.

To none of those manufacturers who have devoted their attention to this laudable object, are the agriculturists more indebted than the Messrs. Ransome's, of Ipswich, by whom all the ploughs represented in the engraving are manufactured upon an extensive scale.

We shall briefly describe the ploughs upon the engraving.

No. 3. A SUFFOLK WHEEL PLOUGH, with a high carriage and wheels.—This is used on the light soils of Suffolk and Norfolk, and in some parts of Essex; and although it may appear to have rather a high and somewhat cumbersome carriage, the

ploughmen who are accustomed to it, even with a single handle, manage it with perfect ease, and perform their work to admiration.

No. 5. A SUFFOLK SWING PLOUGH, with a single handle.—Excepting only the beam and draught-irons, this plough is similar to the Suffolk Wheel Plough. Varying simply the breast, this plough is in very general use in Suffolk and counties adjoining.

No. 18. BEDFORDSHIRE WHEEL PLOUGH.—This is similar to the Suffolk Swing Plough, with the addition of a land-wheel and furrow-wheel. It has also a pair of handles, instead of a single one. Wheels applied upon this plan, admit of the plough being used either with one wheel or two, or without either. By the use of the wheels, boys at an early age may be taught the art of ploughing, and it is a general remark that land, when ploughed by wheel ploughs, is more correctly and soundly finished, than is the case when swing ploughs are used; but there is less skill in the ploughman, and unless the draught is properly regulated, there must be an increase of labour to the horses.

No. 25. KENT TURN-REST PLOUGH.—This plough has undergone considerable improvements of late years, and is now a much less cumbersome implement than formerly. These ploughs have rest-boards, which serve as mould-boards, and will turn from side to side to admit of the ploughman turning all his furrows in the same direction. This is done chiefly for the purpose of turning the furrow downward from the hills, and for occupying the whole breadth (with little or no intermission for water furrows), with the crop. It is a very powerful and effective implement. Persons unaccustomed to the use of this plough, would be astonished at the beautiful work done by the ploughmen at the annual matches. It is used with four, and sometimes six, horses, and a driver.

No. 37. ESSEX SWING PLOUGH.—This plough has a convex-shaped breast, suited to stiff, strong soils. It has a single-fixed handle, and a loose staff handle, by which it is kept steady in work, and is used to clean the breast when it clogs with the soil in moist weather.

No. 38. HERTFORDSHIRE WHEEL PLOUGH.—This is for stony and rocky soils, and is used in several counties upon land of that description.

### PROPORTION OF DRY FOOD.

The most nourishing food given to horses consists of corn; and *oats* are considered as the best adapted to their constitution; but when any other species of grain is furnished in like proportion of weight, the nicest observers have not been able to discover any apparent difference in its qualities, provided it be mixed with any apparent difference in its qualities, provided it be mixed with a proportionable quantity of straw, chopped fine, or of bran, to supply the place of the husk of the oats, without which other corn should not be given. Horses, when not pressed by hunger, often try to separate this chaff or bran, from the grain, and it is therefore customary to sprinkle it with water; but in that case the greatest care should be taken to thoroughly cleanse the manger, for nothing is more noxious to horses than food thus wetted and allowed to become stale. Grain of every description ought to be free from the natural fermentation which it undergoes if not in a perfectly dry state. Oats harvested in a wet season have been known to occasion epidemical disorders among cattle, and farmers frequently do serious injury to their horses by supplying them with it soon after it has been reaped. Corn that has sprouted is not unwholesome, provided it has not imbibed a bad smell from having been heated; and malt, or barley which has been only slightly steeped for two or three days, though without being dry-malted, is considered to be particularly nutritive. It is thought, indeed, that the completion of the process adds much to its invigorating properties, and it is often used in that shape on the continent, though not in a larger proportion than one-third of other grain; but even, if it has that effect, the duty on malt prevents its consumption by cattle in this country, and it cannot even be purposely wetted without incurring the suspicion of the excise. Many horses, also, which eat voraciously, are in the habit of bolting their food without chewing it; in which case their oats should never be given without being either mixed with chaff, or else bruised by cylinders, such as are used in bruising or grinding malt.

*Beans*, and latterly *peas*, are also largely given to farm horses, without any prejudicial effect; and, if care be taken not to supply them in summer, at which season they are found to be too heating, no bad effect will be found to arise from their use; but, as they contain an unusual proportion of sap, they should be at least a twelve month old; if they shrink in quantity, it will be made up in quality.

When horses are fed on *hay*, it is a matter of dispute whether the light and apparently arid grass of uplands, or that of more fertile natural meadow ground, or the rich produce of the artificial grasses, is to be preferred. This however must depend on the quantity of corn with which they are supplied. When that is abundantly furnished, there can be no doubt that the former will be found better for their general health, and especially for their wind; but as farm horses are generally limited in their consumption of grain, and the slowness of their movement renders the clearness of their wind a matter comparatively of little moment, the other kinds will be found the most substantial, and consequently the best adapted to support their strength.

There can be no doubt that the feeding of horses upon hay, in whatever quantity it may be supplied, can never be entirely substituted with equal effect for corn; but opinions are also divided respecting the proportion in which it may be furnished, both with regard to health and economy. On this, however, no general rule can be laid down, for it must not only depend upon the animal's constitution, but also on the work which he has to support. It has, however, been calculated by a foreign writer of great experience, that ordinarily 8lbs of meadow hay are equal in nourishment to 3lbs of oats; 7lbs however, of sainfoin, tares, clover, or other succulent hay, are supposed equal to the same quantity, though sainfoin is perhaps entitled to the preference; but 9lbs are thought to be required from hay made off poor pasture. The longer too, within a certain time, that hay is allowed to stand in the stack, the better it is, and perhaps that which is a year old is the most wholesome for horses; the second growth is not equally nourishing. It should also be got into the stack as soon as properly dried, in order to preserve the freshness of its scent, which is peculiarly gratifying to cattle.

In general, however, it is to be observed, that, when the quantity of hay is augmented with a view to the diminution of the corn, although horses will thereby acquire more fat than upon the same proportion of grain, yet they are less equal to the efforts of hard work; whereas, if the corn be increased and the hay diminished, though the cattle may appear to grow thin, yet their flesh is more firm, they are capable of greater exertion, and are in what is usually termed "better condition."

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REDUCTION OF RENT.—At Earl Somers' audit for rent and tithes, held at the Somers Arms, Leigh Sinton, his Lordship, without any solicitation on the part of the tenants, liberally made an abatement of 10 per cent.

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TURKISH JESTS.—The Khojah one day saw a flock of ducks swimming in a lake; he ran towards them, and they immediately flew away. Taking some bread, he sat down, and, dipping it in the water, began to eat. "What are you doing there Khojah?" said some one from the opposite side. "I am trying the flavour of duck-soup, was the reply.—A robber having broken into Násir-ed-dín's house, his wife, hearing the noise, exclaimed, "Efendi! Efendi! there's a thief in the house." "Oh," said the Khojah, "never mind; I only hope he will find something, that we may take it from him."—One day Násir-ed-dín ascended the pulpit of the mosque, and thus addressed the congregation, "Oh, true believers! do you know what I am going to say to you?" "No," responded the congregation; "Well then, said he, "there is no use in my speaking to you, and he came down from the pulpit. He went to preach a second time, and asked the congregation, "Oh, true believers! do you know what I am going to say to you?" "We know," replied the audience. "Ah! as you know it," said he, quitting the pulpit, "Why should I take the trouble of telling you?" When next he came to preach, the congregation resolved to try his powers, and when he asked his usual question, replied, "Some of us know, and some of us do not know." "Very well," said he, "let those who know tell those who do not know."



## AGRICULTURE OF THE MILANESE.

The country between Cremona and Lodi comprises the richest part of the Milanese. The irrigation, too, is brought to the highest state of perfection. The grass is cut four times a year as fodder for the cows, from whose milk is made the well-known cheese called Parmesan. The cows, which are kept in the stall nearly all the year long, are fed during summer on two of these crops of grass or clover, which are cut green, and in the winter on the other two, which are hayed.

The milk of at least fifty cows is required for the manufacture of Parmesan cheese. Hence, as one farm rarely affords pasture for such a number, it is usual for the farmers or metayers of a district to club together. The milk of fifty, sixty, or even of a hundred cows, is brought twice to the farm where the dairy is fixed: the person on whom devolves the task of making the cheese keeps an account of the milk received, and the cheese is afterwards apportioned accordingly. In this fertile plain, a farm of sixty English acres is considered as a large one. These farms are subdivided into fields of two or three acres, for the convenience of irrigation; a practice which, in the course of a few years, impairs the quality of the grass to such a degree, that it becomes necessary to discontinue it. In this case the sluices of the Gora are shut, the ground is ploughed in autumn, and, in the following spring, sown with hemp, which shoots up a great height; when this is pulled, the ground is sown with leguminous plants. In the next spring it is sown with oats, which grow to the height of six or seven feet. The richness of the soil being thus sufficiently subdued, it is next cropped with wheat. Maize is then sown in the following spring; a second crop of wheat succeeds, and finishes the course of cropping.

The ground is then left to itself, and is immediately covered with herbage. During winter it is manured, and the new meadow is then subjected again to the process of irrigation, which is usually continued for fifteen years. Thus the rotation in the Milanese extends to twenty years; five years for the growth of hemp, pulse, and grain; and fifteen for the growth of grass. Rice is also grown in some parts of the Milanese; but as it partakes of the nature of an aquatic plant—the rice-grounds are kept under water during nearly the whole period of its growth—its cultivation has been placed under considerable restriction by the government, owing to the malaria which it engenders.—*Evans's Italy and Sicily.*

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING HERALD.

SIR,—To avert national calamities, or to devise national profitable employment for the agricultural and mechanical poor, are amongst the greatest blessings which a man can bequeath to his country.

In your leading remarks upon the malt duty on the 30th ult., in which are to be found the vital principles by which we may avoid the one and accomplish the other; the extent and want of means, on the one hand, is to be supplied in the vastness of the demand in the other; the periodical duration in a species of labour derivable from a natural source, without supplanting the work of another.

However acceptable and desirable such a species of employment is, unless the life-giving word PROFIT be attached to the outlay, the best devised plans, with the combination of individual capital and talents, backed by the new poor laws, will prove but a "baseless fabric," and only mock the genius that contrived, or the judgment that founded it.

Therefore I take profit for the basis of production, and production the basis for labour; the demand to regulate the extent, the extent and the demand to supply the means of employment of the now idle, but industrious and starving, population.

In the abolition of the malt tax, however desirable this may be to the working classes, and to a few exclusives, whose incomes rest upon stationary interest, its abolition would give but little, if any, additional demand for manual labour—the effect in that way would be only as a drop in the ocean. What is wanted is effectual, at the same time judicious and permanent, employ. I am aware of the rational bearings it would have upon society, but profitable manual employment to any extent it would not produce.

But is it not, or can it not effect both the one and the other, as a profitable source for outlay by giving a stimulus to spade husbandry, or the cultivation of land for the production of barley by manual labour, the duty being the source of profit, and malt, the production from land the produce of barley, its demand and extent of growth are the platform and basis of action, and in which the poor man is to be the main performer. The natural consequence of demand is an advance of price; as in other articles, so in labour.

To make this species of labour profitable, the malt duty must be *continued*, not upon the present principles, but to effect a great national object, that of giving employment to the poor and to capital.

For this end land cultivated by manual labour, or by the spade, for the purpose of raising barley; the produce of barley from such land so cultivated (under proper vouchers) to be admitted to be made into malt duty free.

Thus, the duty being remitted, is transferred as a premium for the culture, by which the produce is effected, and consequently is a premium upon the barley, and, constituting the basis of a profitable return upon the outlay, raises a competition in favour of an extensive employment of the poor, in opposition to the present mode of culture.

The effects upon the poor rates, the advantage to the poor man's allotment system, and the probable effect on those pests to morals and character, those hells of destruction, the beer-shops, the natural effects upon articles of consumption, and the hundreds of contingent circumstances which would flow from the principle in making the malt tax a productive source of employment to the poor, in admitting barley the production from land cultivated by hand-labour—any advocacy upon such a proposal, and its general bearings, would be too long for a letter; which, if this should deem acceptable to your columns, will oblige a constant reader,

THE SON OF A FARMER.

DOMESTIC SERVANTS.—The number of female servants in Great Britain is upwards of 700,000; and if their ages were calculated we do not doubt but it would be found that two-thirds of all the British damsels between the ages of fifteen and twenty-five, are domestic servants. Yet, notwithstanding this immense supply of female labourers, the demand is superior to it; their wages rise, and their property is strikingly evinced by their elegant garments and costly decorations. Male servants are not so numerous, yet the demand is superior to the supply; and the services of a footman, gratuitously educated at the parish school, already command a higher price than the services of men who have expended large sums in the acquirement of classic lore at the Universities.

## IMPORTANT TO OUTGOING TENANTS BEING FARMERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE CHRONICLE.

Sir,—Permit me, through the medium of your excellent, and I am happy to observe, now widely-circulated journal, to ask a question or two of your rural readers, and at the same time to lay before them a few observations which, in my humble opinion, have a very strong bearing upon their interests as farmers. I hardly need remark, that in these times, men are much given to change, the cause of which may in some measure be attributed to the march of mind: not only do we see things in a different light to that in which our forefathers saw them, but we have the vanity to think that ourselves are right in our new mode of drawing conclusions, and that they were generally wrong: hence it happens that innumerable theorists have sprung up amongst all classes of society, and by consequence of the change of sentiment above alluded to, have supplanted the old and tried practical men, who had heads to contrive and hands to execute, but unfortunately for their well-being, lacking that volubility which is so admirably calculated to mystify. Now, sir, in glancing at the pests of society, I shall be free to remark that there are many to be found amongst the fraternity of gentlemen called land-agents; of course, there are also many worthy exceptions to my rule: to come, however, at once to the point, I mean to say that a large majority of them are as ignorant of the duties of their calling as it is possible for them to be; and this, sir, upon the simple principle that they have either been drawn from a respectable law office, or else have derived their profound skill in rural economy from the vicinity of Kensington and Brompton. I trust, Sir, that I shall not fall under the imputation of wishing to deride any set of men on account of their calling, but lest I should, it may be well for me to remark that I entertain all due respect for the profession of the law, and I also esteem in his place the nursery-man. The practice, then, of which I have now to complain is this,—your theoretical agents are in these days not to be approached for any other purpose but to be presented with rent; a tenant may have grievances to redress, he may require assistance to effect improvements on his farm; or he may wish to remind your agent (after the new fashion), of a promise which was made to him at the time of entering; but is it to be credited, that if he ventures into the presence of Mr. Newstyle with any thing like a petition, it is more than probable that he will be saluted with these kind words,—“Now really you are always bothering us for something; you are never satisfied.” But, Sir, this is a mere trifle compared with what I have yet to notice. It has within the last two or three years been attempted in this country to abolish the very old and just usage of protecting an outgoing tenant in the remuneration claimable for having conducted with due regularity, certain businesses upon the farm which he is about to leave, by which his successor, the in-coming tenant, is alone to be benefited, and for neglecting of which, he, the out-goer, is told that he will be liable to an action at law. Now really, Sir, this is the very perfection of justice to be sure! A farmer quits at Lady-day, having duly prepared by a dead fallow and sown, a crop of wheat, which his successor is to reap, and yet he is to be told, that scarcely half his outlay in setting such crop is recoverable; but even if half is admitted, he is perhaps told that he may get it as he can. It is now then that

I arrive at the point for asking my questions. I will thank any man of business and character to inform me if this can be borne out by the law, and if not, I will next thank him to inform me against whom the out-going tenant has his remedy.—He may seek for it against the in-coming tenant, and having got into court, or after a non-suit, may be told that he should have brought his action against the landlord. Of course I have my notions upon this point, but as my letter is already too long, I shall for the present withhold them; in the interim, I hope to be enlightened on this very interesting subject, which must not on any account be lost sight of, for these times must cause thousands of respectable farmers either to give up or change their farms; and it is highly probable that the new race of agriculturists will partake of the qualifications of the new-fangled agents, and both combine to cheat the worthy retiring farmer of the old school.

I suppose, Mr. Editor, you are aware that an out-going tenant is of no use to his landlord after he has paid his last half-year's rent. No, no, it is to the new tenant that the agent directs his cunning; but, alas, having fixed him, he, too, is frequently left to shift for himself.

I remain, Sir,

YOUR'S AND THE FARMER'S WELL-WISHER.

Jan. 13th, 1835.

WONDERFUL TREE.—That extraordinary production of the arboreal kingdom, the *Palo di Vaca*, or “milk-bearing cow tree,” which flourishes in Para, in South America, is among the loftiest of the forest, growing to the height of 100 feet and upwards. It bears a delicious edible fruit, which has the united flavour of strawberries mixed with cream, and its trunk yields as fine bowls of milk as those from a cow! “It seems rather startling,” says Mr. Webster, in his ‘Voyage to the Southern Atlantic,’ “to talk of a tree yielding milk, but such is the fact; and it is drunk by the people in large quantities, and was used by us at the gun-room table for mixing with tea, in lieu of cow's milk, from which it is no ways distinguishable in general use. The milk is a rich, white, bland fluid, without odour, and of the taste and flavour of common milk. It mixes readily with tea or coffee, without curdling or undergoing any change, and in every respect seems like cow's milk. Boiling water does not alter it. It keeps unaltered six or seven days in the temperature of 85 degrees. \*\*\*\*\* It appears to differ from all the known milky juices of plants, and to approach in obvious properties to animal milk, from which it differs widely in chemical composition. There is no cream or caseous (cheesey) matter. I kept a bottle of the milk until our arrival at Trinidad, eight weeks after my procuring it, when it was sent to the Admiralty. Some, which I had myself, had then separated into a sourish milky water and a white solid mass, which, when taken out and dried in the air, was a white inflammable substance, not softening at the temperature of the body, melting at 144 degrees, tasteless, insoluble in water or spirits, and resembling white wax more than any other substance to which I could compare it. It burned with a bright agreeable flame, without smell, and was neither greasy nor resinous; I am therefore inclined to consider it as a species of wax.” To complete the marvel of this tree, we must mention, that it affords the most valuable timber for ship-building, and that it is so used in the dock-yard at Para.



## PROPAGATION OF PLANTS.

It is astonishing how much sound practical information and lively pleasure can be attained by a little careful attention to the structure and habits of plants. It is but too commonly remarked that persons go to a nurseryman, observe something which they admire, purchase it, perhaps at a considerable price, see it sicken almost from the very day when it is brought home, and lose it without having enjoyed the pleasure of witnessing the expansion of one healthy flower. Tired with repeated disappointments, disgusts succeed to anticipated satisfaction, and a favourite pursuit is abandoned. The metropolis and large towns infested with smoke, offer, it is true, but little encouragement; but in the country, and indeed anywhere in which the air is in a tolerably pure state, plants may be grown and kept in a vigorous health. But how is this to be accomplished? Chiefly by attending to the habits of the plant, to its physical structure, and to the constitution of the climate of which it is native. This attention implies considerable reading and observation, more perhaps than the ordinary circumstances of many individuals will permit them to undertake or bestow; the best substitute, therefore, for a knowledge of general and permanent cultivation, will be the attainment of a ready method of increasing the stock of plants already possessed. A vast number of beautiful subjects may be multiplied by cuttings of the young shoots, taking off by a sharp penknife, under a joint, that is, at the point where a minor shoot emerges from a larger branch, or just under that part where there is a single leaf or a pair of leaves. The leaf is a vital organ, it is intimately concerned in the production and support of young buds, and these buds are each a system of life, which may be separated from the mother and made to develop those organs which imbibe the vegetable nutriment. When these organs are protruded, life is established, and the plant increases in size, and produces leaves, shoots, buds, and all the parts which constitute a perfect vegetable. A pot of good garden earth of the size that will admit a tumbler or bell-glass inverted to drop within its rim, will enable any one to increase a favourite geranium, myrtle, caronilla, salvia, &c. In general, however, a cutting will be much assisted if its heel be placed in pure silver writing-sand. Three or four small holes should be made in the soil twice or three times the diameter of the shoot, and so deep that one joint may be emersed, and the joint above rest upon the surface of the soil. Things being thus prepared, a little of the sand should be poured into the hole, to the depth of a quarter of an inch; upon this the cutting is to rest, or rather it is to be pressed down a little, and then the hole is to be filled with the sand. Water should be added just to moisten the sand, and the glass being inverted over the cutting or cuttings, the first operation will be complete. But another mode of increase, and one far more interesting and instructive, remains to be pointed out; it has been extensively practised, and will be more so; though it appears certain it will not succeed with some families of plants.

Geraniums are, it should seem, one of the exceptions; but they propagate so readily in sand, or sandy loam, and sometimes by seeds, that no anxiety need be entertained with respect to them. But we will suppose that some of our readers have a fine balsam, of perfect growth, which will not flower. This is a circumstance of no uncommon occurrence; the season passes, and no bloom has been

discoverable. Again, the lemon plant, formerly termed *verbena tryphilla*, now *aloesia citriodora* (the specific name is derived from two Latin words, which imply the odour or scent of a lemon.) This plant, according to its native habit, grows high, straggling, and unsightly; it blows, but produces no seeds.—In either or both of these cases, if a cutting of two or three inches be taken off from the leading or lateral shoots, the lower leaves cautiously cut off, so as not to wound the skin or rind, and plunged an inch deep into a phial of pure water, roots will be gradually protruded into the fluid, particularly if the phial can be kept in a gentle heat (as that of a cucumber frame,) and exposed to the sun's light.

It is curious and extremely interesting to watch the development of these water roots; in the first instance a ring of a delicate texture protrudes round the base of the cutting, just within the exterior integument, this increases, and then the fibrous processes are discernible: they gradually extend, and when from half an inch to one inch in length the cutting is become a rooted plant, and may be safely withdrawn from the liquid element and transferred to soil with a certainty of success, provided common caution be employed. The roots formed in water are white as snow; and besides the beauty of the object in itself they evince a power that is altogether extraordinary. The water in which a living plant is formed remains limpid and free from taste or odour; whereas, it is a fact of common observation that if flowers or other decaying vegetable matter remain in water, an odour of intolerable fetor is developed. The contrast is wonderful, and the phenomenon affords a beautiful proof of the wise provision of nature to render all its subjects subservient one to the other. Vegetables are universal purifiers. They take up and elaborate those substances which would be not only offensive, but highly injurious to animal life.

Without dwelling longer on secondary effects, it may be added that, in the instances above alluded to, the balsam cutting has become a perfect plant, which, in nine cases out of ten, will produce a number of perfect blossoms before it attain the height of eight or nine inches. That of the aloesia also will start off rapidly, and by being shortened after it has grown to double its original height, will throw out lateral shoots and become a handsome shrub. The old plant likewise may be pruned and cut into figure; and thus, while it affords an amply numerous succession, may itself be formed anew and perfectly renovated.

The facts stated are but few, and perhaps not sufficiently explicit, but our limits will not permit us further to enlarge now; but they may, however be multiplied and extended; and should they afford to any of our readers—our female friends in particular—as much satisfaction as we experience in recording them, the obligation will be mutual and the pleasure almost without alloy.

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OVERSEER'S ACCOUNTS. — We would remind such of our readers as fill the office of Overseers of the Poor, that by the 4th and 5th Geo. IV. c. 76, sec. 47, they are now required, "once in every quarter" to make and render to the auditors in their respective parishes, a full and distinct account in writing of all monies, &c. committed to their charge, or received, held, or expended by them, on behalf of their respective parishes.

## ON THE CORN LAWS.

Mr. Editor,—I have already shown the extraordinary act of justice to the labouring classes that is proposed by the advocates for the repeal of the corn laws, in giving them food as cheap as other nations have it; and I have now to consider their equally strange doctrine for the extension of our commerce—the exchanging our manufactures for the cheap corn of the North of Europe, that thereby we might be enabled more effectively to compete with other manufacturing nations in the general markets of the world.

Now Adam Smith has shown that the benefit derived by a nation from its trade and commerce, whether internal or external, is a per centage profit upon the amount of capital employed in them.

To this it may be added, that the extent of the trade of England with any other nation is not according to what we can export, but bounded by the means which that country possesses of giving us returns; and bounded also by our means of finding a sale for these returns at home, in barter against the produce of other labour here. We may indeed take, as returns, the precious metals as we do from South America, of which country they are the produce, and to the extent that she can give them to us; or we may take other goods to send to a third country, and there exchange them for different other wants that we require to be supplied; but we cannot have any continued trade to obtain the precious metals from another country that does not produce them. Our foreign trade can only be the barter of the surplus produce of our labour, against the surplus produce of the labour of other countries; and though bills of exchange, representing the transactions, may pass amongst the many persons carrying on that trade, and, though one export manufacturer may sell his goods abroad, be content to realise a smaller profit, and take bills representing the returns made by another merchant, in order to effect a more speedy return of his capital, and its more frequent employment in his trade, still the profit to our nation, upon its export trade is not in the sales abroad, but according to the realisation of the returns here, giving a greater or less per centage upon the capital advanced.

Then, upon what has been stated, let us take a case in practice—that of a Frenchman exporting to South America a bale of cotton goods, of the value of 90*l.*; and an Englishman sending his bale of goods of the like quantity, fabric, and quality, which, at our higher scale of value and wages, will cost here 100*l.* In South America they will both sell for the same price, which may be a sum that will purchase there 1,000 hides; but the Frenchman, after payment of freight and expenses, and at the lower scale of value in France, only gets there 94*l.* 10*s.* for them; while, at our high scale of value, 105*l.* is realised here for the same. In both cases they each obtain the same rate of profit, but the Englishman upon the higher scale of cost. Further, the course of exchange determines the relative cost of dollars and hides, and, unless the supply of the latter in South America be more than the wants of England and France, the cost of hides there will not be according to their price in France, but somewhat nearer to what they would realise at the higher scale of value in England; and thus the Frenchman's advantage in the lower scale in value of his exports, is fully counterbalanced, in his competition with England, by what is, to him, a dearer cost of returns, and by his lower sales in France.

Our higher cost of goods is, therefore, no disadvantage to us in our competition in the general markets of the world, except when there are higher import duties levied here (as, for instance, is the case upon East India sugar), that prevent our having the advantage of the high scale of value in the home market for our returns, and compel us to seek for a sale abroad, where the scale of value is lower.

The prices of goods in different countries are constantly varying, according to the supply and demand in each; and, in many instances, the advantages which our merchants would derive from the general higher scale of value in England, is taken from them by the excessive import duties levied here, so much higher than elsewhere; and, though the case above stated may not be strictly correct as regards the actual relative cost and sales, yet it will be found faithfully to represent the principles that operate in our competition with other nations in the foreign markets. And, at any rate, it is quite sufficient to show that in their arguments for the repeal of the corn laws, to increase our foreign trade, these repealers only state half the question, and that the least half. For, except corn, as returns for that trade into which they desire to force us with the Baltic, with their doctrine that gold is both the standard of value and the scale and measure of value too, and, therefore, measuring quantity of labour in different countries by the amount of money wages paid in each, they only look to the money price at which our manufactures can arrive in the general markets in the world, and the idea never seems to have entered into their profound calculations, of how the returns for our foreign trade were to be disposed of, and upon which alone the profit to the nation can be realised.

Now, though we have never been able to induce a sudden taste abroad for our manufactures to the extent of our occasional sudden wants of food, and though, like Israel's sons of old, we have been obliged to carry money in our hands to buy corn in times of scarcity, yet, unquestionably, if our ports were constantly open at a small fixed duty, the foreigners would take our manufactures for their corn.

And it is no doubt correctly stated that the price of corn would rise abroad and fall here, yet certainly fall much more here than it would rise abroad, as the price of any individual article is according to that at which capitalists will venture to hold the surplus quantity of it; and corn is not generally considered either a good or a safe article to hold. And, further, it may be as correctly stated that we might extend such a trade for foreign corn eventually to the amount of 10 or 15 millions a-year.

But what then? From the best trade in the nation that affords us a return beyond the labour and capital expended upon it in rents, and to the extent of these our imports of foreign corn; from our soil there would be just so much less produce of labour to barter against the manufacturers' products, or against the returns of what he has sent to the markets abroad, just so much less sale for them here. Mark you! this export to get foreign corn would not be any increase in the extent of our manufacturing business, as the repealers would wish us to believe; it would only be the exchange by the manufacturer of one market, the home one, which at our present higher scale of value, is a good one to him, for another, which at the lower scale of value abroad, would be an infinitely worse one.



And now see the consequences of it. I have already shown that, with barely one-fifth taken at present in taxes from the gross produce of labour, a considerable portion of the less productive part of our soil has been thrown out of cultivation, and that, with a further reduction in the price of corn, and a consequent reduction also in our scale of value, which would bring the amount of our fixed money charge to bear a much larger proportion to our then money income, a still greater part of our land would cease to be cultivated, and, therefore, so much less means afforded for the sale of the manufacturers' products, causing want of employment, misery, and distress.

But let that pass, and there still remains quite sufficient to show what an evil to our trade would be the opening of our ports to foreign corn. For, to the extent of the consequent fall in our scale of value, there would be an equal depreciation upon the 45,000,000 that we annually get in return for goods exported, and should then have to receive; and also the like depreciation upon a large part of our still greater home trade. This consideration alone is quite sufficient reason for our having the question finally and definitively settled; for that depreciation might, and certainly would, most likely, produce a convulsion in the commercial world such as we have never yet experienced; and it is but just and right that our minds should be set at rest upon the subject, and that we should not see one of his Majesty's advisers for the repeal, another neutral, and a third against it.

Again, according to the extent of the reduction in our scale of value, consequent upon the fall in the price of corn from our ports being open, would there be just so much less capital employed, not only in our foreign, but also in our still greater home trade; and the profit from them being only per centage the amount of capital employed, what benefit could our merchants and manufacturers expect from the repeal of the corn laws? Our foolish endeavours for several years past, at what is most erroneously called low prices, would teach us—for there can be no reduction in the cost of a commodity except by the saving in labour of producing it—they should teach us what we might expect if we would look at and consider them.

In 1817, after the peace, and when new markets were opened to us, the official value of the exports of British produce and manufactures, a fixed value for a given quantity, and therefore only relating to quantity, was 39,235,467*l.*, and their declared value, the actual cost, was 40,349,235*l.* And in 1831, the latest I have at hand, the official value of the like exports was 60,686,364*l.*, and their declared value 37,164,372*l.*

The extent of our foreign trade in 1831 had increased 54·67 per cent beyond what it was in 1817, and yet 7·89 per cent less capital was employed in it. Here no question can be raised about a metallic or a paper currency; for, in 1817, the price of gold did not average above 3*l.* 19*s.* an ounce. Can it be said that, with our reduced scale of value in 1831, we then obtained so much per centage profit from our foreign trade as we got in 1817 with 45 per cent. less business? It may, indeed, be asserted that our expenditure must have been lessened by the same lower scale of value; but common experience shows us that the cost of many of our wants has not been equally reduced, and, as far as they are the products of machinery, they could not be so reduced, and, so far, only reduced by improvements made in that machinery.

The capital employed in our home trade in 1831 was reduced in the same ratio as in our foreign

trade: and well then might Mr. Lewis Lloyd and Mr. Gurney, in their evidence, not long ago, before the House, exclaim of the evil of large masses of unemployed capital, though they do not seem to have exactly understood the cause of it; and this redundancy of capital reducing the market price of interest, reduced also the rate of per centage profit; and thus, in 1831, we had not only a per centage upon a less amount of capital employed, but also a lesser rate of per centage profit.

And, with all this experience before them, if our scale of value were further reduced by opening our ports to the admission of foreign grain, could our merchants and manufacturers expect—even if our trade was thereby increased 55 per cent. more than it was in 1831, which it would not be, but the reverse, destroyed—could they expect to derive benefit from it? or could the operatives expect better wages, when I have already shown, that as we reduce our scale of value, and the cost of our food, in the same ratio we increase the pressure of our fixed money charge in taxes, and lessen our means of meeting our necessary wants?

In my first letter, and so far in this one, I have met the advocates for the repeal of the corn laws upon their own ground, and chiefly argued the question with them upon their own showing of it.

But what are the real merits of the case? Why these—that, according to Adam Smith's correct idea of the cost of commodities, we, with a climate most genial to the growth of all grasses, with improved knowledge in agriculture and the rotation of crops, and with better implements of husbandry, aided by a greater spirit of rivalry, can produce a given quantity of corn cheaper than any other nation in the world; that is, with a less quantity of labour, in a given time, upon an equal quantity and quality of land.

And, now, with equal taste and elegance of fabric, we can produce our manufactures as cheap as any other nation in the world, that is, with as little labour in a given time, and, perhaps, cheaper, for there are our iron and coal close to our hand, for forming machinery and giving power to it. There are our good roads, canals, and railways, for rapid and easy transport to any part of the nation; and, moreover, there are our capacious docks and warehouses, with cranes and power, for the quick despatch of loading and unloading goods in spacious and numerous harbours all around our sea-girt island, that are open for intercourse with all parts of the globe, during the year; while, upon the Continent, their rivers, in many parts, are generally closed by the severity of the weather for two or three months, a stop put to their trade, and the interest upon the capital that they employ so long lost. And, with all these advantages, and others I could mention, and whether at a higher scale of value as formerly, or at a lower one now, yet still at a higher scale than upon the Continent, we have competed, and can still successfully compete, with any other manufacturing nation in the general markets of the world. And, further, in proof that we do manufacture cheaper than any other nation can, there is the broad undeniable fact, that with our manufactures we do get a much larger share, and our population, high and low, have the means of enjoying a much larger portion of the comforts and conveniences of life than any other country in Europe.

That our scale of value is high is quite a separate question; but it is a subject of most important consideration whether that higher scale has not mainly contributed to the attainment of that exalted commercial rank which we now hold; and

contributed also to our own attainment of the many comforts and conveniences that the whole nation possess.

For to the extent of what is produced by machinery, a very important part of our staple articles, woollen and cotton, as well as of other goods, we, in fact, manufacture at the same scale of value as the foreigners do; and, perhaps, at a less one, from our cheaper fuel for giving power. And, to that extent, the manufacturer of our home wants, and the manufacturing exporter in the sale of his return goods, get, from our high general scale of value, a decided advantage over the foreign producer in his sale of his products, at a less scale of value. Then our higher scale of value, giving us larger money income, enables us to consume tea, coffee, sugar, and other goods, bought at the scale of value in the countries where they are produced, and which add much to our comfort and good health, to consume them, even with enormous duties upon them, to a far greater extent, considering our population, than any other nation in Europe. Then, add to this, that, with this higher scale, and consequent larger money incomes, our landed proprietors and rich merchants are enabled to purchase statues, pictures, wines, and foreign commodities, which the proprietor of the like extent of soil where they are produced could not afford to buy, and then we see something of that comfort, ease, and general propriety of appearance, not only in one, but in every rank of life, which, as was then said, so much astonished the foreign Potentates during their abode in this country, as so different to what is seen abroad.

We thus show that, with two sources of industry in the country, manufactures and agriculture, it is the extent and produce of the latter alone set the former in active motion; while it is the price of that produce the object for which all do labour—their essential want—that gives the scale of value upon which the barter of the products of the one description of industry is made against the other, whether that scale be high or low. We have also shown that, circumstanced as the nation is, with a heavy fixed money charge, the lower we reduce our scale of value the pressure of that charge increases in the same ratio; and although the labouring classes may thereby have cheaper bread, yet their means of purchasing it are reduced. And we think that we have successfully shown that, as we increase the scale, not only is there more of the active industry of the people set in motion, but with the consequent increased employment for it, there is a larger rate of per centage profit upon capital; while the labouring classes are thereby better enabled to add to their comforts and conveniences, though their food be apparently dearer.

Further, a high scale of value allowing us to give a somewhat higher price for the foreign comforts and conveniences we get, and an increased produce from our soil enabling us to take a large quantity of them, we thereby increase the scale of value in the nations we traffic with, and thus enable them to take a large portion of our manufacturers' products. And hence, whether at home or abroad, we increase each other's means and comforts by the barter of our different commodities; and, bearing in mind that the first source of all these is from the produce of the soil, the bounty of Providence, we see, notwithstanding the dreams of the political economists, that we have but one common and united interest, as we have but one common Father, the giver of these blessings.

And shall we allow the refined speculations of

the economists to deprive us of them? I can suppose the case a country altogether agricultural, comparatively poor, yet happy and contented—I can imagine also the case of a great commercial and agricultural nation, progressively increasing in wealth and prosperity, under right government, yet subject to occasional reverses, from the various contingencies of bad seasons, or political events, disarranging, for a time, the natural course of its complicated and vast varied interests. Yet, to believe that a nation can exist by commerce, to the neglect of its agriculture, is as preposterously absurd as to think there is any such a thing as a vacuum in nature.

Tyre, Athens, and Carthage of old, and Venice and Holland, in after times, are not cases in point. They were the mere commission merchants and carriers of the wants of the then world; and in the same way the Liverpool merchants, as mere commission agents and carriers might, for a time, prosper, though the trade of Lancashire and Yorkshire were a losing one. Holland has still a high destiny, as the Liverpool of Germany, if the stubborn Dutchman could be brought to a sense of her true interests.

On the other hand, there is Spain, once the first kingdom of Europe. But when her capital and energies were diverted from the culture of her soil, to be employed in the delusive search for gold and silver in the New World, from that time she gradually sunk lower and lower in the scale of nations, though possessing within herself the means, under right government, of becoming a first-rate power. Then, there is the more recent example of Egypt. When the barbarians rushed in upon her, they broke down the sluice-gates of her wealth, not knowing their value, and she lay for many, many ages deep sunk in poverty; but, at last, a shrewd old man repaired them, and thereby, from being a tributary to the Porte, he, in a few brief years, raised a power from her soil that shook the Turkish empire to its very centre.

This is our case, as opposed to that of the advocates for the repeal of the corn laws. We have fairly and justly arrived at conclusions that are diametrically opposed to the political axiom propounded by the Hon. Member for Bolton, and upon which it seems the economists found their peculiar doctrines; and, therefore, I trust that I may, with all deference, express the hope, that if I have rightly read the promise in the conclusion of his speech, the Gallant Colonel will now consider about the propriety of joining the ranks of the Member for Essex; and with whom I perfectly agree, that, considering the extent of our taxation, the price at which foreign corn can be taken here for consumption, was fixed too low; though it must be allowed that there is a counterbalance in part, for that in the new mode adopted for striking the averages. What is a stumbling-block to many—the foolish way in which by the assistance of the Economists, we have contrived to render that protecting price so far imperative to the landed interests, and consequently inoperative, also, as regards the interests of our manufacturers and traders, with all the great increase to our business since 1817—can be easily explained.

I thus take leave of the Repealers; but, to render our case more perfect, I have yet to show what it is that gives the price to the produce of our soil. That consideration involves some rather intricate points; yet, still I shall give my mind to it, when I can find another week's leisure; and I trust I shall successfully show that the Economists have produced as much, if not more, confusion in



our ideas, and done much more mischief in the nation, by confounding money with credit, than they have yet been able to do, by confounding quantity of labour with the money wages paid in different countries.—I remain your obedient servant,  
MERCATOR.

### THE POOR IN LIMERICK.

But there are objects of a far deeper nature in the old town of Limerick—objects of a deeper and more melancholy interest. The reader will recollect that in Cork, Waterford, Kilkenny, and in other towns which I have visited, I have made it a part of my duty to inquire into the condition of the poor, and having been informed by those upon whom I thought some reliance was to be placed, that I should find more and deeper destitution in Limerick than in any place which I had yet visited, my inquiries in Limerick were prosecuted with all the care which I was capable of bestowing; and I regret to say that I found too dreadful confirmation of the very worst reports. I spent a day in visiting those parts of the city where the greatest destitution and misery were said to exist. I entered upwards of forty of the abodes of poverty; and to the latest hour of my existence I can never forget the scenes of utter and hopeless wretchedness that presented themselves that day. I shall endeavour to convey to the reader some general idea of what I saw,

Some of the abodes I visited were garrets; some were cellars; some were hovels on the ground floor situate in narrow yards or alleys. I will not speak of the filth of the places; that could not be exceeded in places meant to be its receptacles. Let the worst be imagined, and it will not be beyond the truth. In at least three fourths of the hovels which I entered, there was no furniture of any description save an iron pot—no table, no chair, no bench, no bedstead; two, three, or four little bundles of straw, with, perhaps, one or two scanty and ragged mats, were rolled up in the corners, unless where these beds were found occupied. The inmates were some of them old, crooked, and diseased; some younger, but emaciated, and surrounded by starving children; some were sitting on the damp ground, some standing, and many were unable to rise from their steaw heaps. In scarcely one hovel could I find even a potato. In one which I entered I noticed a small opening leading into an inner room. I lighted a bit of paper at the embers of a turf which lay in the chimney, and looked in. It was a cellar wholly dark, and about twelve feet square: two bundles of straw lay in two corners, on one sat a bedridden woman, on the other lay two naked children—literally naked—with a torn rag of some kind thrown over them both. But I saw worse even than this. In a cellar which I entered, and which was almost quite dark, and slippery with damp, I found a man sitting on a little saw-dust. He was naked, he had not even a shirt, a filthy and ragged mat was round him; this man was a living skeleton, the bones all but protruded through the skin; he was literally starving.

In place of forty hovels, I might have visited hundreds. In place of seeing, as I did, hundreds of men, women, and children, in the last state of destitution, I might have seen thousands. I entered the alleys, and visited the hovels, and climbed the stairs at a venture; I did not select; and I have no reason to believe that the forty which I visited were the abodes of greater wretchedness than the hundreds which I passed by.

I saw also another kind of destitution. The individuals I have yet spoken of were aged, infirm, or diseased; but there was another class, fast approaching infirmity and disease, but yet able and willing to earn their subsistence. I found many hand loom weavers, who worked from five in the morning till eight at night, and received from a taskmaster from half a crown to four shillings a week. Many of these men had wives and families; and I need scarcely say, that confinement, labour, scanty subsistence, and despair, were fast reducing these men to the condition of the others, upon whom disease and utter destitution had already laid their hands. The subsistence of these men consisted of one scanty meal of dry potatoes daily.

I will only add one other instance of destitution. Driving in the neighbourhood of Limerick, on the Adair road, in company with a medical gentleman, the apparition of a man suddenly appeared by the side of our car. The gentleman who accompanied me knew him; he had been a stone breaker, but had become infirm, and at length utterly disabled by disease from labour; his cabin was close by, and we ascertained that he and his family had subsisted, during the last three days, on the leaves of that yellow flowered weed which grows among the corn, and which is boiled and eaten with a little salt. I think I have already mentioned the use of this weed for a similar purpose, by the destitute poor of Kilkenny; or, if I have not, I ought to have done so.—*Inglish's Travels in Ireland.*

### TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTH-AMPTON MERCURY.

Sir,—I request permission, through the medium of your widely circulated Paper, to make a few remarks upon the new Poor Laws. Much abuse and misrepresentation has been cast upon them by many persons influenced, I have no doubt, by different motives. If I thought that the necessitous poor would be injured by them, I certainly should not attempt to defend them. That an alteration in the old system was absolutely necessary, but few persons will attempt to deny: to abolish *that*, and substitute another, appeared so delicate a task, and surrounded with such insurmountable difficulties, that one Session of Parliament after another passed away with the promise indeed of paying particular attention to the subject, but without making any actual attempt at improvement. It was reserved for the government just driven out of office, by the appointment of a commission, to probe the wound to the bottom, and prescribe a remedy. How far the prescription will prove efficacious will much depend upon the skill of its application. If the letter of the law should be brought into operation on the commencement, instead of producing a cure, it most probably would inflict a severe wound. The gradual working of the system, under the direction of wise and judicious agents, will not only give scope for its more *effectual* operation, but will also have a tendency to disarm prejudice. It never could be expected that a perfect measure upon this difficult question could be framed by any government at one time. I have no doubt that ministers will see the necessity of making some important alterations. Their object appears to have been to frame a law that should make provision for the necessitous poor—to punish the idle and immoral, and prevent imposition. The former law was designed to make provision for the sick,

aged, and infirm, but under the wide-spreading branches of that tree the impostor and the idle and the immoral found shelter and dwelt in repose; whilst under the latter the sick and aged will receive protection and relief, but the impostor, the idle, and the immoral, will reap the fruits of their doings. It is contrary to the principles of justice for such persons to be supported by law from the resources of the honest, the industrious, and the frugal; but while this law provides punishment for the guilty, there is great danger lest the power it confers should be abused by punishing the innocent.

I beg briefly to state some objections to the New Poor Laws. The first refers to the Bastardy Clause. Under the former law the evils arising from bastardy were incalculable; in almost every parish great numbers of illegitimate children are supported by parochial assistance. Parishes have been at great expense to bring putative fathers to justice, but have seldom succeeded in compelling them to give support for any length of time. The weekly allowance secured to the mother, either from the putative father or the parish, without trouble on her part, has been an inducement to further crime. In no part of the old Poor Laws was an alteration more needful than in this case. But the question is whether the present severe measure is likely to cure these evils; if it be it ought to be enforced, but if it fails it is not only too severe, but unjust. The design of every good law is to punish the guilty, to prevent crime; but this only inflicts punishment on one party, and that the weakest, whilst the other escapes with impunity.

Another objection arises from that part of the law which relates to Settlements. Many complaints were justly made against the former laws; very heavy burdens were brought upon parishes by proving settlements, and it was high time the system was abolished, but by getting out of one difficulty there is danger of falling into another. If the new laws should continue in their present state, many populous parishes will find their expenses much heavier, through an increase of population, in sixteen years than at the present time, whilst thinly inhabited places will have their burdens greatly reduced. This will appear by the following facts—that after the passing of the present law every child will in sixteen years belong to the parish in which it is born. It is generally known that many noblemen and gentlemen, instead of providing dwellings for the poor, have pulled down cottages, and compelled them to reside in other parishes. If, then, a parish contain 500 inhabitants, and only 300 belong to it, in sixteen years all that have been born in that parish will gain settlements.

Another evil under the present Poor Laws will be a want of employment for able-bodied labourers. In populous parishes this has for a long time been a heavy burden. Farmers have been compelled to employ more labourers than they wanted, or the labourers must have worked on the roads, or been paid to do nothing. One of the greatest difficulties with which many parishes have had to contend for some years past, has been an overplus of able-bodied labourers, who would not trouble a parish if they could have constant employment. Against this evil the present Poor Laws have not provided an efficient remedy. A correspondent, who signs himself Geo. Green, has made some very judicious observations upon this subject in your Paper of last week, and concludes by recommending "government to enforce an equitable labour-rate upon the land, according to its qua-

lity, for the employment of the surplus labourers." With this recommendation I should most cordially concur if a better plan could not be devised. I beg to suggest whether a remedy for these evils might not be provided by a *tax upon all property for the support of the necessitous poor, county expenses, &c.* If this plan was adopted under the present Poor Laws, the laws relating to settlements would be abolished altogether—labourers would seek out for work, and reside where they could obtain it—farmers would have the means of employing a greater number of labourers on the land, and making further improvements in agriculture—that malignant feeling which exists against them would be removed—every person would pay according to the property he possesses, and the burdens of the country would press equally, and fall, in comparison, easily on all.—Yours, &c.,

Nov. 25, 1834.

C.

### THE GREEN HOLLY BOUGH.

I LOVE this glad season, as yearly it comes,  
With its cold to our meadows, and mirth to our homes;

I love in the landscape when whiten'd with snow,  
To mark the bright leaves of the green holly bough.

I love in the merry fresh days of the spring,  
To mark the trees budding, and hear the birds sing;  
And now, while our holiday feelings o'erflow,  
How cheerfully bright is the green holly bough.

I love in the warmth of the summer sunn'd hours,  
To wander alone in the sweet leafy bowers;  
But I love in this season to mingle the glow  
Of social delight 'neath the green holly bough.

I love in the autumn to mark o'er the trees,  
The fruitage all ripening in sunshine and breeze;  
And I love in the winter, when stormy winds blow,  
To mark all uninjured the green holly bough.

I love the warm blaze of the festival halls,  
When garlands of bright flowers hang on the walls;  
But the fire, nor the feast, nor the garlands can show,  
A brightness surpassing the green holly bough.

I love the old custom which yearly suspends  
The mystical mistletoe over its friends;  
But friendship, or love, as sweet kisses may know,  
Beneath the safe shade of the green holly bough.

I love the fresh bay, the pledge of regard;  
The conqueror's laurel—the lay of the bard;  
The fragrant myrtle which lovers bestow,  
But most the bright leaves of the green holly bough.

Then gather it quickly, the berries and spray,  
And hang it up high on this festival day;  
Let wine, mirth, and music, unitedly flow,  
All soberly, under the green holly bough.

Plough Monday. — This day, the Monday after twelfth-day, is called Plough Monday (the Christmas festivities being now terminated,) and was considered the commencement of the ploughing season. On this day those tenants who held their possessions on the tenure of ploughing their lord's lands, were bound to appear with their ploughs and other implements of husbandry, to be examined if fit for the work. It was also a practice of the ploughmen to draw a plough from door to door, and beg plough-money to drink. To this there has, in some parts of the country, succeeded another custom, namely, that of the men going about with their shirt-sleeves decked with ribbons, dancing, and begging money to be spent in festivity.



## GRANARIES.

The best situation for a granary is over the threshing floor. It may be easily secured from vermin, and, requiring only six feet in height, it will not interfere materially with the bays of the barns, especially if they be loading through the gables. The roof of the door may be made to project so far as to protect a waggon while loading; or even to continue the flooring of the granary, by which means a barn of moderate breadth might be made to run to the length of thirty feet by twelve, which is far more capacious than the common granaries. A trap-door in the floor, with a rope and pulley, raises and lowers the load in the most easy manner, besides securing it more effectually from depredators; and strong wired windows at each end ventilate it sufficiently. Corn, when either imperfectly dried or allowed to remain too long unscreened, is apt to contract a disagreeable smell. It is therefore important that the air should have free access to the granary; but although that may be secured by the ventilators in every corner of the smaller granaries, those buildings are generally not long enough in the floor to allow of its being completely screened and turned—operations, however, of great importance to the security of a bright sample. Granaries are usually divided into several partitions by deal boards, which may be shifted at pleasure, by which means the different species of the kinds of grain, as well as of different parcels of the same kinds, are effectually distinguished. The most customary mode, however, is to erect them of timber, upon small stone pillars.

It may be almost useless to mention the necessity of securing every sieve and measure for the use of grain, hung upon its own hook, that it may be in readiness. But if there is one thing that demands more particular attention than another, it is corn sacks, which one sees frequently stuffed with wisps of straw to stop the holes—a disgraceful piece of negligence, the sole consequence of “the want of a stitch in time,” by which it might have been prevented. Small articles, and those easily wearable, should be carefully put aside the moment they are no longer wanted; but even that is not enough—they should be counted; and if they want repair, it should be done before they are put aside, or it surely will be forgotten.

## YARDS.

An object of more importance is the *dung-pit*; the management of which we apprehend to be less comprehensively understood by common farmers than any other portion of their business. It is only necessary to recommend that it should be regularly removed from the stable-doors to the yard of the store-cattle. Not only will there be a certain degree of neatness in the access to the buildings, which otherwise soon become immersed in dung and urine in a most filthy state of fermentation, but, lying in such heaps, the centre is burnt or charred to a dry white substance, and loses in this state a very considerable portion of its value. Were it a regular rule that the yard-man should every day, as soon as he had done his morning work, remove and spread the horse-litter to the straw-yard, there would be little difficulty and considerable advantage in the practice. The drainage from the stables should be channelled, with a proper fall to the yards, and carried out beyond a paved causeway, which is of great use when it extends around a material portion of the buildings, and should be higher than the centre of

the farm-yard, which should be moderately concave, or sloping to the centre. This is very easily secured by a little attention in the early part of the winter, and from thence the drainage is conveyed by communications under the yard to a reservoir for the purpose.

The charge is trifling; for an open drain is better than a covered one, being more easily cleaned, and kept free from rats. It must, however, be admitted, that considerable difference of opinion is entertained on this construction of the yards, and it is the prevailing notion of some very eminent farmers that a good yard should be a dead level, its bottom coated, if possible, with chalk or some impervious substance that will prevent the escape, or filtration, of urine or other moisture. By moving the cribs regularly about it, the whole yard becomes alike saturated, and should be frequently cleaned out, and the dung laid upon some fresh soil, lightly shaken up to promote fermentation. Perhaps it would be too much to ask for gutters under the eaves of buildings, to prevent as far as possible the drainage of rain-water in the yards, though it would be essentially useful.

The *Farm-yard* should be well drained, especially on wet soils, and the private roads on such land would occasionally be the better for an odd day's attention to the levelling of the ruts. The close fences and gates should be also carefully attended to.

*Cart-sheds* should be made to open outwards from the farm-yard, or otherwise cattle will get under and do mischief. They should be made high enough to shelter a loaded waggon, and lofts should be constructed underneath for the care of some of the smaller implements of husbandry.

*Sheds*, though open, in which cows or other cattle are tied, should be fenced off, otherwise loose cattle or swine will break in upon them and injure them. The modes of fencing consist of dwarf brickwork, or of small piers carried up to support the roof, and gates between them; or of wooden paling or strong open rails and gates. The sheds should be, if possible, open to the south; they should be quite deep and dry enough to cover the animals from the rain, and the floors should be slightly raised to prevent the lodgment of water. The most approved mode of feeding the larger kind of fatting stock is in small sheds with open yards, containing each only a couple of beasts. Although compactness is necessary to be observed in the arrangement of all farm-buildings, yet a very common error often prevails in so cramping the offices as not to allow of sufficient space and shelter for the convenience of live stock. It may, however, be observed, that the too great breadth of stables adds considerably to the expense of the the roof, and that a width of 16 feet may in most cases be deemed sufficient.

In farm-houses where the *dairy* forms a material portion of the concern, it is important that the buildings should be airy, and detached; yet so near to the dwelling as to be under the eye of the mistress, and to have the command of the back kitchen, if not a boiling-house with a regular steaming apparatus, which has now become essential to the preparation of the food of most animals which are supported upon roots, and especially to cows. It should have a north, and, if possible, also an eastern aspect, to guard it as much as possible from the sun; the walls also should be well shaded by a projecting parapet roof; and if the floor were sunk a few feet below the ground, it would improve the temperature of the air.

The *pig-sties* for small farms will also be found useful if placed convenient to the kitchen; for,

although not a sightly view, no offal is thus allowed to escape the brood; but on large farms, where they require more regular attendance, it will perhaps be better to place them in a far corner of the yard.

Although *poultry-yards* are seldom thought of much importance, yet cleanliness and warmth will make a considerable difference in their flavour and product; and if it be possible so to construct their house as to let it have the benefit of a flue from the kitchen chimney, they will greatly profit by it. In this manner the Irish cotters rear vast quantities of that delicate bird the turkey, without any peculiar attention to its food, but merely by allowing it the warmth of a roost in the cottage chimney.

On most farms where cattle are maintained, a *root-house* or store-room is appropriated for containing turnips, potatoes, and other vegetables. But, as the method of covering up potatoes in the field has been found to answer the purpose, no more spare room is required than is sufficient to contain one of the beds at a time. It is however convenient to have the shed made large enough to admit of a cart being turned up and emptied within it.

*Stack-yards* should not be inclosed by high fences, for they exclude the circulation of air. Farmers are, in some places, very averse to stacking, and the barn room in some ancient homesteads, as well indeed as in some newly-erected buildings, especially in Norfolk, has been carried to an extraordinary excess; so much so, that, in some counties, even the hay claims the protection of a slated roof. Corn, however, is in general much better preserved in the open air. When the stacks are not laid upon piers of stone, or iron, they should be raised upon ridges to throw off the water. These should be paved with rough stones, and they should also have a few bavons or worn-out hurdles underneath to preserve them from the damps; but, take what precaution you may, the vermin will burrow underneath if they have a close cover.

It is, however, a great and a very general improvement in stack-building, to lay them upon low stone pillars, coped so as to prevent the entry of rats and mice, and guard against wet; they have indeed no power of climbing up stacks thus placed, unless through the carelessness of servants, who sometimes leave their forks standing against a rick during the night. It is also a most useful precaution, for the security of corn in doubtful harvests, to furnish the stack with a hollow cone of rafters, or any rough spars of timber to preserve it from heating. This is run up the heart from the ground to the top, or roof, with an opening on one side to admit the free entrance of the air. Stacks are a mere matter of taste in point of form and size; but those of moderate dimensions, say containing 15 to 20 quarters of grain, are the most used and least subject to accident. In the stack-yard at Shaw Park, in Clackmannanshire, there are 28 stacks placed on cast-metal pillars, each three feet high, with a *boss* or triangle, drawn from the centre to the roof, to preserve the circulation of the air. Each of these stacks contain 1584 sheaves, and it has been shown by an accurate experiment comparing the same quantity of wheat built on the ground, or on cast iron pillars, that the saving from vermin and wet was *2l. 12s. 6d.* per stack, which repay their cost in two years. Triangular bosses of wood may also be used, and the corn may be stacked in much less than the usual time.

The number of *thrashing-mills* throughout the country is very considerable, but they in general seem to have been placed with no other view than

that of finding some old barn ready to receive them, and thus using a building every way inconvenient for the purpose; without space for the straw or receivers for the chaff, and still less attention paid to its ready distribution to the animals that consume it. The position of a thrashing-mill should decide that of almost every other office; for it cuts, or ought to cut, the hay into chaff, together with much of the straw; and the house that immediately receives this chaff ought to be so placed as to admit of a convenient delivery to the stalls and stables. Thus the straw-barn, chaff-house, ox-stalls, and horse-stables, with the hay-stacks and the sheep-yard (if there be one), should be dependent on the position of the thrashing-mill, or they will be attended with waste and expense of labour. These, and many other circumstances, that merit attention, may be looked for in vain in most farm-yards; nor is it to be objected that, thrashing-mills being a comparatively new invention, such attentions could not be paid to their erection; for, in the first place, many of the new yards are little better, in this respect, than the old ones; and, in the next, the same requisites are demanded under the old system of flail-thrashing, with no other difference than the floor being the point of regulation, instead of the mill.—*Hereford Times.*

#### THE TIMBER TRADE.

We subjoin the following table of the total imports of timber, deals, &c., into London and the three principal ports of England, during the year 1834. It has been arranged by a gentleman practically conversant with the subject, and we have every reason to believe it to be as correct as possible. The totals only are given for the three principal outports; but, for London, the quantities imported from each country are given separately, and exhibits the proportions of foreign timber and deals from those States with which we have reciprocity treaties, and to the many interested in the trade it may prove a useful summary. On this occasion we cannot, from the want of space, give the comparative importations of the former year, but purpose to recur to the subject shortly. The portion of this table which will be the most generally interesting is that which exhibits the number of ships and the gross amount of their tonnage employed in this trade. From America, which include all our North American colonies, which, by the bye, stand sponsors, as it were, for a large portion of the United States, [as well as Memel and Dantzic timber, the importations last year to the port of London have employed 230 vessels, of a tonnage amounting to 76,559. Those engaged in the foreign timber trade exhibit, on the whole, a much greater amount; but it should be remembered that nearly all of them are foreign vessels, for] the Reciprocity Act has driven British ships out of all competition. In the trade from St. Petersburg and Riga, however, some few British ships are still employed, though at a great disadvantage. But it is not the carrying trade alone in which this country suffers. Under the Reciprocity Act of the 4th Geo. IV., Prussia most especially takes little or next to nothing of British produce, in return for her timber and corn; hence we are frequently drained of gold to pay for the importation of her produce, as well as of the other States with which we have treaties of mock reciprocity; and to make the matter worse, we are compelled to find that gold at a fixed and antiquated standard, which having first depreciated the home value of British produce, in many instances 100 per cent., in fact,





### TO THE EDITOR OF THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS."

Sir,—I, as a farmer, do not agree with the received opinion, that the repeal of the malt tax will be an immediate relief to the farmer, and benefit him to *any thing like* to the amount of the tax. I will not say that it might be a little less than it is, but I think it should not be taken off altogether. I acknowledge it will be a great benefit to the brewers; they would reap the greatest benefit, and not the public in general; and as to the price of barley, if there happens to be an extra crop, it will be no higher at all. But then, pray what benefit will the wheat growers have from that, who perhaps grow a very few quarters of barley upon their farms, so that will only be a partial relief? The tax was taken off leather a few years ago, and leather is as high as ever; the public reap no benefit from it, neither in shoes or any thing else in which leather is used. As to the duty on corn on importation, I believe a graduated duty preferable to a duty *always the same in plenty and in scarcity.*

I am, Sir, your well-wisher,

A FARMER AND SUBSCRIBER  
TO YOUR PAPER.

### TO THE EDITOR OF THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS."

Sir,—As you are concerned in a paper, which above all others is most engaged in what relates to the best interests of the farmer, I take the liberty of addressing the following observations on the repeal of the Malt Tax, &c. In the first place, the advocates of that measure expect that, in consequence, barley will be permanently advanced at least 10s per qr.; that this is a false notion I will now prove; I ask by what reasoning and what data they have come to this conclusion, have they taken into consideration the price the Danes, Prussians, and Germans can grow barley (and of as good quality and weight too, as we can)? I fear not. I will now state the present prices of their barley; the very best can be purchased at their outports at 14s per qr., weighing 15 stone 6 lbs net; freight to the eastern coast of England and other expenses, not exceeding 4s 6d to 5s per qr., making, say, 19s, which added to the duty of 13s 10d, will be 32s 10d. Now, if the German Boors can afford to sell their barley in London, at 32s 10d, and they can supply any quantity, is it probable that an advance of even 2s to 3s per qr. can take place, the present average for the country being 32s? You must bear in mind that by the Corn Law as it now stands, an advance of 1s per qr. is a reduction of 1s 6d in the duty on foreign barley, an advantage of 50 per cent. in favour of the foreign grower. Why not at once advocate an alteration in the Corn Law, viz. for barley to work upon the same scale of duties as wheat? this, on a repeal of the Malt Tax, would be a certain and great relief to the farmer. The whole of the five millions the tax raises would then go into the pockets of our own farmers, whereas without a prior alteration in the Corn Law scale of duties, the foreign grower would get at least four-fifths of the amount. The advocating the repeal of the Malt Tax before an alteration in the Corn Law, is putting the cart before the horse. But it is said that an advance in price is not the only benefit to the farmer that would follow from the repeal of the Malt Tax. The farmer would make his own malt, and the labourer would brew eight or ten gallons of ale in his own cottage copper. I don't believe either would be the case; in the first place, it would not be worth the farmer's

while to manufacture, even if he possessed a drying kiln, the little malt he would use, he could buy it cheaper; and I would ask, how is it possible for a labourer, existing on the low pittance of 9s a week in winter, and 12s in summer, to save enough to purchase the hops and malt to brew with? If a bushel of malt costs now 8s, and only 5s then, would a labourer with only 3s to spend, and that is as much, and sometimes more, than they have to spare in the week, be able to buy one? Suppose he could get the malt and hops, three-fifths of them would not work until the ale was finished. The greatest consumption of malt takes place in towns, and not in agricultural districts. There are hundreds of farming labourers in this country who don't taste malt liquor from one week's end to another, and it matters little to them whether ale is 2d or 4d a quart, if they cannot procure it. I am quite sure that a repeal of the Malt Tax *alone*, will be of no benefit to the English farmer. I remain,  
Jan. 8. A MERCHANT.

MATLOCK.—THE ELDER TREE.—A singular instance of the remarkable retention of vitality in the elder tree may now be seen at a farm on Riber Hill. About ten years ago an old elder tree was cut down, and the following hay harvest a portion of the trunk was placed under a hay-stack. At the expiration of more than a year, the stack being consumed, the piece of old wood was next used as a corner post to a temporary shed, and was observed in the following spring, to begin to sprout. The shed has long since been removed, but the corner post remains—a healthy flourishing elder tree. Our correspondent observes that he has known elder wood, when used in mines, to sprout, and actually produce leaves for two or three years.

PROPER DISTANCE OF WALL FRUIT TREES FROM EACH OTHER.—For a wall nine or ten feet high, apricots, peaches, and nectarines, twenty feet apart; for a wall twelve feet high, apples, eighteen or twenty feet apart; apricots twenty to twenty-four; figs fifteen or eighteen; cherries twelve or fifteen; pears twenty-four to thirty; and plums eighteen or twenty. For low walls of five or six feet, apples thirty; cherries and pears thirty to thirty-five, and plums twenty to twenty-four feet. The distances at which wall fruit ought to be planted depend, according to Abercrombie, on the general growth of the species, connected with other circumstances, whether the plant has been dwarfed by the mode of propagation or is a free grower; whether the species will bear to be kept within bounds by the knife, and lastly on the height of the wall, as a higher wall is a compensation for a reduced distance.—*Encyclopedia of Gardening.*

TURNIPS FROM THIS YEAR'S SEED.—It has been thought by many farmers and others that turnip seed of two years' preserving must produce bulbs of a more proportionable shape than seed kept for a shorter period. This theory, we understand, has been often put to the test by Mr. Imrie, seedsman here, who is in the practice of proving the quality of his turnip seed immediately after thrashing it out, and he finds it to bulb equally well, grow more freely, and swell to a much larger size, than seed saved in the former year. On the 9th of July last, he sowed more than half an acre with turnip seed grown this year, of green-topped yellow, bullock, and purple-topped Sweedish; and many of the bulbs produced from the former weigh more than 3½ lbs, and those from the latter 2½ lbs., specimens of which may be seen at this office, and at Mr. Imrie's shop.—*Ayr Observer.*



## BUCKS SESSIONS.

## CIVIL COURT.

THE POOR LAW AMENDMENT ACT.—The parish of Waddesdon, *respondents*; Grendon, Underwood, *appellants*.

This was the first settlement case yet brought before this Court under the new Poor Law Act. The merits of the case presented nothing particular, being an ordinary case of alleged settlement by hiring and service, and the only point being whether the terms of the contract implied a prospective or retrospective hiring; but a question with regard to the legal construction of a provision of the new Poor Law Act arose, which, like many other parts of the Statute, seems well calculated to perplex Magistrates and increase litigation.

Mr. MALTBY, for the appellants, having proved the notice of the appeal,

Mr. SYDNEY TAYLOR, for the respondents, stated to the Court that he was prepared with the necessary evidence to prove the chargeability of the pauper; but, as in the notice of the appeal, no objection was taken to the order of removal, on the ground of a want of chargeability, he doubted that he was permitted, under the new Act, to offer any evidence of that fact, although the ground of the whole proceedings. He then referred to the 81st section of the Act, in which it is provided that no evidence shall be given of any other ground of appeal than what the notice of appeal contains. In the present case there was no objection taken in the notice of appeal upon the score of chargeability, and therefore he submitted that he was not bound to prove it. His object was to obtain a decision of the Court that might regulate future proceedings, as parishes might be put to needless expense and inconvenience by uncertainty on this point.

Mr. MALTBY said that in the present case he did not mean to dispute the chargeability, but he also thought that, as this was the first case upon which the point had arisen, the Court ought to lay down some rule on the subject to define the practice of the Court, so that suitors might not be ignorant of what they were required to prove.

Sir T. AUBREY (the Chairman,) asked the opinion of Mr. Tindal, the Clerk of the Peace.

Mr. TINDAL said he did not think the Legislature meant to take away from the Court the right of inquiring into the question of chargeability in cases where no question was raised about it in the notice of appeal. The chargeability was alleged on the face of the order, and he thought the Court had still the power of inquiring into it, as the statute only spoke of respondents and appellants, but did not say the Court was not at liberty to make the inquiry for its own satisfaction if it thought proper. The question might rise incidentally.

Sir THOMAS AUBREY consulted with the other Magistrates, and said, We are inclined to think the Act was not intended to confine the Court itself to the grounds of appeal stated in the notice, but that we have still the power of requiring evidence of the chargeability, if we see reason to do so.

Mr. SYDNEY TAYLOR observed that, if the Court looked to the precise words of the Act, he thought they would not incline to that opinion any longer. He then read the words, which are to the effect that it shall not be lawful for the respondent or appellant to give evidence as to any matter but what is contained in the notice of appeal. Now, he submitted that, although in the present case he had witnesses in Court to prove the chargeability, the

Court could not ask him to offer that evidence, because the notice of appeal was silent respecting it; and as, according to the words of the Act, it was "not lawful" for him to offer that evidence, the Court could not require it, as it was not to be presumed the Court would require that to be done which was unlawful.

Sir T. AUBREY.—The words are certainly very strong. I doubt whether we have the power.

Mr. TINDAL.—It would surely be absurd for the Legislature to take away the power of the Court. It would open the door to fraud and collusion. I don't think the Legislature can have intended it.

Mr. S. TAYLOR.—If this be an absurdity it would be well if it were the only absurdity connected with this Poor Law Act. The Court cannot look to its policy or impolicy. It is not a Court of legislation. It must construe the Act according to the legal intendment of the words. If the legal construction and the words lead to an absurdity, Parliament only can amend it. The Legislature alone can correct its own blunders.

The CHAIRMAN again consulted with the Magistrates, and then stated that the Court were unanimously of opinion that they ought not to call for the evidence of chargeability; but they wished it to be understood, at the same time, that although their decision was in accordance with the interpretation put upon the Act by the Counsel for the respondents, their decision was not intended to bind future cases. It was only *pro hac vice*. When the question arose again, they should like to be free to re-consider it.

The case was then proceeded with upon the merits.

## FROM THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

As the swallow is to the wild sea-mew,

Whirling above the foaming tide—

Or the snowy wreath in the sky's clear blue

To the thunder cloud in its dusky pride—

Such and so distant wouldst thou be,

My frolic-boat, to the bark of the sea.

No crested wave lifts thy fragile form

With a sudden force from its silvery track ;

The distant moan of the coming storm

Puts not thy fluttering canvass aback ;

Steadily, steadily, on we sail

O'er the inland waters calm and pale.

As the fan is furl'd by the maiden's hand,

Or the bubble blown by the sportive boy,

So, aided by the breezes bland,

Do I govern thee, my trim-built toy ;

Like the fish in the water, the bird in the sky,

Now, now, we glide—now, now, we fly.

The moon is up ; o'er the inland lakes

The silence of night is stealing slow ;

Not a sound through the still enchantment breaks,

As the water parts lazily round thy prow ;

And while by the rustling reeds we creep,

Thou and the flood seem lulling to sleep.

The water-lily around us floats,

Or sparkles out from a sedgy port,

A fairy fleet of pleasure-boats,

Returning, like us, from Sylvan sport ;

The Spirit that guides them we cannot see,

But they have a Spirit as well as we ;—

The Spirit that keeps the waters calm,

That brightens the green of the waving wood,

That fills the air with health and balm,

And the world with life—the Spirit of Good.

May it bear me onward through light and dark,

As thou bearest me home my bonny bark.

## EAST SUFFOLK ELECTION,

EXTRACT FROM MR. SHAW'S SPEECH, AS GIVEN IN "THE SUFFOLK CHRONICLE EXTRAORDINARY."

He knew the farmers took great interest in the repeal of the Malt Tax. But the Malt Tax did not solely affect the agricultural interest. The Malt Tax was paid by those who drank the beer. All his friends around him, as well as the farmer, would be relieved by the repeal of that tax. He would tell them how the farmer would be relieved. If the quantity of malt now consumed be increased, and the quantity of barley remained the same, he would certainly obtain a higher price. If the barley were increased, as well as the demand for malt, he would receive that increased price on the sale of an increased quantity. But how had their friend, Sir Robert Peel, voted upon the question of the repeal of the Malt Tax? (Loud laughter, and "That's right.") What did he do? He came down to the House of Commons, to back the Whig Ministers to rescind the motion for the abolition of the Tax. (Tremendous cheering.) He would then ask them what chance they had of the repeal of the Malt Tax under the Peel Administration? (Continued cheering.) Why could they be blind to the circumstance, that Lord Chandos did not join the Administration? (Shouts of "No, no," and "he will bring the question forward," from the Anti-Reformers, and cheers.) Well then, he would ask them, what grounds, what expectations, they could have from an Administration, the Members of which put on the Tax which was abolished? And, on the other hand, how they could expect that the present Government would assent to its repeal, when Lord Chandos, whom they conceived—whom they thought so much their friend—had positively refused to join the Ministry of Sir R. Peel? (Loud cheering.) He thought he had said enough about the Malt Tax to convince them, that he had not acted in the manner attributed to him by his anonymous assailants. (Loud cheers.)

**RISE OF RENTS.**—Alluding to an estate in Wexford, Mr. Inglis says, "the land had been four generations in the farmer's family; his great grandfather paid six shillings an acre, his grandfather ten shillings, his father one pound, and he paid two pounds."

**THINNING STONE FRUITS.**—Thinning the over-set fruit, on apricot, nectarine, peach, and plum-trees, is a necessary duty, as many of these in good seasons set more than they can nourish or bring to perfection. If the fruit be very thickly set all over the tree, let it be generally thinned off to half its extent the first time, deferring the final thinning till the stoning be over—that is, till the shells be quite hard and the kernel formed. Most trees, and especially those any way unhealthy, drop many of their fruit at the time of stoning, so that the thinning had better be performed at two or three different times, always observing to reserve the fullest, brownest, and best formed fruit. If the bearing shoots of stone fruits be properly shortened, there is little danger of their falling off, unless the kernel has been injured by untimely spring frosts or excessive droughts, which ought, however, to be guarded against. The first thinning should therefore be fearlessly gone about, and the second should not be too long delayed.—*Encyclopædia of Gardening.*

## AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT OAKHAM.

The meeting on the 5th January to arrange the new Bill of Premiums for 1835, was very large, and the business of the day gone through with credit to the Society.

E. W. Wilmot, Esq. Chairman, was elected; a new Vice President also, Sir Gilbert Heathcote, Bart., M. P. with Frewen Turner, Esq. Cold Overton.

On the retirement of Mr. T. E. Pawlett, of Tinwell, as Steward, E. W. Wilmot, Esq., was also elected the succeeding steward. Also on the retirement of Mr. R. D. Healey of Ashwell as Secretary, Mr. H. I. Rudkin of Langham Lodge was elected to succeed him.—Amongst those present, I noticed, Sir G. N. Noel, Bart., M. P.; Clarke Morris, Esq.; R. W. Baker, Esq.; W. Sherrard, Esq.; Samuel Cheetham, Esq.; Christopher Smith, Esq.; R. L. Bradshaw, Esq.

**SOUTH OF FRANCE.—STATE OF AGRICULTURE.**—Throughout the south of France the landowners are almost all exclusively occupied with their crops; for they are, from the manner in which their estates are managed, obliged to spend the summer and autumn in the country; and so absorbed are they in their agricultural labours, that if they happen to fall in with a wanderer from town, they scarcely take the trouble to inquire whether there is any thing new. The fact is, that the low price of produce keeps them poor; and the phrase of the address of the Chamber of Deputies, in which the sufferings of the agricultural interest were alluded to, found an echo in the southern departments; for the low price of grain is attributed to the action of government. Nothing can destroy this idea, and they imagine that Marseilles and Provence are overflowing with foreign corn. But the sufferings of the agricultural interests proceed not only from the trifling value of the product of the estates, but also from the particular position of those in whose hands it is placed; proceeding from the general mania for employing whatever savings may be made, in fortunate years, in purchasing additional parcels of land; consequently, although the estates become increased, the funds for managing them are diminished, and recourse is had to the ruinous system of loans, and eventually the mortgaged estates are obliged to be sold. This mania accounts for the high price of land, and also for the enormous mass of mortgages with which they are burdened, as will appear from the documents which are published every year by the Administration of Registry. If a fifth or even a sixth part of the capital of the landed proprietors were to be reserved for the unforeseen wants of their families, and for the amelioration of their estates, the agricultural population would be soon brought into a state of ease; but, unfortunately, the matter has not yet been looked upon in this point of view in France. Still some progress has been made. Fashion has come to the aid of reason. Formerly a rich landed proprietor would have been ashamed of superintending his own estate, or of appearing to be attending to matters that the noble and ecclesiastical aristocracy formerly left entirely to the care of the peasantry. We have heard more than one deputy declare, at the tribune, that he gloried in having thus increased the patrimony of his ancestors.—*French Paper.*



## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS."

The plan I submitted for the consideration of the public, as detailed in my letter published in your valuable Journal of the 17th ultimo, for the relief of the existing agricultural distress, by an alteration in the currency, appears to have attracted the notice of some of your readers. Your correspondent "S." (whose letter appears in your Journal of the 8th instant) calls it "an Utopian project," and I believe thinks me little better than insane to venture upon the discussion of a subject which I am fearful he understands but imperfectly himself. I am, however, anxious to be more acquainted with all the difficulties that stand in the way of the practical working of the system of currency I have proposed, and therefore take this opportunity of expressing my obligations to him for his observations, and shall proceed at once to reply thereto. At the commencement of his letter he accuses me of "suggesting that the Bank of England, the Country Bankers, and Joint-Stock Banks, *should be annihilated at the end of three years*;"—he can hardly think I should propose a project so injurious to *my own* interests, and I would thank him to point out any words in my letter bearing such a construction, as I am ignorant of having made any such assertion. If he is of opinion that the substitution of national notes for those of the Bank of England and of country bank notes, will totally destroy the banking business, I would just ask him how it is that the London bankers can carry on business to a profit, as they issue no notes of their own, nor can they derive any advantage from the circulation of the Bank of England notes they pay out, yet I believe it must be admitted that many of them are carrying on very lucrative concerns; but their profits, instead of being derived from the issue of notes, are derived from the deposits of their customers, which they employ in discounts, investments in the funds, and other government securities: and were there an ample circulating medium such as I have described, there would be no danger of the banking concerns in the country being carried on to a disadvantage; at all events I should be quite willing to run the risk of it as far as regards myself.

Your correspondent, it appears, is apprehensive that mischief will result from the establishment of a National Bank, upon the plan of "*Government issuing its notes*;" now I expressly stated in my letter, that the National Bank should be under the direction and management of twelve trustees, appointed by Parliament, and as the House of Commons is composed of the representatives of the people, and they now hold the purse-strings of the nation, we surely might rest satisfied that they would select such trustees as would conduct the business of such a bank satisfactorily, upon the principles laid down.

Your correspondent says, "The end and object of all banking is the promotion of trade and the exchange of commodities. It is a system of credit arising out of the industry of the country, and created by the wants of the people themselves; it is best it should remain in their hands,—the less the Government have to do with it the better." It is the circulating medium of the country, and

not the *banking business* of the country, that I am desirous of seeing altered. Let us examine our present circulating medium. It consists of gold, and silver, Bank of England notes, and the notes of Country Bankers and Joint Stock Banks: with respect to the gold and silver, we know it is a commodity that represents its own value. The Bank of England paper is founded upon the credit of that establishment; and, according to the present law of the land, is liable to be paid in gold if demanded. Now, it appears by a statement that has been recently published, that their stock of bullion is not more than sufficient to cover one-fourth of their liabilities, having not quite seven millions of bullion to meet about eighteen millions of notes and twelve millions of deposits. If we inquire what is become of the capital on which the credit of their establishment is founded, we find three-fourths of it is lent to government, and the other fourth has only recently been liquidated by the creation of a sufficient amount of Stock for the settlement of that portion so the debt due from the Government to the Bank; of that we see the Bank of England is very much under Government influence, although your correspondent thinks it dangerous that Government should have anything to do with a National Bank. As regards the notes of Country Bankers and Joint Stock Banks, they are issued upon the credit of the parties who constitute the Proprietary of these Establishments—most of them, no doubt, of unquestionable solidity, but still distrust sometimes prevails as to their safety, and extensive failures have occasionally taken place. Now, the substitution of a paper currency issued upon freehold and funded property, at half the amount of its present value, must be perfectly secure, safe, and satisfactory, and would insure a remunerative range of prices, without producing an unnecessarily extended circulation; for, on the one hand, there would be many who would not be satisfied with an advance of so little as one-half upon their property, and on the other, those who would not be disposed to pledge their property in this way at all. I had no apprehension that the elevation of prices consequent upon such a change taking place, would be confined to agricultural productions, but would apply to all other commodities; notwithstanding this, I should have no fear of our ceasing to be the "workshop of the world," on the contrary, the change would I am satisfied, be quite as beneficial to the manufacturing as to the agricultural population; in the first place our home trade, which is by no means unimportant, would, I have no doubt, be very considerably increased; and in the next place our foreign trade I am satisfied, would be very greatly extended. In order to show how this is to be effected, I will suppose, that our circulating medium, according to the plan proposed, is doubled in amount; this would occasion a considerable rise in the price of all commodities. A merchant in this country is desirous of sending out a shipment of goods to Portugal, reasoning as your correspondent S. does, he would say, if I buy goods at a high price here, how am I to make my profits?—however, I will send out a small amount and see what can be done; he accordingly purchases goods to the amount of 300*l*, and consigns them to his corres-

pendent at Oporto; on their arrival his agent sells them for 1200 milreas, which at the exchange of 60d pr milrea, which is about the present quotation, he would have only in return just the amount the goods cost him without any thing to cover expences; but owing to the increase in the circulating medium here, and the consequent high range of prices, there are large importations of wines from Portugal, which are sold at good prices, and the merchants who ship these wines have to draw upon their agents in England, for the amount, and to sell the bills in the market which they find some difficulty in disposing of, so that the agent of the merchant here who sent out the 300*l* worth of goods, finds that in purchasing bills on England with his 1200 milreas, he can get seventy-two per milrea, instead of sixty-pence, so that his shipment he then finds will pay him 60*l* less, the expences, instead of returning him no profit: but your correspondent S. will perhaps say, that the Portuguese merchants who send over their wines instead of drawing bills to dispose of at that rate, would direct their agents in London to remit them the amount in specie, but when they go to the National Bank to purchase it, they find the price of gold is considerably higher as well as other things, and as they have to give the market price of the day for it, there would be no advantage in making the remittance in that way, and it would moreover be attended with considerable risk. I trust I have now shown that neither the manufacturer, nor the merchant would, suffer from that change in the currency which I am advocating.

I will now say a word or two on the subject of the importation of foreign grain at a low fixed rate of duty, as your correspondent S. apprehends, "no better plan can be devised for the destruction of the farmer." I agree with him, it would be the case with our present monetary system, but with an extended circulating medium, the prosperity of the country generally, would insure remunerative prices to the Farmer, and, in consequence of the increased consumption of wool, meat, butter, &c., more land would be required to be laid down in pasturage; and as the foreign corn that would be imported would not be paid for as it has been latterly in gold, at a fixed standard, there would be a greater demand for our manufactures. I am afraid I have almost exceeded the limits to which a communication of this sort should be confined, but I hope you will insert it in your next paper that your readers may have an opportunity of judging of the merits of the question.

I am yours, truly

A COUNTRY BANKER.

London, Dec. 26, 1834.

### IMPORTANT TO OWNERS OF COTTAGE PROPERTY.

The Overseers of the poor of the township of Ecclesall-Bierlow lately submitted to the Poor Law Commissioners for England and Wales, the following case and questions; viz. "In about the year 1816-17, when great distress prevailed in this manufacturing district, and it was found impossible to collect the

rates from the occupants of small houses, without adding to such distress, by forcing them also to swell the list of parochial pensioners, the Overseers of this and several adjoining townships proposed to allow a discount (varying according to the circumstances of each township) from the amount of rates on houses at and under three pounds per annum, as an inducement for the proprietors of such tenements to pay the rates, instead of the occupiers. In Ecclesall-Bierlow the allowance was 25 per cent., and it has continued to the present time. The overseers, however, from the trade of the place being in a tolerably flourishing state, and from an idea that such allowance (although it may have been expedient) is not lawful, have resolved to discontinue this practice, and to collect of the occupiers as formerly. This does not please the owners of such cottage property, and they propose a compromise, by which they would generally pay the poor's rates as in years past, on their being allowed 10 per cent. Would the overseers be authorised, or would they be acting lawfully in continuing any practice of this kind?" The following, signed E. Chadwick, Secretary, dated Poor Law Commission Office, Somerset-house, was received a few days after:—"In reply to the inquiry contained in your communication of the 27th ult., the Poor Law Commissioners for England and Wales wish to inform you that the overseers would not be acting lawfully in continuing the allowances mentioned under the name of discount to the owners of cottages paying the rates, instead of the occupants."

The following answer has been given by the Poor Law Commissioners to an enquiry as to the operation of the 66th clause of the Poor Law Amendment Act, in which it is provided that no person shall gain a settlement by occupation without being rated for a year; but the value of the tenement is not specified:—

Sir,—Your letter of the 2nd instant has been laid before the Poor Law Commissioners for England and Wales; and in answer to your inquiry concerning the operation of the 66th section of the Poor Law Amendment Act, the Board are desirous of pointing out that the effect of it is not to create a new species of settlement, or to give additional facilities to the acquiring of a settlement by occupying a tenement; but on the contrary, the assessment and payment of rates for a year are required as further restrictions on that mode of settlement.

With this exception, settlement by occupying a tenement remains, as to rental and all other incidents, precisely as it was before the passing of the Act.—By order of the Board.

E. CHADWICK Secretary.

### SIMPLE TREATMENT OF DROPSY.

Sir—Permit me, through your widely-circulated paper, to give publicity to the following interesting fact:—An intimate friend of mine, a timber-merchant in London, was very ill of the dropsy, and, at the suggestion of an individual, he took oatmeal mixed with a little water, the effect of which upon his complaint was very salutary; the dry quality of the meal apparently absorbing the water in the system. It is conceived this hint may be useful to suffering humanity.

Your's, respectfully,

Bourn, Lincolnshire, Dec. 17.

J. P.



## THE ABSENT MEMBER.

[This story is taken from the new volume of the 'Amulet,' just published, and is from the pen of Miss Mitford, the author of the delightful village histories. The picture seems a little caricatured here and there; but absence of mind is in itself a caricature; and whatever exuberance there is at any time in Miss Mitford's style is but truth in a state of luxuriance.]

Everybody remembers the excellent character of an absent man, by La Bruyère, since, so coldly dramatized by Isaac Bickerstaff—everybody remembers the character, and everybody would have thought the whole account a most amusing and pleasant invention, had not the incredible facts been verified by the sayings and doings of a certain Parisian count, whose name has escaped me,\* a well-known individual of that day, whose *distractions* (I use the word in the French sense, and not in the English) set all exaggeration at defiance, who was, in a word, more *distract* than *Le Distract* of La Bruyère.

He, "that nameless he," still remains unrivalled: as an odd Frenchman, when such a thing turns up, which is seldom, will generally be found to excel at all points your English oddity, which is comparatively common. No single specimen so complete in its kind has appeared in our country; but the genus is by no means extinct; and every now and then, especially amongst learned men, great mathematicians, and eminent Grecians, one has the luck to light on an original whose powers of perception and memory are subject to lapses the most extraordinary; fits of abstraction, during which every thing that passes falls into some pit of forgetfulness, like the *oubliette* of an old castle, and is never seen or heard of again.

My excellent friend, Mr. Coningsby, is just such a man. The waters of oblivion of the Eastern Fairy Tale, or the more classical Lethe, are but types to shadow forth the extent and variety of his anti-recollective faculty. Let the fit be strong upon him, and he shall not recognize his own mansion, or remember his own name. Suppose him in London, and a fire in the opposite house would, at such a time, hardly disturb him. You might, at certain moments, commit murder in his presence with perfect impunity; he would not know the killer from the killed.

\* In writing of the forgetfulness of others, a touch of that quality may be permitted in oneself. It is in keeping, and belonging to the subject: and in good truth, if one may say of this sort of *distract* as of that worst species of hallucination, called love, "they best can paint them who can feel them most," then I am a fit recorder of all the errors, blunders, and mistakes that proceed from want of memory, I being as much addicted to forget names, and dates, and places—to write one word for another—to confound authorities, and misquote verse, as Mr. Coningsby himself. I cannot even remember the style and title of my own geraniums, and only yesterday gave away a *Magalanthon* seedling (as precious to a *geranium-breeder* as an Eclipse colt to a gentleman on the turf) mistaking it for a Lord Combermere. "The force of *absence* could no further go."

Of course this does not happen every day; or rather, opportunities of so striking a character do not often fall in his way, or doubtless he would not fail to make the most of them. Of the smaller occasions, which can occur more frequently, he is pretty sure to take the advantage; and, from the time of his putting on two different coloured stockings when getting up in the morning, to that of his assuming his wife's laced nightcap when going to bed, his every day's history is one perpetual series of blunders and mistakes.

He will salt his tea, for instance, at breakfast time, and put sugar on his muffin, and swallow both messes without the slightest perception of his having at all deviated from his common mode of applying those relishing condiments. With respect to the quality of his food, indeed, he is as indifferent as Dominie Sampson: and he has been known to fill his glass with vinegar instead of sherry, and to pour a ladle of turtle soup over his turbot instead of lobster sauce, and doubtless would have taken both the eatables and drinkables very quietly, had not his old butler, on the watch against such occurrences, whisked both glass and plate away with the celerity of Sancho's physician, Don—Bless me! I have forgotten that name also! I said that this subject was contagious. Don—he who officiated in the island of Barataria—Don—no, Doctor, Pedro Rezio de Aquero, that is the title in which the gentleman rejoices.—Well, the vinegar would have been drunken, and the turbot and turtle sauce eaten, had not the vigilant butler played the part of Don Pedro Rezio, and whipped off the whole concern, whilst the good man, his master, sat in dubious meditation, wondering what had become of his dinner, and not quite certain that he might not have eaten it, until a plateful of more salubrious and less incongruous viands—ham and chicken, for instance, or roast beef and French beans, was placed before him. But for that inestimable butler, a coroner's inquest would have been held upon him long ago.

After breakfast he would dress, thrice happy if the care of his valet prevented him from shaving with a pruning-knife, or putting on his waistcoat wrong side out. Being dressed he would prepare for his morning ride, mounting, if his groom did not happen to be in waiting, the very first four footed animal that came in his way,—sometimes the butcher's horse with a tray nicely balanced before—sometimes the post-boy's donkey, with the letter-bags swinging behind him—sometimes his daughter's pony, side-saddle notwithstanding; and, when mounted forth, he sallies, rather in the direction which his steed may happen to prefer than in that which he himself had intended to follow.

Bold would be the pen that should attempt even a brief summary of the mistakes committed in one single morning's ride. If he proceed, as he frequently does, to our good town of Belford, he goes for wrong things to the wrong shops, mis-calls the people whom he accosts (seldom, indeed, shall he hit on the proper name, title, or vocation of any one whom he chances to address), asks an old bachelor after his wife, and an old maid after her children; and finally, sums up a morning

of blunders by going to the inn where he had not left his horse, and quietly stepping into some gig or phaeton prepared for some other person. In a new neighbourhood, this appropriation of other people's property might bring our hero into an awkward dilemma; but the man and his ways are well known in our parts, and when the unlucky owner of the abstracted equipage arrives in a fury, and demands of the astounded ostler what has become of his carriage, one simple exclamation, "Mr. Coningsby, sir!" is at once felt by the aggrieved proprietor to be explanation enough.

Should morning calls be the order of the day, he contrives to make a pretty comfortable confusion in that simple civility. First of all, he can hardly gallop along the king's highway without getting into a *démêlé* with the turnpike keepers, sometimes riding quietly through a gate without paying the slightest attention to their demand for toll; at others tossing them, without dreaming of stopping to receive the change, a shilling or a sovereign as the case may be; for, although great on the currency question (have I not said that the gentleman is\* a county member?) he is practically most happily ignorant of the current coin of the realm, and could hardly know gold from silver, if asked to distinguish between them. This event is a perfect godsend to the gatekeeper, who, confiding in the absolute deafness produced by his abstraction, calls after him with a complete assurance that he may be honest with impunity; and that, bawl as he may, there is no more chance of his arresting his passenger than the turnpike-man of Ware had of stopping Johnny Gilpin. Accordingly, after undergoing the ceremony of offering change, he pockets the whole coin with a safe conscience. Beggars (and he is very charitable) find their account also in this ignorance; he flings about half-crowns for penny pieces, and half-sovereigns for sixpences, relieving the same set a dozen times over, and gets quit of a pocketful of money (for though he have a purse, he seldom remembers to make use of it—luckily seldom—for if he do fill that gentlemanly network, he is sure to lose it, cash, bank-notes, and all) in the course of a morning's ride.

Arrived at the place of destination, the house at which he is to call, a new scene of confusion is pretty sure to arise. In the first place, it rarely happens that he does arrive at the veritable mansion to which his visit is intended. He is far more likely to arrive at the wrong place, inquire of the bewildered footman for some name, not his master's and be finally ushered into a room full of strangers, persons whom he neither visits nor knows, who stare and wonder what brought him, whilst he, not very sure whether he ought to remember them, whether they be his acquaint-

tances or not, stammers out an apology, and marches off again. (N. B. He once did this, whilst canvassing for the county, to a rival candidate, and finding only the lady of the house, intreated her, in the most insinuating manner, to exert her influence with her husband for his vote and interest. This passed for a deep stroke of finesse amongst those who did not know him—they who did, laughed and exclaimed, Mr. Coningsby! Or he shall commit the reverse mistake, and, riding to the right house, ask for the wrong people, or, finding the family out, he shall have forgotten his own name—I mean his name tickets—and shall leave one from his wife's or daughter's card case, taken up by that sort of accident, which is to him second nature; or he shall unite all those blunders, and leave at a house where he himself does not visit, a card left at his own mansion by a third person, who is also acquainted with the family to which so unconsciously that outward sign and token of acquaintanceship had travelled.

Imagine the mistakes and confusion occasioned by such doings in a changeable neighbourhood, much broken into parties by politics and election contests. Sometimes it did good, as between two old country squires, who, having been friends all their lives, had quarrelled about the speed of a greyhound, and the decision of a course, and had mutually vowed never to pass each other's door. The sight of his antagonist's card (left in one of Mr. Coningsby's absent fits), so mollified the most testy elder of the two, that he forthwith returned the visit, and the opposite party being luckily not at home, a card was left there also; and either individual thinking the concession first made by himself, was emulous in stepping forward with the most cordial hand-shaking when they met casually at a dinner at a third place.

But Mr. Coningsby's visiting blunders were not always so fortunate; where they healed one breach, they made twenty; and once had very nearly occasioned a duel between two youngsters, lords of neighbouring manors, between whose gamekeepers there was an outstanding feud. The card left was taken as a cartel—a note of defiance; and, but for the interference of constables, and mayors, and magistrates, and aunts, and sisters, and mammas, and peace-preservers of all ages and sexes, scene very hot blood would inevitably have been spilt. As it was, the affair terminated in a grand effusion of ink, the correspondence between the seconds, a delicious specimen of polite and punctilious quarrelling, having been published for the edification of the world, and filling three columns of the county newspapers. It came to no conclusion; for, although the one party conceded that a card had been left, and the other, that the person to whom the name belonged did not leave it, yet how the thing did arrive on that hall table remained a mystery. The servant who opened the door happened to be a stranger, and somehow or other nobody ever thought of Mr. Coningsby:—nay, he himself, although taking a great interest in the dispute, and wondering over the puzzle like the rest of the neighbourhood, never once recollected his own goings on that eventful morning, nor dreamt that it could be through his infirmity that Sir James

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\* Erratum: For *is* read *was*. "Was a county member" will do just as well, and save the talented Editor, the eminent publisher, and respectable printer of this loyal volume from any danger of being called, innocent as they are, to the bar of the House, and committed to His Majesty's gaol of Newgate for breach of privilege; to say nothing of my own share of the peril. *Was* must be the word.



Mordaunt's card was left at Mr. Chandler's; to so incredible a point was his forgetfulness carried.

If, in so simple a matter as morning visiting, he contrived to produce so much confusion, think how his genius must have expanded when so dangerous a weapon as a pen got into his hands; I question if he ever wrote a letter in his life without some blunder in the date, the address, the signature, or the subject. He would indite an epistle to one person, direct it to another, and send it to a third, who could not conceive from whom it came, because he had forgotten to put his name at the bottom. But of the numerous perplexities to which he was in the habit of giving rise, franks were by very far the most frequent cause. Ticklish things are they, even to the punctual and the careful; and to Mr. Coningsby the giving one quite perfectly right seemed an impossibility. There was the date to consider, the month, the day of the month, the year—I have known him to write the wrong century;—then came the name, the place, the street, the number, if in London—if in the country, the town and county;—then, lastly, his own name, which, though so simple an operation as it seems, he would contrive generally to omit, and sometimes to boggle with, now writing only his patronymic, as if he were a peer, now only his Christian name, as if a prince, and now an involution of initials that defied even the accurate eye of the clerks of the Post-Office. Very, very few can have been the franks of his that escaped paying.

Of course his friends and acquaintances were forewarned, and escaped the scrape (for it is one) of making their correspondents pay triple postage. Bountiful as he was in his offers of service in this way, (and keeping no account of the numbers, he would just as readily give fifty as one), none incurred the penalty save strangers and the unwary. I, for my own part, never received but one letter directed by him in my life, and in the address of that, the name, my name, the name of the person to whom the letter was written, was wanting. "Three Mile Cross" held the usual place occupied by "Miss Mitford."

"Three Mile Cross—  
Reading,  
Berks,"

ran the direction. But as I happened to receive about twenty times as many letters, and especially franked letters, as all the good people of "The Cross" put together, the packet was sent first to me by way of experiment, and, as I recognised the seal of a dear friend and old correspondent, I felt no scruple in appropriating, for once, like a Scottish laird, the style and title of the place where I reside. And I and the postmaster were right; the epistle was, as it happened, intended for me.

Notes would, in his hands, have been still more dangerous than letters; but from this peril he was generally saved by the caution of the two friends most anxious for his credit, his wife and the old butler, who commonly contrived, the one to write the answers to all invitations and general billets that arrived at the house, the other to watch that none from him should pass without due scrutiny. Once, however, he escaped their surveillance; and the consequence was an adventure which, though

very trifling, proved, in the first instance, so uncomfortable as to cause both his keepers to exert double vigilance for the future. Thus the story ran:—

A respectable but not wealthy clergyman had been appointed to a living about ten miles off, had married, and brought home his bride, and Mr. Coningsby who as county member, called upon every body within a still wider circuit, paid a visit in due form, accompanied by, or rather accompanying his lady, which call having been duly returned (neither party being at home,) was followed by an invitation for Mr. and Mrs. Ellis to dine at Coningsby House. The invitation was accepted: but when the day arrived, the dangerous illness of a near relation prevented the young couple from keeping their engagement; and some time after, the fair bride began to think it necessary to return the civilities of her neighbours, by giving her first dinner party. Notes of invitation were despatched accordingly, to four families of consequence, amongst them Mr. Coningsby; but it was the busy Christmas time, when, between family parties, and London visitors, and children's balls, every body's evenings were bespoken for weeks beforehand; and, from three of her friends accordingly, she received answers declining her invitation, and pleading pre-engagements. From Mr. Coningsby only, no note arrived. But accidentally Mr. Ellis heard that they were to go at Christmas on a distant visit, and taking for granted that the invitation had not reached the worthy member or his amiable lady, Mrs. Ellis, instead of attempting to collect other friends, made up her mind to postpone her party to a more convenient season.

The day on which the dinner was to have been given proved so unfavourable, that our young couple saw good cause to congratulate themselves on their resolution. The little hamlet of East Longford, amongst the prettiest of our North-of-Hampshire villages, so beautiful in the summer, from the irregularities of the ground, the deep woody lanes hollowed like water-courses, the wild commons which must be passed to reach it, and the profound seclusion of the one straggling street of cottages and cottage-like houses, with the vicarage, placed like a bird's-nest on the side of a steep hill, clothed to the very top with beech woods; this pretty hamlet, so charming in its summer verdure, its deep retirement, and its touch of wildness in the midst of civilization, was, from those very circumstances, no tempting spot in mid-winter; vast tracts across the commons were then nearly impassable; the lanes were sloughs; and the village itself, rendered insulated and inaccessible by the badness of the roads, conveyed no other feeling than that of weariness and loneliness. Mr. and Mrs. Ellis, who, although not insensible of the inconveniences of their abode, had made up their minds to bear the evil and enjoy the good of their situation, could not help congratulating themselves, as they sat in their snug dining parlour, after a five o'clock dinner, on the postponement of their party. The snow is above a foot deep, and the bridge broken, so that neither servants nor horses could have got to the Eight Bells: and where could we have housed them? said the gentleman.

And the drawing-room smokes so, in this heavy atmosphere, that we cannot light a fire there, responded the lady; never, to be sure, was anything so fortunate!

And just as the word was spoken, a carriage and four drove up to the door, and exactly at half-past six (the hour named in the invitation), Mr. and Mrs. Coningsby were ushered into the room.

Imagine the feelings of four persons, who had never met before, in such a situation, especially of the two ladies. Mrs. Ellis, dinner over, with the consciousness of the half-bottle of port and the quarter of sherry, the apples, the nuts, the single pair of mould candles, her drawing-room fire that could not be lighted, her dinner to be provided as well as cooked, and her own dark merino and black silk apron! Poor Mrs. Coningsby, on the other hand, seeing at a glance how the case stood, feeling for the trouble they were giving, and sinking under a consciousness far worse to bear than Mrs. Ellis's—the consciousness of being over-dressed. How heartily did she wish herself at home again! or, if that were too much to desire, what would she have given to have replaced her claret-coloured silk gown, her hat with its white plumes, her pearls and her rubies back again in their wardrobes and cases!

It was a trial of no ordinary nature to the good sense, good breeding, and good humour of both parties, and each stood it well. There happened to be a cold round of beef in the house, some undressed game, and plenty of milk and eggs; the next farmer had killed a pig; and with pork chops, cold beef, a pheasant, and apple fritters, all very nicely prepared, more fastidious persons than Mr. and Mrs. Coningsby might have made a good dinner. The host brought out his best claret, the pretty hostess regained her smiles, and forgot her black apron and her dark merino: and, what was a far more difficult achievement, the fair visitor forgot her plumes and her satin. The evening, which began so inauspiciously, ended pleasantly and sociably: and, when the note (taken, as was guessed, by our hero from the letter-boy, with the intention of sending it by a groom) was found quietly ensigned in his waistcoat pocket, Mrs. Coningsby could hardly regret the termination of her present adventure, although fully resolved never again to incur a similar danger.

Of his mishaps when attending his duty in Parliament, and left in some measure to his own guidance (for, having no house in town, his family only go for about three months in the season) there is no end. Some are serious, and some are very much the reverse. Take a specimen of his London scrapes.

Our excellent friend wears a wig made to imitate a natural head of hair, which it is to be presumed that at the very best of times, it does not very closely resemble, and which, after a week of Mr. Coningsby's wearing, put on with the characteristic negligence of his habits, sometimes on one end, sometimes on the other, always awry, and sometimes hind side before, assumes such a demeanour as never was equalled by Christian peruke at any time or in any country.

One day last winter, being in London without a servant, he, by some extraordinary chance, happened to look in the glass when he was dressing, and became aware of the evil state of his caxon,—a piece of information for which he had generally been indebted to one of his two guardians, Mrs. Coningsby or the old butler,—and, recollecting that he was engaged to a great dinner party the ensuing evening, stepped into the first hair-dresser's shop that he passed to bespeak himself a wig; where, being a man of exceedingly pleasant and jocular manners (your oddities, with the exception of the peculiar oddity, are commonly agreeable persons), he passed himself off for a bachelor to the artificer, and declared that his reason for desiring a wig of peculiar beauty and becomingness was, that he was engaged to a great party the next day, at which he expected to meet the lady of his heart, and that his fate and fortune depended on the set of his curls. This he impressed very strongly on the mind of the perquier; who, an enthusiast in his art, as a great artist should be, saw nothing extraordinary in the fact of a man's happiness hanging on the cut of his wig, and gravely promised that no exertion should be wanting on his part to contribute to the felicity of his customer, and that the article in question, as perfect as hands could make it, should be at his lodgings the next evening at seven.

Punctual to the hour, arrived the maker of perukes; and, finding Mr. Coningsby not yet returned to dress, went to attend another appointment, promising to come back in half an hour. In half an hour, accordingly, the man of curls reappeared, just in time to see a cabriolet driving rapidly from the door, at which a maid servant stood tittering.

Where is Mr. Coningsby? inquired the perquier.

Just gone out to dinner, replied the girl; and a queer figure he is, sure enough. He looks for all the world like an owl in an ivy-bush.

To be sure he has not got his new wig on!—my wig! returned the alarmed artist; he can never be such a fool as that!

He's fool enough for anything in the way of forgetting or not attending, responded our friend Sally; and he has got a mop of hair on his head, whoever made it, that would have served for half-a-dozen wigs.

The article was sent home untrimmed, just as it was woven, replied the unfortunate fabricator, in increasing consternation; and a capital article it is. I came by his own direction to cut and curl it, according to the shape of his face: the gentleman being particular about the set of it, because he's going a-courting.

Going a-courting! exclaimed Sally, amazed in her turn; the Lord ha' mercy upon the poor wretch! If he has not clean forgot that he's married, and is going to commit—I don't know what you call it—to have two wives at once! and then he'll be hanged. Going a-courting! What'll Madam say! Going a-courting! He'll come to be hanged, sure enough.

Married already! quoth the perquier, with a



knowing whistle, and a countenance that spoke Benedick the married man in every feature. When! One wife at a time's enough for most people. But he'll not be hanged. The fact of his wearing my wig with the hair six inches long will save him. He must be *non compos*. And you that stand tittering there can be little better, to let him go out in such a plight. Why didn't you stop him?

Stop him! ejaculated the damsel; stop Mr. Coningsby! I should like to know how!

Why by telling him what he was about, to be sure; and getting him to look in the glass. Nobody with eyes in his head could have gone out such a figure.

Talk to him! quoth Sally: but how was I to get him to listen? And, as to looking in a glass, I question if ever he did such a thing in his life. You don't know our Mr. Coningsby, that's clear enough.

I only wish he had never come in my way, that I never had had the ill luck to have known him, rejoined the discomfited artist, if he should happen to mention my name as his wig-maker, whilst he has that peruke on his head, I am ruined—my reputation is gone for ever!

No fear of that, replied Sally, in a comforting tone, struck with compassion at the genuine alarm of the unlucky man of wig. There's not the slightest danger of his mentioning your name, because you may be certain sure that he does not remember it. Lord love you, he very often forgets his own! Don't you be frightened about that! repeated the damsel, soothingly, as she shut the door, whilst the discomfited peruker returned to his shop, and Mr. Coningsby, never guessing how entirely in outward semblance he resembled the wild man of the woods, proceeded to his dinner-party, where his coiffure was, as the hairdresser had predicted, the theme of universal astonishment and admiration.

This, however, was one of the least of his scrapes. He has gone to Court without a sword; he has worn coloured clothes to a funeral, and black to a wedding. There is scarcely any conventional law of society which, in some way or other, he hath not contrived to break; and, in two or three slight instances, he has approached more nearly than becoms a magistrate and a senator to a *démêlé* with the laws of the land. He hath quietly knocked down a great fellow, for instance, whom he caught beating a little one and hath once or twice been so blind or so absent, as to suffer a petty culprit to run away, when brought up for examination in virtue of his own warrant. But it is remarkable that he never, in his most oblivious moods, is betrayed into an unkind word or an ungenerous action. There is a moral instinct about him which preserves him, in the midst of his oddities, pure and unsullied in thought and deed. With all his "*distractions*," he never lost a friend or made an enemy. His opponents at an election are pazed when they get up a handbill against him; and for that great test of amiableness, the love of his family, his household, his relations, servants, and neighbours, I would match my worthy friend, George Coningsby, against any man in the county.

## TO OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS OF LAND.

Gentlemen—We are again very unexpectedly (and in my opinion very unnecessarily) upon the eve of another general election, for the purpose of trying to fix upon the country again the regular old Tory hack administration, with Sir Robert Peel and his famous Currency Bill of 1819 at its head—a measure that has produced more evil, more injustice, and mischief, than any other within the memory of man; and as Sir Robert and his tail have assumed the name of Reformers, I wish particularly to draw your attention to this subject, in order to see if we are likely to obtain any relief from a measure that must bring destruction upon the country, if not stayed in its further progress. Sir Robert still clings, with all the affection of a parent, not because it is his own bantling, but because it has increased his, and all moneyed men's and pensioners' property, at the expence of the other classes of the community, but especially of the agriculturists. This I hope to prove to you very shortly and satisfactorily from the following statement, taken from official documents, and may therefore be relied on.

A return of the annual average market price of the quarter of wheat, and of £100 three per cent. stock, from 1804 to 1834, and the number of quarters of wheat the stock would purchase in each year respectively.

| Years. | Price of<br>Wheat per<br>Quarter. | Price of £100<br>3 per Cent.<br>Stock. | Quantity<br>it would<br>purchase |
|--------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|        | £. s.                             | £. s.                                  | Qrs.                             |
| 1804   | 60 5                              | 56 16                                  | 18                               |
| 5      | 87 1                              | 58 14                                  | 13                               |
| 6      | 76 9                              | 61 2                                   | 16                               |
| 7      | 73 1                              | 62 17                                  | 17                               |
| 8      | 73 11                             | 66 11                                  | 17                               |
| 9      | 94 5                              | 68 1                                   | 14                               |
| 10     | 103 3                             | 67 16                                  | 13                               |
| 11     | 92 5                              | 63 12                                  | 13                               |
| 12     | 122 8                             | 58 18                                  | 9                                |
| 13     | 106 6                             | 58 15                                  | 11                               |
| 14     | 72 1                              | 64 11                                  | 18                               |
| 15     | 63 8                              | 58 13                                  | 18                               |
| 16     | 76 2                              | 58 13                                  | 16                               |
| 17     | 94 0                              | 62 6                                   | 13                               |
| 18     | 83 8                              | 76 16                                  | 18                               |
| 1820   | 65 10                             | 71 19                                  | 22                               |
| 1      | 54 5                              | 68 12                                  | 25                               |
| 2      | 43 3                              | 74 15                                  | 34                               |
| 3      | 51 9                              | 79 15                                  | 31                               |
| 4      | 62 0                              | 80 5                                   | 26                               |
| 5      | 66 6                              | 94 3                                   | 28                               |
| 6      | 56 11                             | 90 0                                   | 32                               |
| 7      | 56 9                              | 79 8                                   | 28                               |
| 8      | 66 5                              | 84 12                                  | 28                               |
| 9      | 66 3                              | 85 14                                  | 26                               |
| 30     | 64 3                              | 88 15                                  | 27                               |
| 1      | 66 4                              | 89 15                                  | 27                               |
| 2      | 58 8                              | 78 0                                   | 27                               |
| 3      | 52 11                             | 83 0                                   | 31                               |
| 1834   | 45 0                              | 92 0                                   | 41                               |

Now, gentlemen, look at and examine and mark the destructive operation of this Tory Premier's Bill and Tory measures to the agriculturists.—The moment this bill is agitated and passed, from that moment does the price of money go up, and the price of your wheat and produce come down, to an extent that without this proof would be incredible. In order that we may argue the question fairly, I have taken 15 years previous, and 15 years since the passing of that bill,

which shows the price each year, both of increase and decrease, and the quantity of wheat this 100l stock would purchase. Taking the two periods of 15 years and comparing them, we find the average price of wheat per quarter from 1804 to 1819, was 85s 6d, and stock 62l 18s 4d; since 1819 to 1834 wheat is but 58s 2d, and stock 82l 14s 2d. This money for the first period would on the average purchase *Fifteen* quarters of wheat, and for the last *Twenty-nine* quarters, so that here is a revolution in the intrinsic and relative value of property of *One Hundred per Cent.*, and all in favour of the drones and pensioners, and against the industrious, frugal, and beneficial husbandman. But the injustice and injury is still more evident, by observing that in 1817, the year before the question was agitated, wheat fetched 94s per quarter, the 100l 3 per Cent. 62l 6s 0d, and which purchased thirteen quarters of wheat, whereas in 1834, yes, at this moment, the same sum will purchase *forty-one* quarters of wheat! Here is an alteration of upwards of three hundred per Cent. between those years. The stock, in fact, is part of the national debt, so that instead of having a debt of 800 millions, we in point of fact have a debt of more than *twenty-four hundred millions*, if we are to pay it in wheat. This mode of calculation applies with the same force, and in the same ratio in all our fixed payments—for instance, suppose I have one hundred pounds to pay in taxes or pensions, or half-pay, or any thing else, am I not *obliged* to sell three times as much wheat now to raise that hundred pounds as I did in 1817, before this unjust and destructive bill and Tory policy passed? Can any thing be more oppressive and destructive to the agriculturists than this, and to the nation generally? The debt, the pensions, the taxes, and all the evils of the Tory policy, were contracted in a currency, when the pound note was not worth more than 13s 4d, and now the country is called upon to pay 20s in a gold and silver currency; by such means the sources of industrious wealth have been dried up—the price and produce of land has enormously decreased—the farmer has been ruined, his house become desolate, whilst but too many have been actually pauperised. Look at this you sticklers for Tory rule and mis-rule, and I dare you to the proof. Look at this, I say, and vote for candidates to uphold Sir Robert turn-coat and his train, who have declared that too many taxes have been repealed—that the Malt Tax shall not come off—that Tithes are no grievance—that Corporations are pure, and that Ireland wants no relief. I say vote for such men if you like, but for ever after hold your peace. I have greater faith in your judgment and integrity than to believe you will do so, although an evil example is set before your eyes in high quarters, shewing a dereliction in principle in some of our Senators, which would be disgraceful to one of our destitute and demoralized paupers; but I have no fear either as to the result of the election, or the permanency of the Tory administration—a power, a spirit is abroad, that will crush the Tory administration (or indeed any administration) to atoms, unless relief is given to the country, and speedily. But for men of wealth and station to prostitute themselves for the sake of office, and violate principle unblushingly, is an abomination.—Look to measures, not men; indeed this weak and silly cry is seen through—look to men and measures, this is the point—every body knows one good volunteer is always worth half a dozen pressed men.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

J. RICHARDSON.

Heydon, Dec. 30th, 1834.

## POOR LAWS FOR IRELAND.

IRELAND in 1834. By H. INGLIS.—Whitaker and Co.

[The following are the answers to the queries of the Irish Poor Law Commissioners, extracted from Mr. Inglis's valuable work.]

I have before me, two sets of queries,—“Queries for the rural districts,” and “Queries for parishes in large towns;” besides a thick *brochure*, entitled, “Instructions given by the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the State of the Poor of Ireland, to the Assistant Commissioners.” I shall first take up the “queries for the rural districts,” as being, in my opinion, the most important document. The queries contained in it, have reference to particular districts. My replies to these queries refer to the whole of Ireland; and are, in truth, a repetition, in a concentrated form, of the facts which are scattered throughout these volumes.

The first three queries refer to the size of the parishes or barony, respecting which information is wanted; and to the relative proportions of wood, arable, pasture, waste and bog.

I do not very well see how any one but a surveyor could answer these queries. As my answers refer to the whole country I pass them over.

The fourth query is an important one. It is, “What is the average rent of arable land and of pasture land in your parish?”

It is impossible to state what is the rent of arable land, distinct from pasture land; because in almost every farm there is both; and the rent is, of course, so much per acre, taking both together. The rent also depends upon the vicinity of the land to a town; besides, to tell the average rent of land, is to give no real information; because without precise information as to the quality of land, of which no description can convey a just notion, no idea could be formed of the fairness or unfairness of the rent. Rents, I should say, are highest in Leinster,—next highest in Munster,—next in Ulster; and, with some exceptions, lowest in Connaught, where land is generally let, not by the acre, but in the lump. But as the only object of this query must be, to ascertain whether land be fairly or unfairly let, the best answer to it is,—that, with few exceptions, the landlords of Ireland cannot pay the rents which are exacted unless by limiting their diet and their comforts within the bounds prescribed by the absolute necessities of nature; and that, notwithstanding their privations, a large proportion are in arrear. This, I think, sufficiently answers the query.

The fifth query asks, “Are the landed proprietors absentee, or resident?” To this query another ought to have been added,—Are the *agents* of absentee landlords resident, or absentee? And in the instructions delivered to the assistant commissioners they are directed to inquire, and, of course, to report, as to the effects of residence and non-residence.

It must not be imagined that the people, on all absentee estates, are in a worse condition than they are upon those estates where there is a resident landlord. The condition of the peasantry depends on the circumstances under which the lands are occupied, much more than on the residence of proprietors; and I cannot say that it is generally an easy matter to guess, from the condition of the peasantry on an estate whether the landlord be absentee or resident. Some of the most comfortable tenantry in Ireland are found on absentee properties; and some of the most miserable on estates upon which the proprietor resides. There is no doubt, however, that were a well-disposed and unembarrassed landlord resides, fewer unemployed labourers are found—the condition of the labourer is



better—and the retail trade of the most adjacent town is materially benefited.

The two next queries inquire as to the number of labourers in constant employment, and the number in occasional employment; and, also, ask how they are maintained when out of employment?

In reply to these queries, I will take upon myself to answer, that the great mass of the labouring class in Ireland, have no constant employment, I should say, [that throughout the greater part of Leinster, Munster, and Connaught, a large majority of the labouring poor are unable to find constant employment. With the exception of Belfast, and in some few places where public works had created a temporary demand, I found no where full employment for the people. As for their means of subsistence, when out of employment, little suffices. If they have not, themselves, a patch of potato land, they, or their wives, beg among the farmers round the country;—relations, who have a little to spare, help them;—and the priest also does something for them.]

“What is the ordinary diet, and condition with respect to clothing, of the labouring classes?” is the next query.

The diet of those who are in employment consists of a scanty meal or two of potatoes, with the addition at times, of a little butter milk. The diet of the far greater number who are not in employment consists of as many dry potatoes as serve just to sustain life. In Ulster things are rather better; there are fewer of the latter class—and the former have more plentiful meals. As for clothing,—an English beggar would not lift off the ground the clothes worn by old and young of the lower classes of Leinster, Munster, and Connaught. The young can scarcely be said to be clothed at all.

“What,” continue the queries, “are the daily wages of labourers, with or without diet?”

Excluding the large towns, such as Belfast, Cork, and Limerick, and the labour employed on the domains of a very few resident noblemen, tenpence, without diet, are the highest wages ever given for constant employment; ninepence and eightpence is the more usual rate; and, in some places sixpence is willingly accepted, for constant employment. With diet, sixpence is the usual sum given. The wages of occasional employment vary with the occasion; at seasons of particular demand, one shilling or more, even may be given; but, at all other times, any number of labourers may be hired by the week, at eightpence, and even lower. In the instructions delivered to the assistant commissioners, they are desired to inquire whether higher wages are attended by a corresponding increase of comfort? I unhesitatingly reply, that they are. The whole province of Ulster bears me out in this assertion.

The next query inquires, whether women and children are employed in labour?

The labour of women and children is scarcely wanted where half the male population are unemployed. Women, employed in agricultural labour, are, generally, some part of the family of the landholder.

“What, in the whole,” says the next query, “might an average labourer, obtaining an average amount of employment, both in day work and task work, earn in the year, including harvest work, and the value of all his other advantages and means of living?”

In reply to this important query I would say, that in a country where not one-half of the people are in constant employment, it would be unfair to state “the average amount of employment” obtained by a labourer throughout the year, to be more than one-half of the year: during that half year his wages cannot fairly

be stated at more than 8d. for four months, and for the other two months, seed and harvest times, 1s. The hundred and four working days, at 8d., are 3l. 9s. 4d.; and the fifty-two days, at 1s., added to this, make 6l. 1s. 4d.; which is all the labourer, “obtaining an average amount of employment,” may earn in a year: and this sum, divided by 365—the number of days which the labourer has to support himself and his family—gives him, per day not quite FOURPENCE! I am quite confident, that if the whole yearly earnings of the labourers of Ireland were divided by the whole number of labourers, the result would be under this sum,—FOURPENCE a day for the labourers of Ireland!

But, in order that the force of this conclusion may be fully perceived, I must mention the two queries which follow. The first of them inquires, how much the labourer's wife, and four children, all of an age to work (the eldest not more than sixteen,) might earn within the year? And the second query inquires, what would be the expense of food, for an able-bodied labourer, on an average of years?

Now the first of these is a foolish query, and no way alters the conclusion I came to in answering the former query; for it is obvious that even supposing employment, to be attainable by the wife and children—a thing not at all probable where the husband has not only half employment—the average condition of the labourer would not be bettered. Early marriages and a numerous progeny are universal. If the labourer has four children able to work, the probability is, that he has at least four younger children to support: the occasional labour, and scanty remuneration paid for the labour of a child, will certainly not do more than suffice for its own support *throughout the year*; and when we consider the general dearth of employment, and the large families of the Irish peasants, we may fairly conclude that the labourer has to support his wife and two children by his own labour,—which we have seen averages 4d. per day.

With respect to the yearly expense of food,—two stone and a half of potatoes—no more than suffice for the daily support of a labourer, his wife, and two children; and taking the average price of potatoes at 2d. per stone—a very low average,—mere subsistence cannot be purchased with the whole amount of wages, supposing the whole amount available for subsistence: but rent has to be paid. Formerly the pig was sufficient for this; but the market has so fallen, that something is wanted, besides the pig, to make up the rent. Where no land is attached to the cabin,—the average rent of it being 35s.—at least 20s. of this sum must be made up from wages; so that the 4d. per day suffers a diminution of nearly three farthings. Where a little potato land is attached to the cabin, the value of the potatoes may be considered as equivalent for the amount of the rent.

It is next inquired, “of what class of persons, generally, are the landlords of cottages and cabins?”

In the country the landlords of cabins are, generally, small farmers, who are quite as hard set to make and their own rent as their humbler dependents are to pay theirs. In the suburbs of the towns great landowners, and often noble lords, are the landlords.

The next query inquires the rent of cabins?

In Wicklow, Wexford, Waterford, Kilkenny, and Tipperary counties, 30s. and 40s. is the usual rent of a cabin, either altogether without land, or with so inconsiderable a patch, that its value is scarcely any set-off against the rent. In the more western and more northern parts of Ireland, with the same rent, a

little potato land generally accompanies the cabin, excepting in the suburbs of the towns.

"Of what description of buildings are those cabins, and how furnished?"

This is the next query; and those who have read these volumes will not require to read the answer to it. My object however, is, as I have already said, to condense in this chapter the information scattered through the volumes. The only difference between the best and the worst of the mud cabins, is, that some are water-tight and some are not; air-tight I saw none; with windows scarcely any; with chimneys, that is, with a hole in the roof, for the smoke to escape through, as many, perhaps, with it as without it. As for furniture—there is no such thing; unless a broken stool or two and an iron pot can be called furniture. I should say, that in the greater part of Leinster and Munster, and in the flat districts of Connaught, bedsteads are far from general; and bed clothing is never sufficient. In the greater part of Ulster, cabins and their furniture are considerably superior.

The next query inquires upon what conditions labourers or cottiers hold their cabins and land; and whether it is usual to require labour in addition to, or in lieu of, rent?

Where labourers or cottiers hold their cabin and patch of ground of a farmer, the rent is generally covenanted to be paid in labour. Eighty days' labour is very usually required, as the rent of a cabin and small patch of land.

The next query refers to the con-acre system; and inquires as to its prevalence; and as to the highest and lowest rent paid for con-acre?

In every part of Ireland, with the exception of Ulster, where land is not the only refuge of the poor man, con-acre prevails to a greater or less extent—to the greatest extent in those parts which are the most populous. Rent of con-acre varies from 10% to 12%. I have heard of higher rents, but these were rare exceptions. Ten pounds may be stated as the usual rent; and with a favourable season, this rent can be afforded. The reader will not have forgotten another practice, to which, in my first volume, I have alluded—that which gives to the cottier the produce for one year, rent free, of as much land as he is able sufficiently to manure. In reply to the query, whether con-acre crop be on the average a remunerating crop, I should answer, that with average seasons, and at the average rent, it is a remunerating crop.

The next two queries inquire as to the number of labourers who leave their dwellings periodically to obtain employment elsewhere; and what proportion go to England; and whether they be married men; and how their wives and children are supported in their absence?

A precise answer to this query is impossible. From the west and north-west—chiefly from the lower parts of Connaught—multitudes go in search of employment; but the number of those who go to England is diminishing; while the number of those who seek employment in Leinster is augmenting with the constantly increasing tillage in Ireland. By far the greater number of the labourers so leaving their homes are married men; and in that part of Ireland from which this migration chiefly takes place, cabins have generally a bit of potato land attached to them—on the produce of which, or of a patch held by con-acre, the wife and children subsist. In Mayo, from the lower part of which many labourers migrate in the season, the wives of the cottiers earn a trifle by the spinning of flax.

The next query requests information as to the number of public houses, and the prevalence of illicit distillation?

The number of public houses appears to a stranger out of all proportion with the extent and population of the district where they are found. This is owing to the faults of the licensing system, by which the expense of the license is regulated by the sum at which the house demanding it is rated, and thus the trade is thrown into the worst hands. Illicit distillation prevails universally, and will continue to prevail, until the duty on legalized whiskey be so reduced, that the difference in price between it and the illicit whiskey will be no compensation for the risk of distilling the latter.

The next query inquires as to the number of the aged and infirm, and how they are supported?

The number of these is greatest in the towns; the ejected poor seek a livelihood in the towns, and gradually become diseased by privations. Those aged and infirm who are found in the country, are supported chiefly by their nearest relatives, by the charity of their neighbouring farmers, and by little helps from the clergy of both persuasions.

"What number of persons," says the next query, "subsists by begging?" and are alms usually given in provisions or money?"

Few beg in the country, except the wives and children of the infirm, of the diseased, and of the unemployed labourer; or widows, or frail old men. Money is seldom given; a few potatoes or a handful or two of meal are the usual aids. To the last query another ought to have been added, inquiring what descriptions of persons are the usual givers of alms? Much more the farmers than the landlords, much more those who cannot than those who can afford the offering. Good resident landlords give, but these are rare; and the beggar finds readier access to the farmhouse than to the hall—and, I fear, a better reception.

Passing over one or two queries of little importance, I come to one which inquires whether any persons are known to have died of actual starvation?

If by starvation be meant death quickly and immediately, resulting from a total want of food, I should say, that in the country this rarely happens. The Irish poor are remarkably kindly, affectionate toward each other, and a relation, or even a neighbour, will divide his potato with one who is in want. But if the word starvation be meant to comprehend those cases, in which insufficient subsistence induces disease, predisposes the individual to the attack of epidemics, or accelerates the decay of nature; then I have good reason to believe, that by far the greater number of the Irish poor die of starvation. In making this statement, however, I include town as well as country; but I shall afterwards return to this query, with reference to towns.

The next important query I come to is this,—  
"To what extent has the system of throwing small farms into large ones, taken place; and what has become of the dispossessed tenants."

There is a growing disposition on the part of landlords to get rid of middlemen—on whose estates holdings are generally much subdivided; and consequently when the middleman's lease lapses, small farms are thrown into larger farms, and tenants are necessarily dispossessed. The great landowners who have adopted this rule give the dispossessed tenants holdings at a very small, almost a nominal rent, on mountain land, out of which, however, industry may obtain a livelihood; or, in some instances, they offer to pay the expense of the emigration of the dispossessed tenants; but in all cases in



which the landlord has not the power or the will so to act, the tenants are turned adrift, penniless and shelterless, and either locate themselves on some neighbouring estate, or swell the pauper population of the nearest town. Consolidation, unless where the landlord has it in his power to provide otherwise for his dispossessed tenantry, is unjust towards the country at large, upon whose charities they are thrown—cruel towards those who are dispossessed—and impolitic as regards the State. This reply answers in part the query which follows, respecting the prevalence of middlemen. The number of those middlemen who hold their land on terminable lease, is fast diminishing; and, with the exception of those middlemen who are extensive landholders, or those holding on lease for ever—who are often better men than the head landlord—the tenants holding under middlemen are generally in a greatly worse condition than those holding directly under a head landlord.

The next query refers to emigration; and in reply to it, I would assert, that the disposition to emigrate increases; that all of the lower classes who are able to avail themselves of it, do avail themselves of it; that the persons who emigrate are chiefly agriculturists—cottiers, and small farmers, and Protestants and Catholics indifferently, but chiefly Catholics; and that Canada is their most favourite land of promise.

The last query, which refers to the rural districts, is a most important one. "Is the general condition of the poorer classes improved, deteriorated, or stationary, since the peace in the year 1815; and in what respects?" It would have been better if this query had been more comprehensive; and had included in it, the condition of the whole agricultural classes.

I regret to say, that with scarcely any exception—unless those offered by some of the large towns, which have become great points of export—I am compelled to say that the agricultural population, farmer and labourer, but particularly the farmer, has deteriorated greatly within the last fifteen years. Rents have generally continued the same; produce has fallen; and farmers have been getting poorer and poorer. As for the agricultural labourers—a body whose wages do not average fourpence per day, and who live on the verge of starvation—it is needless to ask if any improvement has taken place; none certainly in food, either in quantity or quality; nor, generally, any in lodging; but I believe I am justified in saying, that some little improvement is visible in female clothing, owing to the low price of cottons.

I have now gone through the queries applicable to the rural districts; and shall next proceed, very briefly, to go over the queries applicable to town parishes only.

Several of the first queries refer to the increase of towns in size and population; and to these queries, it may be answered, that almost all the seaports, and all towns commanding a navigation, are advancing in size and population rapidly; and that even the towns deficient in those advantages are not in general retrograding. Belfast, Limerick, Waterford, Wexford, Tralee, Sligo, Londonderry, Newry, Clonmel, Athlone, Galway, Ballina, and even the more inland towns of Enniskillen, Armagh, Thurlis, and Tipperary, are improving. Cork and Youghall are retrograding; and excepting Kilkenny, Cashel and Bandon, and some of the smaller towns, I know of none that are receding.

The next query inquires respecting the establishment of manufactures?

No manufactures have sprung up in any town in Ireland, except Belfast. Unless in the province of

Ulster, the linen trade is extinct; and no other manufacture has taken its place. There are scarcely any manufactures in Leinster, Munster, and Connaught.

The next three queries inquire, what are the occupations of the labouring classes; and whether women and children find employment?

The chief employment of the labouring classes in the seaports of Leinster, Munster, and Connaught, is that afforded by the export trade. To this, in Ulster, manufacture is added. Women, excepting in the linen trade districts, find no remunerating employment,

To the query which asks, "What are the earnings of a labourer and his family in the towns?" I would answer, that in the principal towns—Belfast, Cork, Limerick, Clonmel, Londonderry, &c.—the able bodied labourer has full employment nine months in the year, on an average; and, at wages which average 6s per week. The average, therefore, would be 4s 6d per week for the twelve months. The rate is not the same nor employment the same, in all the large towns: in Waterford, there is little more than half employment, while in Belfast there is almost full employment. In the latter town, too, wages are from 7s to 8s per week; in Waterford, not more than 5s. Excepting in the manufacturing districts of Ulster, the earnings of women and children can scarcely be reckoned.

The next query inquires, "What is the food of the working classes in the towns?" It differs little from the food of the working classes in the country. More money is spent in the towns in whiskey drinking; and the only difference in food is, that herrings, and pork offal, form a part of the diet of the lower classes in towns.

It is next asked, "whether any alteration has taken place in the food, lodging, and habitations of these classes in large towns? whether any new source of employment has been opened up to the labouring classes; and whether any change beneficial or otherwise, has taken place?"

I believe I am justified in replying, that the condition of the labouring and working classes in the large seaports has somewhat improved. I should say this of Limerick, Waterford, Cork, Tralee, Clonmel, Sligo, and some other towns. The new source of employment has been opened up to the labouring classes, is that arising from the increasing export trade in corn, bacon, provision, and butter; which, although it leaves but a scanty profit to the merchant, is a source of considerable employment to the labouring classes.

The same queries are next asked with respect to the large towns, which I have already answered respecting the country—viz., the number of the aged and infirm who cannot work, and how they are supported? the number of widows and children who have no natural protectors and how they are supported? and whether any persons are known to have died of actual destitution?

In all the large towns the number of helpless and diseased paupers, and of aged and infirm women, and destitute children, is fearfully great. They are supported by voluntary alms—by mendicancy—and by public societies; but they are supported just on the verge of starvation; and it is the opinion of the medical men of Limerick, Waterford, and other large towns, that at least seventy-five per cent. of the infirm poor die through destitution—either by the gradual wasting of nature, or by the ravages of epidemics, to which destitution renders them liable. It is a fact worth adding, that the charitable institutions in the large towns are supported not by the

wealthiest persons, or those possessing the chief property in the towns, but by the middle classes.

"How," it is next added, "are the lodging houses, which are chiefly frequented by the poor, usually provided as to beds and bedding; and in what condition are they, as to ventilation, and general repair?"

The houses of the infirm poor of the towns, are a thousand times more wretched than the worst cabins of Munster and Leinster. The latter have the air around, and the sky above them; the former are hovels, cellars, mere dark dens,—damp, filthy, stagnant, unwholesome places, into which we should not in England put any domestic animal; and as for the inquiry, "how they are usually provided with beds and bedding;" they are not provided with either; a little straw in the corner is the usual substitute for bed and bedstead,—and a ragged mat, the bed clothes. On this head, I beg to refer the reader to my notices of Limerick, near the conclusion of the first volume.

An inquiry next follows, as to the number of pawnbrokers' shops, and the classes of persons with whom their dealings are principally carried on?

Pawnbrokers' shops are exceedingly numerous in all the towns; and by the common practice of pawning articles on Monday morning, and redeeming them on Saturday night, the interest on one shilling lent and received every week throughout the year, with the expense of the duplicate, amounts to 8s 3d per annum. The classes who deal with the pawnbrokers, are not merely the lowest classes,—labourers and artisans,—but the small farmers also.

Besides these queries, I mentioned that I had also before me, the instructions delivered to the assistant commissioners. In these instructions, I find some things mentioned which are not included in the foregoing queries. Some of the most important I shall name, and annex an answer to them.

The commissioners are required to ascertain if the education of children has tended to improve the moral habits of the parents? The result of my inquiry is, that it has had this effect.

The commissioners are requested to inquire, what circulating or mechanic's libraries are in the towns?

Excepting in Ulster, there are no mechanic libraries,—nor even circulating libraries,—unless in Limerick, Cork, Waterford, Clonmel and Enniskillen.

The assistant commissioner is directed to inquire into the existence and effects of loan funds?

I have, in the course of these volumes, several times mentioned the existence of loan societies; and I am warranted in saying, that they have exerted a most beneficial influence on the districts where they have been established.

The assistant commissioner is directed to inquire into the effects produced by the use of ardent spirit?

It is the opinion of all who are best qualified to judge, that much disease, both mental and bodily, originates in the immoderate use of whiskey.

On the subject of early marriages, the assistant commissioners are directed to report; and to inquire whether any provision, in money or furniture, is made against marriage?

Among the lowest classes, marriages are universally early; and so far from any provision being made against marriage, it is no unusual thing to borrow money in order to pay the marriage fee.

The assistant commissioners are directed to inquire, whether, in districts where much misery prevails, the chief burden of relieving the needy is

borne by the occupiers of the soil, or by the proprietors of it?

I think I have already sufficiently answered this inquiry. A very large proportion of the burden is borne by the land occupiers of Ireland.

Inquiry is also directed to be made, whether those who have been dispossessed, and who have taken shelter on bog or mountain, have cultivated the waste on which they have settled?

Those who have been located on mountain land belonging to the landlord by whom they have been dispossessed, and who hold their possession at a low rent, generally proceed diligently in the cultivation of their possession. Those who have merely "taken shelter," and who have no security for their possession, have done little towards improving it.

The assistant commissioners are desired to ascertain the cause of the excessive litigation which prevails in Ireland?

The chief causes, I take to be, poverty; an inherent defect of character; and competition for land; poverty, which disables men from fulfilling their engagements; a defect of character, which renders them indifferent to the propriety of fulfilling them; and competition for land, which renders the possession of every rood, a matter involving life and death.

The chief cause of assault, which the commissioners are also directed to ascertain, I conceive to arise from disputed possession; disputed boundary; trespass of cattle; distraining for rent; and grudge against successful bidders in the land market: all which, may in like manner, be resolved into competition for land, and poverty—or want of employment, which is the cause of both.

Inquiry is directed to be made into the efficiency of mendicity societies, as a provision for the poor.

They afford no adequate provision for the poor; none whatever for the infirm and bedridden; and they are not supported in any degree, by the individuals who contribute to swell the pauper list, nor by those within the towns, who can best afford to relieve the needy. I conceive too, that the virulence of epidemics, is greatly increased by the manner in which the poor on the list of the Mendicity Society are fed. The Mendicity cart which goes through the town, is filled with offals of the most heterogeneous kind,—fish, meat, bones, soup, and vegetables of all sorts, and much that composes this mess is sour, and unfit for human food.

I shall mention only one other instruction. The commissioner is directed to inquire into the effect produced on the state of the labouring class, by any temporary increase of wages and employment, arising from a public work; whether it tends to increase the price of labour, by drawing labour from distant places; and what is found to be the effect produced on the labourers of the place, where the work has been carried on?

I have always found less complaint, and less destitution among the lower classes in a place where a public work is actually carried on—be it of what description it may. It does not generally attract much labour from a distance, or materially raise the price of labour; it only employs the unemployed, at the usual rate. The state of the labouring classes, when the work is completed, depends upon the nature of the work. If it be a work not tending to the production of capital—such as a gaol, or a barrack, then the condition of the labourers is the same when it is finished, as before it began; but if the public works were of a nature calculated to promote either agricultural or commercial activity—such as roads, canals, docks, &c., then, I conceive, the improved condition of the labouring classes would be progressive.



## FLOWERS IN MASSES.

**THUNBERGIA ALATA.**—Few among the more recent introductions can rival this beautiful climber; it is one of the eight or ten elegant stove plants which constitute a genus named in honor of the celebrated traveller, Charles Peter Thunberg, Professor of Botany in the University of Upsal, in Sweden, and successor to Linnaeus. One species only, the sweet scented (the fragrans,) was cultivated in our stoves at the close of the last century; all the others are new. *Thunbergia Alata* (date 1823) is a native of the East; its specific name is descriptive of the winged process which is found on each side of the foot-stalks (peteoles) of the leaves. These leaves are shaped some-what like the head of a broad arrow. When the plant is in luxuriant health they are rather bluntly angular, above two inches long, of a deep rich green on the upper surface, and of a paler green, and downy texture on the lower. If pressed, they emit a rather rank and unpleasant herbaceous odour. The plant is certainly a tenant of the stove, as it cannot be effectually preserved during the winter unless the temperature reach 50 deg. of Fahrenheit. But it is of extremely easy culture, and can, during six months of the year, adapt itself to the glazed pit, greenhouse, or sitting-room; and in the summer it will succeed perfectly in the open air, if it meet with a suitable soil, and can be sheltered from much wind.

*Thunbergia* is a family of the natural order Acanthaceae; the subjects whereof generally agree on two points—1st, the seed-vessels fly open when ripe, and discharge the seeds, which are fixed by little hooks to their receptacle; 2nd, the joints of the stem are swollen, and cuttings of the plants taken off just at the parts where the leaves emerge, strike root very freely.

The flowers of *Thunbergia Alata* are produced singly, from a sort of triangular covering (in volucrum) of two pale-coloured leaves, the network of which is very interesting; the real calyx is situated within these appendages, under the beaked, but globular, seed-vessel: it is minutely and deeply divided into 10 or 12 segments.

The flowers are of a full yellow buff, approaching to the late fashionable colour which ladies know by the term "maize;" they are flat, expanded, nearly regular, having a fine black or purplish eye in the centre, round the open mouth of the tube. When the flowers fall the seed vessels of a few of them swell; and in that case the whole of the integuments remain till the seeds ripen, but in general the involucre and gums fall off immature. Three or four seeds of a black colour, semi-obround in shape, the surfaces much reticulated, are found in the globe of the capsule, and from these if sown in January in a moist slope or hot-bed frame, the best plants may be raised. If an old plant be preserved all the winter, fine cuttings can be taken off at two or three joints from the summits. In moist heat these will strike readily, and soon produce good plants. March, April, and May comprise the periods when cuttings, planted in earth will most certainly succeed; but at any time between the first of March and the end of August cuttings of three joints will strike root in a bottle of water, provided the fluid be kept at a temperature of 65, 70, or 75 degrees. The young-rooted plants should be placed at first in very small pots of light vegetable or leaf mould, with a little silver sand, to strike off in. But when the first pot is full of roots, the ball entire ought, if possible, to be transferred to a 32 or 24 sized pot of pure black peat, and not sandy heath mould. Plants grown in pure peat (perhaps also in thoroughly decayed wood earth,) assume a luxuriance of growth and dimension of flower which are seldom witnessed when sandy loams are employed. Trained around a central stick, of about a yard in height, the leader being stopped when the plant has attained its summit, a continual succession of bloom, and florifer-

ous pendant laterals are produced, which render the plant one of the most enchanting objects in nature.

Probably, for open ground culture, if a bed of black leaf mould were prepared in June, and several plants were turned out of pots into it, a yard or four feet asunder, and suffered to train on the surface, pegged down at a joint here and there with proper discrimination, not only a splendid and far surpassing effect would be produced, but the plants would be wholly secure from the effect of wind, and many well-rooted plants might be obtained. The idea is offered to the admirers of this lovely flower, as it promises to add to their gratification and to enhance the pleasures of the flower garden.

**SOILS FOR GARDEN AND GREENHOUSE PLANTS.**—In this age of horticultural improvement the Press teems with periodicals, wherein every possible mode of culture is described and insisted on. It unfortunately happens that great discrepancy prevails, and upon no one point is an enquirer, unversed in practice, more likely to find himself perplexed than in that which refers to the preparation of suitable soils and composts. A few words on these subjects will tend to throw some light upon the nature and applicability of these important agents of vegetable growth. Chemists accustomed in analysis are well aware that the terms in general use afford very imperfect ideas of the true components of a soil; upon this head, however, our limits will not now permit us to enlarge. By the word loam is generally understood an earth which consists chiefly of fine sandy matter (silex,) combined with a small portion of chalk and oxide of iron, and a larger—say from one-twelfth to one-eighth of the whole weight of aluminous earth (pure clay.) Such a loam is firm, unctuous, retentive of moisture, and yet readily friable. But loams differ so materially that few persons can obtain that identical earth which is entirely propitious to another; hence, plants, apparently treated alike flourish under the management of one cultivator, but dwindle and become sickly under that of another. To obviate this difficulty an artificial loam, prepared by exposing the green turfy sods of a pasture, or the couch-grass and weeds of arable land, to the action of the air, light, and frost, till they be reduced to soil, is the most effectual substitute. Such a loam, blended with varying proportions of the black mould from decayed tree leaves, will generally be congenial to almost all plants, excepting those of the heath tribe. For these, pure sandy heath soil, such as is found where ling (caluna) flourishes, is almost indispensably required. This soil is that which, not long since, was termed bog earth; it abounds with fine white sand to the extent frequently of five-sixths of the whole. Heath mould ought always to be distinguished from peat, which is the matter found in turbaries and bogs, containing a bulk of decayed inert matter, with little or no silicious sand. It is of great use, however, to some plants, either alone or united to a fine sandy loam. For parterre, and small beds on lawns, the practice of renewing the soil every season, is of surprising utility. The old earth might be taken out, to the depth of a foot or more, in the dry weather of March, and carried to the shrubberies or kitchen garden, and the beds filled again with fresh compost. For this purpose no soil is better than the loam of a melon bed, blended with the semi-decayed leaves of the same, or of other beds, where leaves are used to excite a genial warmth in the earth of pits and frames. Plants grown in this new soil flourish luxuriantly; they assume another character—their foliage and flowers are developed upon a bolder scale, and whoever possesses the means of thus renewing the smaller beds for choice flowers will soon be satisfied that the little extra trouble is abundantly compensated, not only in the flower department but in other quarters of the garden, which are equally benefited by the rich earth that they also are furnished with; or it may as a general principle, be laid down, *that the earth which has supported one crop is amply enriched the rebey, and prepared for the production of another.*

## OCCUPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

## GLOUCESTER.

|                                              |        |
|----------------------------------------------|--------|
| Occupiers of land employing labourers ....   | 3,675  |
| Occupiers of land not employing labourers .. | 1,846  |
| Labourers employed in Agriculture.....       | 20,972 |
| Employed in manufacture .....                | 5,992  |
| Employed in retail trade or handicraft.....  | 29,716 |
| Capitalists, bankers, &c.....                | 5,647  |
| Labourers not agricultural .....             | 18,322 |
| Other males 20 years of age .....            | 5,756  |
| Male servants .....                          | 3,326  |
| Female servants .....                        | 17,311 |

The manufactures of Gloucester are numerous and important, as indicated by 4,500 men being employed as clothiers, of whom there are between 4 and 500 at Wooton-under-Edge, nearly as many at Stroud, and also at Minchinhampton; between 3 or 400 at Bisley, also at Uley; between 2 and 300 at Norsley, Cam, Painswick, Rodborough, and King's Stanley; upwards of 600 men are employed in making hats or felt at Framton-Cotterell, Winterbourn, Bitton, and Westerleigh; with which somewhat intermixed is stocking-making; but at Tewkesbury nearly 300 men may be distinctly ascribed to the last-named manufacture and frame-making, and 44 to lace-making. Nearly 150 men are employed in making pins, chiefly in the city of Gloucester and the suburbs of Bristol, and several at Siston; upwards of 70 in making tin-plates at Newland and English Bicknor; 50 in making edge-tools, chiefly at Cooley; as many in making glass-bottles, in the suburbs of Bristol; at Moreton and a few other places cheese-clothes and other articles of linen are made. Add to all these the workers in brass and iron, makers of floor-cloths, lace, hats, soap, vinegar, &c., in the large commercial city of Bristol.

## HEREFORD.

|                                              |        |
|----------------------------------------------|--------|
| Occupiers of land employing labourers ....   | 2,505  |
| Occupiers of land not employing labourers .. | 1,679  |
| Labourers employed in agriculture .....      | 12,213 |
| Employed in manufacture .....                | 63     |
| Employed in retail trade or handicraft.....  | 7,576  |
| Capitalists, bankers, &c.....                | 911    |
| Labourers not agricultural.....              | 2,410  |
| Other males 20 years of age .....            | 1,521  |
| Male servants .....                          | 725    |
| Female servants .....                        | 5,512  |

Scarcely any manufacture can be said to exist in the county of Hereford; about 40 men are employed in making hats and gloves at Leominster; and woollen cloth and stockings are mentioned as a source of employment at a few other places.

## MONMOUTH.

|                                              |       |
|----------------------------------------------|-------|
| Occupiers of land employing labourers ....   | 1,648 |
| Occupiers of land not employing labourers .. | 1,143 |
| Labourers employed in agriculture .....      | 4,845 |
| Employed in manufacture .....                | 3,293 |
| Employed in retail trade or handicraft.....  | 6,649 |
| Capitalists, bankers, &c. ....               | 805   |
| Labourers not agricultural .....             | 7,173 |
| Other males, 20 years of age .....           | 1,011 |
| Male servants .....                          | 465   |
| Female servants .....                        | 3,741 |

The male inhabitants of this county are chiefly employed in the pits and mines, and in removing

the coals and iron-ore; and in the process of forging the iron, and otherwise preparing it for further purposes, employs about 2000 at Trevehan and Pontypool; at Upper Lanover, 380; at Aberystwith, 250; at Lanwenarth, 84; at Monmouth, 80; and 50 or 60 in other places. The preparation of tin employs 300 men at Panteague, Lower Lanvrechra, and Rogerstone; iron-wire is manufactured at Chapel-Hill by 66 men; the preparation of colours from lead, and of sugar of lead employs 76 men at Monyddmaen; and the manufacture of japanned tin (heretofore called Pontypool-ware) is not quite extinct at Usk; where, and in a few other places, a remnant of woollen manufacture is said to exist.

## OXFORD.

|                                              |        |
|----------------------------------------------|--------|
| Occupiers of land employing labourers ....   | 2,054  |
| Occupiers of land not employing labourers .. | 458    |
| Labourers employed in agriculture .....      | 15,998 |
| Employed in manufacture.....                 | 711    |
| Employed in retail trade or handicraft.....  | 11,110 |
| Capitalists, bankers, &c. ....               | 2,254  |
| Labourers not agricultural .....             | 3,049  |
| Other males, 20 years of age .....           | 2,547  |
| Male Servants .....                          | 1,223  |
| Female Servants.....                         | 5,571  |

In the western and the northern part of the agricultural county of Oxford, manufactures exist to some extent. At Witney 200 men are employed making blankets, 60 at Hailey, and 11 at Crawley (adjacent hamlets). In the town of Banbury, and its adjacent hamlet of Neithorp, 125 men are employed in plush and girth making; 46 at West Shefford, Bourbon, and Wardington; and weavers (many of whom seem to be employed in this species of manufacture) are noticed at Bloxham, Adderbury, and elsewhere. Gloves of a superior kind are made in the vicinity of Woodstock; females so employed are numerous; 40 men at Wootton and 17 at Charlbury are occupied in the manufacture. The chair-makers at Stoken Church and Chinnor are classed as handicrafts, though they are 70 in number; horse-clothing is made at Chipping Norton; coach-wheels and axle-trees at Bensington and Deddington; and sacking at Henley-upon-Thames.

## WORCESTER.

|                                              |        |
|----------------------------------------------|--------|
| Occupiers of land employing labourers ....   | 2,636  |
| Occupiers of land not employing labourers .. | 1,260  |
| Labourers employed in agriculture .....      | 14,590 |
| Employed in manufacture.....                 | 8,024  |
| Employed in retail trade or handicraft.....  | 13,693 |
| Capitalists, bankers, &c.....                | 2,085  |
| Labourers not agricultural .....             | 6,544  |
| Other males, 20 years of age.....            | 2,885  |
| Male servants .....                          | 1,525  |
| Female servants .....                        | 8,162  |

The county of Worcester possesses a variety of manufactures in hard-ware, carpet-making, gloves, and china; at Dudley, Stourbridge, and Old Swinford collectively, are about 450 men employed at the forge who make anvils, chains, and the heavier kinds of iron tools and machinery; at Wolverley, Cradley, Bellbroughton, and Hartlebury, about 280 men manufacture gun-barrels, edge-tools, and files; at Tardebigg 360 men make needles and fish-hooks, 187 at Fekenhham, and a few at Alvechurch, Stock-with-Bradley, Inkberrow,



and Beoley; at Droitwich salt-pans are made; watch-springs, in small quantity, at Pershore; and the number of nailors throughout the county is nearly 3000,—of these, 1169 at Bromsgrove, 575 at Dudley, 539 at old Swinford, 162 at Cradley, 122 at Nathfield, 97 at King's-Norton, 87 at Worley-Wigorn, 55 at Belbroughton, 50 at Stourbridge, and 42 at Pedmore. At Kidderminster (including the Foreign of Kidderminster and the Chapelry of Lower Milton) 2300 men are employed in making carpets, and preparing materials for that manufacture; at Worcester, and in its suburbs, nearly 1000 men, and a much greater number of females are employed in making gloves; the finest description of china-ware is also made at Worcester, employing about 50 men, and many females in the burnishing and other delicate operations; at Bewdley, King's Norton, and Yardley, various articles are made, in moderate amount, chiefly of the hardware kind.

## BRECON.

|                                              |       |
|----------------------------------------------|-------|
| Occupiers of land employing labourers ....   | 1,249 |
| Occupiers of land not employing labourers .  | 1,156 |
| Labourers employed in agriculture .....      | 2,822 |
| Employed in manufacture .....                | 551   |
| Employed in retail trade or handicraft ..... | 2,818 |
| Capitalists, bankers, &c. ....               | 351   |
| Labourers not agricultural .                 | 2,547 |
| Other males, 20 years of age.....            | 522   |
| Male servants.....                           | 27    |
| Female servants .....                        | 2,221 |

The county of Brecon contains about 80 men employed in weaving woollen-yarn, the produce of domestic industry; and in the southern part of the county 470 men are employed in the iron works, of whom 126 at Llanelly, 110 at Penderyn, and 234 at Vainor, places adjacent to Merthyr Tydvil (Glamorganshire).

## GLAMORGAN.

|                                              |        |
|----------------------------------------------|--------|
| Occupiers of land employing labourers ....   | 1,823  |
| Occupiers of land not employing labourers .  | 1,931  |
| Labourers employed in agriculture .....      | 5,129  |
| Employed in manufacture .....                | 1,993  |
| Employed in retail trade or handicraft ..... | 7,571  |
| Capitalists, bankers, &c. ....               | 1,008  |
| Labourers not agricultural .                 | 10,072 |
| Other males, 20 years of age .....           | 1,897  |
| Male servants.....                           | 449    |
| Female servants .....                        | 4,936  |

The large quantity of iron ore and of coals in the parish of Merthyr Tydvil has produced a remarkable increase of population (from 7260 to 22,000) since the year 1801; nor does the last enumeration fully express the number of inhabitants in May, 1831, from the peculiar circumstances of disturbance then existing among the workmen. The same cause operated so as to diminish the return of manufactures dependent on that branch of industry who, under the name of firemen, are stated at no more than 1308; and engineers (those who attend the engines) at 18. At Whitchurch are 84 workmen in iron and tin plates, and nearly the same number at Michaelstone-upon-Avon, where chemical preparations are also mentioned. At Margam 115 men are employed in copper and tin plate work, and a few more at various places in the county. Steam-engines are constructed by 47 men at Dyffryn-

Clydoch, and chain-cables are made by 15 men at Glyn-taff; 168 weavers of woollen are scattered throughout the county.

## RADNOR.

|                                              |       |
|----------------------------------------------|-------|
| Occupiers of land employing labourers ....   | 1,032 |
| Occupiers of land not employing labourers .  | 911   |
| Labourers employed in agriculture .....      | 2,451 |
| Employed in manufacture.....                 | 42    |
| Employed in retail trade or handicraft ..... | 1,179 |
| Capitalists, Bankers, &c.....                | 121   |
| Labourers not agricultural.....              | 232   |
| Other males, 20 years of age .               | 241   |
| Male servants.....                           | 99    |
| Female servants .....                        | 1,409 |

There are 12 weavers at Rhayader; 34 in the entire county.

*British Almanack for 1835.*

## PONDS.

The watering of cattle, if not done by ponds, must be conveyed to the yards: either by a stream communicating with conduits, or by pump in a well, and must therefore be governed by circumstances. There are some parts of the country, to be sure, where water is not to be found upon the premises in dry seasons, and then tanks become necessary, which must be supplied, as far as possible, from gutters carried along them from the eaves of the buildings, to receive the rain. Chalk is the best foundation for the bottom of a pond: the water impregnated with it is sweeter, softer, and more purifying to the blood, than either spring water or that which stands upon clay or gravel: but, whatever may be the bottom, care should be taken that it be made close and tight, and that no drainage be allowed to fall into it from the stables or yard, by which the water is rendered filthy and unwholesome, and the straw is robbed of that essence which is to convert it into manure.

It is true, that the observations of many farmers appear to contradict the idea of the unwholsomeness of water thus impregnated, from their remarking that animals frequently prefer it to that which is derived from a pure source. But although that fact be undoubted, it is yet not only reasonable to conclude, that the preference arises from some medicinal quality, which, though dictated to them by instinct, may be found only occasionally useful; they should, therefore, at least, be allowed the option of a choice.

Although the most common contrivance for the supply of a deficiency of water to farm-houses is procured by means of wells, yet their construction requires a certain degree of mechanical science, which does not immediately connect it with the present work; but the formation of ponds is an object of common occurrence, which can be easily attained without the aid of masonry, by adopting the following suggestion of a foreign journal, by which they have been many years ago brought into common use.

The first object is to sink them to a convenient depth, which should be sufficient to secure them from speedy exhalation, and should not be less than five feet, nor contain a surface of less than one hundred and twenty feet in circumference. The sides of the pond should be sloped to an angle of forty-five degrees; and while it is digging a sufficient quantity of moist brick-clay should be incorporated with one-fourth part of quick lime, which should be slaked the evening before it is used, with as much water as will make it of the consistence of paste: the whole must

then be formed into large balls, a couple of feet in diameter. When the cavity is completed, and a sufficiency of the balls has been obtained, a labourer is to descend to the bottom, and, commencing as near as possible to the centre, the balls are successively thrown upon the ground with his utmost strength, until, thus regularly proceeding to the top, the bottom and sides are completely lined. If, however, the whole operation cannot be completed in one day, it will be proper to wet the row last applied on the previous evening, in order that it may adhere to, and incorporate with those remaining to be laid on. Two or three days after this lining is finished, it must be beaten with a flat piece of wood, which labour should be continued with greater strength in proportion as its firmness increases; and the surface should be occasionally moistened to prevent it from cracking, till the whole becomes a uniformly solid mass. A coating of common seal oil is then to be applied, on which a stratum of gravel of a few inches in thickness should be laid before the pond is filled. The coating will thus become firm and solid, provided the pond be kept constantly full, as those parts only which are exposed to the air are liable to be damaged by intense frost.

Or, by filling the cavity with a stratum of clay, carefully trodden down, till it becomes a compact mass from four to six inches in depth, then spreading the whole evenly over with a layer of quick lime, about an inch and a half in thickness, and again covering that with a second stratum of pressed clay, a firm bed will be formed, quite retentive of water; stones or gravel are then to be spread of such thickness as will prevent the bottom from being injured by the feet of cattle. Ponds of the former depth and extent may be constructed at a very trifling expense, provided the clay does not require distant cartage, and will last, unimpaired, for many years, as worms are prevented by the lime from penetrating through the layers of clay and damaging the bottom.—*Hereford Times*.

## SOME ACCOUNT OF THE FAIRS IN SCOTLAND.

(From the *Quarterly Journal of Agriculture*.)

BERWICKSHIRE.—(CONCLUDED.)

IV. **AYTON MONTHLY MARKETS.**—Ayton is a post town, containing 1,602 inhabitants. It is situated on the road betwixt Edinburgh and Berwick-upon-Tweed, nine miles from the latter, and 48 miles from the former. It is surrounded by a fine agricultural country.

These markets were established about two years ago, for the sale of fat stock, and they are held on the first Thursday of every month throughout the year. As at Coldstream, the spring months exhibit the greatest share of stock: from 800 to 900 cattle, and above 1000 sheep may be seen. The Morpeth dealers are the principal purchasers. A great deal of highly bred stock being reared in this neighbourhood, and the lands being generally of superior quality, the stock shown are worthy the attention of dealers. Although newly established, these markets may vie with those of Coldstream. Very few of the Edinburgh and Glasgow dealers have yet found their way to them. As the same species of stock are shown here in the season as at Coldstream, it is unnecessary to repeat the observation just made on them.

V. **EARLSTOUN FAIRS.**—Earlstoun is a village containing 1710 inhabitants, on the Leader water, a few miles above its confluence with the Tweed, and

about half way on the western line of road between Kelso and Lauder, and about 18 miles through Kelso to the westward of Coldstream.

The first fair is held on the 29th of June, at which about 1000 cattle are shewn. From 80 to 100 may be termed fat, the remainder half-fat and lean. The breed is the short-horn, of which the two-year old steers and heifers are for grazing. There is a good show of milch cows, and a few Highland cattle. The fat cattle are bought by the Edinburgh and Morpeth dealers. The grazing cattle go to Yorkshire. The same description of dealing is practised at this fair as at the Dunse June fair. The newly calved and calving cows of six years old and upwards are bought by the Edinburgh cow-dealers, and the younger by farmers and farm-servants. The Highland cattle are bought for the neighbourhood and East Lothian for grazing. Very few sheep are shown here, never exceeding a few hundreds, principally half-fat and lean for grazing, a few of which are Leicesters, the rest half-bred Cheviots, and black-faced. There is also a large show of horses at this market, but not many of the better description, although occasionally both good roadsters and draught-horses may be found here. The cattle shown at this fair have improved very much of late years, from a great stimulus being given to breeding in this part of the country, and some of the best short-horned bulls in the kingdom are now to be found within a few miles of Earlstoun.

The October fair is held on the third Thursday of the month. There are from 800 to 1000 cattle shown, half-fat and lean, two and three-year old short-horns, steers, and heifers, the top-lots of which are bought by the farmers and graziers in Berwickshire and East Lothian, for feeding on turnips and distillery offals. The inferior sorts are wintered on half turnips and straw. Any fat cattle that may be shown at this fair are bought for the Edinburgh market, and the few milch-cows are picked up by the Edinburgh cow-dealers. There are few middling fat north country black-coloured cattle, which are purchased by the country butchers. There is seldom any sheep, and the horses are neither so good nor so numerous as at the June fair.

VI. **GREENLAW FAIRS.**—Greenlaw, though not the largest, is the county town of Berwick. It contains a county jail and ha'l. Its inhabitants only amount to 1462. It is 22 miles from Berwick-upon-Tweed, by way of Dunse, in a north-west direction; and north from Coldstream 10½ miles. It lies on the mail road from Coldstream to Edinburgh.

The first fair is held on the 22d of May. The number of cattle shown amounts to 300 or 400, of which 50 to 100 are fat, half-fat, and lean cattle; but milch-cows and young heifers, calved and to calve, constitute the greatest number. They are chiefly bought by farm-servants, to make what are called "hinds' cows." This species of stock gives the characteristic feature to this fair. These cows are mostly bred on the high lands adjoining the parish. They suit this description of customers well, being of the hardy Lammernuir breed, which, although not fine-bred short-horns, are good milkers, and easily kept. The aged cows are bought by the Edinburgh cow-dealers. Very frequently a hind takes his old cow to this fair, sells or exchanges her for a young one, and goes home well pleased if he gets the young one for the price of the old. The fat stock are bought by the Edinburgh, and the half-fat and lean by the Yorkshire dealers. There are no sheep nor horses in this fair.



The second fair is held on the last Thursday of October. There is but a middling show at this market, seldom more than 100 to 150, mostly half-fat and lean cattle, rising two and three years old, which are bought by farmers and graziers for turnip feeding and wintering. The business done here is of a rather trifling nature,—one farmer selling a few surplus things, and another making up a few deficiencies. The few fat cattle and milch cows are bought by the Edinburgh dealers. To raise the character of the Greenlaw fairs, which have hitherto been chiefly confined to the sale of cows, the Lord of the Manor, Sir P. H. Campbell, Bart., of Marchmont, and M.P. for the county, attempted, in May last, 1834, to establish a market for the hiring of servants, and the sale of all kinds of cattle, sheep, and horses. It was no matter of wonder that not much business was transacted at this first fair, for few, if any south country dealers attended it, because the markets have not yet established a character, and no briskness of business can be expected at any local fair, without the assistance of dealers from a distance. The assemblage of people, however, was considerable; the hiring of servants was brisk; and the whole matter bears a promising aspect. A fair, sometime in autumn, will no doubt be held under the same auspices.

VII. OLDHAMSTOCKS FAIRS.—Oldhamstocks is a small village in the Lammermuir Hills, situate on the boundary line between the counties of Berwick and Haddington, or East Lothian. It contains 720 inhabitants. It can be approached from Dunglass on the Edinburgh and Berwick-upon-Tweed road, 37 miles from the former, and about 20 from the latter.

The first fair is held on the first Tuesday of July, and contains from 1000 to 1200 sheep and lambs, most part of the latter. It is almost impossible to describe the kind of stock shewn at this fair, as they are of all sorts. Many of the lambs belong to shepherds, and are therefore in small lots, a small proportion of which may be called Leicesters, but not of the best sort. Many of them are crosses between the Leicester tup and the Cheviot and black-faced ewes, but as the sheep farmers on the hill-sides in this neighbourhood are not very particular in selecting tups, the lambs of course do not show much of the Leicester blood and form, as they might with a little more care. Some are crosses between the Cheviot ram and the black-faced ewe, which is at best an ugly cross, if not very judiciously managed. Some of the sheep farmers in this neighbourhood are excellent breeders, but they do not show their stock at this fair. From what has been stated, it will be seen that the stock at this fair exhibit a very mixed character. They are bought by the East Lothian farmers and graziers in the neighbourhood. There may be from 50 to 100 cattle shewn, which are as difficult to describe as the sheep, being almost all of the old Lammermuir breed, which is not one of the best kind. They are bought by East Lothian graziers.

The second fair is held on the first Tuesday of Nov. The number of sheep shewn at this fair is not so great as at the July market. They consist of black-faced and Cheviot ewes and wethers from the adjoining hills, with a few half-breds. The same mixed stock is seen then as in July. The largest proportion of all the stock is bought by East Lothian graziers, some of whom are not first-rate judges, nor are they very particular of what they buy, provided they get it cheap, and it has plenty of bulk for the money. With good keeping such stock often pay very well, although coarse animals require a good deal more meat to fatten

them than the fine breeds. There are still many old-fashioned stock farmers in this neighbourhood, who dislike to part altogether with their old stock, but who nevertheless have a desire to try improvements, and this may account for the strange mixture of breeds to be found in these markets.

VIII. LAUDER FAIRS.—Lauder is a small burgh situate in Lauderdale, near the river Leader, and containing 2063 inhabitants. Within these few years Lauderdale has advanced rapidly in agricultural improvement, in which a noble example has been set by Captain Anthony Maitland, in the neighbourhood of Lauder and Thirlstane Castle, the seat of the Earl of Lauderdale. Lauder is 17 miles north from Kelso; 25½ from Coldstream, by Kelso; and from Coldstream, by Greenlaw, nearly the same distance. It is 25 miles south of Edinburgh.

Lauder First Fair for Cattle is held six weeks after the first Tuesday of March. There is a very small show of cattle at this market, principally half-fat and lean short-horns for grazing, which are mostly bought by farmers in the neighbourhood, and from East Lothian. Very few English dealers attend this fair.

The second cattle fair is held on the third Friday of June; and this being a very small one, the same remarks may almost apply to this as the last fair, with respect to cattle.

The third fair is held on the fourth Tuesday of July. This is principally a lamb fair, where generally from 2000 to 3000 are shewn, mostly half-bred Leicester and Cheviot, and a few of the shot Leicesters left from St. Boswell's fair. They are principally bought by farmers in the county, and from East Lothian, and a few by the Edinburgh dealers and butchers. There is sometimes a few lots of older sheep, which are either bought to feed, or, if fat, for the Edinburgh market. There are very few either cattle or horses shewn at this market.

The fourth fair is held on the fourth Friday of October. There is a very small show of either cattle or horses at this market, it being principally intended for hiring servants.

The Lauder cattle shows and markets were established a few years ago by the Lauderdale Agricultural Society. The First show is held in April or May, according as the time is fixed by the Society. There are premiums awarded for stallions, bulls, cows, heifers; and some excellent stock is now exhibited, which do great credit to the farmers in Lauderdale. There is also a show of cattle for sale, mostly fat, and two and three years old short-horned steers and heifers, which are generally bought by the Morpeth and Edinburgh dealers. At the last fair, upwards of 200 were shewn, some of which were of excellent quality, particularly those shewn by Captain Maitland and Mr. Purves, Lylestone.

The second Lauderdale show is now fixed to be held on the Saturday before Gifford Fair, being the third Tuesday of October. Premiums are awarded for Leicester, Cheviot, and black-faced tups, ewes, and gimmers. In 1833, some very superior sheep of all these breeds were shewn here. A great spirit of emulation now seems to exist among the breeders of this district, to vie with the breeders of other districts. It was acknowledged that some of the sheep were not inferior to most of those shewn at the Union Agricultural Society; such as the Leicesters shewn by the Marquis of Tweedale, Mr. Brodie, Upper Keith; the Cheviots by Mr. Peacock, Greengelt; and the black-faced by Mr. Usher, Tullishill. A market for the

sale of draft ewes is now established on the day of the show.

Fairs are held at the following places in Berwickshire, at their respective dates; but, inasmuch as stock is concerned, they are useless. Indeed, such fairs are only excuses for idle people collecting together and spending time, and ought to be suppressed:—

Ladykirk, 25th March, O. S.—Lambden, 25th May; Ditto, 5th September.—Eyemouth, first Tuesday of June; Ditto, last Thursday of October.—Coldingham, second Tuesday of July, O. S.; Ditto, second Thursday of October, O. S.—Mellerstain, second Tuesday of July, O. S.; Ditto, first Tuesday of October, O. S.—Cockburnspath, second Tuesday of Aug.—Aytoun, 12th of October.—Chirnside, last Thursday of November.—Swinton, third Thursday of June; Ditto, fourth Tuesday of October.

#### TO THE EDITOR OF 'THE MARK LANE EXPRESS.'

Sir,—I beg leave, through the medium of your valuable paper, to make some remarks on what appears to me most important subjects; viz.—

#### ON THE ABUSE OF THE POWER OF DISTRAINING FOR RENT, AS CONNECTED WITH THE AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL INTEREST OF THE UNITED KINGDOM; WITH SUGGESTIONS FOR THE REMOVAL OF SOME PART OF THE INCREASING DISTRESS OF THE TENANT FARMER, AND THE PREVENTION OF INCENDIARISM, &c.

The power of distraining for rent is of itself highly objectionable, as it gives the landlord "the power of being his own avenger," and of distraining, not only the goods of his tenant, but also the cattle of another, which is a public inconvenience and a private injustice, for it often prevents the poorer sort of tenant farmers from disposing of their turnips, grass, hay, &c. to advantage; as, what prudent men will run the risk of purchasing produce, or sending their cattle upon farms, where the tenants are in doubtful circumstances? for should any tenant not have sufficient stock upon his farm, they are liable to be sold for rent; and in a case, *Woodford v. Webster*, Mr. Hill "moved for a rule to show cause why the nonsuit in this case should not be set aside, and a verdict entered for the plaintiff, pursuant to leave reserved by Mr. Justice Taunton, before whom it was tried at Northampton. It was an action of trespass, for distraining the plaintiff's cattle for rent, under these circumstances:—The tenant gave a bill of sale of all his goods to the plaintiff for a debt which he owed him, who advertised them for sale; upon which, the defendant, who was an agent of Lord Winchelsea, the landlord, distrained the goods for rent. It was then agreed that the goods should be sold pursuant to the advertisement, and that the proceeds should be paid to the defendant, as far as it was necessary to satisfy the claim for rent. Among the effects for sale there was some growing grass, called a 'keep,' part of which the plaintiff purchased, and the defendant also purchased a part. The entire proceeds of the sale were paid towards the rent, but they were not sufficient to satisfy it. When the plaintiff put his cattle into the 'keep,' the defendant distrained them for rent. The Learned Counsel submitted

that as the grass was set up for sale with the consent of the defendant, and as he had received the proceeds of the sale, he had no right to distrain the cattle under the circumstances.—Rule granted." I do not know whether this rule is made absolute, or how it may terminate, but it shows, sufficiently for my purpose, the great difficulty in disposing of "keep," and it may be inferred from it, that some landlords are not particular as to whose property they take, provided they obtain their rent; in fact, I know of no exception in taking another's cattle for such purpose, except some public trades, but they do not apply to the farmer; and even these, the present Lord Chief Justice (in a case *Brown v. Shevill*, wherein the carcass of a bullock was seized for rent, and the plaintiff had purchased the bullock with his own money, and having no place to kill it, had sent it to a butcher to be slaughtered) held, that for the benefit of trade, the carcass was protected from liability to be distrained, when slaughtered for hire, and said it seemed to him that the doctrine about public trades had been already too much restricted.

The power of distraining for rent is, however, intended for the benefit of landlords to prevent a tenant from secreting or withdrawing his effects to their prejudice; and this power of distraining another's cattle, damage feasant (as it is called by lawyers) that is, trespass upon, the land, arising from the necessity of the thing itself, as (it is pretended) it might otherwise be impossible at a future time to ascertain whose cattle they were that committed the trespass or damage, is such a gross perversion of justice, that I have known a few landlords so ashamed of the right they possessed, that they have relinquished their claim upon another's cattle after they have been distrained, notwithstanding there was not sufficient goods to pay their rent.

But before I proceed any further respecting the power of distraining, let us examine from what source *rent* is derived, and we shall find that rent, in its true meaning, ought to be that part of the profit arising annually from farms occupied by tenants to which landlords are entitled according to the extent of those farms, after leaving the tenants a proper maintenance, and a fair remuneration for skill and capital employed; and, I am one of those who think landlords ought to have a full proportion of those profits in a fair value for their land, *and no more*; but if I am not much mistaken, the greatest portion of the soil not occupied by the owner, is let to the tenant farmer considerably above its value; and if so, there must be something more than the Corn Laws and the Money System, which induces the farmer to take land above its value, after so many successive disastrous years for agricultural produce, for as soon as they are unable to pay their rent in arrear from the profit of their farms, they must either pay it out of their capital (if they have any), beg time of their landlords, borrow money, or sell some part of their stock (which they ought not to do), to pay the same; in this way numbers of them contrive to eke out a miserable existence from year to year, in the vain hope of better crops and better times, till, ultimately, their creditors become clamorous, and their landlords (ever on the alert when they hear that a tenant is involved in debt, or his circumstances doubtful), pounce upon them by making a distress for rent in arrear, and generally sweep away the whole of the property, unless there happens to be an execution on the premises, and then the sheriff sells, out of which the landlord is only entitled to twelve months' rent; therefore,



should there be only sufficient to pay the execution creditor, and the landlord's rent, as is too frequently the case, they get the whole of the property, and the other creditors nothing; but, if no execution on the premises, and the landlord has a claim for more than one year, he can legally sell for the whole of the rent in arrear, and by this means he obtains his money from needy tenants; nor has he after having so obtained it, any difficulty in again letting his farm to a fresh tenant at the same rent; for no sooner is it known that a farm is unoccupied, than there are plenty of eager applicants, and it is again let to another victim, when a similar result, in all probability, follows, and will unquestionably follow *ad infinitum*, until the power of distraining is either wholly or partially taken away from the oppressing party, which must be ultimately done, for it is monstrous that instead of obtaining his rent out of the profits of his farm, he should obtain it from the following sources besides the profit: I mean the tenant farmer's capital, with which he stocks his farm, from money borrowed of his nearest and dearest friends in the hour of need, to uphold his failing credit, or from the unsuspecting tradesmen, with whom he has had dealings, viz. the blacksmith, wheelwright, shopkeeper, &c., who are generally all sufferers from the landlord's power of distraining; and the consequence is, some one of these creditors generally arrest the unhappy wretch, who is sent to gaol, and driven to the necessity of seeking the benefit of the Act for Relief of Insolvent Debtors; but if none of these creditors arrest him, in order to get released from his difficulties, and to enable him to commence business again, he obtains what is called a friendly arrest, and if opposed, on his hearing, by any of his real creditors, his petition is dismissed, and he is again thrown upon the world in a worse condition than before his incarceration; or if adjudged entitled to the benefit of the act, then during the time he is suffering this imprisonment, his wife and family (if he has one, and no property concealed) are either dependent on their friends for support, or they are obliged to procure relief from their parish; when he comes out of gaol, he nine times out of ten becomes a pauper, and is cast another burden upon the very land he formerly occupied; so that, supposing there be good and bad landlords in the same parish (which is frequently the case) this precious law of distraining not only allows the landlord who lets his land above its value, to rob the tenant of his capital, and the creditors of their just demand, but it enables them to saddle paupers upon the parish, and compels good landlords' tenants to pay their quota towards their support; a fact which I think cannot be substantially contradicted.

I shall now take leave to examine the description of applicants who are so ready to take farms when they are to let, and what sort of selection landlords generally make from such applicants; I mean needy, grasping, avaricious landlords, &c.—for that we have many, a great many, good ones, no man can for a moment deny, and who use a sound discretion in choosing their tenants,—it is not of such landlords I am now speaking, for I could, if necessary, bear willing testimony of their kindness and attention to the interest and welfare of their tenants; bad as the times are there is no necessity for such gratuitous evidence, as they are to be found to a great extent in every county in England; men who are anxiously alive to the principle of "live and let live." No, countrymen, it is your oppressive landlords I

wish to hold up to public view, for the purpose of inducing you, in furtherance of your own interest, to petition the legislature to do away with or limit the infamous power of distraining for rent, as far as regards agriculture, and if possible to put you in a proper situation to treat with your landlords on taking their farms, plenty of which will, if I mistake not, soon become vacant. But I am digressing from my promised examination of the description of applicants who are so ready to take farms: they consist no doubt of several varieties, but I shall confine myself to three:—

First—a good tenant with sufficient capital and skill, of good character, and of whom there can be no reasonable doubt but he will fulfil his engagement with his landlord, as far as it is possible for him to do so; and of these, we may boldly assert, there are still many to be found.

Secondly. A tenant deficient in capital, but who can borrow money to stock his farm tolerably well; in character, perhaps, unexceptionable, and who if possible would endeavour to benefit himself and his landlord.

Thirdly. A tenant with little or perhaps no capital, but that deficiency supplied by a marvellous stock of conceit; very plausible, a great promiser; in short, a "neck-or-nothing" sort of fellow, perhaps from a distant county; and although in total ignorance of the peculiar mode of agriculture adopted on the farm in expectancy, yet ready to make a trial, having little or nothing to lose, and blest with an equal portion of inclination to pay.

Now, I think, it cannot be denied that the landlords often let their farms to the two latter class of tenants, much above their value, and if they keep a watchful eye over them, they will by means of distraining for rent always secure its payment, though the land be let above its value; but is this an honest way of obtaining it? Certainly not; and I cannot but think that every honest man, whether landlord or tenant, must see that the sooner this disgraceful statute, empowering the landlord to distrain, is altered in favour of agriculture, the better for good landlords, and good tenants; for although they are enabled to let their land above its value by this arbitrary power, yet it would be an easy matter to prove, that supposing they get an extra rent, yet their land is deteriorated in value accordingly, so that they who let their lands at a fair remunerating value, ultimately profit most; and I have no hesitation in saying, that if this obnoxious law was altered in favour of the tenant farmer, the needy, grasping, avaricious landlords before mentioned, would be more circumspect in choosing their tenants as far as practicable; they would know that as they had not an unlimited power of distraining, they must look to the wealth, respectability, skill, and industry of their tenants, as their best security for the punctual payment of their rents; and it is to be hoped the day is not far distant when this disgrace to our statute book, will be at least so far modified as to enable the opulent farmer, who wants keeping for his stock, to take the same with safety, as it would be extremely beneficial to the poorer sort of tenant farmers; and the power of distraining for rent being limited to a definite period, would have the beneficial effect of reducing the rents in the course of a short time throughout the United Kingdom. But the best way would be, perhaps, to "reform it altogether," (as it does more general harm than individual benefit,) and thus effectually put it out of the power of unprincipled landowners to let their land above

its value *with safety*; thereby preventing the third class above-mentioned, who would know it would be useless from galloping off as upon a race, immediately that a farm is reported to be at liberty, to the landlord's door to have the first chance of taking it at any price they can; creating an injurious competition, deceiving the latter into a belief that his land is of greater value than it really is, or gratifying his avaricious disposition, and giving him a plausible apology for not lowering his rents according to the depression of the times; or if they did choose to do so, they would be in no better situation than other creditors, provided their tenants could not pay their rents. It appears to me after mature consideration, that taking away the power of distraining is the only way to prevent land from being let so much above its value, while the reduced rent would enable the tenant farmer to pay his labourers more liberally, and be a great means of satisfying the laborious class; thereby preventing incendiarism, which has of late increased to such an alarming extent, and cast a stain of the deepest dye both upon our English peasantry and our national character, for which there appears to be no extenuation, unless it can be found in the reason ascribed by the Earl of Darnley, and mentioned in a letter from your intelligent correspondent at Frindsbury; wherein his lordship declared it to be his opinion, that the deplorable ignorance, and utter want of proper feeling, and knowledge of spiritual matters, was to be attributed to the non-residence of the clergy, with which opinion I cordially coincide.

In endeavouring to make these observations beneficial to the tenant farmer, I beg to state that I do so with great diffidence, and could have wished that some one more experienced than myself had done so; but, however, as my humble efforts on the behalf of the tenant farmers may draw the attention of others more able than myself, I shall feel obliged by your inserting these remarks in the "Mark Lane Express," which I ardently hope will continue to advocate the interests of that oppressed class, which nothing will promote so effectually, and tend so much to reduce the rent of land to a fair value, as the partially, or wholly taking away from landlords this arbitrary power, as it would be the most effectual mode of preventing them from letting their land to inefficient tenants, and the continuance of what must be considered a public grievance. It is only limiting, or taking away this power that will open their eyes to the value of a good tenant, which is a landlord's best security; and should this ever be carried into effect, the malt-tax taken off, and a poor-law for Ireland to prevent the Irish labourer from doing that work which ought to be done by the surplus labourers of England, and the corn-laws continued as they are; we may then look forward to a brighter era, and a more friendly feeling between landlord and tenant, which ought always to be encouraged as their interests are mutual and inseparable, and their acting in unison upon the principle of "live and let live," would as before stated, enable tenant farmers to give their labourers a fair remuneration for their toil, so that they might provide the common necessities of life for themselves, wives, and children; which finding they could do, industrious labourers would no doubt work cheerfully to support their distressed families, and would also stimulate them to feel a reciprocal interest in their employers' welfare; thus forming the best and most effectual safeguard against incendiarism and midnight spoliation, and check that bitterness of animosity at present sub-

sisting to such an alarming extent between the agriculturist and the labourer.

The valuable observations made by your correspondent Mr. Dean, in the "Mark Lane Express," No. 155, under the head of Agricultural Reports, are worthy the serious attention of both landlord and tenant: after speaking of the ruinously low price of wheat, and the consumption of potatoes, &c., he says, "no doubt another cause is the contraction of the currency, and the restrictions upon country bankers, which has prevented their lending that assistance, which they cheerfully rendered when it was in their power; and frequently prevented the prices being forced down to an unnatural level by assisting necessitated farmers, who otherwise would have been compelled to resort to forced sales to pay their rent, taxes, &c.; and in my humble opinion nothing would tend so much as a moderate expansion of the currency; an increased facility given to country bankers; and the commutation of tithes. Rent and tithes must be reduced to the scale of 1795, which was 20 per cent. below the war prices of 1812 to 1814, (wheat was then 12s, barley 4s, and oats 2s 6d to 3s per bushel; wheat now is 6s, barley 3s to 3s 6d, and oats 2s;) or no farmer can pay the heavy burdens imposed upon the land, which now swallow up nearly all the produce of the estate, and leaves him to pay the rent out of his capital; such at least must be the case this year, with slender hopes of improvement in the next." If, however, rent were reduced to the scale of 1795, or thereabout, this reduction would enable the tenant farmers to pay their labourers fair wages; in fact almost every thing depends on landowners; and if tenants cannot afford to employ a sufficient number of labourers, the landlords ought to employ the surplus in permanent improvements; such as underdraining, marling, &c., and afterwards charge their tenants, interest upon the capital so expended for their advantage, which a great proportion of them would willingly pay.

Of course these remarks only apply to agricultural districts, and not to great towns; but even in these, this iniquitous law prevents necessitous tenants from letting their apartments and lodgings, therefore proving injurious to the poorer sort of tradesmen, who cannot afford to occupy a whole house. But in respect to the surplus labourers, no man able to work ought to have it in his power to say truly, "I am willing to work but cannot obtain it,"—it should be found by either the landowner or the tenants, and it is not reasonable that the latter should be obliged to employ them, and pay their wages out of his own capital.

But I am afraid the former will not reduce their rents so long as they can obtain them by distrait; and until there is a commutation of tithes, and a great reduction of rent, so long will incendiarism continue to disgrace the country, and land let above its value. The way of compelling bad landlords to reduce their rents is to take away from them the power of distraining, or in other words compelling them to either accept good tenants and a fair value for their land, or leaving them to let it above its value with all the consecutive consequences; and if they madly choose the latter, it is but just that they alone should be the sufferers; and even then they would only be in a similar situation with a tradesman who sells his goods at a high price upon credit, and one is equally as much entitled to protection as the other.

If then, bad landlords are foolish enough to let their land to tenants unworthy of credit, let them abide the result, and the evil will ultimately cure



itself, as it is too much to expect that any but themselves should suffer for their temerity. To Ireland these remarks will apply with double force,—in that fine country, the greatest portion of the farmers and cottagers are worse situated than the English labourer; they have been kept in a state of agitation and feverish excitement for ages, from want of a commutation of tithes, and by middle-men distraining for rent; and as to that unhappy class—the Irish labourers—there cannot be a doubt but thousands of them die annually from starvation through the want of poor-laws.

If, however, these abuses were removed, the currency expanded, and an improved system of management adopted, (the latter of which will follow the reduction of rent) I shall look anxiously forward to the dawn of brighter prospects for the tenant farmer, and the industrious labourer, both in England and Ireland.

I have prolonged these observations to a much greater length than I intended; but, considering the power of distraining for rent so greatly abused, and of so much greater importance than any thing else to the interest of the tenant farmer, and the public good, that it should be done away with as speedily as possible, I must make it my justification for dwelling so long on the subject, and reiterating so many points of flagrant abuse and injustice. To this arbitrary power I attribute most of the misery, privation, and suffering under which the once flourishing tenantry of this empire are now writhing; and to their inability to pay their labourers a fair remunerating price for toil, may, as I before urged, be traced the primary cause of the past and present innumerable cases of incendiarism; but I am afraid the landlord is not wholly to blame, for it cannot be denied, I believe, but that there have been some alarming fires on the estates of good landlords; and I would warn those tenants who do not farm upon the improved system, under such landlords, and who neither employ a fair portion of labourers, nor give them fair wages, that to them also may be traced the same cause of incendiarism, they being just as culpable, and perhaps more so, than bad landlords, for it is an act of ingratitude towards their landlords, and of injustice to their neighbours: however, I hope there are not many of such to be found. In fact, good tenant farmers are trebly wronged—first, by bad landlords, in not reducing their rent where necessary; secondly, by bad tenants, who can afford to employ their portion of labourers, but who neither employ a fair portion nor give fair wages,\* and thirdly, by ignorant, malicious

labourers, in the foul crime of incendiarism. Nor will these wrongs cease so long as bad landlords can obtain their rents from unworthy tenants, by means of the despotic power with which the laws has armed them, or bad tenants are suffered to occupy the farms of good landlords.

I would, however, give landlords a cheap and speedy way of recovering rent in arrear, and obtaining possession of their farms without ejectment; which might be done by a short Act of Parliament, giving the judges power, after action brought, to make an order for the Sheriff to try causes for rent in arrear, although above 20l., and after a verdict for the landlord, he should be at liberty, on the tenant entering into a recognizance with sureties (to his satisfaction) for payment of verdict and costs, to allow him a reasonable time for such payment, or to apply either to a judge at chambers in vacation, or the court in term, for a new trial: but, in the event of a *Fieri Facias* being issued, and the goods actually sold by the Sheriff, the landlord, on filing *Fieri Facias*, with the Sheriff's return thereto, with the proper officer of the court, should, if there was not sufficient goods to satisfy the verdict and costs, be entitled to issue writ of possession. This would save the expense of an ejectment, and frequently put him in a better situation than he now stands. But, in the event of the full rent in arrear and costs being paid by the Sheriff's sale of the goods seized under the *feri facias*, then the landlord should not be entitled to writ of possession; but, on rent in arrear for the same premises again becoming due within twelve months, and not paid within fourteen days after demand in writing, he should, on filing an affidavit of such demand having been made, and of the debt due for rent, be entitled to a judge's order to issue writ of *feri facias* and writ of possession, without bringing fresh action.

In respect to the surplus labourers, tenants should employ them in spade husbandry whenever it can be beneficially done; and, by their employing them in this way, and the landlords also in real improvements, as before-mentioned, they might be kept usefully, and, it is hoped, profitably, employed. But it cannot be expected that English landlords and farmers will employ the surplus labourers of their own country in this way, while the Sister Isle is without a Poor Law, and the "finest pisantry in the world," can, for a small fare, come over in steam packets, in swarms, unprecedented but by those we read of in holy writ, which darkened the horizon and devoured the produce of the land of fertilized Egypt. Immediately on their landing, they are ready to do any work at reduced, or in fact, any wages; therefore, until Ireland is compelled to provide for the maintenance and employment of its own poor there will always be more working men in this country than can be profitably or beneficially employed, and Ireland will still be considered as a millstone round the neck of impoverished and ruined England.

As to real improvements made by farmers, landlords often take a most unfair advantage of them, by raising rents immediately they are made, thereby discouraging the progress of all improve-

\* THE NEW POOR LAW BILL IN THE COUNTRY.—On Tuesday, a large body of labourers, amounting to nearly twenty-six able-bodied men, apparently in great distress, applied at the vestry at Brehill, near Calne, Wilts, for some relief, as it was impossible for them to subsist on what they earned. The vestry, however, refused them both assistance in money or labour, by which alone a prospect of obtaining an allowance of bread might be confidently entertained. The unfortunate labourers determined to apply at once to the Marquis of Lansdown, who was most fortunately at his seat at Bowood. The labourers repaired, without a moment's delay, to the residence of the Noble Marquis. His Lordship stated to them, through his steward, in reply to their humble inquiries, that the farmers were undoubtedly the proper persons to apply to for profitable employment, and that he was not aware but that his estates were let at so moderate a rent as to enable his tenants to employ all their parishioners, and to give them, at the same time, a fair and just price for their labour; however, at any rate, he (the Marquis)

would immediately institute proper inquiries into these circumstances, and see that all their reasonable grievances should be redressed. The labourers, upon this assurance of his Lordship, went quietly to their homes.  
—Cheltenham Free Press.

ment whatever, and in the aggregate is extremely injurious as well as injudicious.

There are two other points to which I wish particularly to draw the attention of the land-owners,—they are the improper periods at which rent days are usually fixed, and the hardship often experienced by out-going tenants, in not being allowed for permanent improvements made by them at their own expense, where they have not remained a sufficient time upon the premises to reap the full benefit thereof,—I mean such improvements as under-draining, marling, &c. Here the landlord should step in, and, before he lets his farm, insist upon the incoming tenant making a fair allowance for the same, which would be in some measure tantamount to leases, and highly beneficial both to landlord and tenant; for if it was known that the landlord always protected the out-going tenants in this way it would be an encouragement to enterprising and spirited tenants who farm upon an improved system, to lay out their money on real improvements, such as above-mentioned; and in respect to rent days, they are generally, in England, fixed at Ladyday and Michaelmas; periods particularly inconvenient to those farmers who have not half a year's rent in arrear, and who principally occupy arable land, and breeders of cattle; for the former Christmas would be a much better time, as it would give them an opportunity of gradually thrashing out their corn, instead of forcing it into the market to pay their Michaelmas rent; and, in respect to the breeders of cattle who depend, in the Spring, on the sale of lean stock for their rent, it would give them opportunity, in a backward season, to defer the sale of stock until the grazier wanted them, instead of forcing them into the market at a low price to pay the Lady-day rent. These alterations being in the power of the landlord, I hope the suggestion may have some good effect, to know which would be to me a heartfelt pleasure.

There being now a Peel Administration, there is no hope of an alteration in the currency at present, and as little of the malt tax being taken off or reduced; I shall therefore conclude by recommending the farmers of England at the ensuing election, not to support any member who will not either pledge himself to vote for the whole of the malt tax being taken off, and a property tax laid on instead thereof, or half the malt tax, without a property tax. As to the currency, it would perhaps not be wise at present to require any pledge thereon; but the pledge for the rescinding of the malt tax, wholly or partially, as above-mentioned, should be strictly enforced: and I hope that the farmers of England will not, upon any account, omit to obtain this most important pledge, now there is so favourable an opportunity, as I think it will be the best means of improving the condition of the landlords and tenants, and of obtaining from the legislature the repeal of this obnoxious tax, which has been so long unjustly withheld; the working labourer would not only obtain more beer from the farmer but he would be able to either brew his own or get it at a cheaper rate; and if there was a moderate property tax, it would not only enable ministers to repeal the malt tax, but they could then afford to take off the window tax and the duty on bricks, which would give a stimulus to building, employment to labourers, and tend to improve trades; and that they will ultimately have to resort to a property tax I think there can be no doubt, and the sooner "the bull is taken by the horns" the better, for it is only a property tax that can enable the legislature to

take off the duties on those articles that are used as the common necessities of life, or empower them to relieve the present distress. Should, however, the power of distraining for rent *not be repealed*, the malt tax, and the obnoxious duties on the necessities of life continued, and a property tax not laid on, then will the increasing distress of the tenant farmers drive them from their native land, and they will be under the necessity of emigrating to a foreign country, and landlords will have their farms thrown upon their own hands, which I sincerely hope may be averted. I hope that landlords will lend a willing hand towards removing the present increasing distress of the tenant farmers, and those labourers who cultivate the soil, as I am convinced by so doing they will best promote their own interest; for it is impossible they can prosper while the tenant farmers are going to ruin. With this impartial view of their condition, and with best wishes for better times,

I remain, Mr. Editor, yours, &c.,

R.

Dec. 20, 1834.

#### TO THE EDITOR OF THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS."

SIR—Your Correspondent, "*A Country Banker*," feels himself aggrieved at the construction which I have placed on his scheme of a National Bank, and invites me to point out any words in his letter, authorizing the interpretation which I have given to them, viz. "*that the Bank of England, the Country Bankers, and Joint Stock Banks, should be annihilated at the end of three years.*" I am no wrangler about words, except in so far as they tend to elucidate principles,—but in carrying out a principle, all reasoning men naturally look to the consequences likely to result from a proposed course, which words alone can convey to the human understanding. The words he uses are these—"The National Notes to be made a legal tender, and be current for all purposes of trade, and received by the Government in payment of all taxes, duties, and excise; when a sufficient amount of such notes are in circulation, the Bank of England to withdraw theirs, and do be reimbursed for the loss of their circulation by the Government out of the interest received for the advance of the National Notes,—that the Country Bankers and Joint Stock Banks should be allowed three years, (or such other period as may be thought necessary) for retrieving their notes from circulation. The notes to be issued should consist of one pound notes, to take the place of the present gold currency, and all the larger denomination of notes issued by the Bank of England"—and further, "in order to regulate the exchanges, the Government (mark! the Government!) should empower the Trustees of the National Bank to purchase both gold and silver at the market price of the day, until they have a stock of 10 or 15 millions, or whatever amount is considered necessary to hold as a national reserve."

Now, I grant to your Correspondent, that he does not use the word *annihilate*,—but I will ask him, in candour and fairness, whether this scheme which he proposes would not as assuredly annihilate the Bank of England, and all the Country and



Joint-Stock Banks *issuing notes*, as if he had said so, "*in multis verbis!*" Only deprive the Bank of England of the power of *issuing notes*,—that gigantic privilege of supplying the currency of the kingdom,—render its stock of bullion unavailable, by discontinuing the circulation of gold—may worse—an absolutely unnecessary and unprofitable incumbrance to its coffers,—as having no longer notes in circulation, they would not require to provide against a run. Deprive them of their allowance for the management of the public debt, the interest on Exchequer Bills, and the various other items of profit unnecessary to enumerate, *which would of course be transferred to this National Bank*,—deprive the Bank of England of all this, and answer in sober seriousness, would it not annihilate it? What would become of its Charter? Would it not be as reasonable to draw the last drop of blood out of a man's body, and expect him to perform the physical exertion of active and robust vitality? The Joint-Stocks and Country Banks may be similarly illustrated; their profits would be woefully curtailed, if, instead of creating a circulation of their own, they were compelled to operate upon the currency of a National Bank, advanced to them on interest, accumulating on the stock which they would require constantly to hold in their hands.

That private Banks are established in London, who do *not* issue notes, and yet obtain large profits, is no argument in favour of the National Bank. It is well known that these Banks would issue notes if the existing Charter of the Bank of England did not prevent them,—and they have been called into existence from the anti-commercial character of the Bank itself. Such Banks would still exist, whether the National Bank or the Bank of England predominated; the question does not arise, whether these establishments would continue to perform their functions in contributing to public convenience, and their own profit, with or without the power of issuing paper; but whether the Bank of England, and the Joint-Stock and Country Banks would be destroyed by this National Bank?

But your Correspondent is obscure in some parts of his argument. He says "*it is the circulating medium of the country, and not the banking business of the country, that I am desirous of seeing altered.*" I have all along been supposing that "*the head and front*" of his proposed plan, if not in words, at least in essence, was to establish a new Bank upon a new principle, which would engross *the whole circulation of the kingdom, other Banks being required to withdraw theirs?* Is this *no alteration* in Banking business? I do not mean to contend that *advances or deposits* will not be made by his plan as well (although that is questionable) as by the present; but I do not understand that these two simple words embrace *every thing* which is understood by Banking business. In my humble conception, the "*circulating medium*" has *much* to do with the question, and to put them forward as two separate and independent considerations,—looks like arguing for a distinction where there is no difference.

With respect to the interference of Government

in Banking concerns, I repeat, that I think it dangerous in the highest degree,—there is no part of my former letter which should lead your Correspondent to infer, that because I condemn it in a National Bank, I justify it in the case of the Bank of England,—on the contrary, I held it up as one of the greatest calamities to which, as a nation, we have been subjected. We stand not alone in this. The Bank of Amsterdam, the Bank of Venice, the Bank of the United States, all established upon principles somewhat similar to those advocated by your Correspondent, present striking instances of the calamity entailed upon the industry of the nation by Government interference. But, after all, the Bank proposed by your Correspondent, has little of novelty to recommend it, and I fear I may wither some of his laurels, as the inventor of so hopeful a scheme, by telling him that it has little claim to originality, as the same plan was proposed by Dr. Chamberlain about the time Patterson established the Bank of England in 1694. It was even in those days considered impracticable, and Patterson's plan was preferred. But at that time they had no Banks in England, and *might* have given it a trial, without the danger of upsetting existing establishments.

Your correspondent is satisfied, that by an *elevation of prices*—manufacturing as well as agricultural—our foreign trade would be very greatly extended; and in order to support his position, he assumes an hypothesis, which to say the least of it, is exceedingly unfortunate for his theory. To illustrate the advantage to our foreign trade, he supposes that a merchant embarks in *one small adventure* to Portugal of the value of 300*l*, while at the same moment, in consequence of the increased circulating medium and high range of prices here, there are *large importations of wine from thence*, which enable him to obtain remittances on England at 72*d* instead of 60*d* per milrea, thereby rendering his transaction a profitable one. What a one-eyed view of the case is this? It is fairly begging the question,—and the whole is built on a flimsy hypothesis. Is this an example of the anticipated *increase* to our foreign trade? This the mouse *for which* the mountain has been groaning? Would it not be more natural for your correspondent, having assumed that our circulating medium is *so much increased*, to suppose that speculation *would increase with it*, and that instead of *one small adventure*, the foreign market he has fixed on, is inundated with goods from this country? That appears to me a necessary consequence of the state of things which he supposes. The result must then be, that the manufactures of England, *bought at high prices*, come into competition in the Portuguese market, with the *low priced* goods of France and Germany, leaving your correspondent to calculate the advantages (if he thinks them so) which will thereby accrue to the English merchants, I may, *en passant*, glance at the probable rate of exchange at which the produce of the English goods are negotiated in the Portuguese market.

Having assumed (as I am entitled to assume) an *excess* of goods exported from England, I am equally justified in assuming that the demand for

Bills on England is greater than the amount Portugal has to draw, and that consequently the English Agent must be content to receive a *smaller quantity of pence* in exchange for his milreals, than he would receive were the excess in favour of Portugal. But really, we gain nothing to the argument by theoretical illustrations of this kind. The nature and operation of exchanges are well known, and may be sufficiently illustrated by an axiom which I think your correspondent will scarcely dispute,—viz., that gold is the standard by which exchanges are determined, and the commodity resorted to, to restore the equilibrium between nations trading with each other—that gold itself is influenced by the value of commodities, as it is found invariably to be drawn towards that country where prices are low; leaving that, where prices are high. If this axiom is sound, and I believe it is indisputable, your correspondent will find it no easy matter to reconcile the corollary, with his theory of high prices.

I would here leave the question, which your correspondent has re-agitated, but he closes his communication by attributing a sentiment to me which I scarcely think my letter justifies. He charges me with stating that to allow the importation of foreign grain on a low fixed rate of duty, would be the best plan that could be devised for the destruction of our farmers. Surely he must have overlooked the spirit of my remarks, which referred entirely to *his own proposition*, pointing out the inconsistency of admitting foreign grain at a low rate of duty, *with an elevation of prices at home!* I can assure him, that so far from being opposed to foreign grain being imported at a low fixed rate of duty, *I am an advocate for it*,—nay, I go much further than he does, he thinks it inconsistent with our *present monetary system*—but so far from thinking it inconsistent, I am persuaded the farmers will be ruined, unless some regulation of this kind is adopted. At present they are groping in the dark, and have no certainty that the market may not be overstocked with foreign grain the moment the averages have attained such a height as to enable the importer to avail himself of the opportunity of doing so, at the favourable rate provided for by the graduated scale of duties.

Your correspondent argues a bad cause with so much ability and good temper, that I have some hope of his becoming a convert to the doctrine which I have espoused; as it often happens that men, however widely they may at first differ in opinion, arrive nearer to the truth, although they like not to confess it, by the gentle weapons of reason and argument. In taking leave of your correspondent, I cannot therefore refrain from acknowledging the courtesy of his communication,—and am,  
Sir, Your's very respectfully,  
Jan. 1, 1835. S.

## LORD WESTERN AND AGRICULTURE.

The following is a copy of the letter received by the President of the Chelmsford Agricultural Society, and mentioned by him at the late dinner. It was accompanied by the proposed measure for

*bonding malt*, which is printed at the conclusion of his Lordship's communication:—

"I am sorry I cannot attend the Agricultural Meetings at Chelmsford on the 8th and 12th; but my health is so indifferent that I am obliged to give up everything to it.

"I am *most seriously* alarmed at the distressed state of the agricultural community; indeed, their declining condition has long pressed grievously on my mind. The *grand* question which ought first to be anxiously considered, is the *cause* of its unprecedented depression. My opinion upon the subject is well known; but I will not press it upon the meeting now, *though* no remedy of a permanent character can be expected whilst the *cause* of the distress remains undiscovered.

"My object now is to offer to the consideration of the meeting the outline of a measure which I think would be productive of *some little* relief, and in a manner consonant with my own views of the cause and remedy, and yet, I believe not objectionable to those who differ from me upon it. The effect of the measure would be to add to the facilities of credit upon a *sound* principle, and thus increase, as far it goes, the circulating medium of the country. If the Meeting approve it, they should memorialize the Government upon it. The idea did not originate with me, but I readily adopted it, and immediately submitted the plan to Lord Melbourne, who promised to give it a favourable consideration.

"I shall send some Stock to the Show on the 12th; but unless there is any *premium* for what is termed, on these occasions, *extra Stock*, I have no chance of a prize; for I shall not come within the *rules* of either class. I think they are too restricted respecting age and other conditions to allow of many competitors, and too many premiums to *admit* of their being, according to the funds of the Society, sufficiently large to cover the expenses even to the successful candidate of either description of stock.

"I am fully alive, as you know, to the propriety of giving every encouragement to ploughmen, knowing well, that upon the skill and attention of the ploughmen all good farming must depend: nor less am I convinced of the duty we owe to the industrious labourer, who has nobly struggled, under all difficulties, to maintain the honest pride of independence which his bosom has never ceased to feel."

### THE PROPOSED MEASURE.

"On account of the distressed state of agriculture, the following observations are submitted respecting the consumption of barley. At present the *growers* of foreign corn, the *distillers* of foreign spirits, and the *manufacturers* of foreign wine, are all indulged by having their respective articles placed in bond in this country, to wait a sale for home consumption, but the *English manufacturers* of malt from barley of the growth of England, are *not* allowed any such indulgence, and they are often prevented from making malt to keep in store on account of the duty being payable a *short time* after it is made. It is, therefore, suggested that malt be allowed to be made and placed in bond for any period not exceeding two years. The *malster* would then be able to convert a more considerable quantity of barley into malt than at present, as payment of the duty would then be deferred to a definite period, in which case he would place the property under the King's lock, a circumstance that would afford greater facilities for raising money than at present, remedying, in a slight degree, the inconvenience and loss which he has sustained by the withdrawing of the 1*l* notes. The same indulgence



ought to extend to every article subject to Excise, being manufactured from the growth of this country."

"N. B. Barley will not malt the second year; it even becomes worse towards the end of the first malting season, namely, the end of April: it does, indeed, begin to deteriorate the beginning of March, variably according to the season; when made into malt it will keep two or three years, without being deteriorated materially more than five per cent., if good malt at first. Now the farmer cannot turn his barley into malt, nor can the maltster purchase barley to malt, beyond the immediate demand, on account of payment of the duty. If they were allowed to malt and bond it, it would afford greater facilities of credit to both these parties, who stand greatly in need of it, they might then obtain advances upon the barley so malted, and put under the King's lock, and this, with security to the parties making the advances and consequently to the public. Another advantage will be that of regulating the supply to the demand, and equalizing the price, and reducing the necessity for foreign importations.

"The same reasoning applies to the case of the British Distillers; they are compelled to send the article directly into the market, which is further objectionable, inasmuch as the spirit would most unquestionably improve in quality by keeping, and its noxious properties would be somewhat diminished; they would, likewise, have a fair legitimate ground for a credit accommodation, whenever they might require it.

"The hop-growers, also, upon an equitable principle, should have the same power."

### POOR LAW BILL.

The following correspondence, which has taken place between the respected visitor of the Swansea House of Industry and the Poor Law Commissioners, will be interesting to the heads of other parishes, and capable of general application—

"TO THE POOR LAW COMMISSIONERS, LONDON.

"Gentlemen,—As the period fixed for the appointment of officers by the act passed in the 22d George III., chap. 83 (under which this parish has been placed), is regulated by a moveable festival, namely, Easter, inconvenience arises from the unequal length of the year, as in the instance of last and this year, the former having consisted of 50 weeks only, the present of 55; thereby making the comparative statements of the year's accounts disproportionate, and, as by the 41st section of the fourth and fifth of his present Majesty, chap. 76, you have the power of directing that elections of officers shall be made according to the provisions of the said act, I beg to have your sanction for calling the future meetings for the appointment of officers, conformably to section 38th of the said act—that is to say, on the 25th of March, or within fourteen days thereof.

"I have the honour to be, gentlemen,

"Your most obedient servant

"W. R. GROVE, Visitor, &c.

"Swansea, Dec. 4."

"Poor Law Commissioners'-office,  
Somerset-house, Dec. 9.

"Sir,—The Poor Law Commissioners for England and Wales wish to express their thanks for the suggestion contained in your letter of the 4th instant, which they conceive to be of general ap-

plication, and which will receive the careful consideration of the Board at the earliest convenient opportunity.

"By order of the Board,

"E. CHADWICK, Secretary.

"To W. R. Grove, Esq., Visitor, &c.,  
Gloucester-place, Swansea."

### COMPARATIVE BURDENS ON MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY IN FRANCE, ENGLAND, AND BELGIUM.

The *Journal du Commerce*, in a well-written article upon the Commercial Inquiry, in which the question of tissues is particularly alluded to, states, that among the different materials employed in the spinning, weaving, dyeing, and printing of stuffs, there is not one upon which lighter duties are not paid in England and Belgium than in France. This assertion is supported by the following table:—

|                                                                               | Duty in France. | Duty in England. | Duty in Belgium. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Cotton (United States), per 50 kilogrammes .....                              | 11 0            | 7 73             | 0 96             |
| Wool (common, being valued at 1 fr. the kilogramme), per 50 kilogrammes ..... | 16 50           | 5 0              | duty free.       |
| Wool (fine, being valued at 2 fr. the kilogramme), per 50 kilogrammes .....   | 33 0            | 10 0             | ditto.           |
| Potash destined by bleaching tissues, per 50 kilogrammes .....                | 9 90            | 1 50             | 0 96             |
| Barilla, ditto, ditto .....                                                   | 6 32            | 6 25             | 0 48             |
| Indigo .....                                                                  | 41 25           | 35 0             | 4 80             |
| Campeachy Wood .....                                                          | 1 10            | 2 80             | 0 24             |
| Madder .....                                                                  | 13 20           | 7 50             | 2 40             |

Other drugs and materials for dyeing also pay much higher duties in France than in England and Belgium. It is well known what enormous charges the manufacturers have to pay upon iron, coal, &c. A steam-engine of 20-horse power costs from 20,000 to 25,000 francs at Manchester; the price is not higher at Verviers and Ghent, but in France it could not be had under 35,000 or 40,000 francs. Tools and other mechanism for the manufacture of tissues are at still more disadvantageous prices in France, as compared with the two above-mentioned countries.

As to coal, it costs 9 francs the 100 kilogrammes at Manchester, 14 or 15 at Verviers and Ghent, and 37 or 37½ at Rouen, Elbenf, and Muhlhausen; partly in consequence of the heavy duty of from 11 centimes to 1.70 the hectolitre.

It is true that, on the other hand, wages are lower in France, as will appear from the following table:—

|            | A DAY'S WAGES      |                      |                     |                    |                      |                     |
|------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
|            | At Muhlhausen.     | At Rouen.            | At Manchester.      | At Muhlhausen.     | At Rouen.            | At Manchester.      |
| Spinners.  | fr. ct. 2 0 to 3 0 | fr. ct. 2 50 to 3 50 | fr. ct. 6 25 to 0 0 | fr. ct. 2 0 to 3 0 | fr. ct. 2 50 to 3 50 | fr. ct. 6 25 to 0 0 |
| Weavers.   | 1 25 .. 2 0        | 1 50 .. 2 75         | 2 90 .. 0 0         | 1 25 .. 2 0        | 1 50 .. 2 75         | 2 90 .. 0 0         |
| Printers.  | 1 25 .. 3 50       | 3 0 .. 6 0           | 5 0 .. 0 0          | 1 25 .. 3 50       | 3 0 .. 6 0           | 5 0 .. 0 0          |
| Labourers. | 1 25 .. 1 50       | 1 50 .. 2 0          | 2 0 .. 3 0          | 1 25 .. 1 50       | 1 50 .. 2 0          | 2 0 .. 3 0          |
| Women.     | 1 25 .. 2 0        | 1 25 .. 1 50         | 1 60 .. 3 0         | 1 25 .. 2 0        | 1 25 .. 1 50         | 1 60 .. 3 0         |
| Children.  | 0 25 .. 0 75       | 0 60 .. 1 0          | 0 50 .. 1 50        | 0 25 .. 0 75       | 0 60 .. 1 0          | 0 50 .. 1 50        |

"But," says the writer, "are they as eligible and well-instructed in their business? Are they as well off? This is doubtful. Why are not the schools for our workmen augmented? Above all, why are not efforts made to better their lot by reducing the duties upon their articles of food? Modifications are specially called for in the Corn Laws, in the interest of our manufactories, of which the workmen are the living capital."

## THE STOCKBRIDGE FARMERS AND THE MARQUIS OF CHANDOS.

The following gratifying Address from the Landowners, &c., of Stockbridge, to the Marquis of Chandos, with the noble Marquis's reply.

"To the most noble the Marquis of Chandos, M.P.

"WE, the undersigned Landowners and Land-occupiers in Stockbridge and its vicinity, deeply impressed with a sense of the essential services rendered by your Lordship to the agricultural interest of this country, beg permission to present this our address of congratulation and confidence to you, who have been so emphatically and justly recognized as the Farmer's Friend. It has been a cruel mortification to those peculiarly connected with the land to find, that, while their grievances have been invariably acknowledged, they have as invariably remained unredressed.

"The Committees of 1821 and 1833 told the same melancholy tale, and his Majesty's most gracious speech, on the opening of Parliament, alluded to and recognized "the continuance of distress among the proprietors and occupiers of Land." Two hundred and two independent members of the House of Commons supported the resolution which, in our opinion, your Lordship so judiciously proposed in February last, namely—That in any practicable reduction of the burthens of the country, due regard should be had to the necessity of relieving the agricultural interest." And yet how the Session of Parliament passed away with the repeal, indeed, of the House Tax, but to us, the suffering class, with only a small pittance of commiseration, and without any measure of practicable relief.

"While, therefore, we would tender to your Lordship the sincere expression of our gratitude for the services which you have already performed, we would no less anxiously implore you to persevere in the course which you have hitherto pursued.

"We would earnestly entreat your Lordship to be early in the ensuing session, in the field: the Agriculturists, we are persuaded, will not, on their part, be slack in affording you, by petition, their co-operation; and bold indeed will be the Minister who shall dare to turn a deaf ear to the remonstrances of those whose admitted grievances seemed to demand a speedier adjustment.

"We beg again to offer your Lordship our humble tribute of approbation, and our unfeigned expression of gratitude, and to subscribe ourselves—Your Lordship's faithful and obliged servants."

The foregoing Address was signed by about 160 Farmers, and, at their request, presented to his Lordship by Charles Baring Wall, Esq., M. P., who received the following reply:—

"Pall Mall, November 28, 1834.

"My dear Sir,—I hasten to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, together with the address from the owners and occupiers of land, in the neighbourhood of Stockbridge. Allow me to request you to convey to the gentlemen who signed the address my grateful acknowledgments for the very gratifying proof of their approbation and esteem, and, at the same time, to assure them, that they may rely on my continued exertions in their cause, which I am determined to support and protect, by every means in my power.

"Believe me, my dear Sir, yours very truly,  
"CHANDOS."

## POOR LAWS.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE."

SIR—I think the success of the Poor Law Amendment Bill will entirely depend on the discretion that is used in bringing it into operation. To remedy an existing abuse will always be a first object, alike with a wise man and a wise Legislature; but to remedy that abuse gradually and cautiously, and particularly in a matter in which the many are so seriously affected as they are by this measure, renders the caution with which this remedy is applied a high component part of the wisdom of the whole. Every attempt has been made by the greater part of the press to mislead and disgust the mind of the public on this subject, and statements have constantly been advanced for that purpose, in no degree authorized by the tenor of the Bill itself. If the Commissioners in whom the power is invested abuse that trust, then let these Commissioners be exposed; but it is unwise to condemn a principle that is good, from a fear that men will pervert its intention; because against such a perversion the public voice would immediately and irresistibly be raised. Let us then, rather than attempt to destroy that which if used with humanity and circumspection, may be a blessing and protection to individuals and to property, closely watch both ourselves and the Poor Law Commissioners in the exercise of this new power. By watching ourselves, I mean especially the middle class of persons, we shall individually avoid in our situations of parish officers, unnecessary harshness, temper, oppression, and, above all, any imputation of acting from favour or caprice. By watching the Commissioners, we shall soon discover if they be men qualified by nature, and the experience they possess on the subject, calculated for their high and responsible situations. That the provision and employ of the poor of this country, under existing circumstances, is as difficult a matter as can occupy the human mind I readily admit: but I do think these difficulties are considerably increased by the views and arguments of two opposed parties on the subject. The persons who compose the first of these parties, are the rigid political economists; the other junta comprises those persons who carry their views of the rights of the poor so far beyond a just, reasonable, or safe point, that one cannot help doubting the sincerity of their motives. Without favour or bias to either party, let us consider the doctrines of both separately. First, the political economist, who tells us that the labour of the poor man must be brought to market, where its value will be ascertained, and what it is worth it will fetch; and what it will there realize, he must be content to support himself with, and be satisfied that he is justly dealt by. Now, under certain circumstances, this theory can be, and, in fact, is practically acted on; as, for instance, in the United States of America, as well as in several of the British Colonies, it would be worse than madness to have either a legal provision for or price of labour; because here the demand for labour is always equal to, and often beyond the supply, and, consequently, the price obtained for it is sufficiently remunerating. But in these countries there is not a superabundance of people; in truth, the fact is the reverse of this; neither has there been for a long succession of years a perversion of a good principle, to the destruction of the morals, prudence, and industry of the labouring class; and it does appear to me,



that it must be entirely relative to the present state of society (the difficulties which exist, and which difficulties were brought about mainly by the abuses that have crept into the administration of the Poor Laws) that the poor man's claim to protection must be considered, both as to provision and price of labour. Not that I would for a moment endeavour to support the practice of the old Poor Laws, for I well know that nothing can be more destructive, either in practice or in principle, than such a state of things; at the same time I confess that, both in prudence or in principle, I am opposed to any great SUDDEN change, that would lessen or destroy the present comforts of the poor. What has in a great degree occasioned early and imprudent marriages? The Poor Laws. What has been the occasion of the immense increase of the population? Early marriages and the late Bastardy Laws. What has led to rioting, discontent, drunkenness, and poverty? The indiscriminate and equal protection afforded by the Poor Laws, alike to the industrious, sober, and contented, with the drunken, the profligate, and the idle.

If this be all true, says the philosophical reasoner on economy, let us *immediately* remedy such a state of things, and the power given by the Poor Law Amendment Bill is sufficient for the purpose. This is quite true; the power given is sufficient to remedy the evil; but still, I contend, the market hire of labour, and such jargon, will not, under existing circumstances, exactly suit our disease; it is only by gradually and cautiously applying the antidote, that it can be rendered efficaciously just or humane. I often hear it said by persons who call themselves "political economists" that the success of the Poor Law Amendment Bill depends entirely on the precipitancy and firmness with which it is applied, and that to loiter on the way would neutralize the intended remedy. Let such persons take a lesson from Cowper's tale of "John Gilpin," and reflect that when the hero of this tale arrived, as he did, splash and dash, at his friend's house at Ware,—if he, luckless wight, had been content to have dismounted his unmanageable horse, and instead of endeavouring to return at the same headlong speed he advanced at, and had been satisfied to have *led* his steed *steadily but surely* back, he would have had far better chance of joining his wife at Edmonton.

Let us now take a view of the doctrines of the soft-hearted, unthinking, and, in most instances too, where the following notions exist—the *untaxed* philanthropists. Here we are told by the laws, both of our Maker and of man, that the poor are entitled to support; and if this support is withheld, or even if it be inadequately supplied to them, the poor in such case are quite justified in helping themselves to their richer neighbour's goods. To the former part of this reasoning, in substance, I readily assent, and particularly to the Divine Mandate, of the rich providing for the poor. But I feel my views of "provision" differ widely from the construction of that word by the persons with whom I am now about to contend. This description of reasoners I find never make any distinction in the provision they advocate for the destitute. Oh, no! to do this would appear to be callous hearted; to distinguish between the destitute from age and misfortune, and the destitute from indolence and vice, would be adopting by far too much of the tone of the report of the Poor Law Commissioners. The consequence is, they make a mixed medley of the whole, and then

talk of provision for the poor! Whatever may be said to the contrary, by those who advocate the allotment system, or the colonization of the barren commons and waste lands of this country, we have a considerable surplus of labour. Now in Canada, and other British Colonies, labour is much wanted at a high price. In these colonies the government is the same as in England; in some the soil and climate is equal, and in others it is superior to that in this country; and every protection from injustice and oppression is as duly observed. *Here, then, is a provision for the poor;* and a provision far more adequate to their wants than circumstances will permit at home. Here is offered to the young and able-bodied high wages in exchange for moderate labour. Here is offered to the industrious, the virtuous, and the frugal, present employment, and future advancement in life. Here can those energies of body and mind, which have heretofore laid dormant for the want of employment, develop themselves with effect. Here it is, in the prosperity and comfort which they enjoy, that the English emigrants discover the false doctrines of those political writers in England, who advise the poor to do anything rather than emigrate,—who call emigration transportation, and many other hard names: and it is here, those emigrants, employed, well paid, and comfortable, become satisfied that such advice was given either from ignorance, or from a motive which it may be better not to mention here. It is very easy to find fault,—it is most easy to condemn any and every remedy offered for the better provision of the poor; but it is very difficult to *suggest* a plan for this object. In the last sentence—if one may judge from circumstances—the party I now allude to will undoubtedly think with me, for although they condemn *in toto* every measure offered, never by any chance, in condemning one measure, do they point out a better.

It is generally understood to be the intention of the Poor Law Commissioners, to entirely stop, some month in next summer, the present allowance of flour made to large families, *in proportion to the number of children*. Although this allowance is objectionable on principle, and requires to be remedied; we think in this neighbourhood it would avoid much distress to gradually remedy the evil, in preference to the doing so at any given period. In consequence of this feeling, a memorial to the Board of Commissioners, of which memorial the following is a copy, was signed by all the most influential owners and occupiers of land in this neighbourhood, and which I presented to Mr. Pilkington, the Assistant-Commissioner for Western Sussex, and this gentleman promised me it should be duly *forwarded* to its destination.

#### "ALLOWANCE TO CHILDREN.

"We, the undersigned, considerable rate-payers and parish officers of different parishes in the western division of the county of Sussex, submit, through Mr. Pilkington, to the Board of Poor Law Commissioners, the following plan for the gradual abolition of the above abuse, hoping that the Board will authorise us in due time to carry it into effect.

"That after an early and appointed day (say (Lady-day next) it shall be announced in each parish by the overseers, that no child shall thenceforth be put upon the allowance list, but those already on it be allowed to drop off at the accustomed age, that is to say, ten years old. The promulgation of this order would instantly correct a vicious principle, which encourages early marriage. The method of carrying the reform into

effect would each year lop off a portion of the burthen, till at the end of eight years all vestige of it would be effaced. For as it is, only the children above two in each family who are allowed for; no child comes on the list till two years old, and which child leaves it again at ten years old. By carefully making out the list in each parish, *with the names of the children*, all collusion of substituting one child of a family for another would be prevented, and the allowance, while continued, would be only in flour, and not in money. The privation and denial to the labouring classes would thus affect them separately, as each parent had a fresh child born; and to the rate-payer, the progressive wearing away within eight years, an evil of at least thirty years antiquity, would be considered sufficient and satisfactory. Whereas, the suddenly withdrawing it on any given day, considering the vast numbers in every parish interested, appears to us of very questionable propriety."

I am, Sir,

Your obedient and very humble servant,  
Sussex, Jan. 6, 1835.                      AGRICULTOR.

P.S.—I have the great pleasure to inform my friends in Wales, that Mr. Walter Calhoun, of Binderton, near Chichester, from whose flock I bought the ewes I sent to Pembrokeshire last Autumn, obtained the premium, at the late Chichester show of stock, for the best pen of fat South-Down ewes, and also the premium for the best pen of stock South-Down ewes.

## ON THE HUSK IN CATTLE.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE."

Sir,—Having seen, through the medium of your useful pages, various remedies, most of which seem to have proved ineffectual, for this prevalent and destructive disease, I now beg leave to offer to your notice a simple remedy, which I have found by experience to be highly beneficial, particularly to weaning calves. I generally wean from fifteen to twenty every year, feeding them chiefly on skim milk till the latter part of May, when they are put into some good grass, where they remain till the beginning of July; when I get some fresh lime mixed with some light earth or sand, and put about 25 quarters to an acre of land, where I intend feeding my calves during the season. I prefer putting it on an old summer-leaze, as they generally feed better on that than any other pasture. I consider two acres of land sufficient for twenty calves, but the lime must be repeated annually; then as soon as there has been sufficient rain to wash in the lime and earth, I begin feeding my calves upon it; and if any of them has the cough, or husk, ever so violent, it generally leaves them in the course of a week or two, and if they are fed on the limed land before the disease comes on, I have ever found it to be a certain preventive. So trifling is the expense of this remedy, that I would recommend every person that is troubled with this disease in their cattle, to try the experiment, and I doubt not but they will find it give ample satisfaction. Such is the ardent wish of

Your obedient servant,

A DORSETSHIRE FARMER.

Dec. 29, 1834.

## TO THE AGRICULTURAL ELECTORS OF GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND.

"A proper distribution of the resources of the State is absolutely necessary to the integrity of its existence, because the neglect of it must terminate either in ANARCHY or DESPOTISM."

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN, LAND-OWNERS, AND FARMERS,—This is a momentous crisis in our affairs! During twenty years of profound peace we have been gradually sinking deeper and deeper into distress; and, after four years of political agitation, in which our grievances have been disregarded, and feelings tantalized with various barren and fraudulent schemes of relief, we find ourselves again called upon to exercise our right of elective franchise.

What then is our position? and what the line of conduct to be adopted by us? Self-preservation is the first law in nature, and the first also in political science. On this principle we take our stand.

To say nothing then of tithes, the commutation of which will convert, but not extinguish, an onerous burthen, we are overwhelmed with the following evils:—

1. POOR RATES.—We are paying 10,000,000l yearly, to support, not extinguish, a body of fictitious pauperism; whilst we are paying 10,000,000l yearly to foreign growers for corn, flax, hemp, and tobacco, all of which we might grow at home, had not our means been misapplied, our exertions crippled, and ourselves deceived, by the negligence or ignorance of our rulers.

2. MALT TAX.—We are loaded with a tax on the beverage of the nation, to the amount of about 5,000,000l yearly; which has decreased the consumption of beer *weekly* to one pint for each individual, while the allowance if raised to a pint *daily*, would give circulation, per annum, without exaggerating the result, to a capital equal to 50,000,000l sterling.

3. ROAD DEBTS, &c.—To keep up an expensive, complicated, and prejudicial system of inland communication, which has hitherto acted as a most injurious prohibition upon social intercourse, we have encumbered ourselves with 10,000,000l of road debts, with upwards of 1400 road trusts, and more than 4000 road acts.

4. TURNPIKE TOLLS, &c.—To maintain turnpike roads and highways, and to pay the interest of the debts upon them, we are burthened with tolls, statute labour, and mileage duties, (including what is levied by the contractors, over and above the rental of the toll gates) to a frightful amount, probably not less than 10,000,000l sterling annually.

5. MORTGAGES, &c.—It was estimated at the close of the war, that land was mortgaged to the extent of 1,500,000,000l, which sum, borrowed in PAPER, at the value of sixty-three per Cent., is now, from the change in the currency (for want of a corresponding adjustment at the same time of all pecuniary obligations and contracts between man and man) made payable, capital and interest, in GOLD at the value of ninety per Cent.

6. MEAL MONOPOLY.—Whilst our starving working classes are excited against us, and made clamorous for cheap bread, by other acts than our own, the want of a bread assize has permitted a handful of meal trade monopolists to impose a tax upon the staff of life, equal to twelve and a half per Cent., or more than one-eighth of the value of the whole consumption of the nation: an evil



which far outweighs in iniquity even the most obnoxious impost thrown upon our necessities by past Governments.

7. GENERAL DISTRESS.—Yes! General distress: “On the testimony of the late Lord Chancellor,” says an authority, “I assert that *general distress* of a frightfully tremendous, and (if not checked) utterly exterminating nature, does exist at this moment in this country; his lordship’s words are, ‘We suffer under evils, the extent of which no tongue can adequately describe, the possible extent of whose consequences no fancy can adequately picture.’” Since the peace, population has increased twenty-five per Cent.; poor-rates three hundred to four hundred per Cent.; insolvencies one hundred per Cent.; crime three hundred per Cent.; and emigration four thousand per Cent.!

Fellow land-owners and farmers of the United Kingdom, such is our present condition:—but this is not all!

By the CURRENCY change, a deficiency in 1835, as compared with 1818, exists in the circulating medium to above 100,260,958! *i. e.* the general prices or resources of productive and rural industry throughout the country have been depreciated one hundred per Cent. State expenditure has been curtailed from the period of the war establishment to the extent of 40,000,000! yearly! The FREE TRADE system, by impoverishing all classes of home producers, has immensely aggravated these evils, and diminished internal consumption—the index of internal prosperity—to an incalculable degree. During the same period, the manufacturing classes have multiplied, by mechanical agency, their productive powers, to the overwhelming extent of 40,000,000 of effective labourers; which again has cast upon us the support of the human hands which machinery has displaced, with diminished means to bear the additional burthen. The operation of the *Poor Law Amendment Act* is now about to let loose upon us the thousands of desperate and discontented paupers, whom even the allowance system did not prevent from nightly destroying our property by fire. Whilst last, not least, the extension of the railway system, and the contemplated general introduction of mechanical conveyance by Joint Stock Jobbing Companies, five years from this date, will in effect REPEAL THE CORN LAWS. Yes! Repeal the Corn Laws, and that in a way which would cause the abandonment of the ancient *thoroughfares* of the kingdom; which would throw out of cultivation, eventually, 100,000 acres of valuable soil; cause GLUTS in our markets, and diminish our prices, whilst the *cost of production would remain the same*; sweep away the income by which the public roads of the kingdom are now supported; place the whole intercourse of the nation at the mercy of chartered monopolists, and rivet upon us the despotism of the MONEY-OCRACY for ever!

Fellow Countrymen, Land-Owners, and Cultivators!—How are we to avert these calamities? preserve our position as an independent body of producers to the State? and protect that branch of industry which the late House of Commons recognised to be “the first and greatest concern of the nation, and the foundation of its prosperity in every other matter,” but which it did nothing whatever to protect, much less to *relieve*?

There is but one method. “The first creditor on every country is the PLOUGH. This original indefeasible claim supersedes every other demand.” Let us, then, assert this principle; now is the moment when circumstances admit of its being done by new and effectual means: whilst also a

Statesman presides over affairs—the introducer of “that terrific measure, that germ of revolutionary evil which has now been working in its destructive course for fifteen years,”—who owes a debt to the agriculturists which the repeal of the malt tax alone will not liquidate. The following then, is the REMEDY which we submit for your co-operation.

Various Committees of Parliament have recommended a consolidation of turnpike trusts, and a general system of controul over the roads of the United Kingdom, as necessary to prevent an increase of debt, and give relief from the burthen of statute labour, and the high rate of tolls.

*Well—let this be done; but at the same time, by a legislative act, let mechanical conveyance, (which a committee of parliament has declared practicable and profitable,) and the post-office be added; and let their joint returns be appropriated for the service of the state.*

Such is our remedy; and what to us in especial, and to the public in general, would be the advantages of such a consolidation?

1. IT WOULD PERFECT SOCIAL INTERCOURSE.—“Next to the genial influence of the seasons, upon which the regular supply of our wants, and a great proportion of our comforts, depend, there is no circumstance more interesting to man in a civilized state than the perfection of interior communication.” In exchange, then, for the injurious, expensive, defective, conflicting, oppressive, and incongruous system of conveyance now in use, we would have a uniform, cheap, and well-regulated system throughout the three kingdoms, under a responsible direction.

2. IT WOULD REDUCE TAXATION.—Connected with the roads, stage-coaches, poor-rates, and the sum paid yearly to foreign growers for flax, hemp, &c. there is an annual expenditure of 40,000,000! sterling, *one-third* of which may be saved by the consolidation suggested; and if to this we add the increased fares which will arise from an improved system of locomotion, Government would net yearly a new revenue of from 10,000,000! to 15,000,000!, which would admit of the repeal of the malt-tax, tolls, and every other burden pressing upon the land.

3. IT WOULD ABSORB SURPLUS LABOUR.—For years past England has been paying about 8,000,000! per annum to support pauperism, the burden of rates is daily becoming more insupportable in Scotland, whilst a legal provision for the poor in Ireland is no longer postponable. Let, then, the whole sums required for the relief of the distressed in the three kingdoms, as a national fund, be applied to accommodate the roads for mechanical conveyance. The improvement of 30,000 miles of turnpike roads, and 150,000 miles of high-ways, will afford beneficial occupation for the whole of our redundant population; to say nothing of the impulse which manual industry would receive in all its branches from the partial displacement of that brute power which now does the work of twelve millions of effective labourers.

4. IT WOULD CHEAPEN FOOD WITH PROTECTION TO AGRICULTURE.—Our social condition is daily demonstrating the fact, that the importance of a sufficiency of *cheap food* is paramount to all other considerations. There is no exaggeration in the assertion, that upon its low price, relatively speaking, the position of the nation, in the scale of civilization, will be determined; because, by it, production of every kind is restrained within the narrowest limits, or its development permitted to the utmost possible extent. This *cheap food* will

shortly be obtained by the displacement of brute power, whether the consolidation suggested be made or not: but it is by its adoption alone that a fall in prices can be rendered innoxious; viz. by its admitting of the repeal of all those iniquitous burdens affecting the *cost* of agricultural production, which make prices dear to the buyer, and yet not remunerative to the grower.

5. IT WOULD AGAIN BALANCE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION.—The partial application by the manufacturers of mechanical agency to the loom, has immensely cheapened and multiplied every species of *commodities*, whilst this has not been provided for by any corresponding increase and cheapening of *necessaries*. Hence, glut, stagnation, and embarrassment;—a condition which must inevitably remain until it is counteracted by the extension of mechanical agency to the team.

6. IT WOULD DISTRIBUTE WEALTH.—The exclusive system of accumulating wealth pursued by the capitalists, in conjunction with the currency and the reform bills, have greatly disadjusted the balance of power between the *landed* and the *monied* interests which is essential to the security of property, and the safety of the state. That balance must either be adjusted by the appropriation suggested, or the monopoly of the enormous revenue that will arise from mechanical conveyance by the money-jobbers must totally and irretrievably destroy the equilibrium.

7. IT WOULD RESTORE INDUSTRY, PEACE, AND PROSPERITY.—All classes of Producers are languishing under the decay and distress of the landed interest. Agriculture is the store-house or belly of the state, and the other members cannot mutiny against it without being involved in a common ruin. Its regeneration will benefit all parties, and the adoption of the plan propounded will diffuse public wealth, with public benefit, and public satisfaction, by removing those causes which now cover the country with feebleness, poverty, disease, and crime.

What, then, fellow land owners and cultivators, ought to be the line of our common policy? What the direct means to secure this substantial and necessary relief? Remember what the last House of Commons did for us, even though it was declared from the Woolsack, "that every thing betokens the approach of what has been termed an Agrarian War;" and reflect that, during the *term of the next House of Commons*, a change in locomotion will be introduced by which as a body we must *stand or fall*. Yes! no power can avert the sweeping away of brute labour; and according to the *mode* of its displacement shall we, as a class of producers, *live or die*. We must be up and doing, for our all is at stake! If properly introduced, a larger amount of domestic happiness will be the result, than any which has as yet blessed the families of the United Kingdom. Let us merge then our profitless differences, our minor considerations, and shades of political feeling, and make the pledged support of a Legislative Consolidation of the roads, post office, and mechanical conveyance, a *sine qua non* with every Agricultural Representative of the United Kingdom. Let our enfranchising object be *social regeneration*, our hustings watchery—'No Mammonists, no Malthusites, no Ricardoites, no Coarser Food-mongers, no Long-tailed Dog Redemptionists, no Skin-deep Reformists, of whatever complexion! but men of a determined and thoroughgoing character who will go at once to the root of our grievances! Men who will make our distresses the fulcrum,

and who, 'by a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether,' will make mechanical agency the lever by which to raise up the whole mass of our prostrate interests, and enable us in justice to ourselves, and mercy to our fellow subjects both '*to live and to let live*.'

Jan. 3, 1835.

A LAND-OWNER.

N. B.—The Authorities for the statements here given will be found in a pamphlet entitled '*Appeal to our Rulers and Ruled*,' &c., just published by Mr. Mortimer, 2, Wigmore-street, Cavendish-square, London. Of whom also may be had, Nos. 1, 2, and 3 of '*Railway Impositions Detected*,' which, with the forthcoming number, will exhibit in detail the consequences of railway communications to the *landed* interest in England, Scotland, and Ireland.

## IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF WOOL AND WOOLLEN MANUFACTURES.

(From Parliamentary Documents.)

WOOL IMPORTED AND EXPORTED.—An account of the quantity of Sheep's and Lambs' Wool imported into the United Kingdom in the year 1833, from the following countries:—

|                                            | lbs.       |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|
| Russia . . . . .                           | 1,380,823  |
| Sweden . . . . .                           | 24,259     |
| Denmark . . . . .                          | 372,490    |
| Prussia . . . . .                          | 305,378    |
| Germany . . . . .                          | 25,370,106 |
| Holland . . . . .                          | 343,336    |
| Belgium . . . . .                          | 467,095    |
| France . . . . .                           | 259,841    |
| Portugal . . . . .                         | 680,650    |
| —Madcira . . . . .                         | 1,318      |
| Spain . . . . .                            | 3,389,150  |
| Italy . . . . .                            | 855,510    |
| Malta . . . . .                            | 4,803      |
| Turkey . . . . .                           | 361,591    |
| Morocco . . . . .                          | 105,689    |
| Cape of Good Hope . . . . .                | 93,325     |
| East India Company's Territories . . . . . | 3,721      |
| New South Wales . . . . .                  | 1,969,668  |
| Van Diemen's Land . . . . .                | 1,547,201  |
| British West Indies . . . . .              | 819        |
| Porto Rico . . . . .                       | 152        |
| United States of America . . . . .         | 334,678    |
| Brazil . . . . .                           | 2,049      |
| States of the Rio de la Plate . . . . .    | 207,143    |
| Peru . . . . .                             | 14,604     |
| Guernsey, Jersey, and Alderney . . . . .   | 48         |
| Isle of Man . . . . .                      | 30,326     |

|                                                 |            |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Total of Wool imported . . . . .                | 38,076,413 |
| Quantity entered for home consumption . . . . . | 30,066,620 |
| —re-exported . . . . .                          | 442,696    |
| —remaining warehoused under bond . . . . .      | 1,689,360  |

|                                                    |           |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| British Sheep's and Lambs' Wool exported . . . . . | 5,992,110 |
| Woollen and Worsted Yarn exported . . . . .        | 2,107,478 |

BRITISH WOOLLEN MANUFACTURES exported from the United Kingdom in the Year 1833, to the following countries:—



|                                                           | Declared value. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Russia . . . . .                                          | £93,072         |
| Sweden . . . . .                                          | 5,212           |
| Norway . . . . .                                          | 12,321          |
| Denmark . . . . .                                         | 2,033           |
| Prussia . . . . .                                         | 150             |
| Germany . . . . .                                         | 634,916         |
| Holland . . . . .                                         | 282,122         |
| Belgium . . . . .                                         | 168,632         |
| France . . . . .                                          | 55,944          |
| Portugal, Azores, and Madeira . . . . .                   | 149,357         |
| Spain and the Canaries . . . . .                          | 111,969         |
| Gibraltar . . . . .                                       | 19,436          |
| Italy . . . . .                                           | 220,512         |
| Malta . . . . .                                           | 12,468          |
| Ionian Isles . . . . .                                    | 2,919           |
| Turkey and Continental Greece . . . . .                   | 20,101          |
| Moræa and Greek Islands . . . . .                         | 914             |
| Isles. — Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney,<br>and Man . . . . . | 35,721          |
| East Indies and China . . . . .                           | 961,333         |
| New Holland . . . . .                                     | 54,181          |
| Cape of Good Hope . . . . .                               | 42,604          |
| Other parts of Africa . . . . .                           | 7,189           |
| British America . . . . .                                 | 376,877         |
| British West Indies . . . . .                             | 102,100         |
| Foreign West Indies . . . . .                             | 59,847          |
| United States of America . . . . .                        | 2,265,407       |
| Brazil . . . . .                                          | 274,568         |
| Mexico and the States of South America . . . . .          | 382,515         |

Total . . . . . 6,292,432

The following are the descriptions of the articles comprehended in the above statement:

|                                       |                     |           |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Cloths of all sorts . . . . .         | pieces . . . . .    | 597,189   |
| Napped Coatings, Duffels, &c. . . . . | do . . . . .        | 19,543    |
| Kerseymeres . . . . .                 | do . . . . .        | 31,795    |
| Baizes of all sorts . . . . .         | do . . . . .        | 45,036    |
| Stuffs, Woollen, or Worsted . . . . . | do . . . . .        | 1,690,559 |
| Flannel . . . . .                     | yards . . . . .     | 2,055,072 |
| Blankets and Blanketting . . . . .    | do . . . . .        | 3,128,106 |
| Carpets and Carpeting . . . . .       | do . . . . .        | 667,377   |
| Woolens mixed with Cotton . . . . .   | do . . . . .        | 1,605,056 |
| Hosiery . . . . .                     | doz. pair . . . . . | 232,766   |
| Sundries . . . . .                    |                     | £78,236   |

**ANECDOTE OF ROOKS.**—(From a Correspondent at Lewes).—In a garden bordering on the outskirts of the town of Lewes, is a walnut-tree, which, for the last five years, has been nearly stripped of its fruit by the common rooks. They begin their depredations just as the fruit is ripe, and carry it off with such expedition that the trees seldom worth the trouble of thrashing. I have been amused for hours together by observing their proceedings. They come one after another so quickly that I counted, one morning, fifty in twenty minutes, each taking one; and sometimes I have seen them carry away a whole bunch. Some of them are quite adepts. They fly towards the tree, and when within ten yards, stop, and seem to float in the air for about a second, as if surveying the tree to discover what nuts are easiest of access; they then dart at the tree, and seldom miss their object, but if they do miss it, they find some difficulty in recovering their balance. Others, which I suppose are the young ones of the existing year's brood, settle on the tree, and knock a great many down before they can get one firmly enough in their beak to fly away with. The old ones will sometimes attack the young and oblige them to let their booty fall, when, such is their quickness and certainty of aim, they will sometimes catch the walnut before it reaches the ground. They invariably

fly into an adjoining field, where they break open the walnuts with their beak, and as soon as finished, return for more, unless the report of a gun should frighten them. They have, to my recollection, been at this tree, year after year, for the last five years: there are other walnut-trees situated in the town, but they have not yet had the boldness to attack them.

**RUTLANDSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**—It is an extraordinary fact that fourteen premiums or medals were awarded at the Smithfield Club Show to persons residing within fourteen miles in a direct line from Oakham, the central point of the district; and twenty-one premiums and medals only were awarded to the remaining part of the kingdom. This is a matter of no small pride to the Society.

The two oxen, Mr. Robert Smith's and Mr. Baker's, that won the first and second prize at Oakham (the former won the first prize, first class, at Smithfield, and the latter the medal in extra Stock), were bought by Mr. Slater, of Kensington, and it is said by him that he never killed two riper oxen.

|                | 14 lbs. to stone. |        |        |        | 8 lbs. to stone. |        |        |        |
|----------------|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|------------------|--------|--------|--------|
|                | Weight            | Tallow | Weight | Tallow | Weight           | Tallow | Weight | Tallow |
| Mr. Smith's Ox | 119               | 6      | 16     | 9      | 209              | 29     | 1      | 1      |
| Mr. Baker's Ox | 118               | ..     | 16     | ..     | 206              | 4      | 28     | ..     |

For comparison, in 1831, Lord Brownlow won the first prize and the gold medal, and sold the ox to Slater.

Brownlow Ox . . . . . 126 | 4 | 14 | 8 | 221 | .. | 25 | 4 |

In 1830, Lord Exeter's ox, first prize, second class, and gold medal—sold as above.

Exeter Ox . . . . . 115 | 10 | 15 | 6 | 292 | 4 | 27 | .. |

**CANADA.**—The quantity of good soil in Canada compared with the extent of country is equal to that of any part of the globe, and there yet remains location for many millions of the human race. The best lands are those on which the hardest timber is found,—such as oak, maple, beech, elm, black-walnut, &c., though bass-wood, when of luxuriant growth, and pine, when large, clean, and tall, also indicate good land. Many of the *cedar swamps*, where the cedars are not stunted and mingled with ash of a large growth, contain a very rich soil, and are calculated for the finest hemp grounds in the world. So great is the fertility of the soil in Canada, that fifty bushels of wheat per acre are frequently produced on a farm where the stumps of trees, which probably occupy an eighth of the surface, have not been eradicated; some instances of sixty bushels per acre occur; and near York, in Upper Canada, one hundred bushels of wheat were obtained from a single acre! In some districts, wheat has been raised successively on the same ground for twenty years without manure.—*Martin's History of the British Colonies.*

**TO MAKE COFFEE AS THE FRENCH MAKE IT.**—Have a coffeepot with a lip; pour into it as many cups of boiling water as you wish to make cups of coffee; let the water boil, then put in as many tablespoonfuls of coffee as there are cups of water, stir it in, and let it simmer till the head falls. When the coffee is done, take it off the fire, pour in a cup of cold water, set the coffee on the hearth, and let it stand ten minutes, when it will be fine. For breakfast, put one cupful of this coffee to three or four cups of boiled milk, and sweeten to your taste, and you will find it a luxury, at a small expense, as great as wealth can procure.—*Household Almanack.*

## ANECDOTE OF A SHEPHERD'S DOG.

We often read of the sagacity of the shepherd's dog, but the scene of its manifestations is usually placed far away in the highlands of Scotland or Wales. Yet a person who notices the proceedings of the dogs employed to assist the drovers in conveying a flock to London, or through its streets, might collect a large number of curious facts in illustration of its character. A correspondent informs us that, a short time since, a flock of about 200 sheep was advancing towards town by one of the northern roads. As it passed through the village of Tottenham, about a dozen of the same species were seen approaching in the opposite direction; and the drivers of this small detachment became, as usual in such cases, anxious lest any of their diminutive number should desert to the stronger party; to prevent which they gathered their few sheep to one side of the road, and surrounded them, as it were, with a wall of men, until the larger flock should have passed. One of them, however, baffled all attempts to prevent his escape, and, forcing his way between the legs of the men who surrounded him, sprang into the midst of the other flock, in which he appeared, to the unpractised eye, completely lost. A vigorous pursuit immediately commenced, and the drivers, running to and fro, made every effort to recover the fugitive, until they were obliged, from mere exhaustion, to give over the endeavour. The head driver of the larger flock, who had looked on apparently enjoying the transaction, then gave the word to his dog, who dashed forward and brought the affair to a very speedy conclusion. He singled out the runaway without the least hesitation, and seizing him by the loose skin of the neck, bore him to the ground, and held him fast until the drivers came up and fully secured him. The larger flock now passed on, and a bystander expressing his pleasure at the sagacity of the dog, the driver put the animal into vigorous employment; and he was seen now urging on the main body,—now restraining stragglers,—now at his master's feet,—and now, again, circling the flock, and barking with all his might. After this display had continued for some time it was interrupted by an outcry from behind, and the stray sheep was seen renewing his attempt at an escape. In this he again succeeded, although his pursuers were now aided by a number of bystanders; and the poor animal, no doubt thinking the coast clear, came bounding onward in eager haste. As before, however, his triumph was but of short duration. The dog, having again waited for the signal, encountered him in his career, and masterng him as before, delivered him a second and last time to his rightful owners!

## NATIONALITIES.

"A Frenchman is more cheerful than an Englishman—that is, in company, for a Frenchman appears to be miserable when left alone. On this point the Englishman has certainly the advantage, as he is not dependent upon others for enjoyment. Nevertheless, the sociality of the Frenchman appears the more amiable: give him salad, soup, and chatter, and he wants nothing more to fill up the day. The Frenchman makes a parade of his feelings; the Englishman studies to conceal them. The one affects the enthusiast, and the other the stoic. A Frenchman does not forget that the world is looking on him even a *Particle de mort*. How many smart sayings were prepared for utterance at the last moment by those who fell by the guillotine during the reign of terror! The *perruquier*

who, a few weeks since, committed suicide, because, according to his own account, he had calculated all his chances, and found he could never be so great a man as Napoleon was perhaps quite sincere in his grief; but was it not genuine French vanity, the ostentation of feeling, that induced him to make this display? The grief alone did not cause the suicide, but the opportunity of making it known to the world in this very striking and theatrical style was so tempting!—"Another incident of a kindred complexion is still more recent.—A little girl kills herself in the regular charcoal way, because she feared her parents did not love her! But mark the desire for exhibition and effect even in a child. This little creature had taken the pains to learn to write, solely for the purpose of leaving behind her a letter explaining her motives! She might have done this orally to her parents, her relatives and acquaintance; but this was not sufficient, the world must know it, and a suicide would not be regularly sentimental without a letter. Here again we have the *coup de theatre*.—"It has been remarked that, in times of great political excitement, the French theatres are the most crowded, while the reverse is true in the case of the English. A Frenchman is everything in a crowd, he is nothing alone; only persuade him that *toute le monde* will do this or that, and he is ripe for it at once. Under this excitement there is no excess, good or bad, of which he is not capable. But '*saute qui peut*' is a sound that puts his self-possession to flight.—Look at a French crew in a shipwreck; what panic, insubordination, blind precipitancy, confusion and despair! How different from the cool presence of mind which an English sailor preserves in the same circumstances! It is here that the individual is everything.—How many a British ship has foundered at sea, and gone down with every man at his post!"

## SANATORY EFFECTS OF CULTIVATION.

Vegetation, when assisted by human contrivance, is the best possible means of improving the air, and rendering a country fitter for the abode of mankind. Cultivation removes the corrupt and decaying vegetables; and by turning them under the earth makes them nourish the ground instead of poison the air. Many of our colonies, at one time so deadly, are now healthy, not so much from the care of the new-comer in avoiding the remote cause of disease, as from the greater number of these causes being removed by cultivation. I mean here, by *cultivation*, that treatment of the land by which it will furnish the largest possible quantity of food for man, and the domestic animals he employs. Wherever we find the *cerealia* capable of growing, that country is, or by human labour may be made, healthy. Cultivation, likewise, always renders a country warmer, for a large quantity of vegetable matter is raised on a given space; and what is vegetable life but the conversion of certain gases, oxygen, hydrogen, azot, and carbonic acid into solid matter, and a change of form—an alteration from a rarer to a denser state—which must be accompanied by the extrication of heat. What is it that makes living vegetables so difficult of being frozen, compared to dead ones, but this constant formation and existence of caloric in them. As an example of the evolution of heat, by the process of vegetation, it may be mentioned, that on looking into a wood in spring, we will find the small plants more advanced in size and strength than those of the plains. In the woods of North America, small berries are found much sooner ripe than in the cleared lands.—*Kilgour's Therapeutics*.



## AGRICULTURE AND MANUFACTURES.

We invite the earnest attention of our readers to the following pages on the subject of Agriculture and Manufactures, with the tables giving the rate of duties imposed upon certain foreign articles when imported into this country,—extracted from “Dunn’s Remembrancer for 1835:” and in which Mr. Dunn ably exposes the fallacy advanced by the advocates of free trade,—*that the importation of Foreign Corn, duty free, would be highly advantageous to the British manufacturers.*

“Merchants and manufacturers seem to have been the original inventors of those restraints upon the importation of foreign goods, which secure to them the monopoly of the home market.

“Country gentlemen and farmers are, to their great honour, of all people the least subject to the wretched spirit of monopoly!!!

“*Merchants and manufacturers are the people who derive the greatest benefit from the monopoly of the home market!!* The prohibition of the importation of foreign cattle and salt provisions, together with the high duties upon foreign corn, which, in times of moderate plenty, amount to a prohibition, are not near so advantageous to the graziers and farmers of Great Britain as other regulations of the same kind are to its merchants and manufacturers! Manufactures, those of the finer kinds especially, are more easily transported from one country to another, than corn or cattle. In manufactures a very small advantage will enable foreigners to undersell our own workmen, even in the home markets.\*

“Landlords, farmers, and labourers, have seldom opposed the enhancement in the price of commodities caused by the monopolies established by merchants and manufacturers; they have neither fitness or inclination to enter into combinations; and the clamour and sophistry of merchants and manufacturers, easily persuade them that the private interest of a part, and of a subordinate part of society, is the general interest of the whole.

“*The expence of the landlord and farmer is in home-made commodities.*

“*The greatest and most important branch of the commerce of every nation, is that which is carried on between the inhabitants of the town and those of the country.*

“The interest of the landholder is strictly and inseparably connected with the general interest of society; whatever either promotes or affects the one necessarily promotes or affects the other.”—*Vide Adam Smith’s Wealth of Nations.*

\* Especially bearing in mind that foreign mechanics and artisans work for about one-third the wages English journeymen work for. For instance, at Marseilles the rate of wages for a good mechanic or labourer, is from 9s to 10s weekly, (and even that is considered in France high) and corn there, ranges from 38s to 42s per quarter, or 5s per bushel; the average price of corn in England is now (October) 43s 2d per quarter, or 5s 3d per bushel. Will the mechanics and workmen of Great Britain take Marseilles wages as well as corn at the Marseilles price, in exchange for British wages and food at British prices?

A Table of the Rates of Duty imposed upon the Importation of Foreign Goods and Manufactures, into Great Britain, in order to secure to its Merchants, Manufacturers, and Artisans, the Monopoly of the Home Market.—*Vide* 3 and 4 Will. IV., cap. 56.

|                                       | £.                                | s.        | d.     |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|--------|
| Agates or Cornelians . . . . .        | per cent.                         | 10        | 0 0    |
| —set . . . . .                        | per cent.                         | 20        | 0 0    |
| Baskets . . . . .                     | per cent.                         | 20        | 0 0    |
| Blacking . . . . .                    | the cwt.                          | 3         | 12 0   |
| Boots, Shoes, and Calashes, viz.      |                                   |           |        |
| —Women’s Boots and Calashes, the      | doz. pairs                        | 1         | 10 0   |
| — if lined or trimmed with fur or     | other Trimming, the doz. pairs    | 1         | 10 0   |
| —Women’s Shoes, with Cork or          | double Soles, quilted Shoes and   |           |        |
| Clogs . . . . .                       | the doz. pairs                    | 1         | 6 0    |
| — if trimmed or lined with Fur or     | any other Trimming, the doz.      |           |        |
| — . . . . .                           | pairs                             | 1         | 9 0    |
| —Women’s Shoes of Silk, Satin,        | Jeans, or other Stuffs, Kid, Mo-  |           |        |
| rocco, or other Leather, the doz.     | pairs                             | 0         | 18 0   |
| — if trimmed or lined with Fur or     | other Trimming the doz. pairs     | 1         | 4 0    |
| —Children’s Boots, Shoes, and Ca-     | lashes, not exceeding seven       |           |        |
| inches in length, to be charged       | with Two-Thirds of the above      |           |        |
| Duties.                               |                                   |           |        |
| —Men’s Boots . . . . .                | the doz. pairs                    | 2         | 14 0   |
| —Men’s Shoes . . . . .                | the doz. pairs                    | 1         | 4 0    |
| —Children’s Boots and Shoes, not      | exceeding seven inches in length, |           |        |
| to be charged with Two-Thirds         | of the above Duties.              |           |        |
| Bottles of Glass, not otherwise enu-  | merated or described . . . . .    | per cent. | 25 0 0 |
| — and further . . . . .               | the cwt.                          | 4         | 0 0    |
| Boxes of all sorts . . . . .          | per cent.                         | 20        | 0 0    |
| Brass, Manufactures of, not otherwise | enumerated or described, per      |           |        |
| cent.                                 |                                   | 30        | 0 0    |
| Bricks or Clinkers . . . . .          | the 1,000                         | 1         | 2 6    |
| Brocade of Gold or Silver . . . . .   | per cent.                         | 30        | 0 0    |
| Buttons . . . . .                     | per cent.                         | 20        | 0 0    |
| Cables, not being Iron Cables, tarred | or untarred . . . . .             | the cwt.  | 0 10 9 |
| — if, and when, otherwise disposed    | of . . . . .                      | per cent. | 20 0 0 |
| Candles, Spermaceti . . . . .         | the lb.                           | 0         | 2 6    |
| —Tallow . . . . .                     | the cwt.                          | 3         | 3 4    |
| —Wax . . . . .                        | the lb.                           | 0         | 2 6    |
| Candlewick . . . . .                  | the cwt.                          | 4         | 8 8    |
| Canes, Walking Canes or Sticks mount- | ed, painted, or otherwise orna-   |           |        |
| mented . . . . .                      | per cent.                         | 20        | 0 0    |
| Cards, viz. Playing Cards, the doz.   | Packs                             | 4         | 0 0    |
| Carriages of all sorts . . . . .      | per cent.                         | 30        | 0 0    |
| Casks, empty . . . . .                | per cent.                         | 50        | 0 0    |
| Chalk, prepared or otherwise manufac- | tured, and not otherwise enu-     |           |        |
| merated or described . . . . .        | per cent.                         | 40        | 0 0    |
| China, or Porcelain Ware, viz.        |                                   |           |        |
| —plain . . . . .                      | per cent.                         | 15        | 0 0    |
| —painted, gilt, or ornamented, per    | cent.                             | 30        | 0 0    |
| Clocks . . . . .                      | per cent.                         | 25        | 0 0    |
| Coals . . . . .                       | the ton                           | 2         | 0 0    |

| Copper, in Plates and Copper Coin, the cwt.                                                                                                                                               | £  | s. | d. | otherwise charged with Duty per cent                                                                                                                                                                         | £  | s. | d. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| —unwrought, viz. in Bricks or Pigs, Rose Copper, and all Cast Copper . . . . . the cwt.                                                                                                   | 1  | 7  | 0  | Harp Strings, or Lute Strings Silvered per cent                                                                                                                                                              | 20 | 0  | 0  |
| —in part wrought, viz. Bars, Rods, or Lugots, hammered or raised, the cwt.                                                                                                                | 1  | 15 | 0  | Hats or Bonnets, viz.                                                                                                                                                                                        |    |    |    |
| —Manufactures of Copper not otherwise enumerated or described, and Copper Plates engraved, per cent.                                                                                      | 30 | 0  | 0  | —Best, Chip, Cane, or Horse hair Hats or Bonnets, each Hat or Bonnet not exceeding 22 inches in Diameter . . . . . the doz                                                                                   | 1  | 0  | 0  |
| Cordage, tarred or untarred (Standing or Running Rigging in use excepted) . . . . . the cwt.                                                                                              | 0  | 10 | 9  | —each Hat or Bonnet exceeding 22 inches in Diameter the doz                                                                                                                                                  | 2  | 0  | 0  |
| —if, and when, otherwise disposed of . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                  | 20 | 0  | 0  | —Straw Hats or Bonnets, each Hat or Bonnet not exceeding 22 inches in Diameter, the doz                                                                                                                      | 3  | 8  | 0  |
| Cotton, Manufactures of . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                   | 10 | 0  | 0  | —each Hat or Bonnet exceeding 22 inches in Diameter, the doz                                                                                                                                                 | 6  | 16 | 0  |
| —Articles of Manufacture of cotton wholly or in part made up, not otherwise charged with Duty, per cent.                                                                                  | 20 | 0  | 0  | —made of or mixed with Felt, Hair, Wool, or Beaver, the Hat . .                                                                                                                                              | 0  | 10 | 6  |
| Crayons . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                               | 40 | 0  | 0  | Hemp, Dressed . . . . . per cwt                                                                                                                                                                              | 4  | 15 | 0  |
| Chrystal, cut, or in any way manufactured, except beads, per cent.                                                                                                                        | 30 | 0  | 0  | —rough or undressed, the cwt.                                                                                                                                                                                | 0  | 0  | 1  |
| Dice . . . . . the pair                                                                                                                                                                   | 1  | 6  | 2  | Hides, viz.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |    |    |    |
| Earthenware not otherwise enumerated or described . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                     | 15 | 0  | 0  | —Horse, Mare, Gelding, Buffalo, Bull, Cow, or Ox Hides, viz.                                                                                                                                                 |    |    |    |
| Embroidery and Needlework, per cent.                                                                                                                                                      | 30 | 0  | 0  | —not tanned, tawed, curried, or in any way dressed, viz.                                                                                                                                                     |    |    |    |
| Feathers, Ostrich, dressed . . the lb.                                                                                                                                                    | 1  | 10 | 0  | —dry . . . . . the cwt.                                                                                                                                                                                      | 0  | 4  | 8  |
| —undressed . . . . . the lb.                                                                                                                                                              | 0  | 10 | 0  | —wet . . . . . the cwt.                                                                                                                                                                                      | 0  | 2  | 4  |
| Flowers, Artificial, not made of Silk, per cent.                                                                                                                                          | 25 | 0  | 0  | Hoops, viz.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |    |    |    |
| Frames for Pictures, Prints, or Drawings . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                              | 20 | 0  | 0  | —of Iron . . . . . the cwt.                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1  | 3  | 9  |
| Gamboge . . . . . the cwt.                                                                                                                                                                | 0  | 4  | 0  | —of Wood, viz.                                                                                                                                                                                               |    |    |    |
| Garnets . . . . . the lb.                                                                                                                                                                 | 0  | 10 | 0  | —not exceeding six feet in length the 1,000                                                                                                                                                                  | 0  | 5  | 0  |
| —cut . . . . . the lb.                                                                                                                                                                    | 1  | 10 | 0  | —exceeding six feet and not exceeding nine feet in length the 1,000                                                                                                                                          | 0  | 7  | 6  |
| Glass, Crown Glass, or any kind of Window Glass (not being Plate Glass, or German Sheet Glsses) the cwt.                                                                                  | 8  | 6  | 8  | —exceeding nine feet and not exceeding twelve feet in length the 1,000                                                                                                                                       | 0  | 10 | 0  |
| —German Sheet Glass . . the cwt.                                                                                                                                                          | 10 | 0  | 0  | Japanned or Lacquered Ware, per cent.                                                                                                                                                                        | 20 | 0  | 0  |
| —Plate Glass, Superficial Measure, viz.                                                                                                                                                   |    |    |    | Jewels, Emeralds, Rubies, and all other precious Stones (except Diamonds), viz.                                                                                                                              |    |    |    |
| —not containing more than 9 square feet . . . . . the square foot                                                                                                                         | 0  | 6  | 0  | —set . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                     | 20 | 0  | 0  |
| —containing more than 9 square feet, and not more than 14 square feet . . . . . the square foot                                                                                           | 0  | 8  | 0  | —not set . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                 | 10 | 0  | 3  |
| —containing more than 14 square feet, and not more than 36 square feet . . . . . the square foot                                                                                          | 0  | 9  | 6  | Ink for printers . . . . . the cwt.                                                                                                                                                                          | 0  | 10 | 0  |
| —containing more than 36 square feet . . . . . the square foot                                                                                                                            | 0  | 11 | 0  | Iron, viz.                                                                                                                                                                                                   |    |    |    |
| —Glass Manufactures not otherwise enumerated or described, and old broken Glass fit only to be remanufactured . . . per cent.                                                             | 20 | 0  | 0  | —in Bars, or unwrought, . the ton                                                                                                                                                                            | 1  | 10 | 0  |
| —and further . . . for every cwt.                                                                                                                                                         | 4  | 0  | 0  | —wrought, not otherwise enumerated or described . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                              | 20 | 0  | 0  |
| Gloves (of Leather) viz.                                                                                                                                                                  |    |    |    | Lace, viz. Thread Lace . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                         | 30 | 0  | 0  |
| —Habit Gloves . . . the doz pair                                                                                                                                                          | 0  | 4  | 0  | Leather, viz. Pieces of Leather, or Leather cut into Shapes, or any Article made of Leather, or any Manufacture whereof Leather is the most valuable part, not otherwise enumerated or described . per cent. | 30 | 0  | 0  |
| —Men's Gloves. . . the doz pair                                                                                                                                                           | 0  | 5  | 0  | Leaves of Gold . . the 100 leaves                                                                                                                                                                            | 0  | 3  | 0  |
| —Women's Gloves or Mitts, the doz pair                                                                                                                                                    | 0  | 7  | 0  | Linen: Cambrics, and Lawns, not exceeding 8 yards in length, and seven-eighths of a yard in breadth, plain . . . . .                                                                                         | 0  | 6  | 0  |
| Gunpowder . . . . . the cwt                                                                                                                                                               | 3  | 0  | 0  | —bordered Handkerchiefs . . . .                                                                                                                                                                              | 0  | 5  | 0  |
| Hair, Manufactures of Hair, or Goats Wool, or of Hair, or Goat's Wool and any other Material, and Articles of such Manufacture wholly or in part made up, not particularly enumerated, or |    |    |    | —Lawns, of any other sort, not French, viz.                                                                                                                                                                  |    |    |    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           |    |    |    | —not containing more than 60 Threads to the inch of Warp the square yard                                                                                                                                     | 0  | 0  | 9  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           |    |    |    | —containing more than 60 Threads to the inch of Warp the square yard                                                                                                                                         | 0  | 1  | 0  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           |    |    |    | —Damasks and Damask Diaper, viz.                                                                                                                                                                             |    |    |    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           |    |    |    | —until the 6th of January 1834 the square yard                                                                                                                                                               | 0  | 2  | 1½ |



|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |    |    |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| —from the 5th of January 1834                                                                                                                                                                                                      | £  | s. | d. |
| the square yard                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 0  | 2  | 0  |
| —Drillings, Ticks, and Twilled Linens, viz.                                                                                                                                                                                        |    |    |    |
| —until the 6th of January 1834                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 0  | 0  | 8½ |
| the square yard                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |    |    |    |
| —from the 5th of January 1834                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 0  | 0  | 8  |
| the square yard                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 0  | 0  | 7½ |
| —Sail Cloth . . . the square yard                                                                                                                                                                                                  |    |    |    |
| —or, and instead of the Duties here-<br>in-before imposed upon Linens<br>according to the number of<br>Threads in the Warp, at the<br>option of the Importer, per cent.                                                            | 40 | 0  | 0  |
| —Sails . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 30 | 0  | 0  |
| —Manufactures of Linen, or of Linen<br>mixed with Cotton or with Wool,<br>not particularly enumerated or<br>otherwise charged with Duty<br>per cent.                                                                               | 25 | 0  | 0  |
| —Articles of Manufactures of Linen,<br>or of Linen mixed with Cotton<br>or with Wool, wholly or in part<br>made up, not otherwise charged<br>with Duty . . . . . per cent.                                                         | 40 | 0  | 0  |
| Mats of Basts . . . . . the 100                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 1  | 3  | 9  |
| Matting . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 20 | 0  | 0  |
| Mattresses . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 20 | 0  | 0  |
| Mill Boards . . . . . the cwt.                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 3  | 8  | 2  |
| Music Instruments . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                              | 20 | 0  | 0  |
| Oil, Seed Oil not otherwise enumerated<br>or described . . . . . the tun.                                                                                                                                                          | 39 | 18 | 0  |
| —imported from any British Pos-<br>session . . . . . the tun.                                                                                                                                                                      | 1  | 0  | 0  |
| —Train Oil, Blubber, Spermaceti<br>Oil, and Head Matter, viz.                                                                                                                                                                      |    |    |    |
| —the produce of Fish or Crea-<br>tures living in the Sea, taken<br>and caught by the Crews of<br>British Ships, and imported direct<br>from the Fishery, or from any<br>British Possession, in a British<br>Ship . . . . . the tun | 0  | 1  | 0  |
| —the produce of Fish or Crea-<br>tures living in the Sea, of Fo-<br>reign Fishing, . . . . . the tun                                                                                                                               | 26 | 12 | 0  |
| —Oil not particularly enumerated or<br>described, nor otherwise charged<br>with Duty . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                           | 50 | 0  | 0  |
| Paper, Brown Paper made of old Rope<br>or Cordage only . . the pound                                                                                                                                                               | 0  | 0  | 3  |
| —printed, painted, or Stained Paper,<br>or Paper Hangings, or Flock<br>Paper, . . . . . the square yard                                                                                                                            | 0  | 1  | 0  |
| —Paper of any other sort,* the lb.                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 0  | 0  | 9  |
| Parchment . . . . . the doz. sheets                                                                                                                                                                                                | 0  | 10 | 0  |
| Pasteboards . . . . . the cwt.                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 3  | 8  | 2  |
| Pencils . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 30 | 0  | 0  |
| —of Slate . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 20 | 0  | 0  |
| Pens . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 30 | 0  | 0  |
| Perfumery not otherwise charged, per<br>cent.                                                                                                                                                                                      | 20 | 0  | 0  |
| Pewter, Manufactures of, not otherwise<br>enumerated or described, per<br>cent.                                                                                                                                                    | 20 | 0  | 0  |
| Plate of Gold . . . . . the oz. Troy                                                                                                                                                                                               | 3  | 16 | 9  |
| —of Silver gilt . . . . . the oz. Troy                                                                                                                                                                                             | 0  | 6  | 4  |
| —part gilt . . . . . the oz. Troy                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 0  | 6  | 0  |
| —ungilt . . . . . the oz. Troy                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 0  | 4  | 6  |

|                                                                                                                                                                     |    |    |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| Platting or other Manufactures to be<br>used in or proper for making<br>Hats or Bonnets, viz.                                                                       | £  | s. | d. |
| —of Bast, Chip, Cane, or Horse-hair<br>the lb.                                                                                                                      | 1  | 0  | 0  |
| —of Straw . . . . . the lb.                                                                                                                                         | 0  | 17 | 0  |
| Pomatum . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                         | 30 | 0  | 0  |
| Pots of Stone . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                   | 30 | 0  | 0  |
| Sausages or Puddings . . . the lb.                                                                                                                                  | 0  | 0  | 4  |
| Scaleboards . . . . . the cwt.                                                                                                                                      | 3  | 8  | 2  |
| Ships to be broken up, with their Tac-<br>kle, Apparel, and Furniture, ex-<br>cept Sails, viz.                                                                      |    |    |    |
| —Foreign Ships or Vessels, per<br>cent.                                                                                                                             | 50 | 0  | 0  |
| —British Ships or Vessels, entitled<br>to be registered as such, not<br>having been built in the United<br>Kingdom . . . . . per cent.                              | 15 | 0  | 0  |
| Manufactures of Silk, or of Silk mixed<br>with any other material, the pro-<br>duce of Europe, viz.                                                                 |    |    |    |
| —Silk or Satin, plain . . . the lb.                                                                                                                                 | 0  | 11 | 0  |
| —or, and at the option of the<br>Officers of the Customs . per<br>cent.                                                                                             | 25 | 0  | 0  |
| —Silk or Satin, figured or brocaded<br>the lb.                                                                                                                      | 0  | 15 | 0  |
| —or, and at the option of the<br>Officers of the Customs . per<br>cent.                                                                                             | 30 | 0  | 0  |
| —Gauze, plain . . . . . the lb.                                                                                                                                     | 0  | 17 | 0  |
| —or, and at the option of the<br>Officers of the Customs . per<br>cent.                                                                                             | 30 | 0  | 0  |
| —Gauze, striped, figured, or brocaded<br>the lb.                                                                                                                    | 1  | 7  | 0  |
| —or, and at the option of the<br>Officers of the Customs . per<br>cent.                                                                                             | 30 | 0  | 0  |
| —Crape, plain . . . . . the lb.                                                                                                                                     | 0  | 16 | 0  |
| —or, and at the option of the<br>Officers of the Customs . per<br>cent.                                                                                             | 30 | 0  | 0  |
| —Crape, figured . . . . . the lb.                                                                                                                                   | 0  | 18 | 0  |
| —or, and at the option of the<br>Officers of the Customs . per<br>cent.                                                                                             | 30 | 0  | 0  |
| —Velvet, plain . . . . . the lb.                                                                                                                                    | 1  | 2  | 0  |
| —or, and at the option of the<br>Officers of the Customs . per<br>cent.                                                                                             | 30 | 0  | 0  |
| —Velvet, figured . . . . . the lb.                                                                                                                                  | 1  | 7  | 6  |
| —or, and at the option of the<br>Officers of the Customs . per<br>cent.                                                                                             | 30 | 0  | 0  |
| —Ribbons, embossed or figured with<br>Velvet . . . . . the lb.                                                                                                      | 0  | 17 | 0  |
| —or, and at the option of the<br>Officers of the Customs . per<br>cent.                                                                                             | 30 | 0  | 0  |
| —and further, if mixed with<br>Gold, Silver, or other Metal, in<br>addition to the above Rates,<br>when the Duty is not charged<br>according to the value . the lb. | 0  | 10 | 0  |
| —Fancy Silk, Net or Tricot, the<br>lb.                                                                                                                              | 1  | 4  | 0  |
| —Plain Silk Lace or Net, called<br>Tulle . . . . . the square yard                                                                                                  | 0  | 1  | 4  |
| —Manufactures of Silk, or of Silk<br>mixed with any other material,<br>the produce of, and imported<br>from, British Possessions within                             |    |    |    |

\* Equivalent to a protecting Duty of at least 50 per cent.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |    |    |    |                                                                                                                                                                |    |    |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| the limits of the East India Company's Charter . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                                | £  | s. | d. | Watches of Gold, Silver, or other Metal . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                    | £  | s. | d. |
| —Millinery or Silk, or of which the greater part of the materials is of Silk, viz.                                                                                                                                                                            | 20 | 0  | 0  | Wax, Sealing Wax . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                           | 25 | 0  | 0  |
| —Turbans or Caps . . . each                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 0  | 15 | 0  | Whale Fins . . . . . the ton                                                                                                                                   | 30 | 0  | 0  |
| —Hats or Bonnets . . . each                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1  | 5  | 0  | —taken and caught by the Crew of a British Ship, and imported direct from the Fishery, or from any British Possession, in a British Ship . . . . . the tun     | 95 | 0  | 0  |
| —Dresses . . . . . each                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 2  | 10 | 0  | Whipcord . . . . . the lb.                                                                                                                                     | 1  | 0  | 0  |
| —or, and at the option of the Officers of the Customs per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                               | 40 | 0  | 0  | Wire, Gilt or Plated . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                       | 0  | 1  | 0  |
| —Manufactures of Silk, or of Silk and any other material, not particularly enumerated, or otherwise charged with Duty . . . per cent.                                                                                                                         | 30 | 0  | 0  | —Silver . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                    | 25 | 0  | 0  |
| —Articles of Manufacture of Silk or of Silk and any other material, wholly or in part made up, not particularly enumerated, or otherwise charged with Duty . . . per cent.                                                                                    | 30 | 0  | 0  | Wood, Anchor Stocks. . . . the piece                                                                                                                           | 0  | 8  | 4  |
| Soap, viz.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |    |    |    | —Handspikes, viz.                                                                                                                                              |    |    |    |
| —hard . . . . . the cwt.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 4  | 10 | 0  | —under 7 feet in length the 120                                                                                                                                | 2  | 0  | 0  |
| —soft . . . . . the cwt.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 3  | 11 | 3  | —7 feet in length or upwards the 120                                                                                                                           | 4  | 0  | 0  |
| —the produce of and imported from any British Possession in the East Indies, viz.                                                                                                                                                                             |    |    |    | —Masts, Yards, or Bowsprits, viz.                                                                                                                              |    |    |    |
| —hard . . . . . the cwt.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1  | 8  | 0  | —6 Inches in Diameter and under 8 inches . . . . . each                                                                                                        | 0  | 8  | 0  |
| —soft . . . . . the cwt.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1  | 3  | 0  | —8 Inches in Diameter and under 12 Inches . . . . . each                                                                                                       | 1  | 2  | 0  |
| Spa Ware . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 30 | 0  | 0  | —12 Inches in Diameter or upwards the Load containing 50 Cubic Feet                                                                                            | 2  | 15 | 0  |
| Spirits, Cordials, or Strong Waters respectively (not being the Produce of any British Possession in America,) sweetened or mixed with any Article, so that the degree of Strength thereof cannot be exactly ascertained by the Hydrometer, . . . the gallon. | 1  | 10 | 0  | —Oars . . . . . the 120                                                                                                                                        | 14 | 19 | 3  |
| —Spirits, Cordials, or Strong Waters respectively, being the Produce of any British Possession in America, sweetened or mixed with any Article, so that the Degree of Strength thereof cannot be exactly ascertained by such Hydrometer . . . the gallon      | 1  | 0  | 0  | —Of the Growth of any British Possession in America, and imported directly from thence the 120                                                                 | 0  | 19 | 0  |
| Starch . . . . . the cwt.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 9  | 10 | 0  | —Spokes for Wheels, viz.                                                                                                                                       |    |    |    |
| Steel, or any Manufactures of Steel not otherwise enumerated or described . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                 | 20 | 0  | 0  | —not exceeding 2 Feet in length the 1,000                                                                                                                      | 3  | 7  | 4  |
| Filtering Stones . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 50 | 0  | 0  | —exceeding 2 Feet in length the 1,000                                                                                                                          | 6  | 14 | 3  |
| Stone, Rag Stones . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 20 | 0  | 0  | —Of all sorts, of the Growth of any British Possession in America, and imported directly from thence . . . the 1,000                                           | 0  | 6  | 4  |
| —Slates, and not otherwise enumerated or described . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                            | 66 | 10 | 0  | —Wainscot Logs, viz.                                                                                                                                           |    |    |    |
| —Slates in Frames . . . . the doz.                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 0  | 3  | 0  | —8 Inches square or upwards, the Load containing 50 Cubic Feet                                                                                                 | 2  | 15 | 0  |
| Telescopes . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 30 | 0  | 0  | Woollens, viz.                                                                                                                                                 |    |    |    |
| Thread . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 25 | 0  | 0  | —Manufactures of Wool not being Goat's Wool, or of Wool mixed with Cotton, not particularly enumerated or described, nor otherwise charged with Duty per cent. | 15 | 0  | 0  |
| Tiles . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 50 | 0  | 0  | —Articles of Manufactures of Wool (not being Goat's Wool) or of Wool mixed with Cotton wholly or in part made up, not otherwise charged with Duty per cent.    | 20 | 0  | 0  |
| Tin . . . . . the cwt.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 2  | 10 | 0  |                                                                                                                                                                |    |    |    |
| Tobacco, viz.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |    |    |    |                                                                                                                                                                |    |    |    |
| —unmanufactured . . . . the lb.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 0  | 3  | 0  |                                                                                                                                                                |    |    |    |
| —manufactured, or Segars . the lb.                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 0  | 9  | 0  |                                                                                                                                                                |    |    |    |
| Tobacco Pipes . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 30 | 0  | 0  |                                                                                                                                                                |    |    |    |
| Toys . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 20 | 0  | 0  |                                                                                                                                                                |    |    |    |
| Turnery not otherwise enumerated or described . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                             | 30 | 0  | 0  |                                                                                                                                                                |    |    |    |
| Twine . . . . . the cwt.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1  | 11 | 0  |                                                                                                                                                                |    |    |    |
| Varnish not otherwise enumerated or described . . . . . per cent.                                                                                                                                                                                             | 30 | 0  | 0  |                                                                                                                                                                |    |    |    |
| Verjuice . . . . . the tun                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 73 | 12 | 9  |                                                                                                                                                                |    |    |    |
| Vinegar, or Acetous Acid . the tun                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 18 | 18 | 0  |                                                                                                                                                                |    |    |    |
| Wafers . . . . . the lb                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 0  | 1  | 3  |                                                                                                                                                                |    |    |    |
| Washing Balls . . . . . the lb                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 0  | 1  | 8  |                                                                                                                                                                |    |    |    |

### AVERAGE MONEY PRICE OF CORN AND WAGES.

"The average money price of corn, regulates more or less, that of all other commodities."

"The real value of every commodity is generally measured and determined by the proportion which its average money price bears to the average money price of corn."

"The money price of corn regulates that of all other home made commodities; it regulates the money price of labour!!!"

"The money price of labour, and of every thing that is the produce of either land or labour, must necessarily either rise or fall in proportion to the money price of corn."—Vide Adam Smith's *Wealth of Nations*.



Table of the Money Price of Wages and Labour in England, and on the Continent of Europe, showing that the average Price of Corn for an aggregate Number of Years, regulates in all parts the Money price of Wages.

| WAGES IN ENGLAND.                 |           | WAGES ON THE CONTINENT OF EUROPE. |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Clapcot, Bucks.                   |           | BORDEAUX.—                        |           |
| (A purely Agricultural District.) |           | FRANCE.                           |           |
| July 1834, Average                |           | July 1834, Average Price          |           |
| Price of Corn in Eng-             |           | of Corn in France, 33s            |           |
| land, 48s per Quarter,            |           | 6d per Quarter, 4s 2d             |           |
| or 6s per Bushel, (Oc-            |           | per Bushel.                       |           |
| tobor 43s 2d per                  |           |                                   | per week. |
| Quarter.)                         |           |                                   | s. d.     |
|                                   | per week. | Agricultural Labourer .....       | 6 0       |
|                                   | s. d.     | A Woman                           |           |
| Head Carter ....                  | 12 0      | Reaper .....                      | 2 6       |
| Ordinary Labourer .....           | 10 0      | Threshers .....                   | 9 9       |
| Best Farm Boy..                   | 4 6       | Masons .. 12s to 14               | 6         |
| Women .....                       | 4 0       | Coopers .. 12s to 14              | 6         |
| Bird Boy .....                    | 3 6       | Other Mechanics,                  |           |
|                                   |           | Tailors, Shoe-                    |           |
|                                   |           | makers, &c.,                      |           |
|                                   |           | from .....                        | 9 9       |
|                                   |           | to .....                          | 14 6      |
|                                   |           | MARSEILLES.                       |           |
|                                   |           | A Day Labourer, .. 7s 6d to       | 9 9       |
|                                   |           | Masons .... 9s to 10              | 0         |
|                                   |           | Workmen employ-                   |           |
|                                   |           | ed in the Manu-                   |           |
|                                   |           | facture of Soap,                  |           |
|                                   |           | Barilla,                          |           |
|                                   |           | &c., .... 9s to 10                | 0         |
|                                   |           | Saw Grinders at Mols-             |           |
|                                   |           | heim in Germany, near             |           |
|                                   |           | Strasburgh, are paid 7s           |           |
|                                   |           | 6d per week, and Grind            |           |
|                                   |           | and Glaze Saws at the             |           |
|                                   |           | rate of 2½d per doz. for          |           |
|                                   |           | which in Sheffield, the           |           |
|                                   |           | Farmers and Agricultu-            |           |
|                                   |           | rists are charged 2s 6d           |           |
|                                   |           | per doz. Artisans at              |           |
|                                   |           | Molsheim, employed in             |           |
|                                   |           | the superior departments          |           |
|                                   |           | of the Cutlery Business,          |           |
|                                   |           | earn no more than 7s 6d           |           |
|                                   |           | weekly, (working six              |           |
|                                   |           | days in the week, from 5          |           |
|                                   |           | in the morning till 9 at          |           |
|                                   |           | night.) Food — black-             |           |
|                                   |           | bread and chicoree; only          |           |
|                                   |           | luxury, tobacco.                  |           |

## DANZIG.

(A flourishing Commercial City.)

| Price of Corn per quarter, Prussian and Polish :            |                          |                |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|--|
| Hamburg 27s 5d av.                                          |                          | s d            |  |
| Stettin .. 30s —                                            | } England 48 0 July 1834 |                |  |
| Danzig .. 34s —                                             |                          | 43 2 Oct. 1834 |  |
|                                                             |                          | per week.      |  |
|                                                             |                          | s. d.          |  |
| Labourers' Wages in Summer, (at Danzig)                     |                          | 5 6            |  |
| Winter .....                                                |                          | 4 6            |  |
| Tailors and Shoemakers ..                                   |                          | 6 9            |  |
| Sawyers .....                                               |                          | 5s to 6 0      |  |
| Carpenters .....                                            |                          | 9s 6d to 11 0  |  |
| Ship Carpenters .....                                       |                          | 11 6           |  |
| Agricultural Labourers ..                                   |                          | 4 6            |  |
| And less is paid in the small towns and more distant parts. |                          |                |  |

## KINGDOM OF PRUSSIA.

Agricultural Labourers' wages, per week, 2s 6d ! !  
(or 5d a day.)

"This large description of the inhabitants of Prussia, live on the lowest and coarsest food—potatoes, rye, or buck wheat. Clothing—linen from flax of their own growth, and wool spun by their own hands, both coarse, and worn as long as they will hold together."

## POLAND.

Wages lower than in Prussia. "Food of the Agricultural Labourer—cabbage, potatoes, with (sometimes,) peas and black bread, and soup, or rather gruel, without the addition of butter or meat; chief drink, water. Clothing—coarse, ragged and filthy even to disgust."

"The highest price of wheaten flour of the first quality at Paris, is 29s 8d the sack of 280lbs weight, and 11½ sous the 4lb loaf; and the highest price in London is 46s the sack; therefore flour is 55 per cent. dearer in London than in Paris; and a man may buy 434lbs of flour in Paris, for 46s, whereas for the same money he can only buy 280 lbs in London.

"This is the state of things in other parts.—Caen, 39s 9d per quarter; Cognac, 32s 11d; Havre, 35s 8d; Cambray, 32s; Hamburgh, average price, 27s 5d per quarter; Stettin, 30s; Danzig, 34s."

Av. of England .... 43s 2d per quarter, October\*.  
Av. of France .... 33s 6d per quarter.

[Wages in England and France may now be considered high, and food cheap; but the standard of remuneration for labour, is neither guided by a period of depression, when wages are low and food high, or the reverse, but by the fair average of successive years].

It would appear by the annexed tables, which for accuracy of detail may be fully relied upon, that the highest price paid for wages at Marseilles, (where wages are considered high), is 9s or 10s weekly, consequently for one week's work in England, a man can earn double what he would be paid for a week's work in France, a difference which greatly outweighs to the mechanic and artisan, the nominal advantage of 434lb of flour being in Paris as cheap as 280lbs are in London, for the weighty reason that a man earns 20s in England, in the same period of time (for the same work) he could only earn 10s in France. This is the state of things in other parts of Europe. In Prussia and Poland, those happy kingdoms, whose happy natives enjoy to the fullest extent the blessings of "cheap corn," and "cheap food," and also cheap wages, in either of the two kingdoms above named, the weekly earnings of an agricultural labourer, do not exceed 2s 6d weekly; consequently, one English labourer earns as much in one week as four Prussian or Polish; and an English journeyman tailor, shoemaker, or cotton spinner, would think himself very greatly underpaid, unless he could earn nearly four times the wages workmen of a similar description can obtain in the flourishing commercial city of Danzig; a circumstance well worth the serious attention of mechanics, artisans and workmen, seeing that a free import of foreign manufactures and goods must either precede or take effect simultaneously with the free importation of foreign corn, (to make the thing

\* On an average of 6 weeks ending 16th of October, 1834—the weekly average for England is now 41s 10d quarter per Imperial.

fair between agriculturalists and manufacturers.) The notion of a free import of the one without the other, is a shallow delusion foisted upon the public by mercenary men, whose pretended sympathy and professions of great anxiety for "cheap food" and "cheap corn" for the poor, is "not that they care for the poor, but because they have the bag, and bear that which is put therein."—Merchants and manufacturers well know, that a general fall in wages will follow the importation of foreign corn, which will enable them to narrow competition abroad, and extend the market for their goods, *thereby increasing their own gains*: from which cause arises their interested and noisy demands for cheap corn and cheap food, that their own immediate interests may be advanced, and not the interests of the country at large. We take the privilege of questioning the soundness and equity of the pretensions put forward by the loudest clamourers for a repeal of the Corn Laws, and deny that a general demand or wish exists for this dangerous innovation under the present circumstances of the country. The extension of foreign commerce will be, beyond all doubt, a benefit to a certain extent—but a benefit not to be purchased at such a costly sacrifice as the destruction of the most important interest in the country; or by filling the nation with misery and discontent, from a general and sweeping alteration in the rate of wages, from an altered standard in the value of corn. If, say the manufacturers &c., we have food cheaper, we can then compete better with foreigners. Aye, so they can, but by what means? *but by lowering wages!!* How can cheap food make manufactures cheaper, if wages remain the same! Let the honest truth be avowed by the manufacturers, and then the workman will be able more clearly to distinguish the benefit of a 4lb. loaf for 4d.—a free trade in corn—and Continental wages!! To conceal the main part of the affair from him, (namely, that his wages will sink in a greater proportion than his food), is an artifice, at once dangerous and treacherous,—an artifice by which the workmen of the United Kingdom are made dupes of for the intended benefit of manufacturers, capitalists, and fundholders, who wish to increase their profits and incomes, and who well know, that in the event of a free trade in corn, 300*l*. a year will then be equivalent to 450*l*. by reason of *both food and labour* being cheaper; and who are also perfectly well aware that wages, and the remuneration for labour, must sink in proportion to the altered value in the price of corn, by which means a great benefit will arise to their own interests.

Two all powerful cases will co-operate effectually to produce this result.—First, Because the manufacturing interest can then no longer claim, or except a tittle of right to the monopoly of the home market, but will be compelled by their own suicidal act, to compete with foreign industry at home, and will also enjoy the merit of forcing their journeymen into a struggle with foreign workmen—who work for half, or even a third part of the present rate of British wages; and hence would rise a constant struggle and contention between masters and men, each striving to shift the load of loss on the other's shoulders. Will the master manufacturers find the task of effecting the alteration in wages, attendant on the repeal of the Corn Laws, to enable them to meet the competition of foreigners, practicable, or easy? This is one great cause which would arise from the repeal of the Corn Laws, as affecting the interests of masters and men connected with the manufactur-

ing interest, tending to lower prices of goods, *and also wages of workmen*, to a level with wages and prices on the Continent of Europe.

And to come nearer home, the contemplated diminution in the cost of produce, corn, meat, butter, cheese, &c., &c., arising from the ports being opened for the importation of foreign produce, &c., it is estimated will amount to a reduction of one-third of the present total cost, consequently, —the landlord, farmer, and agricultural labourer, between whom this reduction will have to be divided, (for there still, under any circumstances, will be owners of land, tenants, and labourers, and as it will appear, the entire rental of the land does not amount to, and is not equivalent in value to, one-third of its annual produce), instead of therefore (the landlords, farmers, and labourers) having 15,000*l*., 1,500*l*., or 150*l*., to expend in the purchase of manufactured articles of luxury, use or necessity, in the next town or city, they will only have 10,000*l*., 1,000*l*., or 100*l*., so to expend; therefore it follows, that all over Great Britain, the manufacturers, traders and mechanics, can only obtain from all connected with the landed interest,—from all purchasers of their commodities, deriving their incomes from land, in the best market in the world, (the home market,) 10*l*. instead of 55*l*.;—10*l*s instead of 15*l*s,—and 10*d* in lieu of 1*l* 3*d*. And hear! oh! traders of Great Britain! the great and mighty benefit of saving two-pence per diem in a quarter loaf, is to be purchased at the sacrifice of one-third of your present annual returns now received from all connected with the agricultural interest!!

For the landlords, &c. in Great Britain receiving 80 millions yearly in lieu of 120 millions, can only have 80 millions to lay out; consequently the 40 millions\* worth of goods now sold to this great

\* Summary of the annual value of all real property as assessed April 1815.

|                                                                      |             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| England .....                                                        | £49,744,622 |
| Wales .....                                                          | 2,153,801   |
| Scotland .....                                                       | 6,652,635   |
|                                                                      | £58,551,078 |
| House rental of England and Wales }<br>alone, ending 5th April 1830. | 11,154,109  |
|                                                                      | £47,396,969 |

The estimate above stated of the value of freehold property, including in that estimate the annual value of 136,000 farm houses, it will be observed was taken in 1815, since which period a great reduction has taken place in the annual value of such property, *consequently the entire annual rental of all the land*, (for we apprehend that it will even be found that other property besides land or houses is included in this estimate), in England, Wales, and Scotland, can now barely exceed, *if it even amounts to, the reduction in value, which it is held out will fall on the landlords only, and not on the farmers and labourers.* 120 millions, say these vague reasoners and visionary theorists, is the estimated value of all the produce of the land in Great Britain, and our nostrum of a free trade in corn (the landlords' property, as it is termed), will reduce this full one-third, that is to 80 millions, and yet they add, only the landlords will suffer in receiving a reduced rent!! How can this be, when all the rent together of every landholder in Great Britain will not even amount to the sum of 40 millions, therefore upon whose shoulders will the burthen fall?



body, (the landed interest,) in the home market, must seek another vent if it can be found; and the reduced cost in the price of provisions, (estimated at 40 millions yearly,) it will be observed, is not a benefit to that amount to the people of England by a reduction in the cost of their food, (seeing that wages will fall also in a greater proportion,) but given as a sort of bonus or premium at the expense of the English landlord, farmer, and labourer, to the like classes of other countries, as a bait to induce them to become larger purchasers of some branches of our manufacturing industry. What can be more clear than that the landlord, farmer, and labourer, receiving only 10*l*. instead of 15*l*., can only have 10*l* to spend instead of 15*l*., and this will reduce the manufacturers, traders, and their workmen, to the alternative of either selling in the home market the same quantity of goods which they now dispose of to the agriculturists for 15*l*., for 10*l*., only—or of selling, at the present price, (if they can get it, with foreigners hard upon their heels, and no 20, 40 and 50 per cent. monopoly duties to protect them) 10*l*. worth of goods only in lieu of every 15*l*. worth they now sell !!! And this will also tend to cause a reduction to masters in the value of their goods, and to men in wages. The equivalent held out for this certain loss and destruction is,—that free trade and reciprocity will increase foreign trade, and turn England into a workshop for the world !!! It may be desirable, and very beneficial, to drive the population in shoals from the healthy occupation of cultivating the soil, into the corrupting atmosphere of a factory; but the public may not all be enlightened enough to view it in that light—and we would ask, if it is in the factory or workshop we are in future to look for frames and mines capable of asserting in arms the proud pre-eminence of British valour? The French interpretation of reciprocity,\* it appears by the official returns of the state of commerce between England and France, means, a benefit to their own interest. Prussia and Denmark seem to be of the same opinion, though no doubt these nations look forward with great anxiety to that period when they may be allowed to raise their own rents, and benefit their own landlords, farmers and labourers, at the expense of England—expatiating and extolling loudly, the great benefits of reciprocity and free trade, meaning at the same time, how great would be the advantage and how certain the benefit to needy foreigners, in being enabled to get rid of produce, raised by a wretched race of half-starved vassals and serfs, in the market of the richest nation on earth.

\* EXTRACT from the Table of the Official Value of the Exports and Imports of the United Kingdom.

|               | Imports for One Year, to 5th January, 1832. |    |    | Exports for One Year, to 5th January, 1832. |    |    |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------|----|----|---------------------------------------------|----|----|
|               | £                                           | s. | d. | £                                           | s. | d. |
| Russia .....  | 4,696,368                                   | 17 | 11 | 2,603,829                                   | 7  | 0  |
| Denmark ..... | 410,981                                     | 7  | 2  | 256,703                                     | 10 | 2  |
| Prussia ..... | 1,200,102                                   | 7  | 5  | 829,302                                     | 14 | 11 |
| France .....  | 3,056,154                                   | 12 | 4  | 892,009                                     | 13 | 0  |
| Total .....   | 9,363,607                                   | 4  | 10 | 4,551,845                                   | 5  | 2  |

We here find France purchasing the trifling quantity of 892,009*l*. 13*s* worth of British and Colonial produce from England, and England purchasing from France upwards of three millions worth of French produce and manufactures !!!

France, Prussia, Russia and Denmark, are the countries most anxious to benefit themselves at the expense of Great Britain, by swamping the agricultural interests of the United Kingdom with their surplus provisions—a surplus, it would appear, by the state of the working population of Poland and Prussia, obtained by keeping their own peasantry in a state of destitution, bordering on starvation.\*

Injure or destroy that great interest, (the landed,) interwoven as it is by a thousand ramifications, with the frame and very existence of society, and what will the increased foreign trade of London, Liverpool, and Manchester, &c. be in the scale by comparison? The impetus given to foreign trade by repealing the Corn Laws, might cause a transient and fitful gleaming of apparent prosperity to arise amidst the gloom and darkness in some branches of our manufactures, not exposed to destruction from foreign competition; but the coming of that period of partial good and certain evil, would be for Great Britain the advent of an era, not of joy and gladness, but of sorrow, disappointment and gloom—of blighted hopes, and blasted expectations.

“Manufacturers,” (exclaims that profound political economist, Dr. Adam Smith,) “may flourish amidst the ruin of their country, and begin to decay upon the return of its prosperity,”—and the false appearance of prosperity, purchased at such a sacrifice, which might then partially arise, could not display the country’s well doing, or bespeak a sound and healthy state; for what short of ruin, can arise from forcing the agricultural and manufacturing population of this kingdom into an useless and hopeless struggle with the mendicancy of a continent—a struggle in which they would to a certainty, be oppressed and overpowered, (not by the superiority of foreign skill and industry,) but inundated and overwhelmed by incessant irruptions of the beggary and poverty of the serfs and barbarians of Northern Europe.

Touching the prices of food and wages relatively, we find the average price of corn in Danzig, is 34*s* per quarter—the average price in England, 48*s*. The wages of a mechanic or artisan at Danzig, being 6*s* 9*d* weekly, and corn being there 4*s* 3*d*, per bushel, it follows, one week’s wages of a shoemaker, tailor, or any other workman, will purchase in Danzig, about 1½ bushel of corn; whereas, in England, the wages of a journeyman tailor, shoemaker. or artisan, may be fairly taken at 24*s* weekly, and the average price of corn at this time, being 48*s* per quarter, or 6*s* per bushel, that it appears one week’s wages of an English mechanic will buy 4 bushels of corn in England, whereas the Prussian journeyman’s weekly wages will only purchase 1½ bushel in his own country, which leaves no room for doubting, that an English journeyman working for English wages, and eating British corn at British prices, is better off than Russian, French, or Poles, with their cheap corn, and what follows as matter of course, cheap wages !!!

We maintain it is the bounden duty of those who inveigh in language so unmeasured, and in terms so indignant, against the monopoly of the agriculturalists, to state the truth,—the whole truth,—and nothing but the truth. Let the fundholders and capitalists, who look forward to the repeal of the Corn Laws, as a means whereby their 10,000*l* will be transformed into, or render equivalent to 15,000*l*., and their 3 per cent. consols, into 4½ per cents. who calculate upon 10*l*., buying as much corn and produce as 15*l* now will; and those

manufacturers, who anticipate in the reduction of the workmen's wages, arising from the fall in produce, and competition of foreign workmen and labourers in the home market an increase of their own profits—a widening of the foreign market—and a narrowing of competition abroad; and whose sentiments upon affairs of state are guided not by the balance of the general good, but the balance of profit and loss, to their own immediate interest. Let these innovators inform those whose understandings they obscure with their sophistry, that the repeal of the Corn Laws is a measure which would not only cut asunder the profits of the landlord and farmer, burthened as they are with tithes, land tax, poor rates, county rates, and highway rates, and reduce the agricultural labourer to a level with the miserable serfs and vassals of Prussia and Poland; (and by such means make bread cheaper)—but that it would likewise at the same time cleave in twain the wages of every operative in the United Kingdom,—and that the blessing of a 4lb. loaf for a groat, would be purchased at the cost of half their weekly wages. But no, these philosophers can only repeat one tale, “the monopoly of the landlords, and the bread tax.” What hear the public about the monopoly of manufacturers, and their tax upon the agriculturists? a monopoly which gives the manufacturers, with their unions and combinations to boot, the advantages of a monopoly for their goods, in the wealthiest and best market in the civilized world—the home market of Great Britain. If manufacturers and merchants are so averse to monopolies, why not begin at home, and endeavour to remove the monopolies which they have taken care to obtain against the public in their own favour—to suit their own interests—and increase, by enormous protecting duties, their own profits. To hear these people talk, we might almost be led to imagine that they suffered at the same time the two evils of foreign competition for want of protecting duties, and the agriculturalists’ monopoly in corn, &c. It is but just that when the working classes of this kingdom are called upon to aid in sinking their fathers or brothers, relations or friends, (the agricultural peasantry), into a similar state of mendicant poverty with the labourers of the continent, (labourers who eat black bread and drink water; who are clothed with rags and covered with filth, and work for 2s 6d a week,) and to render themselves liable to be employed or stand idle—to be famished or fed at the nod of a foreign despot; that they should at the same time clearly ascertain what is the vast boon they are to receive,—in what manner manufactures are to be sold cheaper, when the Corn Laws are repealed, unless by a reduction of their wages; and likewise what is the benefit the country is to derive from this great sacrifice, a sacrifice computed to amount to forty millions yearly, withdrawn from the circulation of the home market, (being one-third of the supposed produce of the land in Great Britain, or rather more, as the official returns will prove, than the rental of all the land in Great Britain put together.) We will inform the working classes what the great benefit will be to them—a reduction in the value of provisions to a level with France, or perhaps Prussia and Poland, and also a reduction in the amount of their wages with those of France, or perhaps Prussia and Poland. These will be the inevitable results to their own body; to which may be added, that the home market for their manufactures generally, must at the same time be thrown open to competition with foreign workmen, who

work for wages varying between 5s and 10s weekly. Can a Sheffield cutler and saw grinder, for instance, say to a ploughman, I will not eat that which is procured from ground you plough, or sow, or reap, unless you sell it to me for the price I could obtain it for in France, or Prussia, without at the same time granting to the ploughman the privilege of obtaining his razors or pruning knife, his sickle, scythe, or plough share, from Strassburgh, where men work 15 hours a day for 7s 6d a week, or in any market where all he required could be bought cheaper, than made by the hands of the British mechanic. On what ground could any manufacturer then claim a protecting duty against foreign competition? The protecting duty on corn (a duty by the way, which gives way to any pressure which may arise,) is a reciprocal benefit, amply counterbalanced by the monopoly given to every manufacturer and journeyman in the kingdom, in preference to the manufacturing industry of other nations: for the British mechanic not only eats food at English prices, but *works also for English pay.*

In some manufactures, which by the power of machinery, and the facility of obtaining coal, stand unrivalled without fear of competition, the advantage of a repeal of the Corn Laws, we admit, would be clear and without deduction. But the question is not if one or more particular branches of our manufacturing interest will be increased—but, manufactures generally? Whether the reduction in the wages of workmen, and the total alteration in the value of all commodities, with the consequent disturbance of every existing contract arising from such a step,—whether the balance of good or evil emanating from such a measure will be for the weal or woe of England in the change? Merchants and manufacturers are deeply interested in the task of opening the eyes of the operatives against the dangerous delusions of those who hold out a reduction in the price of food, and increased foreign trade, as the sole results which would arise from a repeal of the Corn Laws, without also impressing upon their attention, the certain event of a reduction in wages likewise following as the inevitable consequences. This is the rock against which the well meaning and good intended philanthropists, uninfluenced by any motive but a sincere wish of benefiting the condition of the industrious classes split; the fallacy of keeping up wages at the British standard, with food imported at the Continental standard—it is a dangerous fallacy, which cannot be too strenuously guarded against, and a pit into which the manufacturers themselves would be the first to fall headlong. The free importation of foreign corn will truly reduce the price of food and cost of subsistence, and *it will likewise reduce in a much greater proportion (from foreign competition), the means by which most people obtain their subsistence,* and lower the scale of remuneration for labour of every description in Great Britain, (which by comparison with other parts may be called liberal), to a level with the moderate remuneration given in France, or what is more likely still, to the scanty remuneration given in Prussia, Poland, Germany and Russia. This is a plain truth to which the eyes of all classes cannot be too widely open—theoretically, nothing appears more just, fair and reasonable, than that people should obtain their means of living from that market where it can be obtained cheapest and best, and exchange the workmanship of their hands and fruits of their industry in that market wherever it can be found—practically, in the existing state of



the country, this would be found a great delusion; for it cannot be too often repeated, or too well known, that with cheap food (so obtained), follows *cheap wages*, and the loss to the manufacturing, trading and working classes, of 40 millions annually expended by the agricultural interest in the purchase of the luxuries and necessities of life in the home market, and also the competition of foreign workmen; who would then, by the necessary withdrawal of the present restrictions on the importation of their goods into Great Britain, be easily enabled to undersell and ruin numerous branches of our manufacturing industry, and steep the operatives engaged in them in misery and distress. The inducement and advantages held out in lieu for this mighty change is, "an addition to the foreign trade of the country," and consequently an anticipated increase in some branches of our manufactures; the means by which this change has been endeavoured to be brought about would appear to consist of very unfair attempts to make the industrious classes of the country dissatisfied, by holding up to their view the difference in the price of food in England, as compared with France, Poland, Prussia and Germany, without at the same time stating the remuneration given for labour, and the average rate of wages in those countries, by which alone people would be enabled to form a correct estimate of the advantages of "cheap food and cheap corn;" which would appear in fact to be an advantage (looking at the state of wages in France, Poland and Prussia, as a criterion), solely nominal,—the injury which must inevitably arise from such a measure, by altering the existing distribution of property alone, would seriously affect the industry and welfare of considerable masses of the population. The shock might indeed first fall on the proprietors, occupants, and cultivators of land, but would speedily be felt by all other classes with electric force and quickness.

The following will be submitted to the next meeting of the Market Harborough Agricultural Society:

"At the Annual meeting of the Leicestershire Agricultural Society, held at Market Harborough.

"It having been reported to the meeting that the Corporation of London had resolved to apply early in the ensuing Parliament for powers to enlarge and improve Smithfield Market, according to a plan now produced and which outlay is calculated, with the various improvements, to amount to about £90,000., and to apply for additional tolls to repay £50,000 of the said £90,000, by charging on all cattle an extra toll not exceeding *twopence* each, and on all sheep an extra toll not exceeding *fourpence* per score until the £50,000. is repaid, which is calculated to take about 38 years, and then the additional toll to cease, and the present toll of 1d for bullocks and 2d per score for sheep to be the only toll. By this arrangement the Corporation asks for tolls for £50,000., and the remaining £40,000 will be paid from their own funds.

"Resolved,—That the establishment of two London live cattle markets would be highly injurious to the Agricultural and Grazing interests.—That no other site for a cattle market can be found so well adapted and possessing so many advantages as Smithfield.

"That the enlargement proposed by the Corporation (about one acre) will give every accommodation required, and that the additional tolls are equitable and reasonable. That this meeting is of opinion that the establishment of any second cattle market should be strenuously opposed.

"Signature—Place of Abode—No. of acres."

## HIGHLAND AND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND.

The anniversary general meeting of this Society was held in their Hall on Tuesday, 13th January, for the dispatch of business. The all-engrossing subject of the Parliamentary elections, and its being the first polling day for the City, and the day of nomination for the County of Edinburgh, unavoidably occasioned the absence of many; but there was, notwithstanding, a full attendance of members, including his Grace the Duke of Buccleugh and Queensberry, the President, the Earl of Morton, the Earl of Strathmore, the Earl of Roseberry, Lord Greenock, the Right Hon. Sir John Sinclair, and above one hundred gentlemen of property and influence connected with all parts of Scotland.

The Noble President having taken the Chair, the usual preliminary proceedings for the election of members were proceeded with, when her Grace Harriet, Duchess of Buccleugh and Queensberry, having been duly proposed, was, by unanimous acclamation, elected a member of the Society; and a ballot having been afterwards taken, in terms of the charter, about fifty gentlemen were duly elected; among whom were, Lord Ramsay, Sir Alexander Bannerman, of Elsick, Bart.; Sir John Drummond Erskine, of Torry, Bart.; Colonel Thomas Hunter Blair, of Dunskey, &c.

Previous to the election of officers, the Secretary explained that his Grace the Duke of Buccleugh had now filled the chair for the period limited by the constitution of the Society. The admirable manner in which he had discharged its duties was known not only to the members but to the country at large; and the Board of Directors, with whom rests the responsibility of the ordinary business in Edinburgh, had felt it a duty to record their feelings by a resolution communicated to the Noble Duke, and unanimously adopted by the General Meeting.

The Noble Duke expressed, as he evidently felt, strongly the estimation in which he held the opinion of the Society, and, in taking leave for the present of the chair, made a very appropriate address, replete with the best sentiments, and expressive of his resolution, at all times, to promote the objects and interests of the Society by every means in his power. The Duke of Buccleugh concluded by proposing, in very handsome terms, his Grace the Duke of Gordon as President of the Society.

The Earl of ROSEBERRY said he had great satisfaction in seconding the nomination.

The Duke of Gordon was accordingly unanimously elected President, and other Noblemen and Gentlemen unanimously chosen Vice-Presidents, Directors, and Officers for the current year.

The Treasurer submitted a view of the Society's funds.

The SECRETARY submitted for the consideration of the meeting a concise abstract of the proceedings of the Directors since the General Meeting in July. He then proceeded to state, that since the meetings of the Directors were resumed, after the usual recess, they have decided upon the various claims lodged in competition for the premiums offered by the Society last year: with reference to which, it is sufficient to observe, that the emulation among all classes of competitors has been most satisfactory. Altogether, six hundred and fifty claimants, or (deducting those who competed in more than one class,) about six hundred individuals, entered the lists as competitors for

the Society's premiums within the year: and if any thing is more gratifying than another, it is the circumstance that on no previous occasion had such emulation been evinced by the industrious cottagers to obtain the reward offered by the Society, for neatly kept cottages, and the little gardens attached to them.

MR. MACMICKEN TORRANCE, of Kilsaintninian, Convener of the Committee named to decide on the Essays and Reports lodged with the Society last year, stated the proceedings of that Committee. The premium of 25*l.* for an account of the Quarries of Scotland, particularly limestone (including marble,) and slate, was awarded to Mr. James Carmichael, Strontian; and the silver medal to Mr. John Wallace, Mansfield House, Ayrshire; and Mr. Gordon Maxwell, Dalbeattie, Dumfriesshire, for Reports on individual slate quarries. In competition for the premium on the causes of the recent failures of the Potato Crop, there were above twenty communications. The premium was awarded to Messrs George and James Macdonald, Huntly, Aberdeenshire; and the silver medal to Messrs. Malher and Winder of Liverpool, for the paper next in merit. Several of the other papers contained interesting facts, and thanks were voted to their authors, with a request that they will allow the information afforded by them to be given to the public, through the medium of the Society's transactions. Mr. Campbell, of Islay, transmitted a report of a very extensive and successful improvement on his estate, by allotments to industrious tenants, on a liberal footing, and the thanks of the Society were voted for it as a communication, although not sent in the form to compete for a premium. In competition for the gold medal for the best report of a system of improvement carried on by a proprietor on his estate, by settling crofters on waste land, three reports were received. The premium was awarded to Mr. Thomson, of Banchory, Kincardineshire, and an extra gold medal to Provost Blaikie, of Aberdeen, for a valuable report of an extensive improvement of that description on the estate of Mr. Menzies, of Pitfodels. The Society's gold medal was voted to Mr. Dempster, of Skibo, for a report, in terms of the conditions, of his having planted on his estate above 1,100 acres within the last five years, and Mr. Mackenzie, of Kilcoy, likewise obtains the gold medal for a report of plantations made on his estate of the required extent. The meeting ordered all the valuable papers they had received to be published in the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture and Transactions of the Society.

LORD GREENOCK, after some complimentary observations on the manner in which the late Agricultural Meeting at Aberdeen was conducted, brought up from the Directors a series of resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, thanking his Grace the Duke of Buccleugh and Queensberry, President; his Grace the Duke of Gordon, and the Most Noble the Marquis of Tweeddale, Vice-Presidents of the Society, for their attendance at the late General Show of Live Stock at Aberdeen, and for the energy and zeal displayed by them in forwarding the objects of the Society on that occasion. Likewise the Hon. Fox Maule, and the other Members of the Deputation of Directors who attended at Aberdeen, for their zealous exertions in regulating and superintending the details of the meeting.

MR. ROBINSON, Secretary of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, reported from the Committee on the Geological Map, that the measures which had been taken by the Directors for the gradual acquisition

of information regarding the mineralogical resources of Scotland, having been fully stated in former reports, little remained to be communicated on this occasion. Several valuable essays and papers had been received in consequence of the premiums offered by the Society, and there is good reason to indulge the hope that a spirit of investigation had been raised, which may lead to advantageous results.

It cannot but be highly gratifying to the Society to learn that the efforts which they are making to advance mineralogical and geological enquiry in Scotland are duly appreciated in a quarter well competent to judge of their value. The geological section of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, after listening to the Society's views, so ably developed by Lord Greenock, and being made acquainted with some of the results which had begun to be obtained, came to the following resolution, which has been officially communicated by the Secretary of the Association:—"On the motion of R. J. Murchison, Esq., seconded by Professor Sedgwick, it was resolved—That the thanks of the British Association for the Advancement of Science be given to the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, for their liberal and zealous endeavours to promote enquiries into the geology of Scotland."

MR. FERGUSON, of Kilkerran, reported from the Directors that all the arrangements for the general show of live stock and agricultural meeting, which takes place at Ayr next autumn, were in favourable progress. The Society approved of all the arrangements, and named Colonel the Hon. F. Macadam Cathcart, of Craigengillan, in whose absence T. F. Keunedy, Esq., of Dunure, to be Convener of the Committee of Superintendence, and Mr. Ferguson to be Chairman of the Deputation of Directors appointed to attend the Ayr Meeting.

Professor Low, of the University of Edinburgh, reported the proceedings of the Committee on the general shows of live stock. A subject submitted to the Committee had been, how far it might be expedient for the Society to intermit for a time these annual shows, with the design of availing themselves of the interval to perfect the system, by collecting farther information, and by founding upon the experience already acquired. The first step taken by the Committee was to ascertain the feelings and wishes of agriculturists with respect to this course. The Professor stated that the wishes of agriculturists were universally expressed in favour of a continuance of the shows; and nothing, therefore, remained to the Society but the grateful duty of responding to this call, and to the Directors that of employing every means in their power to render the shows efficient and worthy the continued favour of the country. With respect to the latter of these subjects, he observed, that a strong recommendation of the Committee was, that these shows should no longer be limited to the live stock of Scotland, but be thrown open to that of all the kingdom. We had received our most useful lessons, and derived our finest stock from England. We were now ready to show our Southern countrymen that we had profited by the lessons they had given us, and were willing and able to enter with them into the field of fair competition. One subject, he observed, had occupied the consideration of the Committee, which was, that in the offer of premiums, the attention of agriculturists should be directed, in an especial manner, to the property in a breed, of a disposition to feed at an early age. To this end it had been proposed that no ox, in



the competition for symmetry, fat, and weight, should exceed the age of three years off—that is, that it should be under four at the time of the Society's shows in autumn. The opinion, however, expressed by many intelligent agriculturists communicated with had been, that however important the principle was, it would be difficult, in certain parts of Scotland where artificial food could not be procured in sufficient quantity, to bring animals forward in the common course of farm management until the age of four off. The Committee had no wish to push a principle to the extreme, and every good purpose would be served by having pointed out to the breeders of the country the principle which the Society was desirous to inculcate.

Mr. LOCKHART, of Tarbrax, reported that the preliminary arrangements for the general show of live stock at Perth, in 1836, were in great forwardness. It will be the second meeting the Society has held there, and it promises to excite, if possible, greater interest and emulation than the first. From its situation Perth is admirably adapted for such a meeting, and the splendid depot affords facilities for placing and classing the stock beyond any other enclosure in the country.

Mr. HUNT, of Pittencreeff, reported that the Veterinary School continues to increase in celebrity. During the present session, seventy-one students attend Mr. Dick's Lectures, including several from England. The Society, Mr. Hunt observed, cannot too highly prize Mr. Dick's services, and the numerous and regularly increasing attendance at the school shows that they are appreciated by the country.

Mr. LAMONT, of Knockdow, called the attention of the meeting to a Systematic Treatise on the Theory and Practise of Draining, just published and dedicated to the Society, by Mr. John Johnstone, whose professional talents have long been favourably known. This work, which gives the result of the writer's extensive experience, Mr. Lamont observed, must be exceedingly useful to every landlord and tenant.

Many other subjects of importance occupied the attention of the Society before their sitting was concluded.

On the motion of Sir JOHN FORBES, the Treasurer, the meeting, as the last part of the business, placed a liberal sum at the disposal of the Directors, to be by them applied in promoting the interests of the institution.

On the motion of the Earl of MORTON, seconded by the Earl of STRATHMORE, the thanks of the Society were given to the Duke of Buccleugh, who so ably presided; and his Grace, having returned his acknowledgments, the meeting adjourned.

WINCHAM.—CURIOUS FACT.—There is now living, and in the possession of Mr. Thomas Plant, a highly respectable farmer, of this place, a mare twenty-seven years old, which, although it has been regularly worked during its life, has neither been so unwell as to require blood-letting, or the administration of any kind of physic. The same gentleman has likewise in his possession a cart which was made at the time the above mare was broken in, and which cart, although regularly worked during that period, has never required the slightest repair, not even so trivial a one as that of a single nail. This cart is still in use. What will some of our careful farmers say to this?

#### FROM A CORRESPONDENT OF THE BRIGHTON GAZETTE.

Broom House, near Berwick-on-Tweed,  
Dec. 4, 1834.

Berwickshire, Roxburghshire, and the Lothians have long been greatly distinguished for the advanced state of their agriculture, called mixed-husbandry, or live stock and tillage united; and the result is permanent fertility from the large quantity of manure supplied by the cattle in the courtains or fold-yards, which are well managed, the result of education, practical skill, and sufficiency of capital, and not from facilities of climate, in which the southern counties have a decided advantage. It is also much to be attributed to the patriotic, liberal, and active patronage of the proprietors at large, particularly of the Dukes of Northumberland, Roxburgh, and Buccleuch, Lord Grey, and the establishment of Agricultural Societies. The farms, on an average, consist of 500 acres, and some much larger, let on leases of 15, 20, and 30 years; and many young gentlemen from various parts of England are received for instruction, which cannot be sufficiently learnt from books, though Mr. Robert Brown's "Treatise on Agriculture and Rural Affairs" can be recommended, a farmer of Markle, county of Haddington, in regard to the conditions of farm servants; they are called double and single. Unmarried servants are generally paid 15l or 20l per annum, and are lodged and boarded in the farmer's dwelling. Married are supplied with a cottage and vegetable garden each, belonging to the farm, receive 4l. called sheep money, or in lieu of keeping sheep, as formerly, nine bolls of oats (a boll is six bushels), three ditto of barley, and one or two ditto of peas or wheat, or part of each—in all 13 or 14s bolls. The amount of corn is called by them the boll, though consisting of many. He brings a cow of his own with him, for which he is allowed grass during summer, and turnips or hay and straw in winter. He has also as much prepared and manured land as required for planting a boll of potatoes, and all coals he wants brought by the farmer, but bought by himself. He on his part is charged with the care of a pair of horses, ploughs with them, and works were ordered at anything, or in any manner. He has also to keep for the use of the farmer a daughter or hired servant, full grown, to be at his employer's call to work on the farm, on being paid from 8d to 1s per day.

Offered to your consideration by the recommendation of an experienced Magistrate and County-Member:—

Query.—Which at this time have the ascendancy in England—Landlords or Tenants?

If landlords, why do they allow arrears of rent, and their land to be racked out to such a degree that a Norfolk steward warned his employers, before they accepted their rents, to ascertain whether they were the produce or price of the land, as becomes apparent when sold.

But if an example is attempted to be made by an action, what probability is there that a jury would award damages, when many of the pannel might be liable to similar prosecutions, and therefore disposed to check inquiry by blaming the tyranny of the landlord, who should require the due performance of covenants from his poor tenants, when even an influential landlord excused the increase of parochial burthens, from tenants being too poor to maintain the surplus labourers: till this same honest steward (himself a tenant thriving by diligence) showed there would be no

labourers out of employ, if tenants did not hire more land than they had capital to use, with profit to themselves and justice to their landlords. Just as speculators in other lines bring ruin on themselves and all connected with them, who incur blame, not pity, unless it can be shown they have been misled.

And have not our English tenantry been misled in the power given them under the denomination of occupiers, to levy on all other classes eight millions a year, with indefinite increase? And as they generally fill the office of Overseers, do appropriate to keeping, in wet days, the men and their families (whom they pay themselves only when they have their services); without a choice, either on the part of the men themselves, or those who really support them. To which tenants acknowledged, though they pay the rates, they do not contribute.

As the probable amount of rates, whether specified or not at hiring, is invariably deducted from what would otherwise be paid as rent; and is so paid as rent in Scotland, where no tenant has any control in the management of the funds for the poor, unless appointed proxy for a proprietor; together with tradesmen and little resident proprietors, who are interested their own rates should not increase.

But although tenants say, whilst they have votes they must use them as others do, they are so sensible that the command of the rates is not a real advantage to them, whilst it is the ruin of all other classes, that on the 25th of April they numerously signed the annexed petition; which, if granted, and the rates are assessed on proprietors only, it will be for them to consider whether it is most desirable to pay thousands a year to maintain men as at present, unproductively, or let, at its full value, to each pauper as many roods as would maintain them at spade husbandry; which rents the Labourers' Friend Society testify are punctually and thankfully paid.

When greater tenants, finding their land useless without labourers, would invite them back into their yearly service, to the great increase of the produce of the soil, augmentation of rents, and satisfaction of the labouring class.

Monopoly of land in England, by checking competition, enhanced prices, till high prices stimulated Irish industry to furnish so much corn and cattle, that the cry now is—"Give poor laws to Ireland." Where if one-third of the labouring class was supported as in the south of England, unproductively, Ireland would indeed have little to export. But till Europe, Asia, and America agree to do the same, we might ruin Ireland,—but should we benefit England?

April 25th, 1834.

To the Right Honorable the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned, liable to the payment of Poor Rates, earnestly petition your Honorable House, that all owners of property be rated to the maintenance of the poor instead of the occupiers, and that the owners be empowered to appoint proxies, as in Scotland.

Rated at  
Eastbourne.

|                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Joseph Filder, Overseer. 189 | John Mann..... 31         |
| Richard Mockett..... 35      | Josh. Turner..... 37      |
| J. P. Gorringe, Overseer 289 | R. B. Stone, } trades- 37 |
| Thos. Baker, innkeeper. 130  | John Row } men 23         |
| M. Filder..... 403           | Richard Reed..... 73      |
| James Pagden, Overseer 257   | John Coleman..... 65      |

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO LORD VISCOUNT ALTHORP.

My Lord,—Since your Lordship, in your intro-

ductory speech on the Poor Law Bill, in the handsomest manner invites communication on the subject, I venture to state that in this parish, where the rates have been for many years 16s in the pound of two-thirds rental, last year, by the adoption of a labour rate they were reduced to 9s 6d; but a more permanent relief, in my humble opinion, would be letting labourers hire land at a fair rent near their cottages, by which owners would be no losers, as such rents are punctually paid, and the Poor Rates reduced.

The enormous abuses of the Poor Laws have arisen from the legislative error of intrusting *tenants* with the management of the rates, instead of committing them to the owners, who are interested in preventing mal-appropriation.

In Scotland, your Lordship probably knows, the heritors (landowners) or their proxies, are the sole managers of the funds of the poor, and hence, whilst in England the Poor Rates are an intolerable burden, in SCOTLAND THEY ARE HARDLY PERCEPTIBLE.

In a parish in the Highlands of Scotland, which is a fair specimen of the whole (with which I am well acquainted) consisting of about two thousand inhabitants, the whole rates raised amount to no more than 50l per annum, a great proportion of which is raised at the church doors.

I have for many years felt a deep interest in the welfare of the labouring class, and used my individual exertions for bettering their condition, which I hope will plead my excuse for now addressing your Lordship, and, with the sincerest respect, I remain,

Your very humble servant,

J. ALEX. ROSS.

Westwell Vicarage, near Maidstone, May 7, 1834.

No tenant, as tenant, has a vote in Scotland, though liable to *repay* half after the whole has been assessed by and on the proprietor, as is explained in 76 and 77 pages of Dunlop on the Scotch Poor Law Bill, in the British Museum.

"The power of imposing, apportioning, and levying an assessment, belongs solely to the magistrates in burghs, and in parishes to landward to the heritors and kirk sessions; and the magistrates and kirk session are entitled to call to their assistance such of the inhabitants as they may consider best qualified for that duty."

The kirk session is a kind of vestry composed of owners and their proxies; and tenants as proxies, *answerable to their employers*, act so well that the poor rates do not exceed 5s in the Highland, and 30s per 100l full rental, on the parts bordering on England.

CHURNING IN CHILI.—In Chili butter is packed in sheep-skins, with the wool side out, and would be very good in spite of appearances, were it not so much salted. The operation of churning is performed by a donkey. The cream is put into large gourds or dry skins, placed on his back, and then the animal is kept trotting round the yard till the butter is made. In this art they seem not to have advanced a single step since its discovery; for we are told that a countryman somewhere lost a large jug of cream by carrying it for a distance on a hard trotting horse, which accident led to the important invention of churns and butter. A friend told me that he had presented, some years ago, a Yankee churn to a family residing near the capital, and taught them to use it. So long as it was a novelty they were pleased, but at the end of a few weeks they decided that the donkey made butter just as well, and consequently threw it aside!—*Three Years in the Pacific.*



## AN ELECTION SQUIB;

CONTAINING A FEW PECULIARITIES OF SOME RECENT  
RETURNS.*Not by Scott,  
But by an old Scot and Lot.*

Mr. Editor,—

May I presume to address you,  
For you're Lord of the Press—though I don't mean  
to press you.

I've been looking with hopes, and with fears and de-  
jections,

To the different results of some different elections,  
And 'tis sad to observe that in spite of the law,  
Some Boroughs are bought,—for, if clearly I saw,  
Both Sandwich and Radnor have not been so nice,  
But that each has by some means discover'd its  
Price;

Whilst Cardigan, and I suppose without trouble,  
Has found out its *Pryse*, and has got that *Pryse*  
double.\*

Then the borough of Cricklade, my search has re-  
veal'd,

And Chippenham, too, for a member have *Neeld*;  
While, at Yarmouth, to keep up this pitiful trade,  
Whether pious or no, for a member they've *Praed*.  
Though this, Sir, is true, and precise to the letter,  
I wish they had kneel'd, aye, and pray'd for much  
better.

The city of Gloucester has taken good scope,  
For in the next Session, they're sure of a *Hope*;  
While at Norwich, if brib'd, sure they heed not  
the form on't;

Though the sin is as *Scarlett*, they always are warm  
on't,

And this time they've ended by making a *Stormont*.  
At Dorchester much of good stingo they boast,  
Where poor wat'ry ale must appear like a ghost,  
Their tubs, butts, and barrels, will want no recorder,  
For they've chosen a *Cooper*, to keep them in order.  
Then, Beverley thinks that its *Burton* is stout;  
And Christchurch has *Tapps*, to let such good stuff  
out.

It will please, without doubt, the most critical reader,  
That Bridgewater sends to the Commons a *Leader*;  
While, if they should ever want driving much smarter,  
There's Portsmouth has sent up a Corporate *Carter*.  
At Cambridge, their taste they have well prov'd this  
time,

For they've made up their minds to have *Rice*, and  
its *Pryme*.

It was said of old Pontefract, some time ago,  
'Twas a *Gully*-hole made; but sure this was some  
foe

Whowish'd much the Yorkshire-men's fancy to sully,  
But *Gully*'s a good one, so good luck to *Gully*.  
At Southampton, much time about boats they employ,  
Who so fit, then, to represent them as a *Hoy*?  
At Windsor, that loyal old borough,—'od rot 'em!  
The sheepish electors have sent a *Ramsbottom*.

Some odd things, besides, have occur'd, as I'll  
show,

For, though members move, boroughs don't often go;  
Yet, there's Barnstaple—and 'tis a thing, Sir, at  
which I stir,—

Has gone all the way, for a member, to *Chichester*;

\* *Pryse Pryse*, Esq. It may be as well to observe  
here, that all the Italics in this article refer to the  
names of Members returned.

And if Bristol don't travel itself, yet remember,  
It has done something like it,—sent *Miles* for a mem-  
ber.

The next in the oddities surely is Shoreham,  
Where the wise ones have fix'd upon *Goring* to gore  
'em.

Then, the *Peels* are too thick to my fancy, I own,  
Though I hope that the Orange will not be much  
shown;

And I wish the good folks, as they do at the play,  
Would their oranges suck, and the *Peels* throw away!  
Then, amongst Venal boroughs, the Tories still  
sharing 'em,

There's a whole batch of *Barings*, in truth, there's no  
bearing 'em.

It might be a Houyhnhnm house, some folks say,  
For Peebleshire sees that it shall not want *Hay*;  
Whilst Stafford, to keep up the same horse-like feel-  
ing,

Has a *Goodricke* supplied,—very clearly revealing,  
They're thinking of horses; if so, let me say,  
That I hope to the Tories they'll oft give a neigh.  
Then, to wind up the whole, and to help Mother  
Church,

And for which the electors deserve a good birch,  
At Woodstock—and who can laugh now refuse—?  
To help out the Church, why the *Churchill* they use!

Mr. Editor, pardon my quips and my cranks;  
And, though I can hardly e'en hope any thanks  
For such doggrel as this, yet I am not much fearing,  
As each throws his squib during electioneering,  
So my feeble cracker may happen to tell,  
And I beg to subscribe myself,

Yours,

J. M. L.

FOX HUNTING.—ANOTHER SPLENDID RUN WITH  
THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE.—These hounds met at  
Eltisley Wood on the 19th inst. but did not find;  
they then trotted on to Croxton Thorns, where no  
sooner were the hounds thrown in than a brace of  
foxes were found, and a "halloo away," was given  
on the opposite side of the cover. The hounds, by  
the exertions of Jack, the huntsman, (on whom  
too much praise cannot be bestowed throughout  
the run), were got away at his brush. He took a  
line towards St. Neots, for a few fields, and then  
turned as if for Croxton Park; then crossing the  
Cambridge road, 'went in a line for Toseland  
Wood, but turned again, leaving that cover to the  
left, and went for Yelling; from thence across the  
Eltisley open fields, to Papley Grove, crossing the  
London road towards Papworth Wood. Leaving  
that wood to the right, he then went as if for  
Swansley Grove; then turning to the left, went  
between Elsworth Wood and the village, and from  
thence to Knapwell Grove; then facing the Box-  
worth open field, to Boxworth hedges. Here Rey-  
nard was nearly done; but still willing to try, he  
attempted the open again, in a line for Madingley,  
but being headed he turned into cover, and after  
running him there for a short time he was killed.  
The ground ran over cannot be estimated at less  
than ten miles, which was done over an extremely  
heavy country within an hour. The fox proved to  
be one which had on two or three previous occa-  
sions given this admirable pack extraordinary  
runs. On this occasion, however, he was com-  
pelled by an excellent scent to yield.—To Mr. Bar-  
rett, the owner of the hounds, sportsmen ought to  
be extremely indebted, both from his urbanity in  
the field and for his indefatigable exertions to show  
sport—the latter may also be said of his huntsman.  
—*Cambridge Chronicle*.

## VALUATION FOR COUNTY RATES.

The valuation upon which the county rate is levied, varies extremely in different counties. In some it is so ancient that its origin and date are lost; in others it was fixed more than a century ago, and bears with most unequal pressure on different parts of the county. Mr. Portman states in his evidence:—

“I can mention one particular case of a very small agricultural parish paying a larger amount of county rate than the town of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis; and another paying a larger county rate than the town and borough of Lyme.”

“Mr. Hinxman refers to the same instance:—

“Thus, in all cases where new property has been created, in the case of the county of Dorset for instance, the rate has not been revised since the town of Weymouth has been built; therefore the town of Weymouth does not contribute a single 6d towards the payment of the county rate.

“There have been also upwards of 40 inclosure bills in the county of Dorset, which is not a large county (I believe the whole county only comprises an area of about 600,000 acres, and therefore it is rather a small county), and in this county there have been upwards of 40 inclosure bills; now there is not a single acre of the new lands inclosed under these bills which contributes one single 6d towards the payment of the county rate, and therefore necessarily must make it more heavy upon the other rate-payers.”

—Report of the Committee on County Rates.

**COMMON HONEY BEE.**—At a late meeting of the Verulam Philosophical Society, Kenton More, Esq., Vice-President, in the chair, the Secretary, C. Dewhurst, Esq., read some interesting observations on the natural history and management of the *Apis Mellifica*, or common honey bee, wherein he detailed a plan of securing the honey without depriving the bees of life, and which is now generally adopted in the county of Suffolk, and originated with his father, the Rev. C. Dewhurst, of Bury St. Edmund's. It is as follows:—The hive which is employed by this gentleman is similar to the common one, but with an opening in the roof, of about four inches in diameter, with a moveable top, and which is pegged down during the period the bees are filling the hive. As soon as the hive is full, Mr. Dewhurst then carefully removes the top, (while the bees are absent,) and then places a wooden box of about eight inches square in its place, and into which the bees work; when this box is full of honey, it is removed, and another substituted, and, by repeating this process, great quantities of honey may be yearly obtained, without the least loss or injury to the community.

Statement from the thermometer at the door-way of Messrs. Swaine and Co., 93, Fleet-street, during one week in January, 1834, and the corresponding week in January, 1835:—

| 1834.                 | 1835.                  |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| January 15....49 deg. | January 15....51½ deg. |
| 16....54½             | 16....47               |
| 17....51½             | 17....42               |
| 18....49              | 18....41½              |
| 19....49½             | 19....42               |
| 20....47½             | 20....34½              |
| 21....52½             | 21....31               |

**EXTRAORDINARY RUN WITH THE COTTESMORE HOUNDS.**—On the 17th Jan. these hounds threw off and found in Woodwell-head, went away by Hopkinson's Gorse, as if going to Cottesmore, then bore to the right betwixt Market Overton and

Barrow, leaving Cottesmore Gorse on the left, crossed the canal at the Cottesmore Wharf, bore to the left, leaving Ashwell on the right, and got nearly to Langham Lodge: reynard here bore to the right, as if going to Ranksbro', but was headed at the road leading from Langham to Whissendine, and turned to the right; he then left Whissendine on the left, the keeper's house, at Teigh, on the right, and went nearly as straight as a line and swift as the wind to Wymondham, through the homestead there, and pointed as if going back to Woodwell-head. He then bore to the left, nearly to Coston Cover, then to the right and left Buckminster village on the right, through the park and plantation, leaving Sproxton Heath Gorses on the left, through Stoke Pasture, is if going to the School-plats; turned short to the right back nearly to Skillington, and through Stoke Pasture again on the same line, and here made through the School-plats to Sproxton; on leaving which place the hounds had three or four scents, and it was then thought prudent to stop them, as all the horses were completely dead beat. There was a fair field, and some of the first-rate horses out, but the run was the most severe that has been experienced, being one hour and fifty-five minutes from breaking away to Stoke Pasture, almost without a check, and the whole distance occupying *two hours and three quarters*, consequently there was, though a fair show at starting, a very select few at the call-off, and those who were there, including the huntsman, Lambert (who occupied his accustomed place at the tail of the hounds, all the way), acknowledged it to be the most severe and swiftest run that they ever witnessed.

**AN AMERICAN LOCK.**—The Americans have been having their fancy fairs, or, as they term them, “institute” fairs. A recent New York Paper occupies four of its lengthy columns in describing the contents of one of these exhibitions; it more resembled our annual exhibition of the Society of Arts, but on an enlarged scale, proceeding upon the *utilitarian* system, admitting specimens of improvements in botany, &c., as well as in the arts and sciences, trades, &c. The following is an extract from the descriptions:—“Among the splendid specimens of hardware, we observed a great variety of locks. A remarkable door lock and key, for banks and stores, attracted much attention. It is of *very simple construction*, and yet a false key cannot be made to it. It has 16,382 combinations, or different ways of adjusting and using the key, so that a man might lock up his premises *differently every day during the period of forty-five years*.

The shipping of this country has hitherto gone on increasing. Thus, for instance, there entered into the Port of London, in 1832, 3,167 ships, amounting to 626,026 tons; in 1833, 3,365 ships, amounting to 669,835 tons; and in 1834, 3,721 ships, amounting to 730,554 tons. The foreign shipping entering the same Port has, during the same period, increased from 150,394 tons to 212,514 tons; and as the latter has increased in a higher ratio than the former, the British shipowner is dissatisfied.

The cheapness of living in Ireland, added to the salubrity of the climate, form no small counterpoise to the inconveniences arising from the unsettled state of the country. In the inland towns the following may be taken as a specimen of prices:—Beef, 3d per lb: mutton, 3½d; pork, 2d; a fine turkey, 1s 9d; a goose, 10d; fowls, 8d a couple; oysters, 3d a dozen; potatoes, 3d a stone,



## AGRICULTURAL REPORTS.

## BEDFORDSHIRE.

The month of December, like most of its predecessors of the past year, closed upon us with fine open weather, and scarcely any rain. Indeed, the whole year has been remarkable for the little downfall we have had; so much so, that the oldest man scarcely remembers the rivers, brooks, and springs to have been so low as at the present period. The first fortnight of the new year was alike dry, about three days of which were a little frosty, but without the least appearance of snow. The rain set in, however, this morning pretty heavily, with a low and falling barometer, so that at length the ground will be likely to be thoroughly saturated.

The season ever since the harvest has been most propitious for all farm work, such as ploughing, carting, housing potatoes and mangel wurzel, as also for sheep and cattle, both in the pastures and in feeding off turnips; for all these varied operations we never remember a more favourable time.

Wheat is generally looking well, though not so forward as might have been supposed from the very open winter. The winter tares and young seeds progress pretty well, as also the trefolium where drilled on the unbroken ground, but where the land was ploughed it is generally a failure, an evil which our farmers will remedy in future from experience. There is little else at this season of the year to report concerning the crops which can be at all interesting to the public. The wheat and meat markets remain in a most stagnant state, and wool has fallen in value since our midsummer fairs about twenty per cent.

We have understood that, from the generally prevailing distress in the farming districts, the rents at the last audit have only been very partially paid: indeed, it must have been evident that the Midsummer payments are only made from the high price of wool, and that only on stock farms. If, in fact, rents, which in this county are generally adjusted upon the scale of 60s per qr. for wheat, can be paid when the farmer realizes but 40s per qr., then they may be paid, come what will. We are very happy, however, to learn that there has been, partially, at least, some disposition to meet the times in some little degree. The good example set by Sir John Sebright, on the northern side of Hertfordshire, in reducing his rents 15 per cent. upon the whole year, is, we understand, followed by the member for Bedford, Samuel Crawley, Esq., so that while the farmers have in that gentleman a determined and consistent friend to the repeal of the malt tax, it is not, as our enemies have misrepresented, sought only as a subterfuge for keeping up rents. We wish that those who thus libel the best friends of the poor and of the farming interests, would only manifest as much liberality themselves. We hear also that Lord Holland, both at his Midsummer and Christmas audits, made an abatement to his tenants near Amptill. Well intended, however, as these reductions are, and as such they ought to be gratefully received, still, it must be evident to all acquainted with farming concerns, that they are nothing when compared to the reduction in the price of agricultural produce. For the sake then of setting those ignorant people right, who merely suppose a little reduction in rent is all that is necessary to place farmers in a state of prosperity, I give the following impartial case:—

Take for example a farm of 300 acres of moderate convertible arable land, rented under the

Duke of Wellington's corn bill, with wheat at 60s per qr., and barley at 36s; rent 300l per annum.

Allow first 20 acres for hedges, roads, and waste, which under good farming would leave 70 acres each for wheat and barley.

|                                          | £     | s. |
|------------------------------------------|-------|----|
| Take those 70 acres of wheat at 20 bush. |       |    |
| per acre, at 7s 6d per bush. . . . .     | 525   | 0  |
| Barley 70 acres at 32 bush. per acre, at |       |    |
| 4s 6d per bushel . . . . .               | 504   | 0  |
| Total . . . . .                          | £1029 | 9  |

Contrasted with the prices below.

|                                          | £   | s. | £    | s.    |
|------------------------------------------|-----|----|------|-------|
| Wheat 70 acres, at 20 bush.              |     |    |      |       |
| per acre, at 5s per bush. . . . .        | 350 | 0  | }    | 686 0 |
| Barley 70 acres, at 32 bush.             |     |    |      |       |
| per acre, at 3s per bush.* . . . .       | 336 | 0  |      |       |
| Tenant's deficiency in wheat and barley, |     |    |      |       |
| only . . . . .                           |     |    | £343 | 0     |

So that if the tenant's charges remain as they were, he loses 43l more than the entire rent in the price of his corn alone, and it is not a departure from the truth, if we say, with the exception of manual labour, which is about 10 per cent. lower, that his other charges of poor-rates, county rates, king's taxes, tradesmen's bills, on an average are not 5 per cent. lower than at the former period. What a stupid dolt must that man be then, who merely drives at rent, and who supposes the landlord can do everything for him. It must therefore appear evident to every man not blinded by the grossest prejudice, that the landlord's and tenant's interest are mainly one, and that the rent can be permanently no more than what is left of the value of produce over and above the varied costs of production. It is, however, deeply to be lamented, that for a length of time rents have been chiefly paid either out of the tenant's capital, or out of what ought to have been his profits; and that landlords of late have been in too many instances far too indifferent in keeping up that community of interest between themselves and their tenantry.—Jan 16.

## GLAMORGAN.

The wheats, especially the late sown ones, were much retarded in their growth by the long continuance of dry weather, which however has given the farmer an opportunity of effectually cleaning his lands for barley and oats. Few have sufficient spirit left to go to much expense in this way; and it is much to be feared, lest, when good husbandry meets with so bad a return, the state of agriculture will retrograde, and a more slovenly system be substituted. This is even now the case in the hilly districts where improvement was making its way, but its march is absolutely stopped by the extreme distress of the farmers, who confine themselves to the supply of their own moderate wants from the produce of their lands, and rely entirely on the rearing young cattle for payment of their rent. The repeal of the malt tax, a measure which has long had the hopes and wishes of the whole country, as well commercial as agricultural, would raise the spirits of the farmer, and encourage him

\* It may be objected that the farmer makes more than 3s per bushel of his barley, but it must be evident to all that this is entirely owing to the deficiency of the crop, and that the farmers in general would have been better paid with a good crop at 2½s per qr., than with the present crop and present prices.

to attempt at any rate to improve his condition. Some of the farmers are thinking of ploughing for barley on favourable soils, but the late frost, which has been harder than any for the last three years, has for the present put a stop to it. The ground will, however, be much benefitted by it. Prices are so low as not to be worth quoting.

#### HERTS.

Having read the reports of farmers from all other counties with pleasure and profit, particularly the reports proceeding from Beds and Bucks; the latter of which, inserted in your last number, contains much information, though there are some remarks which we do not fully accord with, or such as we should not give of the state of the same circumstances within our own county. We give it as our opinion that there is as much wheat thrashed and unthrashed in our county as usual at this period of the year, though we know that there are many causes beyond the control of any legislature to counteract, or that have a tendency towards any rise taking place in the price of wheat. The average of oats about equals the average of wheat, and barley exceeds it; and it is to be observed, that the price of wheat affects the price of all the articles of grain which the farmers of our county have to sell. We think that wheat growing into use as malt, where it has been tried, has been found superior to the best barleys of the year, by 20 per cent., which being the case, it is likely that an increase for the demand of wheat in future will take place. Every circumstance appendant upon the four elements, as regards the welfare and prosperity of agriculture, are most satisfactory; but all the other concerns (generally speaking) of agriculture are reduced to almost an unprofitable state, which nothing but the taking off of the present malt tax can remedy, and which we hope will be amongst the first acts of his Majesty's ministers, as the promptness of so doing will much enhance the value in the estimation of all classes of society.—Jan. 14.

#### OXFORDSHIRE.

We had a continuance of the same mild dry weather, which has been so remarkable a characteristic of the year 1834, down to the close; the consequence has been that all kinds of team labour is in so forward a state as can scarcely be remembered by the oldest farmer living. Another striking feature will be found in the low state of the springs, and we daily witness the novel sight of water carts plying to and from the rivers and brooks to supply the cattle in December and January. Where this very necessary point, that of affording a constant supply of water, or where cattle have depastured in fields adjoining a running stream, their doing so has been admirable, and this with but little or no hay; and where there is the amount of stock proper for the farm, the meadows and uplands were never eaten down more level or better than they now are or will be; but we are very sorry to add, that in too many cases the want of the needful to produce sufficient stock is but too visible, as is exemplified in the half-eaten pastures. The abundance of autumn food has kept down the price of hay, and in all probability the at one time apprehended scarcity of this article will not be materially felt. The wheat crop, as well as vetches, winter beans, seeds, &c. are looking very well; but the latter are by no means generally a good plant. We have not heard of any spring corn being planted yet, but if the weather

continue favourable, planting beans will speedily commence. Our corn markets have continued in the same ruinous state since the new year commenced; there has been a shade of improvement in wheat and barley, but beans, notwithstanding that in many places the late crop proved so deficient as barely to produce little more than the seed again, still they continue (both the old and new) in a very depressed state. Fat stock, although never better in quality, have recently sold badly. Wool, in which there was some small stir previous to the dissolution of the ministry, has since been quite stagnant.

The elections have passed on the whole quietly in this county, nor have we had any repetition of the crime of incendiarism. Labour 7s to 8s per week.

We hope all our agricultural friends will unite in making one grand effort to get rid of that obnoxious impost the malt duty, and not suffer themselves to be led away by the specious plea put forth by interested persons of embarrassing ministers by their petitions. No, let every farmer do his duty, and when the Chancellor of the Exchequer finds it must be repealed, he will soon, as on other similar occasions, find a substitute.—Jan. 16.

#### WILTS.

The last three winters have been so unusually mild that a hard frost was almost welcomed as an old friend. However its visits may be felt by the poor of this county, especially where fuel is so dear, its presence is extremely beneficial to the farmer, by mellowing the soil and destroying an infinity of grubs and other vermin; its continuance has been but short, and the rain which has followed has done much good to the wheat, which stood in great need of moisture, especially on the dryer soils. There is but little to report in other matters, except to express a hope that the legislature will at length take into consideration the extreme depression of the agricultural interests, and afford relief in the only way which appears to be practicable. The farmers of this extensive county should exert themselves, and they have the stronger reason for so doing, in the knowledge that in one at least of its representatives they have a firm, active, and zealous friend. Let it be always borne in mind that John Bennet, of Pythone, has always stood forward among the first of those true friends of their country who have urged the repeal of the malt tax.

**CHILIAN AGRICULTURE.**—The following account of ploughing and sowing, extracted from a new work on South America, will amuse our agricultural friends:—"The 'espinos,' or thorn-bushes, overgrow wheat fields and pasture grounds, and are always cut even with the soil at the time of ploughing and sowing, which take place after the first rain in the month of June. On a large hacienda, this operation presents an interesting and animated scene. I saw a hundred and sixteen pairs of oxen and as many ploughs working at the same time. They were marched and countermarched like troops of soldiers. Each ox had its name, and each ploughman was shouting and goading at the same time, presenting a spectacle not easily described. Like everything in Chili, the operation of sowing wheat is performed on horseback. The sower carries before him, on the pommel of his saddle, a quantity of seed in his poncho, which he holds with one hand, while with the other he scatters it over the ground as the horse walks along."



## AGRICULTURAL INTELLIGENCE, FAIRS, &c.

**CIRENCESTER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**—The Premium of 20*l.*, given by C. W. Codrington, Esq., M.P., to the renting farmer for the best cultivated farm in the county of Gloucester, whose whole farm shall not be less than 300 acres, 200 of which to be arable land, was awarded to the late Mr. Edmund Wood, of Siddington; the other competitors were Mr. Thomas Kimber, of North Cerney, and Mr. Wickendon, of Williamstrip.

At **SHREWSBURY FAIR**, the supply of cattle was not large, but there being very few purchasers, a great part went home unsold. Good fat cattle were hardly worth 5*d* per lb., and many good things were sold at lower prices. Stores were in no demand. Small sheep were in demand at nearly 6*d* per lb.; but large sheep were not saleable except at a diminution of 4*s* or 5*s* per head, and with difficulty then. Pigs rose considerably in value; bacon pigs being worth 3½*d* to 3¾*d* per lb, and small stores from 3*s* to 4*s* a head higher. The supply of butter was exceedingly large, and prices fell to 7½*d* and 8½*d* per lb; a vast deal remains unsold. Skim cheese was sold from 20*s* to 30*s* per cwt.; a few middling dairies from 35*s* to 45*s*; and some of the best at 55*s* and 60*s*. Bacon was in good supply, and nearly all sold at 4*d* to 4½*d* per lb.

**APPLEBY NEW MONTHLY FAIR** fully answered the expectations of both buyer and seller. There was a large number of fat cattle in the market, the whole of which were sold at about 23*s* per stone; calves were also in good demand. There was a good show of fat sheep, the greatest part of which were sold. The next fair will take place on the 5th of February.

At **ST. THOMAS MARKET, CRIEFF**, there was a good supply of fat cattle, which sold at fair prices, and may be quoted at from 6*s* to 6*s* 6*d* per stone. Lean stock were in little request, with prices considerably on the decline. There were but few milch cows in the market, for which pretty high prices were obtained.

**KELSO.**—At the monthly cattle market here there was a good show of sheep, the demand for which was dull, at from 4½*d* to 5*d* per lb. The show of fat cattle was very fair for the season of the year, but sales were not brisk; prices may be quoted at from 4*s* 6*d* to 5*s* 3*d* per stone.

**PRESTON HORSE FAIR.**—This fair has been pretty well attended, and tolerably brisk, though slightly interrupted by the election proceedings. A considerable number of good horses were bought up at fair prices without being exhibited in the streets. For inferior kinds the demand has been less, and the prices obtained proportionably smaller.

The newly established Cattle Fair held at Stratford-upon-Avon, was much larger for Beef and Mutton than (for the season) was generally expected. The supply of Mutton was great, in fact, many more sheep were penned than usually are at the Warwick Fairs, in the winter season. The trade for Beef was brisk at from 4½*d* to 5*d* per lb, and nearly all were sold. The supply of mutton exceeded the demand and the trade was dull at about 5½*d* per lb, yet on the whole a great deal of business was done, and the butchers expressed themselves fully satisfied with the supply. There is no doubt, from the number of graziers and farmers who have pledged themselves to support the Cattle Fairs at Stratford, that in future the supply of stock will be considerable, and the next Fair will take place the last Monday in March next.

At **OSWESTRY FAIR** cows sold well, and also fat cattle, from 4*d* to 5*d* per lb; stores were rather a drug. Fat pigs 3½*d* per lb, but small stores, of which there were great numbers, fetched good prices, and are on the advance. Sheep from 5*d* to 6*d* per lb. Of horses there was but a poor show, and few good ones.

**YORK FORTNIGHT FAIR.**—We had a pretty good show of fat beasts at market this morning, which sold very freely at from 5*s* 3*d* to 6*s* per stone; in the lean beast market the show is also pretty large, but not much business doing; of sheep the supply is large, and they seemed to be well bought up at from 5*d* to 5½*d* and 6*d* per lb.

**YORK PIG MARKET.**—In this market the supply of pork pigs was but small, with a good demand, at from 5*s* 3*d* to 5*s* 6*d*; store pigs, the market about the same as last week; bacon pigs, 4*s* 6*d* to 5*s*; Hams, 6*s* per stone.

**NEWBURY.**—Our corn market on Thursday was thinly supplied, and in a very unsettled state, owing to the failure of Mr. Gough, who for many years had been a confidential porter and corn-dealer; the sum for which he failed is reported to be from 10,000*l.* to 12,000*l.*; a large number of farmers, as buyers, are great losers, which will be more felt owing to the depressed state of the corn trade. We hope our market will not be permanently injured, as there are several respectable persons who have come forward as porters and salesmen, among whom we mention the names of Mr. Gordon (who was for some time landlord of the King's Arms Inn,) and Mr. Vidler (who is well known as a corn-dealer in Newbury and its neighbouring markets) who will give security for all property put under their care, if required.—*Reading Mercury.*

**IMPORTATION OF IRISH CATTLE.**—The following is a statement of the number of cattle, sheep, pigs, and horses, imported into Bristol from Ireland during the year 1834:—

|                           | Pigs.   | Sheep. | Cattle. | Horses |
|---------------------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| January, Feb., March ...  | 45,398  | 317    | 146     | 25     |
| April, May, and June ...  | 37,441  | 1342   | 738     | 97     |
| July, August, & Sept. ... | 20,918  | 1997   | 1116    | 61     |
| October, Nov., & Dec. ... | 25,775  | 160    | 557     | 90     |
| Total in 1834 .....       | 129,582 | 3816   | 2557    | 273    |
| Total in 1833 .....       | 96,291  | 2730   | 2482    | 281    |

By this account it will be seen that the increase last year in the number of pigs was 33,241; sheep, 1086; cattle, 75; and a decrease of eight in horses.

**EXTRAORDINARY PRODUCTION.**—Anewe, belonging to Mr. Fuller, of Loddon Bridge, this week produced five lambs, every way perfect.

**AN ENORMOUS PIG.**—On Monday, the 12th inst. a pig, the property of William Lund, of Flaxton, on being killed, weighed the extraordinary weight of 749*lbs*, or 53½ stones.

**FRENCH FOXES.**—The Marquis of Hastings, one of the leading Meltonions of the day, has imported into this country, at considerable expense, a great number of foxes from France, the cover in Leicestershire having been neglected and ill-stocked.

**REMARKABLE FOREIGN TREES IN ENGLAND.**—The largest tulip tree that I ever saw in England is at Mount Edgecombe; the largest cork trees and ilices at Mamhead; one of the largest cypresses is at Powderham Castle; the largest cedars are at Wilton; a remarkable one is also at Althorp. A large deciduous cypress at Port Eliot, and another at Ken Wood.—*Correspondent of Gardener's Magazine.*

An Agricultural Society has been recently established for the Hundred of Dunmow and its neighbourhood.

Commercial accounts from Leghorn to the 3d inst. state that there were in depot there, at the above date, 230,530 sacks of wheat, 21,606 of maize, 28,251 of barley, 20,983 of rye, and 14,644 of oats.

Earl Spencer has announced his intention to give a prize of ten sovereigns to the person who shall exhibit the best cart stallion, at Althorp Park, on the 6th of March next.

The premium of 5l 5s, given by W. R. Cartwright, Esq., for the best crop of Swedish turnips, grown by a tenant farmer in the county of Northampton, has been gained by Mr. Richard Linnell, of Stowe. Mr. Linnell gained the same prize last year.

The weight of Earl Spencer's fine Durham ox, which was slaughtered by Mr. Strachan, of Dean-street, Westminster, was 236 stone 6 lbs. The meat proved to be as fine as could possibly be.

The weight of Mr. Hillyard's beautiful Durham cow, which was slaughtered by Mr. Sebo, of Tottenham-court-road, was 196 stone. Finer marbled flesh was scarcely ever seen.

Above 100 English agricultural labourers, in families, have already been sent to Jamaica to work in the plantations, and about 500 more are now enlisting for the same purpose. A gentleman who has resided in Jamaica for many years, is actively engaged in this service, and the best results are anticipated from this new feature in the management of our West India possessions. The greatest care and comfort are promised to these people during their service in Jamaica, and even land is farmed out to each, contiguous to the estates, on their arrival. None are engaged except such as can be well recommended by the clergymen of their different parishes. The absolute refusal of negroes to work for wages during their own time, their indolence during the allotted hours of labour, and the inefficiency of the stipendiaries to enforce industry, or even obedience, have left this as the only alternative to a total abandonment of the cultivation of the estates.

A most singular circumstance was discovered one day last week:—A sow, properly spayed, was put up with others of the same kind to fatten about six months since, by Mr. J. Y. Willatts, of this town; it had now attained the weight of 16 score, and was killed on Tuesday week. The person who killed it finding a hard substance enveloped in the cawl, and very near the part usually called the maw, gave it to a professional gentleman to open, when, to his great astonishment, he found a perfect black and white spotted pig, perfect in every part, and the hair on in some considerable length. It is supposed to have been alive at the time the sow was killed!—*Reading Mercury*.

The dead weights of the three Leicester wether sheep, exhibited by Lord Exeter, in class 7 (shearlings), at the last Smithfield Show, and which were sold to, and killed by, Mr. T. Maynard, butcher, 6, Hampstead-road, London, were as follows:—

|             | st. lb. |           | st. lb. |
|-------------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Sheep ..... | 25 7    | Fat ..... | 2 7     |
|             | 25 6    |           | 2 1½    |
|             | 26 1    |           | 3 1½    |

Averaging 25st 7lb for sheep—or 51lbs per quarter.

NOTE.—It is extraordinary, that the three sheep which obtained the prize averaged only 20st 2lb.

## REVIEW OF THE CORN TRADE IN MARK LANE DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY.

The extended period that the wheat trade has assumed so discouraging an aspect, would almost seem to remove the hope of any revival in the trade, and those connected with Mark Lane have required no ordinary share of patience to endure the dull and uninteresting uniformity, which has, since harvest, characterized the proceedings. Though the speculators in foreign wheat have had during the past year some opportunity offered them of quitting part of their stock, owing principally to the demand for Portugal, yet the prices realized have been, in most cases, far from remunerative, and the sale chiefly confined to Russian and inferior samples. The fine quality of the growth of last season throughout Germany, Prussia, Poland, Mecklenburg and Denmark; and the low currencies which have prevailed, fine high-mixed Danzig qualities being sold at 29s to 31s; Königsberg, 28s to 29s; Pomeranian, 24s; Mecklenburg, of 62lbs to 63lbs, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; Danish, of the same weight, 21s to 22s; Marks, Saale, and Magdeburg descriptions, 23s 6d to 24s 6d of 61lbs to 62½lbs; caused some speculative spirit to arise, and purchases have been made of the above qualities for English account; which, should any fortuitous chance occur in favor of the bonded holder, such as a failure in the ensuing crop, or a very retarded harvest, will command a preference in the market; but the aspect for the speculators in wheat, the produce of previous years, is of a very gloomy character; for it may be estimated that three-fifths of the bonded wheat in the United Kingdom, say about 400,000 qrs, consists of inferior descriptions; and taking into calculation the expenses of a large portion of the bulk for three years and a half, including prime cost, freight, granary charges, incidental expenses, and interest, it would require an average price of 70s per qr, with a duty of only 1s to clear the outlay, setting aside all idea of profit; that is, allowing Danzig wheats to be worth 80s, and the inferior, 60s. Before, however, the currency could obtain so high a range, we should have considerable quantities of the new growth awaiting the decline in the duty, to the almost total exclusion of the old qualities. It is therefore difficult to divine the ultimate fate of these inferior qualities of wheat, with expenses monthly increasing, and the corn becoming entirely unsaleable. It would, indeed, be a boon on the part of the government, and which in justice ought to be granted to the importers, in order not to make the article entirely useless, and to prevent a total loss, the permission to have their stock ground into flour for exportation; rendering the act doubly beneficial, making the article thus marketable to the holder, and enabling the home manufacturer to supply the colonies with biscuit and flour at a rate equal to that of the fo-



reign markets. The amount of foreign and colonial wheat entered for the home consumption in the United Kingdom during the year 1834, has been about 47,000 qrs, and the quantity of foreign exported, 122,000.

During the month, from the 22nd of December to the 26th of January, the following quantities of grain have arrived in the port of London.

|              | Wheat. | Barley. | Oats,   |
|--------------|--------|---------|---------|
|              | Qrs.   | Qrs.    | Qrs.    |
| English .... | 35,899 | 31,576  | 5,368   |
| Scotch ..—   | 1,272  | 9,267   | 36,014  |
| Irish .....  | 951    | 9,033   | 104,567 |
| Foreign .... | 245    | 5,608   | —       |

|              | Beans. | Peas. | Flour. |
|--------------|--------|-------|--------|
|              | Qrs.   | Qrs.  | Sacks. |
| English .... | 56,76  | 1,889 | 35,999 |
| Scotch ....  | 1,192  | 859   | 926    |
| Irish .....  | —      | —     | 1,494  |
| Foreign .... | 1,034  | 1,780 | 2,171  |

The principal differences in the supplies, as compared with the month of November, are a decrease of 14,679 qrs of English barley, and 6,608 qrs of Scotch ditto, but an increase of 3,899 qrs of Irish ditto. In oats, the principal disparity exists, the supplies of English having augmented 705 qrs, and of Irish, 55,249 qrs, while from Scotland the arrivals have diminished 9,281 qrs. Of foreign Barley we have received 3,176 additional qrs.

At the commencement of the month, the Christmas holidays and the approaching elections exciting general attention, both in town and country, caused Mark Lane to be thinly attended. But the supplies being only moderate, the finer qualities of white and red wheat proved saleable at the currencies, which had sustained no improvement from the depression experienced during December. It was however thought, that, generally, the feeling of the trade was rallying, and that prices, having attained so low a range were not likely to be susceptible of any further decline. Indeed extra selected parcels of white wheat, in some instances, obtained 1s per qr. more money, added to several speculative purchases of wheat at many of the leading country markets. But towards the close of January, these faint hopes of brighter prospects again became clouded; the dampness of the atmosphere had operated unfavourably on the samples, and though prime dry parcels obtained the previous rates, yet the fine as well as secondary sorts moved slowly off hand at a decline of 1s to 2s per qr, [millers] purchasing sparingly at this reduction. In bonded wheat not much business has transpired. Some inferior parcels have been purchased at low figures ostensibly for Guernsey, and better qualities have been taken for shipment to Leghorn, to which destination the exports from hence have amounted to nearly 4,000 qrs.

The town millers in the early part of the

month having pressed on the market a good deal of stock, forced down the rates of ship qualities to a very low currency; Essex, Kent, and Suffolk samples being only worth 30s per sack; Sussex and Hampshire, 30s to 32s; Northumberland and Scotch, 29s; Irish, 30s, being a reduction of 2s to 3s per sack, as compared with the prices of December. These depressed currencies attracted a little speculative attention, and fine fresh samples obtained an advance of 1s per sack, at which the quotations remain, though the trade has become again languid. Town made qualities remain nominally at 40s to 42s.

The alterations in the duties consist of a decline of 2s per qr. on wheat; 1s 6d per qr. on Barley; 3s per qr. on Beans, and 1s 6d per qr. on Peas.

The supplies of Barley compared with the foregoing month, have considerably diminished, chevalier and other fine Malting qualities having formed a very small proportion of the arrivals, fine Chevalier samples have advanced 3s to 4s, and other malting sorts 2s per qr. The distillers have bought moderately at the quotations noted at the beginning of January, and in grinding descriptions there has been no variation. The Irish samples have been pressing on the market, and the low currencies they have realized has checked any improvement in the averages, good parcels being only worth 24s to 25s; inferior, 22s 6d to 23s. There is little doubt however that the trade will rally, as it is now become evident, that the deficiency in the produce of barley is to a considerable extent throughout England, which has been exhibited in the shortness of the straw, thinness of the plant, unevenness of growth, and in the deficiency of the yield. In the northern districts of Scotland, the growth has been large, but in the Lowlands, the produce will not much exceed the local demand for distilling and grinding. In Ireland, the cultivation of the article has been much extended, and the crop plentiful, but the yield generally only fit for grinding. Neither therefore from Scotland nor Ireland can the failure in malting qualities be made up, and recourse must be had to foreign importations. The demand therefore throughout the month for bonded qualities has been animated, particularly for Danish and Holstein samples, as the growth of these countries, is this year superior to any other part of Germany, Prussia, or Russia. The shipments of these descriptions, which have come to hand, have realized from 38s to 40s; latterly only Danish cargoes have been offering, which were saleable at 22s 6d per qr, in bond. Prices in Denmark remain at 14s to 14s 6d, and 15s to 15s 6d for Holstein. The Mecklenburg qualities are inferior this season in weight, and not so kindly as the produce of Denmark or Holstein.

Fine samples of malt have been scarce, and realized an advance of 1s to 2s per qr, with a ready sale; the stock on hand being generally light.

The receipt of oats from Ireland and Scotland have been large, particularly from the former country, the arrivals for the week ending the 17th of January, having exceeded 43,000 qrs, making the supply one of the largest by 6 or 7,000 qrs ever received within a similar period. The deliveries of English oats have also increased, but are yet very deficient as compared with the supplies of previous years at this season. Notwithstanding, however, the extent of the importations, prices had continued to advance, the trade preserving a steadiness of character, which could alone be re-communited by the certainty of the deficiency in the yield of the last harvest. English qualities have advanced 1s to 2s per qr, Irish 1s per qr, best Scotch potato qualities, on the contrary, owing to their advanced prices and a large supply, have receded 6d to 1s per qr. Oats, free on board in Ireland, have improved 3d to 6d per barrel from all ports; and it may be remarked that the present prices will not return within 1s 7d per barrel of the free on board prices at present paid in the sister isle. The growth of oats in England is estimated fully one-fifth deficient, as compared with the produce last year, from which the consumption left no surplus, and this deficiency is further increased by the general scarcity of fodder, the small quantity grown of peas and beans, and the high price of linseed cakes. The weight of oats is lighter per bushel than usual. In the north of Scotland there is a fair average produce, but in the Lowlands the yield is below an average. In Ireland the growth is estimated nearly one-sixth short of an average crop; in the southern counties it does not exceed this estimate, but is better towards the North, and the deliveries from the farmers are much advanced for the early period of the season, and there are only small stocks held by the merchants. In the Baltic ports the stocks of oats are extremely limited, and in Mecklenburg and Holstein there will be very little left for export; prices were ruling from 12s to 13s, which were the currencies in Denmark as well as Sweden. At Riga oats were held at 13s 8d. At St. Petersburg at from 14s to 16s.

The duty on beans having advanced to 14s, caused the article to become rather steadier in price, which had, at the beginning of the month, receded fully 1s per qr; since then the trade has been dull, and prices unaltered. Bonded beans have met little attention, but holders have not given way in their demands. Extensive purchases have been made on the Elbe, Eyder, and Weser, at 22s to 23s per qr for small quantities.

A quantity of white foreign peas have arrived, and previous to the duty advancing from 6s 6d to 8s, from 4,000 to 5,000 qrs were entered for the home consumption, which depressed the trade, that had already been rendered extremely heavy, and prices altogether are 2s to 3s per qr lower. Maple qualities have receded 1s per qr, but fine qualities

for seed are in demand, at former rates. Hog peas, owing to the arrival of several Scotch samples, must be noted also 2s to 3s per qr cheaper. Extensive purchases have been made in the Baltic for spring shipment, at 22s to 25s.

The markets in France have generally remained firm in price, and in many places, particularly those where the drought has still continued, the currency of wheat and barley is advancing. The young plants, for want of rain, with difficulty have raised their heads above the ground, and are weak and unpromising. The worms and field-mice have continued their depredations, and so serious have been the ravages of these latter destructive little animals, that fields have been obliged to be re-sown with grain. At Paris the supplies of wheat have been extremely limited, which, in part, was attributed to the lowness of the water in the rivers preventing the navigation of the craft into the Seine. It was, however, the opinion of some speculators, that the deficiency in the yield of the new crop was more extensive than at first anticipated, and that, even with the facilities of water carriage, the supplies would fall far short of the usual arrivals at this season of the year, and that prices, therefore, were more likely to advance than recede, it being instanced that, in certain districts, purchases of wheat had been effected from whence the metropolis was wont to receive large deliveries. Incendiarism, likewise, as in this country, was committing its dreadful ravages on agricultural property. Cloverseed, at Paris, was dull, at 35s to 36s. At Rouen and Havre, prices nominal at 30s to 33s. At Bordeaux the trade was very limited; the quality this year being inferior to that produced in the Northern Departments, the rates quoted were 30s to 32s per cwt. The last aggregate average price of wheat, throughout France, was about 34s per qr.

At Hobart Town, Van Diemen's Land, the prices of wheat, owing to the shortness of the stock, had advanced to 16s per bushel; supplies, however, were expected, and 5,000 bushels had arrived from the East Indies, and arrivals were looked for from the Cape of Good Hope, so that the currency had been reduced to 14s per bushel, and the Governor, on account of the high price and scarcity of wheat, had directed it to be notified, that settlers and others were authorised to issue to their assigned servants, barley-meal, in the proportion of one-third of that article to two-thirds of wheaten meal.

At Montreal and Quebec, the weather had become severe, and the St. Lawrence was frozen over; the shipping season having therefore closed, the trade in grain had become quite nominal; Upper Canada white wheat remained at 4s for 60 lbs; red Lower Canada ditto, 3s 9d per minot; Barley, 2s 10d to 3s; Oats, 1s 4d; Indian Corn,



4s to 5s per minut, which is equal to about a bushel.

In the United States of America, the markets were being scantily supplied with flour and grain, as the inland navigation had been impeded by the freezing of the canals. Flour varied in value from 20s 6d to 22s 6d per barrel, as in quality. Wheat realized from 32s 3d to 38s 10d. Cloverseed was saleable at Baltimore at 23s to 24s 2d per bushel; Philadelphia, 19s 1d to 22s 6d per ditto; New York, 5d to 5½d per lb. It had been reported at New York, that the under-writers, in consequence of the allusions towards France in the President's speech, had refused to insure; this, however, has proved incorrect, the refusal having been only made when vessels were undertaking unusually long voyages.

The Italian markets remained firm, and at Leghorn a speculative demand has arisen for wheat, the stocks being unusually short, not much exceeding 43,000 qrs. Danzig, Hamburg, Stralsund, and other qualities of wheat, had obtained from 26s 6d to 28s 6d and 29s 6d per qr, freight and charges included. English white wheat was worth 34s to 35s; red, 32s 6d. Most of the cargoes of the Northern qualities of corn had arrived from Lisbon, being shipments excluded from that port. The prospects of the young wheat plants had improved, owing to the seasonable rains. All crushing seeds were held on high terms, owing to the failure in the crops, and the advanced rates oil was maintaining.

At St. Petersburg, the government order for closing the Russian ports in the Baltic against the free admission of grain, except at a certain rate of duty, as 3 roubles per tschetwert on wheat and peas, 2 do. on rye and barley, and 1½ do. on oats, had caused no alteration in the currencies. The ports in the Black Sea and Sea of Azoff only were to remain open until the close of the present year. Rye was selling as high as 26s 4d to 27s. Prices were even higher in the interior provinces, and as fresh supplies could not be received from the more distant governments until July or August, and the crops in the Baltic provinces being by no means abundant, it was thought probable that before the next harvest the advance in prices might compel the ports to be re-opened. Morschansky Linseed remained firm at 41s to 43s 10d. At Riga, there has been nothing transpiring in the wheat trade, Courish qualities remaining nominal at 24s to 28s 5d per qr. Courish rye, of 54 to 55lbs, has been contracted for at 22s 5d, with 10 per cent. advance. Courish Barley on the spot, of 48 to 49lbs, has been bought at 18s 6d, and Russian oats, in loco, at 13s 8d per qr. For crushing linseed on contract, to be delivered next spring, 45s 3d is demanded, and for good quality, 44s 3d is offered; a parcel of a very fine description has been bought at 47s 3d, with 10 per cent. advanced, the remaining pay-

ment on delivery in the spring. Hempseed has been purchased at 27s 7d. all cash advanced, and at 28s 7d per qr, with 10 per cent. advanced.

At Danzig, the demand for wheat had rather increased, and the finest white qualities had been sold from 31s to 33s, the finest high-mixed, 28s to 30s; and fine mixed, 25s to 27s per qr, free on board. During the past year, 71,040 qrs of wheat had been exported, of which only 21,410 qrs had been shipped to this country; the supply, therefore, had much exceeded the demand, and left on hand a large stock, amounting to 250,000 qrs, of which, however, only about 3,000 qrs were of the new growth.

At Konigsberg no business was passing in wheat; beans, peas, tares, and linseed, however, were in request; beans, at 22s; peas, 23s to 24s; tares, 20s 6d to 22s; linseed, 45s to 46s. At Memel, the latter article was held at from 45s to 47s. At Stettin prices remained high; wheat, 25s 6d; barley, 16s to 16s 6d; oats, 12s 6d. In the Mecklenburg, Holstein, and Danish ports, no alteration had taken place in prices; but in Mecklenburg, the low price and fine quality of the wheats had created some speculative spirit on the part of merchants, some of whom had purchased stock at 22s to 22s 6d, for quality of 63lbs., and even 64lbs. The demand for barley, generally, was much less animated, but prices remained steady. Mecklenburg qualities, 14s to 14s 3d, weighing 51 to 52lbs.; Holstein, of 42 to 44lbs., 15s to 15s 6d; Danish, ditto., of the same weight, 14s to 14s 6d. At Hamburg, the transactions in grain were to a very limited amount, though all articles maintained their previous currencies. White Cloverseed, owing to the demand which it had experienced for England, was firm at the improved rates; best Silesian, 46s 6d to 47s 6d; Bohemian, 40s to 41s per cwt. In East Friesland, prices of oats remained steady; new brew, of 39lbs., 13s 3d to 13s 9d; old, ditto., of 40 to 41lbs., 18s per qr.; new feed, of 34 to 35lbs., 11s to 11s 6d.

#### CURRENCY PER IMPERIAL MEASURE.

| BRITISH.                               | JAN. 1. |       | FEB. 1. |       |
|----------------------------------------|---------|-------|---------|-------|
|                                        | s.      | d.    | s.      | d.    |
| Wheat, red, Essex, Kent, Suffolk, new. | 40      | to 43 | 40      | to 41 |
| Old.                                   | 41      | 46    | 42      | 45    |
| White, new.                            | 46      | 52    | 42      | 53    |
| Ditto, old.                            | 50      | 53    | 48      | 54    |
| Norfolk, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire.   | 39      | 40    | 36      | 41    |
| White, do. do.                         | 42      | 48    | 42      | 47    |
| West Country Red                       | 36      | 39    |         | 40    |
| White, ditto.                          | 46      | 50    | 46      | 47    |
| Northumberland and Berwickshire Red    | 35      | 37    | 35      | 39    |
| White, ditto.                          | 37      | 41    | 39      | 45    |
| Irish Red                              | 32      | 35    | 32      | 36    |
| Ditto White                            | 33      | 37    | 35      | 38    |
| Barley, Malt, new                      | 30      | 33    | 31      | 36    |
| Chevalier, new                         | 32      | 38    | 38      | 43    |
| Distilling                             | 22      | 30    | 30      | 33    |
| Grinding.                              | 22      | 28    | 22      | 28    |
| Malt, Brown.                           | 36      | 43    | 36      | 43    |
| Ditto Norfolk pale                     | 50      | 62    | 50      | 64    |
| Ditto Ware                             | 58      | 65    | 60      | 67    |
| Peas, Hog and Grey.                    | 36      | 49    | 36      | 49    |
| Maple                                  | 38      | 42    | 40      | 42    |
| White Boilers                          | 38      | 42    | 38      | 42    |

|                         | JAN. 1.                      |    | FEB. 1.          |    |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|----|------------------|----|
|                         | s.                           | s. | s.               | s. |
| Beans, small.....       | 36                           | 40 | 36               | 40 |
| Harrow .....            | 31                           | 39 | 34               | 39 |
| Ticks .....             | 32                           | 36 | 32               | 35 |
| Mazagan .....           | 32                           | 36 | 30               | 36 |
| Oats, English feed..... | 19                           | 23 | 24               | 25 |
| Short small .....       | 22                           | 24 | 23               | 25 |
| Poland .....            | 21                           | 24 | 23               | 26 |
| Scotch, Common.....     | 22                           | 24 | 23               | 25 |
| Berwick, &c. ....       | 22                           | 26 | 25               | 26 |
| Potatoes, &c. ....      | 22                           | 28 | 25               | 27 |
| IRISH. Feed .....       | 18s 0d to 21s 0d             |    | 22s 6d to 23s 0d |    |
| Ditto Potatoes.....     | 22s 0d 24s 0d                |    | 23s 0d 25s 0d    |    |
| Ditto Black .....       | 20s 0d 22s 0d                |    | 19s 0d 20s 0d    |    |
| Bran .....              | 11s 0d to 12s 6d per bushel. |    |                  |    |

## PRICES OF FLOUR,

| Per Sack of 280 lbs.                        | JAN. 1.  |    | FEB. 1.  |    |
|---------------------------------------------|----------|----|----------|----|
|                                             | s.       | s. | s.       | s. |
| Town-made .....                             | 40 to 42 |    | 40 to 42 |    |
| Norfolk, Suffolk, Kent, and Essex .....     | 30       | 32 | 29       | 31 |
| Sussex and Hampshire .....                  | 31       | 33 | 30       | 32 |
| Superfine .....                             | —        | 35 | 33       | —  |
| Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and Stockton ..... | 30       | 32 | 28       | 30 |
| Northumberland, Berwick, and Scotch .....   | 30       | 31 | 29       | 30 |
| Irish .....                                 | 31       | 34 | 29       | 30 |
| Extra .....                                 | —        | —  | 32       | —  |

## AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF THE LONDON AVERAGES,

From the 20th December to the 24th of January.

|              | qrs.    | £ | s. | d. |                    | qrs.   | £ | s. | d. |
|--------------|---------|---|----|----|--------------------|--------|---|----|----|
| Wheat .....  | 38,940  | 2 | 4  | 1  | Beans .....        | 7,136  | 1 | 16 | 9  |
| Barley ..... | 51,467  | 1 | 12 | 6  | Peas .....         | 25,477 | 2 | 4  | 9  |
| Oats .....   | 126,431 | 1 | 3  | 1  | Bere or Bigg ..... | 13,711 | 1 | 5  | 5  |
| Rye .....    | 27      | 1 | 13 | 6  |                    |        |   |    |    |

## IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

|                                                                                                                                        | Wheat. | Barley | Oats  | Rye  | Beans | Peas |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|------|-------|------|
| Weekending .....                                                                                                                       |        |        |       |      |       |      |
| 12th Dec., .....                                                                                                                       | 41 1   | 31 10  | 22 6  | 33 6 | 38 1  | 41 1 |
| 21st " .....                                                                                                                           | 40 11  | 31 7   | 22 4  | 31 3 | 37 8  | 42 6 |
| 28th " .....                                                                                                                           | 40 6   | 31 1   | 22 0  | 32 7 | 37 1  | 41 9 |
| 2d Jan., .....                                                                                                                         | 40 1   | 31 0   | 21 9  | 32 1 | 36 1  | 41 1 |
| 9th " .....                                                                                                                            | 40 5   | 31 0   | 22 0  | 33 9 | 36 2  | 40 9 |
| 16th " .....                                                                                                                           | 40 7   | 31 6   | 21 11 | 28 8 | 35 11 | 40 5 |
| Aggregate Average of the six weeks which regulates the duty .....                                                                      | 40 7   | 31 4   | 22 1  | 32 0 | 36 10 | 41 3 |
| Duties payable in London till Wednesday next inclusive, and at the Outports till the arrival of the Mail of that day from London ..... | 46 8   | 15 4   | 13 9  | 21 3 | 15 6  | 8 5  |
| Do. on grain from British possessions out of Europe .....                                                                              | 5 0    | 2 6    | 2 6   | 3 0  | 3 0   | 3 0  |

An Account of the Quantity of Grain and Flour imported into the United Kingdom during the month ending the 5th of January; the Quantity on which the Duty has been paid for Home Consumption, and the quantity remaining in Warehouse.

|                                       | Wheat.  | Barley. | Oats.   | Rye.    |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                       | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    |
| Quantity imported ....                | 8,525   | 13,582  | 7       | ..      |
| Do. entered for home consumption..... | 2,249   | 8,920   | 119     | 18      |
| Do. remaining in warehouse .....      | 666,440 | 164,750 | 329,820 | 5,108   |
|                                       | Peas.   | Beans.  | Blank   | Flour   |
|                                       | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | cwts.   |
| Quantity imported ....                | 5,535   | 777     | ..      | 12,657  |
| Do. entered for consumption.....      | 4,076   | 4,735   | ..      | 1,881   |
| Do. remaining in warehouse.....       | 9,955   | 38,453  | 636     | 377,967 |

## PRICES OF HOPS IN THE BOROUGH.

|                            | JAN. 1. |            | FEB. 1. |           |
|----------------------------|---------|------------|---------|-----------|
|                            | £       | s.         | £       | s.        |
| East Kent Pockets.....     | 5       | 15 to 6 12 | 5       | 15 to 7 7 |
| Mid-Kent Pockets.....      | 5       | 0 6 8      | 5       | 5 6 4     |
| Weald of Kent Pockets..... | 4       | 12 5 12    | 5       | 0 5 15    |
| Sussex Pockets.....        | 3       | 10 4 10    | 3       | 10 4 18   |
| Yearlings .....            | 1       | 1 3 0      | 1       | 1 2 18    |
| Old Olds .....             |         |            |         |           |

## BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS MARKETS.

|                             | JAN. 1.             |            | FEB. 1. |            |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------|---------|------------|
| Per ton.                    | £                   | s.         | £       | s.         |
| Ware, Scotch reds .....     | 2                   | 10 to 3 10 | 2       | 10 to 3 10 |
| York kidneys .....          | 2                   | 15 3 15    | 2       | 15 3 15    |
| Marsh Champions.....        | 2                   | 5 3 5      | 2       | 5 3 5      |
| London whites .....         | 2                   | 2 3 3      | 2       | 2 3 3      |
| Shaws.....                  | 2                   | 0 3 0      | 2       | 0 3 0      |
| Middlings, Scotch reds..... | 1                   | 15 2 5     | 1       | 15 2 5     |
| York kidneys .....          | 2                   | 2 10 2     | 2       | 2 10 2     |
| Marsh Champions.....        | 1                   | 15 2 5     | 1       | 15 2 5     |
| London whites.....          | 1                   | 12 2 0     | 1       | 12 2 0     |
| Shaws.....                  | 1                   | 10 2 0     | 1       | 10 2 0     |
| Chat Potatoes.....          | 20s to 25s per ton. |            |         |            |

## SMITHFIELD MARKET.

Per stone of 14 lbs. to sink the offals.

|                    | JAN. 1. |          | FEB. 1. |          |
|--------------------|---------|----------|---------|----------|
|                    | s.      | d.       | s.      | d.       |
| Inferior Beef..... | 2       | 2 to 2 4 | 2       | 0 to 2 2 |
| Do. Mutton.....    | 2       | 4 2 6    | 2       | 2 2 4    |
| Middling Beef..... | 2       | 6 2 10   | 2       | 4 2 8    |
| Do. Mutton.....    | 2       | 10 3 2   | 2       | 8 3 0    |
| Prime Beef.....    | 3       | 8 4 6    | 3       | 6 4 0    |
| Do. Mutton.....    | 3       | 8 4 4    | 3       | 6 4 0    |
| Veal .....         | 3       | 2 5 0    | 3       | 0 5 0    |
| Pork .....         | 2       | 8 3 8    | 2       | 6 3 6    |
| Lamb.....          | 0       | 0 0 0    | 0       | 0 0 0    |

## WOOL MARKETS.

## BRITISH.

|                         | JAN. 1. |              | FEB. 1. |            |
|-------------------------|---------|--------------|---------|------------|
| Per lb.                 | s.      | d.           | s.      | d.         |
| Down Tergs.....         | 1       | 6 to 1 6 1/2 | 1       | 6 to 0 0   |
| Half-bred Hoggets ..... | 1       | 7 0 0        | 1       | 7 0 0      |
| Ewes and Wethers .....  | 1       | 3 0 0        | 1       | 3 0 0      |
| Leicester Hogs .....    | 1       | 6 0 0        | 1       | 6 0 0      |
| Do. Wethers .....       | 1       | 3 0 0        | 1       | 3 0 0      |
| Blanket Wool.....       | 0       | 9 1 0        | 0       | 9 0 11 1/2 |
| Flannel .....           | 1       | 0 1 3        | 1       | 0 1 3      |
| Skin Combing .....      | 1       | 0 1 4        | 1       | 1 1 1      |

## SCOTCH.

Per Stone of 24 lbs.

|                               | JAN. 1. |           | FEB. 1. |           |
|-------------------------------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|
|                               | s.      | d.        | s.      | d.        |
| Laid Highland Wool, from..... | 11      | 9 to 13 0 | 11      | 0 to 11 6 |
| White Do. Do.....             | 15      | 0 16 0    | 14      | 0 14 6    |
| Laid Crossed Do.....          | 15      | 0 16 0    | 14      | 0 14 6    |
| Washed Do. Do.....            | 17      | 6 18 6    | 16      | 6 17 6    |
| Laid Cheviots.....            | 17      | 6 19 6    | 16      | 0 18 0    |
| Washed Do.....                | 22      | 0 26 0    | 19      | 0 22 0    |
| White Do.....                 | 32      | 0 34 0    | 28      | 0 30 0    |

## FOREIGN.

|                         | JAN. 1. |        | FEB. 1. |        |
|-------------------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| Per lb.                 | s.      | d.     | s.      | d.     |
| Australian .....        | 2       | 2 3 0  | 2       | 2 3 0  |
| Van Diemen's Land ..... | 1       | 6 2 9  | 1       | 6 2 9  |
| German Electoral .....  | 4       | 0 5 0  | 4       | 0 5 0  |
| Primas .....            | 3       | 0 3 3  | 3       | 0 3 3  |
| Secundas.....           | 2       | 0 2 3  | 2       | 0 2 3  |
| Tertias .....           | 1       | 6 2 0  | 1       | 6 2 0  |
| Pieces .....            | 1       | 6 2 3  | 1       | 6 2 3  |
| Lamb's.....             | 2       | 0 3 9  | 2       | 0 3 9  |
| Spanish Leonas .....    | 2       | 0 2 9  | 2       | 0 2 9  |
| Segovias .....          | 1       | 10 2 3 | 1       | 10 2 3 |
| Soria's .....           | 1       | 9 2 0  | 1       | 9 2 0  |
| Estramaduras .....      | 1       | 4 2 7  | 1       | 4 2 7  |
| Lamb's .....            | 1       | 3 1 9  | 1       | 3 1 9  |
| Portugal .....          | 1       | 1 1 5  | 1       | 1 1 5  |
| Russia Marinos .....    | 2       | 3 3 9  | 2       | 3 3 9  |
| Crosses.....            | 1       | 9 2 6  | 1       | 9 2 6  |
| Odessa Zigay .....      | 1       | 1 1 3  | 1       | 1 1 3  |
| Donskoy.....            | 0       | 7 0 9  | 0       | 7 0 9  |



# THE POLITICAL COMPANION

TO

## THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

### MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

*Fellow-Citizens of the Senate,  
And House of Representatives:—*

In performing my duty at the opening of your present session it gives me pleasure to congratulate you again upon the prosperous condition of our beloved country. Divine Providence has favoured us with general health, with rich rewards in the fields of agriculture and in every branch of labour, and with peace to cultivate and extend the various resources which employ the virtue and enterprise of our citizens.—Let us trust that, in surveying a scene so flattering to our free institutions, our joint deliberations to preserve them may be crowned with success.

Our foreign relations continue, with but few exceptions, to maintain the favourable aspect which they bore in my last annual message, and promise to extend those advantages which the principles that regulate our intercourse with other nations are so well calculated to secure.

The question of the north-eastern boundary is still pending with Great Britain, and the proposition made in accordance with the resolution of the Senate for the establishment of a line according to the treaty of 1783 has not been accepted by that Government. Believing that every disposition is felt on both sides to adjust this perplexing question to the satisfaction of all the parties interested in it, the hope is yet indulged that it may be effected on the basis of that proposition.

With the Governments of Austria, Russia, Prussia, Holland, Sweden, and Denmark, the best understanding exists. Commerce, with all, is fostered and protected by reciprocal good will, under the sanction of liberal conventional or legal provisions.

In the midst of her internal difficulties the Queen of Spain has ratified the Convention for the payment of the claims of our citizens arising since 1819. It is in the course of execution on her part, and a copy of it is now laid before you for such legislation as may be found necessary to enable those interested to derive the benefits of it.

The treaty of Amity and Commerce between the United States and Belgium, brought to your notice in my last annual Message as sanctioned by the Senate, but the ratifications of which had not been exchanged, owing to a delay in its reception at Brussels, and a subsequent absence of the Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs, has been, after mature deliberation, finally disavowed by that Government as inconsistent with the powers and instructions given to the Minister who negotiated it. This disavowal was entirely unexpected, as the liberal principles embodied in the Convention, and which form the groundwork of the objections to it, were perfectly satisfactory to the Belgian Representative, and were supposed to be not only within the

powers granted, but expressly conformably to the instructions given to him. An offer not yet accepted, has been made by Belgium to renew negotiations for a Treaty less liberal in its provisions on questions of general maritime law.

Our newly established relation with the Sublime Porte promises to be useful to our commerce, and satisfactory in every respect to this Government. Our first Treaty with the Emperor of Morocco was formed in 1786, and was limited to fifty years. That period has almost expired. I shall take measures to renew it with the greater satisfaction as its stipulations are just and liberal, and have been with mutual fidelity and reciprocal advantage scrupulously fulfilled.

After referring to the intestine divisions of the South American States the President adds:—I confidently hope that the apprehensions entertained that some of the people of these luxuriant regions may be tempted, in a moment of unworthy distrust of their own capacity for the enjoyment of liberty, to commit the too common error of purchasing present repose by bestowing on some favourite leaders the fatal gift of irresponsible power, will not be realized. With all these Governments, and with that of Brazil, no unexpected changes in our relations have occurred during the present year.

It becomes my unpleasant duty to inform you that this pacific and highly gratifying picture of our foreign relations does not include France at this time. It is not possible that any Government and people could be more sincerely desirous of conciliating a just and friendly intercourse with another nation than are those of the United States with their ancient ally and friend. This disposition is founded as well on the most grateful and honourable recollections associated with our struggle for independence, as upon a well grounded conviction that it is consonant with the true policy of both. The people of the United States could not, therefore, see without the deepest regret even a temporary interruption of the friendly relations between the two countries, a regret which would, I am sure, be greatly aggravated if there should turn out to be any reasonable ground for attributing such a result to any act of omission or commission on our part. I derive, therefore, the highest satisfaction from being able to assure you that the whole course of this Government has been characterised by a spirit so conciliatory and forbearing as to make it impossible that our justice and moderation should be questioned, whatever may be the consequence of a longer perseverance on the part of the French Government in her omission to satisfy the conceded claims of our citizens.

The history of the accumulated and unprovoked aggression upon our commerce committed by authority of the existing Governments of France between the years 1800 and 1817 has been rendered too painfully familiar to Americans to make its repetition either necessary or desirable. It will be sufficient here to

remark that there has for many years been scarcely a single Administration of the French Government by whom the justice and legality of the claims of our citizens to indemnity were not, to a very considerable extent, admitted, and yet near a quarter of a century has been wasted in ineffectual negotiations to secure it.

Deeply sensible of the injurious effects resulting from this state of things upon the interests and character of both nations, I regarded it as among my first duties to cause one more effort to be made to satisfy France that a just and liberal settlement of our claims was as well due to her own honour as to their incontestable validity. The negotiation for this purpose was commenced with the late Government of France, and was prosecuted with such success as to leave no reasonable ground to doubt that a settlement of a character quite as liberal as that which was subsequently made would have been effected had not the revolution, by which the negotiation was cut off, taken place. The discussions were resumed with the present Government, and the result showed that we were not wrong in supposing that an event by which the two Governments were made to approach each other so much nearer in their political principles, and by which the motives for the most liberal and friendly intercourse were so greatly multiplied, could exercise no other than a salutary influence upon the negotiation. After the most deliberate and thorough examination of the whole subject, a treaty between the two Governments was concluded and signed at Paris on the 4th July, 1831.

The Treaty was duly ratified in the manner prescribed by the Constitutions of both countries, and the ratification was exchanged at the city of Washington on the 2nd of February, 1832. On account of its commercial stipulations it was in five days thereafter laid before the Congress of the United States, which proceeded to enact such laws favourable to the commerce of France as were necessary to carry it into full execution; and France has from that period to the present been in the unrestricted enjoyment of the valuable privileges that were thus secured to her. The faith of the French nation having been thus solemnly pledged, through its constitutional organ, for the liquidation and ultimate payment of the long-deferred claims of our citizens, as also the adjustment of other points of great and reciprocal benefits to both countries, and the United States having, with a fidelity and promptitude by which their conduct will, I trust, be always characterised, done every thing that was necessary to carry the treaty into full and fair effect on their part, counted with the most perfect confidence on equal fidelity and promptitude on the part of the French Government. In this reasonable expectation we have been, I regret to inform you, wholly disappointed. No legislative provision has been made by France for the execution of the treaty, either as it respects the indemnity to be paid or the commercial benefit to be secured to the United States; and the relations between the United States and that power, in consequence thereof, are placed in a situation threatening to interrupt the good understanding which has so long and so happily existed between the two nations.

Not only has the French Government been thus wanting in the performance of the stipulations it has so solemnly entered into with the United States, but its omissions have been marked by circumstances which would seem to leave us without satisfactory evidences that such performance will certainly take place at a future period. Advice of the exchange of ratifications reached Paris prior to the 8th of April,

1832. The French Chambers were then sitting, and continued in session until the 21st of that month, and although one of the instalments of the indemnity was payable on the 2d of February, 1833, one year after the exchange of ratifications, no application was made to the Chambers for the required appropriation, and in consequence of no appropriation having then been made, the draft of the United States Government for that instalment was dishonoured by the Minister of Finance, and the United States thereby involved in much controversy. The next Session of the Chambers commenced on the 19th of November, 1832, and continued until the 25th of April, 1833. Notwithstanding the omission to pay the first instalment had been made the subject of earnest remonstrance on our part, the treaty with the United States, and a bill making the necessary appropriations to execute it, were not laid before the Chamber of Deputies until the 6th of April, nearly five months after its meeting, and only nineteen days before the close of the session. The bill was read and referred to a committee, but there was no further action upon it. The next session of the Chambers commenced on the 26th of April 1833, and continued until the 26th of June following. A new bill was introduced on the 11th of June, but nothing important was done in relation to it during the session. In the month of April, 1834, nearly three years after the signature of the treaty, the final action of the French Chambers upon the bill to carry the treaty into effect was obtained, and resulted in a refusal of the necessary appropriations. Although the gross amount of the claims of our citizens is probably greater than will be ultimately allowed by the Commissioners, sufficient is nevertheless shown to render it absolutely certain that the indemnity falls far short of the actual amount of our just claims, independently of the question of damages and interest for the detention. That the settlement involved a sacrifice in this respect was well known at the time, a sacrifice which was cheerfully acquiesced in by the different branches of the Federal Government, whose action upon the Treaty was required from a sincere desire to avoid further collision upon this old and disturbing subject, and in the confident expectation that the general relations between the two countries would be improved thereby.

The refusal to vote the appropriation, the news of which was received from our Minister in Paris about the 15th day of May last, might have been considered the final determination of the French Government not to execute the stipulations of the Treaty, and would have justified an immediate communication of the fact to Congress, with a recommendation of such ultimate measures as the interest and honour of the United States might seem to require. But with the news of the refusal of the Chambers to make the appropriation, were conveyed the regrets of the King, and a declaration that a national vessel should be forthwith sent out, with instructions to the French Minister to give the most ample explanations of the past, and the strongest assurances for the future. After a long passage the promised dispatch vessel soon arrived. The pledges given by the French Minister upon receipt of his instructions were, that, as soon after the election of the new Members as the charter would permit, the Legislative Chambers of France should be called together, and the proposition for an appropriation laid before them; and all the constitutional powers of the King and his Cabinet should be exerted to accomplish the object; and that the result should be made known early enough to be communicated to Congress at the commencement of the present session. Relying upon these pledges, and not doubting that the acknow-



ledged justice of our claims, the promised exertions of the King and his Cabinet, and, above all, that sacred regard for the national faith and honour for which the French character has been so distinguished, would secure an early execution of the Treaty in all its parts, I did not deem it necessary to call the attention of Congress to the subject at the last session.

I regret to say that the pledges made through the Minister of France have not been redeemed. The new Chambers met on the 31st of July last, and although the subject of fulfilling treaties was alluded to in the speech from the throne no attempt was made by the King or his Cabinet to procure an appropriation to carry it into execution. The reasons given for this omission, although they might be considered sufficient in an ordinary case, are not consistent with the expectations founded upon the assurances given here, for there is no constitutional obstacle to entering into legislative business at the first meeting of the Chambers. This point, however, might have been overlooked had not the Chambers, instead of being called to meet at so early a day, that the result of their deliberations might be communicated to me before the meeting of Congress, been prorogued to the 29th of the present month, a period so late that their decision can scarcely be known to the present Congress prior to its dissolution. To avoid this delay our Minister in Paris, in virtue of the assurance given by the French Minister in the United States, strongly urged the Convocation of the Chambers at an earlier day, but without success. It is proper to remark, however, that this refusal has been accompanied with the most positive assurances on the part of the Executive Government of France of their intention to press the appropriation at the ensuing Session of the Chambers.

The Executive branch of this Government has, as matters stand, exhausted all the authority upon the subject with which it is invested, and which it had any reason to believe could be beneficially employed.

The idea of acquiescing in the refusal to execute the treaty will not, I am confident, but be for a moment entertained by any branch of this Government; and further negotiation is equally out of the question.

If it shall be the pleasure of Congress to await the further action of the French Chambers, no further consideration of the subject will, at this season, probably be required at your hands. But if, from the original delay in asking for an appropriation, from the refusal of the Chambers to grant it when asked, from the omission to bring the subject before the Chambers at their last Session, from the fact that including the Session there have been five different occasions when the appropriation might have been made, and from the delay in convoking of the Chambers until some weeks after the meeting of Congress, it was well known that a communication of the whole subject to Congress at the last Session was prevented by assurances that it should be disposed of before its present meeting, you should feel yourselves constrained to doubt whether it be the intention of the French Government, in all its branches, to carry the Treaty into effect, and think that such measures as the occasion may be deemed to call for, should be now adopted, the important question arises, what those measures shall be.

Our institutions are essentially pacific. Peace and friendly intercourse with all nations are as much the desire of our Government as they are the interests of our people. But these objects are not to be permanently secured by surrendering the rights of our citizens, or permitting solemn treaties for their indemnity, in cases of flagrant wrong, to be abrogated or

set aside. It is undoubtedly in the power of the Congress seriously to affect the agricultural and manufacturing interests of France, by the passage of laws relating to her trade with the United States. Her products, manufactures, and tonnage, may be subjected to heavy duties in our ports, or all commercial intercourse with her may be suspended. But there are powerful, and, to my mind, conclusive objections to this mode of proceeding. We cannot embarrass or cut off the trade of France without at the same time, in some degree, embarrassing or cutting off our own trade. The injury of such a warfare must fall, though unequally, upon our own citizens, and could not but impair the means of the Government, and weaken that united sentiment in support of the rights and honour of the nation which must now pervade every bosom.

Nor is it impossible that such a course of legislation would introduce once more into our national Councils those disturbing questions in relation to the tariff of duties which have been so recently put to rest. Besides, by every measure adopted by the Government of the United States with the view of injuring France, the clear perception of right which will induce our own people, and the rulers and the people of all other nations, even of France herself, to pronounce our quarrel just, will be obscured, and the support rendered to us in a final resort to more decisive measures will be more limited and equivocal. There is but one point in the controversy, and upon that the whole civilized world must pronounce France to be in the wrong. We insist that she shall pay a sum of money which she has acknowledged to be due; and of the justice of this demand there can be but one opinion among mankind. True policy seems to dictate that the question at issue should be kept thus disencumbered, and that not the slightest pretence should be given to France to persist in her refusal to make payment by any act on our part affecting the interests of her people. The question should be left as it is now, in such an attitude that when France fulfils her treaty stipulations all controversy will be at an end.

It is my conviction that the United States ought to insist on a prompt execution of the treaty, and in case it be refused, or longer delayed, take redress into their own hands. After the delay on the part of France of a quarter of a century in acknowledging these claims by treaty, it is not to be tolerated that another quarter of a century is to be wasted in negotiating about the payment. The laws of nations provided a remedy for such occasions. It is a well settled principle of the international code, that where one nation owes another an unliquidated debt, which it refuses or neglects to pay, the aggrieved party may seize on the property belonging to the other, its citizens or subjects, sufficient to pay the debt, without giving just cause of war. This remedy has been repeatedly resorted to, and recently by France herself towards Portugal, under circumstances less unquestionable.

The time at which resort should be had to this, or any other mode of redress, is a point to be decided by Congress. If an appropriation shall not be made by the French Chambers at their next Session, it may justly be concluded that the Government of France has finally determined to disregard its own solemn undertaking, and refuse to pay an acknowledged debt. In that event, every day's delay on our part will be a stain upon our national honour, as well as a denial of justice to our injured citizens. Prompt measures, when the refusal of France shall be complete, will not only be most honourable and just, but will have the best effect upon our national character.

Since France, in violation of the pledges given

through her Minister here, has delayed her final action so long that her decision will not probably be known in time to be communicated to this Congress, I recommend that a law be passed authorising reprisals upon French property, in case provision shall not be made for the payment of the debt at the approaching session of the French Chambers. Such a measure ought not to be considered by France as a menace. Her pride and power are too well known to expect anything from her fears, and preclude the necessity of a declaration that nothing partaking of the character of intimidation is intended by us. She ought to look upon it as the evidence only of an inflexible determination on the part of the United States to insist on their rights. That Government, by doing only what it has itself acknowledged to be just, will be able to spare the United States the necessity of taking redress into their own hands, and save the property of French citizens from that seizure and sequestration which American citizens so long endured without retaliation or redress. If she should continue to refuse that act of acknowledged justice, and, in violation of the laws of nations, make reprisals on our part the occasion of hostilities against the United States, she would but add violence to injustice, and could not fail to expose herself to the just censure of civilized nations, and the retributive judgments of Heaven.

Collision with France is the more to be regretted on account of the position she occupies in Europe in relation to the liberal institutions. But in maintaining our national right and honour all governments are alike to us. If, by a collision with France, in a case where she is clearly in the wrong, the march of liberal principles shall be impeded, the responsibility for that result, as well as every other, will rest on her own head.

According to the estimate of the Treasury Department the revenue accruing from all sources during the present year will amount to twenty millions six hundred and twenty-four thousand seven hundred and seventeen dollars, which, with the balance remaining in the Treasury on the 1st of January last, of eleven millions seven hundred and two thousand nine hundred and five dollars, produces an aggregate of thirty-two millions three hundred and twenty-seven thousand six hundred and twenty-three dollars. The total expenditure during the year for all objects, including the public debt, is estimated at twenty-five millions five hundred and ninety-one thousand three hundred and ninety dollars, which will leave a balance in the Treasury on the 1st of January, 1835, of six millions seven hundred and thirty-six thousand two hundred and thirty-two dollars.

Thus it appears that after satisfying all those appropriations, and after discharging the last item of our public debt, which will be done on the 1st of Jan. next, there will remain unexpended in the Treasury an effective balance of about four hundred and forty thousand dollars. That such should be the aspect of our finances is highly flattering to the industry and enterprise of our population, and auspicious of the wealth and prosperity which awaits the future cultivation of their growing resources. It is not deemed prudent, however, to recommend any change for the present in our impost rates, the effect of the gradual reductions now in progress in many of them not being sufficiently tested to guide us in determining the precise amount of revenue which they will produce.

Free from public debt, at peace with all the world, and with no complicated interests to consult in our intercourse with foreign powers, the present may be hailed as that epoch in our history the most favour-

able for the settlement of those principles in our domestic policy which shall be best calculated to give stability to our Republic and secure the blessings of freedom to our citizens.

Circumstances make it my duty to call the attention of Congress to the Bank of the United States. Created for the convenience of the Government, that institution has become the scourge of the people. Its interference to postpone the payment of a portion of the national debt that it might retain the public money appropriated for that purpose to strengthen it in a political contest; the extraordinary extension and contraction of its accommodations to the community; its corrupt and partisan loans; its exclusion of the public Directors from a knowledge of its most important proceedings; the unlimited authority conferred on the President to expend its funds in hiring writers, and procuring the execution of printing, and the use made of that authority; the retention of the pension money and books after the selection of new agents; the groundless claim to heavy damages in consequence of the protest of the bill drawn on the French Government—have through various channels been laid before Congress. Immediately after the close of last Session the Bank through its President announced its ability and readiness to abandon the system of unparalleled curtailment and the interruption of domestic exchanges which it had practised upon from August 1, 1833, to June 30, 1834, and to extend its accommodations to the community. The grounds assumed in this annunciation amounted to an acknowledgment that the curtailment in the extent to which it had been carried was not necessary to the safety of the Bank, and had been persisted in merely to induce Congress to grant the prayer of the Bank in its memorial relative to the removal of the deposits, and to give it a new Charter. They were substantially a confession that all the real distresses which individuals and the country had endured for the preceding six or eight months had been needlessly produced by it, with the view of effecting through the sufferings of the people the legislative action of Congress. It is a subject of congratulation that Congress and the country had the virtue and firmness to bear the infliction; that the energies of our people soon found relief from this wanton tyranny in vast importations of the precious metals from almost every part of the world; and at the close of this tremendous effort to controul our Government the Bank found itself powerless and no longer able to loan out its surplus means. The community had learned to manage its affairs without assistance, and trade had already found new auxiliaries; so that on the 1st of October last the extraordinary spectacle was presented of a National Bank, more than one half of whose capital was either lying unproductive in its vaults or in the hands of foreign bankers.

To the needless distress brought on the country during the last Session of Congress has been added the open seizure of the dividends of the public stock to the amount of one hundred and twenty thousand and forty-one dollars, under pretence of paying damages, costs, and interest upon the protested French Bill. This sum constituted a portion of the estimated revenues for the year 1834, upon which the appropriations made by Congress were based. It would as soon have been expected that our collectors would seize on the customs, or the receivers of our land officers on the money arising from the sale of public lands, under pretences of claims against the United States, as that the Bank would have retained the dividends. This measure resorted to by the Bank is disorganizing and revolutionary, and if generally resorted to by private citizens in like cases would fill the land with anarchy and violence.



It seems due to the safety of the public funds remaining in that Bank and the honour of the American people, that measures be taken to separate the Government entirely from an institution so mischievous to the public prosperity, and so regardless of the Constitution and laws. By transferring the public deposits, by appointing other pension agents as far as it had the power, by ordering the discontinuance of the receipt of Bank checks in payment of the public dues after the 1st day of January next, the Executive has exerted all its lawful authority to sever the connections between the Government and this faithless Corporation.

The high-handed career of this institution imposes upon the constitutional functionaries of this Government duties of the gravest and most imperative character, duties which they cannot avoid, and from which I trust there will be no inclination on the part of any of them to shrink. My own sense of them, is most clear, as is also my readiness to discharge those which may rightfully fall on me. To continue any business relations with the Bank of the United States that may be avoided without violation of the national faith, after that institution has set at open defiance the conceded right of the Government to examine its affairs; after it has done all in its power to deride the public authority in other respects, and to bring it into disrepute at home and abroad; after it has attempted to defeat the clear expressed will of the people by turning against them the immense power intrusted to its hands, and by involving a country otherwise peaceful, flourishing, and happy, in dissension, embarrassment, and distress; would make the nation itself a party to the degradation so sedulously prepared for its public agents, and do much to destroy the confidence of mankind in popular governments, and to bring into contempt their authority and efficiency. In guarding against an evil of such magnitude, considerations of temporary convenience should be thrown out of the question, and we should be influenced by such motives only as look to the honour and preservation of the Republican system. Deeply and solemnly impressed with the justice of these views I feel it to be my duty to recommend to you that a law be passed authorising the sale of the public stock; that the provision of the charter requiring the receipt of notes of the Bank in payment of public dues shall, in accordance with the power reserved to Congress in the 14th section of the charter, be suspended until the Bank pays into the Treasury the dividends withheld; and that all laws connecting the Government or its officers with the Bank, directly, or indirectly, be repealed; and that the institution be left hereafter to its own resources and means.

Events have satisfied my mind, and I think the minds of the American people, that the mischief and dangers which flow from a national bank far overbalance all its advantages. The bold effort the present bank has made to controul the Government, the distresses it has wantonly produced, the violence of which it has been the occasion in one of our cities famed for its observance of law and order, are but premonitions of the fate which awaits the American people should they be deluded into a perpetuation of this institution, or the establishment of another like it.

Happily it is already illustrated that the agency of such institution is not necessary to the fiscal operations of the Government. The State banks are found fully adequate to the performance of all services which were required of the Bank of the United States quite as promptly and with the same cheapness. They have maintained themselves, and dis-

charged all these duties while the Bank of the United States was still powerful, and in the field was an open enemy; and it is not possible to conceive that they will find greater difficulties in their operations when that enemy shall cease to exist.

If the several States shall be induced gradually to reform their banking systems, and prohibit the issue of all small notes, we shall in a few years have a currency as sound and as little liable to fluctuations as any other commercial country.

No event has occurred since your last session rendering necessary the movements of the army, with the exception of the expedition of the regiment of dragoons into the territory of the wandering and predatory tribes inhabiting the western frontier, and living adjacent to the Mexican boundary. It became necessary for the peace of the frontiers to check these habitual inroads, and I am happy to inform you that the object has been effected without the commission of any act of hostility.

No important change has, during this season, taken place in the condition of the Indians. Arrangements are in progress for the removal of the Creeks, and will be soon for the removal of the Seminoles. I regret that the Cherokees east of the Mississippi have not yet determined, as a community, to remove.

I refer you to the accompanying report of the Secretary of the Navy, and the documents with it, for a full view of the operations of that important branch of our services during the present year.

When we reflect upon our position in relation to other nations, it must be apparent that, in the event of conflicts with them, we must look chiefly to our navy for the protection of our national rights. The wide sea which separate us from other Governments must of necessity be the theatre on which an enemy will aim to assail us, and unless we are prepared to meet him on this element we cannot be said to possess the power requisite to repel or prevent aggressions. We cannot, therefore, watch with too much attention this arm of our defence, or cherish with too much care the means by which it can possess the necessary efficiency and extension. To this end our policy has been heretofore wisely directed to the constant employment of a force sufficient to guard our commerce, and to the rapid accumulation of the materials which are necessary to repair our vessels, and construct with ease such new ones as may be required in a state of war.

In accordance with this policy, I recommend to your consideration the erection of the additional dry dock described by the Secretary of the navy, and also the construction of the steam batteries to which he has referred, for the purpose of testing their efficacy as auxiliaries to the system of defence now in use.

After noticing the revenues of the Post Office, and some abuses in it, the President recommends, that it be organised with an auditor and treasurer of its own, appointed by the President and Senate, who shall be branches of the Treasury Department.

Your attention is again respectfully invited to the defect which exists in the judicial system of the United States. Whatever may be the difficulty in a proper organization of the judicial system so as to secure its efficiency and uniformity in all parts of the Union, and at the same time to avoid such an increase of judges as would encumber the supreme appellate tribunal, it should not be allowed to weigh against the great injustice which the present operation of the system produces.

I trust that I may be also pardoned for renewing the recommendation I have so often submitted to your attention in regard to the mode of electing the

President and Vice-President of the United States. All the reflection I have been able to bestow upon the subject increases my conviction that the best interests of the country will be promoted by the adoption of some plan which will secure in all contingencies that important right of sovereignty to the direct controul of the people. Could this be attained, and the terms of those officers be limited to a single period of either four or six years, I think our liberties would possess an additional safeguard.

The President, after entering into a long consideration of the question of applying public money to local improvements, approves of its application only on such occasions as these:—Improvements of light-houses, beacons, bouys, public piers, and for the removal of sand bars, sawyers, and other temporary and partial impediments in our navigable rivers and harbours.

He had refused his assent to a bill for improving the Wabash, and thus concludes:—

I sincerely regret that I could not give my assent to the bill entitled "An Act to improve the Navigation of the Wabash River;" but I could not have done so without receding from the ground which I have, upon the fullest consideration, taken upon this subject, and of which Congress has been heretofore apprised, and without throwing the subject again open to abuse, which no good citizen entertaining my opinions could desire.

I rely upon the intelligence and candour of my fellow citizens, in whose liberal indulgence I have already so largely participated, for a correct appreciation of my motives in interposing, as I have done on this and other occasions, checks to a course of legislation which, without in the slightest degree calling in question the motives of others, I consider as sanctioning improper and unconstitutional expenditures of the public treasure.

I am not hostile to internal improvements, and wish to see them extended to every part of the country. But I am fully persuaded if they are not commenced in a proper manner, confined to proper objects, and conducted under an authority generally conceded to be rightful, that a successful prosecution of them cannot be reasonably expected. The attempt will meet with resistance where it might otherwise receive support, and instead of strengthening the bonds of our confederacy it will only multiply and aggravate the causes of disunion.

ANDREW JACKSON.

Dec. 1, 1834.

#### THE MALT TAX.

(From the Herald.)

Without professing to be in possession of Cabinet secrets, our information leads us to believe that the demand for the repeal of the malt tax, which has been responded from one side of the country to the other, has already caused much deliberation in the Ministry; and we hesitate not to say that, unless Sir Robert Peel and his colleagues lay aside all the frivolous objections to the repeal of this tax, which from time to time have been put forth by their predecessors, they will have much miscalculation on the support they expect to receive from the country gentlemen of England. We know that one of the present objections raised against the removal of this heavy burden from the agriculturists and the industrious poor, is the difficulty of providing for the deficiency of four millions and a half which this tax produces; but this was one of the silly subterfuges by which the Whig Administration succeeded in again saddling the country with this crippling burden, after a vote of the House of Commons had expunged it from the Budget.

But then we had a blundering Chancellor of the Exchequer, who led a servile House of Commons, whenever an attempt was made to move the reduction of the people's burdens, by talking of the breach of faith with the public creditor, or the necessity of imposing other taxes instead, whilst the reduction of the Four per Cent. Annuities into a Three-and-a-Half per Cent. Annuity was held to be no breach at all. But surely the present Chancellor of the Exchequer does not intend to follow the weak example of his predecessor; neither will the new House of Commons do their duty to their constituents if they tamely permit him. The present administration must put their shoulders to the wheel—they must not flinch from the reduction of any imposition which presses upon the industry of the people. Let them in a manly and straightforward manner begin with the malt tax; it will be better to volunteer it when it will be received with gratitude, than to have it wrested from them by a determined House of Commons, which will certainly be the result; whilst their spontaneous concession of the boon will secure to them the lasting confidence of the country. The only objections which present themselves to the present Cabinet are the means by which this desirable consummation is to be brought about. To impose other taxes in lieu would only be to shift the burden from the shoulders of one party to another. Let Ministers, then, meet the wishes of the country by raising a loan of two millions and a half; this, with the boasted surplus of two millions, coupled with a just economy in the administration of the finances, will meet the reduction of the four millions and a half caused by the repeal of the malt tax; and the increased capabilities of consumption thus given to 6,500,000 of people engaged in agriculture will soon enable the Government to pay off the loan. But an objection may be started as to the principle of raising a loan for two millions and a half during a time of peace, and this, we believe, is one of the difficulties likely to be mooted in the Cabinet.

We would, however, appeal to the common sense of the country, and put it fearlessly to them, whether it is not equally politic, and by far more noble, to raise a trifling loan during a time of peace, in order to remove an odious and onerous tax, and thus to promote the profitable industry and consuming power of a large portion of the empire, as it would be to raise twenty times the sum yearly, to carry on a war for 22 years, which has been done, the justice of which has often been called in question by the ablest politicians?

#### THE MALT TAX.

(From the Courier.)

The election for Buckinghamshire has terminated in the return of three members who are denominated Conservatives. We will not dispute the title, but we beg our readers to remember that the chief rallying cry under which they have been returned, was the Repeal of the Malt Tax. The Marquis of Chandos, to whose influence and whose speeches, at meetings of the agriculturists, the success of the party is ascribed, refused to join the present Ministry, because Sir Robert Peel, who voted in the last session for the preservation of the Malt Tax, objected to pledge himself to repeal it. The burthen of the harangues of the noble Marquis was the distressed state of the agriculturists, and the necessity to give them relief; that pecuniary topic kindled the zeal of his supporters; and his return, therefore, and that of his friends, is due to a wish to have the Malt Tax repealed, to which Sir Robert Peel is as much opposed as were the late Ministers. We cannot consider this suc-



cess, therefore, as a triumph for Sir Robert; it is simply the expressed determination of the farmers of Buckinghamshire, who are, we believe, in a more distressed state than any other agriculturists in England, to have the Malt Tax repealed.

But if this success be not a triumph for Sir Robert Peel, it is still less a triumph for the Conservative party. That party is determined to resist the pressure from without; this is the success of that pressure in, for the Conservatives, a most pernicious direction. It says, in plain language, that the agriculturists will no longer bear what they conceive, erroneously, in our opinion, to be an unfair share of the national burdens, and which the Legislature has hitherto considered to be only a fair share. It says, "we must have relief, though the national creditor suffer, or though a tax be laid on property." It propounds emphatically the principle of a scramble or contest for a diminution of taxation, regardless of the public service and of national faith. In fact, it is a triumph of the disorganizing or destructive principle, far more dangerous to the stability of our institutions than the success of Mr. Grote and Mr. Pattison, or even than the success of Mr. Wakley.

Suppose the agriculturists of Buckingham should succeed, there would be so much cut off from the taxes, for it will hardly be expected that a Ministry which professes reform and economy, will be able to impose any other tax in place of the Malt Duty. So much cut off from the taxes would be so much cut off from the power and means of Government, and so much allowed to remain in the pockets of the industrious people. Now, it was correctly observed in the *Chronicle* a few days ago, that the diminution of taxation which the Duke of Wellington blindly, for his present purposes and for the interest of his party, sanctioned prior to 1830, was one of the main causes of the relative strength of the people in that year, and their triumph. Every diminution of taxation, in fact, weakens the Government and strengthens the people; and, according to the Tories, and certainly while they are in office, the people and Government are antagonist powers. The success of the Buckingham farmers, therefore, though it be so much admired by the foolish old-womanly Tory prints, is, in fact, the damage of their masters. It is the success of the principle of reduction of taxation which strikes at the root of Tory power.

But those who are acquainted with the operation of the malt tax, and the causes of the farmers' distress, will not for a moment believe that its abolition will give them any relief. The farmers will be assuredly disappointed. What then will be the consequences? The impost which most immediately and severely presses on them is tithes. Disappointed as to the malt tax, they will insist on relief, using the pressure from without, by the commutation or abolition of tithes. They desire that already. There is no class of people who come so much into contact with the clerical tithe owners, and who are so earnest to demand that the tithe source of the wealth of the Church be stopped, as the farmers. Their triumph in Buckinghamshire, therefore, is the triumph of an interest directly opposed to that of the tithe owners; and although probably many of the clergy have contributed to it, we shall be slow to credit that their success will strengthen the Tory interest. As the Duke of Wellington, by first increasing the people's power, and then provoking them to use it, contributed, however much against his wishes, to ensure the triumph of reform, so the Conservatives, who now boast of success, are contributing, by exciting

the farmers to demand relief at the hands of the Legislature, to the effectual destruction of all those institutions which press upon agriculture.

It is nothing new, we presume, in the history of politicians, that they very frequently promote measures most injurious to themselves, and the successful politicians of Buckinghamshire are not an exception to the rule. Wishing to have the malt tax repealed, they are rejoicing that the Whigs are turned out, and Sir Robert Peel and Mr. Baring have got in, though the one opposed the repeal of the malt tax, and the other is a great stickler for a surplus revenue, to insure the fullest price for the Three per Cents. The farmers of Buckinghamshire may learn, however, from Mr. Gordon's speech, delivered the other day at Cricklade, that if the Whigs had remained in power the malt tax would have been reduced. We must quote the passage at length for the special edification of the electors of Buckinghamshire, who are told, by those whom they trust, that they best serve their own interest by opposing the Whigs. Mr. Gordon said—

"You neglected to petition, but I did not neglect to take every opportunity of enforcing the subject on the consideration of the Government; in fact, I so bothered and teased them that that gave me the nickname of the Malt Tax, and whenever I entered in their presence they would say, 'Here comes the Malt Tax.' Nevertheless I did not relax in my importunities; they could not, however, spare it last session, and I was forced to vote with the Government against the repeal, contrary to my own opinion, or withdraw from the Government, and thereby lose all power and chance of attaining my object at some more opportune time. As soon as Lord Melbourne became Prime Minister, I told him flat and plain that he must take off the Malt Tax; for his Lordship is a personal friend of mine and an old school-fellow, and therefore I could urge the point with greater chance of success, and at length I attained my desire; and it is well known in a certain quarter that a variety of returns were made to Government from sources best calculated to furnish information, and the plan for the total repeal of the Malt Tax was, I am proud to say, entrusted to my management, and every thing was in preparation for the next session. I don't mean to say that we should have got rid of the whole of the duty, for the plan was to have imposed an annual licence on all maltsters according to the capability of the cistern, which it is calculated would have realized about a million and a half of money; so that in point of fact, upwards of three millions out of four and a half would have been wiped away, but every man would have been able to have made his own malt."

By this illustration of the present blindness of the Buckinghamshire politicians and the past blindness of the Duke of Wellington, we are confirmed in our opinion that those who incite the farmers of Buckinghamshire to believe that the Legislature can and ought to relieve them, are assuredly preparing the way for the extinction of tithes, and of the very essence of all Tory government.

#### THE MINISTERS AND THE MALT TAX.

(From the *Mark Lane Express*.)

It will be in the recollection of our readers that we positively stated that the Marquis of Chandos had refused to take office in the present administration, because Sir Robert Peel had refused to take off the Malt Tax. We

subjoin the declaration of the Noble Marquis himself, made the other day at the nomination of members for the county of Buckingham, confirmatory of our statement. This comes just in time before the County Elections to apprise the farmers what better prospect of relief from that odious tax they have at the hands of the present Ministers than from the last.

The Marquis of CHANDOS addressed the meeting, but the clamour which prevailed almost rendered him inaudible. He observed that he had met with an accident that prevented him speaking from the table. He claimed a hearing from all parties; for himself, especially, as he should not trespass long on their time, his principles being well-known and he having no new professions to make. During the sixteen years that he had been in Parliament he had done his utmost to serve his country faithfully. Allusion had been made by Mr. Ricketts to the fact of his not being a Minister of the Crown, and that therefore the course Government would adopt with respect to agriculture would be inimical to that interest. At that moment, he (Lord Chandos), stood forward the same humble advocate of the farmer he had ever been. It was true that he had received the commands of his Sovereign to enter his council, but on finding that the Prime Minister entertained a different opinion from his own on the subject of the malt-tax, he immediately declined, at the same time stating to the Minister his determination to press the repeal of that tax. The noble Marquis sat down amidst an equally divided number of hisses, groans, and plaudits. There was an individual cry of "One cheer more," but that cry was not responded to by more than a dozen of the electors. The attempt was made a second time, with similarly painful results.

#### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

CONVERSION OF THE STANDARD NEWSPAPER TO THE CAUSE OF REFORM.

#### REFORM IN THE CHURCH.

(From the Standard.)

The Reform Bill has been productive of this good consequence, which, rightly employed, may go a great way in neutralizing its mischievous effects. It has extinguished, for a time, all fear of making a beginning of change. To our institutions it has been what the fire of London was to our metropolis, the means of making room for great improvement; and though no good and prudent man, certainly, would either burn a city or destroy a constitution, in order to improve its model, or correct its details—virtue and prudence will at once suggest that, in times like 1667 or 1835, it is a high duty to employ, for the best, the opportunity created, even with wicked designs.

Perfect in all other respects, the constitution of the Church of England wanted, as all human works must want, a principle of perpetual adaptation. "Time," says Lord Bacon, in a passage much more frequently quoted than understood, "is the great innovator." Time constantly changes the local distribution of the people, the distribution and value of what the lawyers call *real property*, the physical habits of society, the aptitude and inaptitude for instruction, and many other of the *accidents* of social life essentially connected with the relations of a clergy and a nation. Now, to meet these changes, so as to improve the efficiency of the Church, and to extend its just spiritual influence, must be the dearest object of every true Churchman; and this, we are confi-

dent, is the object of Sir R. Peel, as it was the object of Mr. Spencer Perceval. The reforms in contemplation are not, we repeat it, directed to pleasing the enemies of the Church, but to the extension of its just influence, by extending religious instruction to all, and thus rendering more warm the attachment and increasing the number of its friends. May we not, then, confidently rely upon the clergy and the laity of the Church of England to lend their cordial and zealous co-operation to their friends now in power, in effecting such reforms? It is of great importance that all Churchmen, of all ranks and denominations, do lend this cordial and zealous aid; because such an opportunity of strengthening the Establishment by the fairest and most effectual means, can scarcely again offer in our time: and because, without some such reinforcement of its foundations, as can be derived from an increase of moral attachment to it, and of its spiritual influence, the temporal establishment may fall.

#### LORD STANLEY AND THE MINISTRY.

(From the Herald.)

Lord Stanley's address to his constituents, the electors of the northern division of Lancashire, is a document which cannot fail at this moment to make a powerful impression both upon the country at large and the new Ministers in particular. The latter, we apprehend, must feel not a little awkward under the reason at length avowed by Lord Stanley for not accepting the invitation of Sir Robert Peel, viz., "Because he had no public grounds for confidence that they would boldly and strenuously act upon those principles of reform which he believed to be essential to the national welfare;" while, on the other hand, they may derive some consolation from the noble lord's subsequent assurance, that "should he find that the King's Government, however composed, gives full and free scope to the principles to which every day's experience serves but to confirm his attachment, he shall give them his cordial aid toward carrying them into effect." Did the country at large require any proof of Lord Stanley being one of the most enlightened and promising men of the present age, the address in question furnishes a striking corroboration of it. There is a strain of manly, straightforward openness about this short address which we apprehend will come home to the general taste and feeling. After having, as above, announced his undeviating attachment to those principles of reform upon which he had joined, and afterwards abandoned, Earl Grey's Government, Lord Stanley, in his address, goes on to say, "Should I find them (the Ministers) rashly endangering the institutions of the country, I shall labour earnestly to protect those institutions; should I find them slow to remedy acknowledged grievances, or madly resisting the rational desire for temperate improvement, my voice will be but one among the vast majority of my countrymen who will compel them to advance in the steady progress of unflinching, but constitutional reform."

It would be difficult, we apprehend, for any man justly alive to the spirit of the age, and to the better part of public opinion, to frame just now a political creed for a Statesman upon sounder views and materials than those here set forth. That they are in accordance with our own, our readers have not to learn. We anxiously hope that they will not be lost upon the King's Ministers, who, if they wish, as the Ministers of a popular Government ever must do, "to catch the breeze and prosper



by the gale," will do well to adopt what may be wanting among them of the spirit thus announced by a man no way inferior to any of them in political sagacity and foresight. It is Lord Stanley's good fortune, though young, to have an old head upon his shoulders. He brings into public life the result of a knowledge and experience which the much longer lives of other men have failed to imbue them with. It is in this spirit, and in this spirit alone—the spirit of Conservative reform—in which any Ministry can hope to govern the country with success, and to save the vessel of the State from those fearful breakers which present themselves in any deviation from that course.

### THE MINISTRY.

(From the Chronicle.)

On all hands it seems to be now admitted, that the present contemptible Cabinet cannot possibly exist a week after the meeting of Parliament. The threat of dissolving Parliament again and again till a Tory majority can be obtained, excites only derision. They little know the character of the people of this country, who think that they can cram down their throats a Ministry, the scorn of the respectable part of the nation, by means of menace and intimidation. The Tories are utterly ignorant of the character of the people of this country. They constantly mistake the calmness which confidence in their power gives them, for a confession of defeat and submission. The Duke of Wellington conceived, that because he was suffered to be dictator for nearly a month, he had become the favourite of the nation; and Sir Robert Peel boasted at the Mansion-house, that agitation was now at an end, and that a Tory millenium was at hand. They now find, to their cost, that the people were too wise to foment disorders, from which they themselves must have been the principal sufferers, when they possessed the means of driving the Tories from power by the calm exercise of their constitutional privileges. As to the threat of setting a majority of the Commons at defiance, and dissolving again and again, this somewhat exceeds the measure of Tory courage. There are ways to bring them to their senses, as was well observed by Sir John Campbell, at Edinburgh. Alluding to the farce of *High Life Below Stairs*, where the servants of the Duke and Sir Harry represent the two Houses of Parliament, the Duke of course, contending for the peerage, and dwelling on their dignity, while Sir Harry asks—"Where would your dignity be if we withheld the supplies?" Sir John observes, "Should Ministers remain in office after a vote of the representatives of the people shall tell them that they do not enjoy the confidence of the country, then I say the supplies ought to be withheld (*immense cheering*). There is our remedy, and I rather think a very effectual one. That is the distinction between the two Houses of Parliament."

Let us only suppose the Tories mad enough to advise the King to dissolve the next Parliament after a vote of want of confidence in them—do they suppose that the country would not from one end to the other be filled with indignation at the reckless disregard of the welfare of the industrious classes evinced by such a proceeding? Do they suppose that the majority against them would not be increased rather than diminished in a new Parliament? In the meantime, the engagements of the country must be met, and there would be no means at the disposal of Ministers. But this is not

all. Would the Ministers who so far misconducted themselves be suffered to escape with impunity? Most assuredly not. The Commons of England would soon show them the difference between an absolute and a constitutional monarchy. No, no;—the Tories are not quite mad enough to push their experiments on the patience of the nation so far as they boast they will in their moments of excitement. They will take their departure from office quietly enough; and they are quite aware that their days are already numbered.

### THE ELECTIONS.

(From the Standard.)

People of England look to this! Above all, shopkeepers of England look to this! You stand upon the brink of anarchy and ruin! We know what the French Revolution did to a whole people; but we know, also, that the shopkeeper class, who were the authors of that Revolution, were the most grievous sufferers by it. The clergy, even the nobility, left some remnant. The small landed gentry scarcely suffered, except where they took a violent part in politics. The great capitalists, the *Millionaires*, were even gainers; but the shopkeeper class, and the tradesman class, were wholly swept away, until the name of "shopkeeper" became a name of contempt and reproach. It was an instructive beginning of the Revolution in France, and its first victim was one of that shopkeeper and tradesman class whose conduct had produced it. He was a baker, hanged by the summary jurisdiction of the reforming people for the crime of incivism, the crime of asking from a street ruffian the price of goods snatched from his shop. For this the French reforming baker was hanged at his own door; and to mark the peculiar horror with which his offence was regarded by his brother reformers, his head was severed from his body! his cold lips pressed upon the lips of his wife, who with difficulty escaped capital punishment as the accomplice of his crime,—and the bloody head was borne in triumph to the Hall of the National Assembly, the French Reform Parliament!! This was the beginning of the sufferings of the shopkeeper and tradesman class in France, from the consequence of this their own work! Where did these sufferings end? Whose bones are bleaching in the fields of Belgium and Holland, along the track of 1500 miles to Moscow, in Spain, in Portugal, in Italy, in Poland, in Austria, in Bavaria, in Bohemia, upon the mountains of Switzerland, and the sands of Egypt! The bones of the tradesmen and shopkeepers of France! The cultivators of the soil were too necessary to the national existence, to be squandered in the game of ambition. But when wealth, and confidence, and trade with them, were banished by the Revolution, the tradesman and the shopkeeper became useless incumbrances; and they were scattered over the fields of Europe and of Africa to deposit in every soil the memorials of successful liberalism!!

Tradesmen and shopkeepers of England look to this! If you have wives and children look to them. Remember the fate of the tradesmen and shopkeepers of France; and then, if you please, go and give your vote for the revolutionist, and every one is such who now calls himself a Reformer in the slang of the hustings.

Wives and children of tradesmen and shopkeepers, may the God of Mercy direct those to whom he has committed your temporal destiny, to

be wise by experience. But do you, at least, your parts to avert scenes like those, which, within less than 40 years, have passed within a few miles of your own coast. Remonstrate, supplicate. Ask, will the cry of "Reform," and "No Tories" give us bread, employment, security, and peace? Will it not rather plunge us in blood, want, and ruin! When you have destroyed your employers, broken down the laws, banished the wealth and industry of the kingdom—renounced your Church—to whom can you confidently appeal on earth for relief?—to whom in Heaven for forgiveness? Does not the present revolutionary movement carry a curse in its forehead? Was any good or happy work ever begun by a declaration of hostility, or a profession of indifference to the church of God?

### THE IRISH CHURCH.

(From the Courier.)

If we were anxious for the complete triumph of the Catholic faith in Ireland, we should strenuously approve the policy of leaving the Established Church and the Catholic priests exactly as we now find them, being well convinced that the same system which has multiplied the Catholic population *ten fold*, while the Protestant has remained about stationary, must be the most favourable to the former, and the most injurious to the latter that it is possible to devise. But we deprecate any such results; and, above all, we deprecate the dismemberment of the Empire. And hence it is that we are most anxious that the Catholic Clergy should be conciliated; that they should be detached from the party of the agitators, and attached to the party of England and the English connexion; and that, consequently, they should no longer be treated by Government with neglect, contempt, or cold civility. Such being our views, we should act a dishonest part, if we contributed to spread the idea that any reform of the Irish Church, however searching, or any application of its revenues to ecclesiastical purposes, or Protestant purposes, embracing that of education, would be enough to introduce tranquillity into Ireland. We must have all this, but, to make it of the least use, we must have more. And we hesitate not to say that no Government, whether it be headed by Sir Robert Peel or Lord Grey, is adequate to the exigencies of the present crisis, or that it ought to receive the public confidence and support, unless it will boldly undertake to do justice to the Catholic Clergy of Ireland, by securing to them a moderate but adequate public provision. We have had enough of the miserable but expensive and bloody quackery of coercive laws, jibbets, racks, and bayonets, and of a State Church opposed to the religion, and detested by the mass of the people. It is high time that now, at the eleventh hour, an opposite policy were adopted. And if the British nation have neither magnanimity, sense, nor justice enough to make them treat Ireland as she ought to be treated, they may depend upon it that their oppression and misgovernment will have its day; and that the English Church in Ireland, and the English connection with that country, are not destined long to survive.

### TRIENNIAL PARLIAMENTS, AND VOTE BY BALLOT.

(From the Sun.)

There is a point of much importance to which we earnestly desire to direct the attention of

electors. In the approaching contest it is not improbable that the eagerness of zeal for *men* may obscure the crying necessity of certain *measures*. Triennial Parliaments and Vote by Ballot must not be forgotten, and every Reform Candidate should be urged to speak out honestly and unequivocally upon this subject. It is possible that no caprice, miscounsel, or cogeny of reason may render necessary the exercise of the Royal Prerogative for seven years to come—too long a time by a great deal for the people to remain unappealed to. Now, in the present altered state of society, and the changed condition of the spirit of the times, Septennial Parliaments are far and away too extensive a cycle of time to be permitted for Legislative gambols; seven years, it must be borne in mind, constitute the tenth part of a whole generation, and in the mighty advances which all the sciences are now making, it is not at all improbable that certain discoveries in the science of Political Economy may render necessary a more frequent reference to the sentiments of the people, to enable Representatives to understand with clearness and precision the tendency of their wants under new or altered conditions of moral being. It by no means follows that if a change comes over the spirit of a Constituency, a corresponding change shall take place in that of the Representative whom they chose some years ago. Man, as he individually grows in age, becomes prone to a rather obstinate adherence to the doctrines he espoused in his earlier days: a people do not make these hasty strides towards senescence. Three score years and ten are the allotted period of the life of man; the age of the world is supposed to be now approaching to three score centuries and a half; yet only at this day begins the light of reason to glimmer forth on the correct government of civilization. Hitherto men seem to have been governed chiefly as regarded their physical being; the epoch has at length arrived when legislation must be directed to the government of mind. For this great reason the law-givers of our present choice must be prepared to move with the same celerity of progress as marks the advances of moral society; and that they may not lie too long unwisely fallow, their periodical endurance must be abridged.

There can be no harm in this, as we showed in a recent number. A good steward becomes rarely a cast-away; his providence and honesty are qualities too valuable to be scurvily entreated by his employer. His constant preparation, moreover, to expose his accounts, as it is one of the surest tests of his probity, so does it conciliate the confidence and subdue the suspicions of his lord.

It will be a wise precaution, therefore, in the electors to make known their wishes upon the subject we have suggested. Triennial Parliaments, and Vote by Ballot (which mode of voting, perhaps, may not be required when the people shall have been a little better accustomed to the exercise of their independence than they have heretofore been,) are measures of instant importance to be secured to them: the one ensures the caution of the Elected, the other the safety of the Electors!

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ENTERED AT STATIONER'S HALL.

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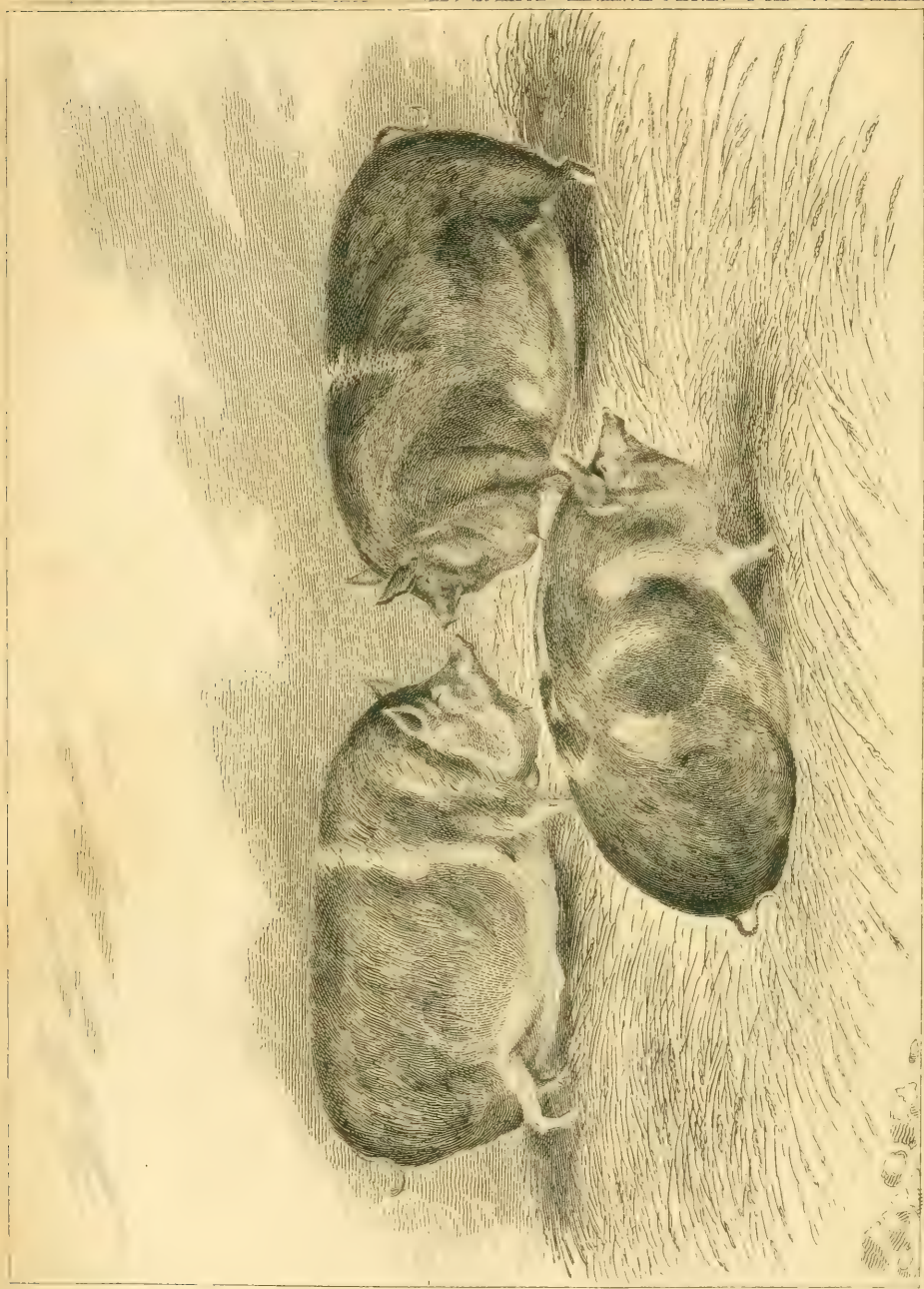
Published at 19, Old Boswell Court, Temple Bar.

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Printed by J. Rogerson, 24, Norfolk-street, Strand, London.







*Four kept at the Ashby House, Dec. 1834.*

The Property of the Earl of Harborough.

By a hand, is, William Esq. of Ashby, animal, ferret, or, weasel.



# THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

MARCH, 1835.

No. 3.]

[Vol. II.

## ERRATUM.

By an egregious error of the Press, the word "Metropolitan," in the description of the Plate, on the first page, has been substituted for "Neapolitan."

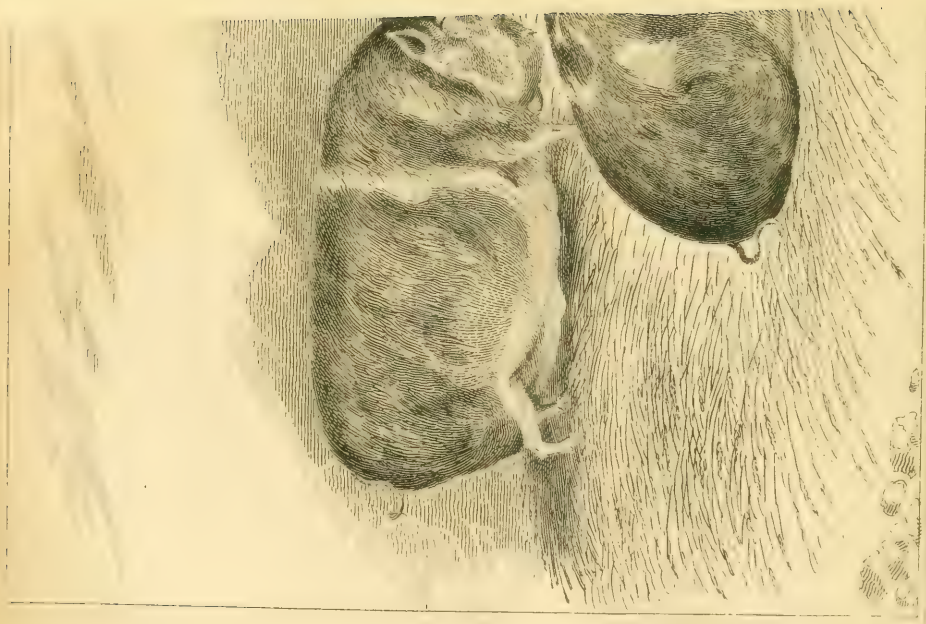
pressed state of the Agricultural interest. My eye inadvertently glanced down to two columns, which the Address occupied in the "Times," with the hope of being arrested by the mention of the Malt-Tax,—that odious and demoralizing impost, with its concomitant evil, the Beer and Hops—having done more injury to moral society than it is possible to be imagined; except by those who, from situation and occupation, have had both special opportunity and interest to observe and feel on this subject. I fear, that it is not Sir Robert Peel's intention to relieve us from this Tax, from the circumstance of his not having mentioned it in his address, combined with the fact of the Marquis of Chandos declining to join the Ministry.

As regards the wisdom of the Tax itself, as relates to the expense of the collection, in respect to the amount levied, &c., I must refer your readers to a very clever paper on the subject contained in your last month's Magazine, which has afforded me both amusement and instruction, and confine myself at present to its destructive operation, to the comforts and morals of the Agricultural labourers.

Some persons condemn the Malt Tax, and at the same time advocate the system of beer shops, while others condemn the beer shops and advocate, for the sake of expediency they say, the Malt Tax. Now, in this conduct, there is an obvious inconsistency, because the one evil occasions the other. It is held by some that the new beer bill destroys the odious monopoly the large brewers formerly enjoyed, and that the trade being thrown open more persons are enabled to partake of the profits of that trade. Now does not the practical effect of the bill itself contradict at once this specious reasoning? Has one small brewery in twenty, which have been established under the new beer act, succeeded in the undertaking? Is it

this effect of itself, and which has been consummated under the new beer bill.

It is a national feeling, that a moderate quantity of beer is requisite for the support of a working man; and if there be in the community a few persons, and taking apart the Irish landlords, with Mr. O'Connell at their head, who are opposed to poor laws in Ireland. I doubt that any such would be found, who may deny that beer is a necessary of life to the labourer; let such persons, strong and healthy as they may be, engage for one week in the turning of a dung mix, the throwing of a ditch, or the filling of the manure cart, and I will ensure by Saturday night that they will be complete converts to the national feeling; but let them remember even then they have not partaken of the more laborious parts of the agricultural labourer's avocations; oh, no, there is threshing of corn, sowing of clover and grass, and the harvest work, which commences soon after four in the morning, and lasts until dark; all this is hard work, indeed, employed in these matters. Oh, how the philosophers would pray for a draught of beer, and when nearly famished with thirst, to be told that water was the only beverage their wages would admit of, beer being beyond their means on account of the Malt Tax, how they would rave at the Malt Tax and its inquisitorial effects. Well, then, beer being admitted to be a necessary of life to the laborious classes, in their work, to produce luxuries for us, how, may I be allowed to ask, has the government of this country, for many years past, dealt with this necessary to the comforts of the poor? Why, by putting a prohibitory tax on its chief ingredient; for it is obvious with the price of labour at 9s per week, and the price of malt at 8s. per bushel, that it is a prohibitory price; still beer remains a necessary of life, and



*Chipmunks at the*  
 The Property of the  
 From a drawing by J. H. Davis Esq



# THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

MARCH, 1835.

No. 3.]

[Vol. II.

## THE PLATE.

The subject of the Plate is three twenty-six weeks' old Metropolitan and Chinese Pigs, belonging to the Earl of Harborough, which obtained the first prize of ten sovereigns at the last Smithfield Show. They were bred by his Lordship at Stapleford Park, Leicestershire; fed on barley, wheat-flour, and skim-milk. A silver medal was also awarded to his Lordship as the breeder.

## MALT TAX AND BEER SHOPS.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE."

SIR—As a farmer I read with some anxiety Sir Robert Peel's address to the Electors of Tamworth, because I fully expected to see some allusion made by the Right Hon. Baronet to the present depressed state of the Agricultural interest. My eye inadvertently glanced down to two columns, which the Address occupied in the "Times," with the hope of being arrested by the mention of the Malt-Tax,—that odious and demoralizing impost, with its concomitant evil, the Beer and Hops—having done more injury to moral society than it is possible to be imagined; except by those who, from situation and occupation, have had both special opportunity and interest to observe and feel on this subject. I fear, that it is not Sir Robert Peel's intention to relieve us from this Tax, from the circumstance of his not having mentioned it in his address, combined with the fact of the Marquis of Chandos declining to join the Ministry.

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not notorious that the large brewers, those who enjoyed the old monopoly, have increased their trade in an extraordinary degree, to the ruin of their new competitors? and for this reason, that they, the large brewers, can afford, from the extent of their business and from the superior accommodation of their establishments, brew both a better and cheaper beverage than the small brewer, who has but an inconsiderable trade and very little convenience for his operations, consequently the original intention of the beer bill, to destroy a monopoly, has been signally defeated; but the object of its being an accession to the revenue has exceeded, I believe, the calculations of the originators of the measure. But can the fact of an increase of revenue from this source be matter of congratulation to any but a statesman? And does not every wise and thinking man of the community deprecate the raising of revenue by the sacrifice of the morals of the people? Is it not in truth mortgaging the best security of the state to present necessity, and can it be doubted by any but that the Malt Tax has for years gradually had this effect of itself, and which has been consummated under the new beer bill.

It is a national feeling, that a moderate quantity of beer is requisite for the support of a working man; and if there be in the community a few persons, and taking apart the Irish landlords, with Mr. O'Connell at their head, who are opposed to poor laws in Ireland. I doubt that any such would be found, who may deny that beer is a necessary of life to the labourer; let such persons, strong and healthy as they may be, engage for one week in the turning of a dung mix, the throwing of a ditch, or the filling of the manure cart, and I will ensure by Saturday night that they will be complete converts to the national feeling; but let them remember even then they have not partaken of the more laborious parts of the agricultural labourer's avocations; oh, no, there is threshing of corn, sowing of clover and grass, and the harvest work, which commences soon after four in the morning, and lasts until dark; all this is hard work, indeed, employed in these matters. Oh, how the philosophers would pray for a draught of beer, and when nearly famished with thirst, to be told that water was the only beverage their wages would admit of, beer being beyond their means on account of the Malt Tax, how they would rave at the Malt Tax and its inquisitorial effects. Well, then, beer being admitted to be a necessary of life to the laborious classes, in their work, to produce luxuries for us, how, may I be allowed to ask, has the government of this country, for many years past, dealt with this necessary to the comforts of the poor? Why, by putting a prohibitory tax on its chief ingredient; for it is obvious with the price of labour at 9s per week, and the price of malt at 8s. per bushel, that it is a prohibitory price; still beer remains a necessary of life, and

in the perversion of this necessary to a riotous luxury, the supporters of the Malt Tax are especially answerable.

Before the introduction of the Malt Tax the labourer regularly brewed his own beer, and abstemiously partook of it, because beer *then* was unconnected with the pipe and tobacco, the cribbage board and cards,—the fawning and dangerous landlord,—the merry and riotous associates,—*now* a pint of beer is synonymous with all these evils and corruptions. The working man cannot brew his own beer. He must slake his thirst, and he enters the den where it is provided; there the temptation is irresistible; there he spends the money which should be a provision for his family; there he sacrifices the hours of labour of that day to *beer and tobacco*, and the effect of this excess renders him unfit for his occupation on the following day. It is unnecessary to enlarge on the distress, the immense distress, occasioned to senseless individuals by this terrible state of things, brought about and still supported by the legislature of this country. Let me not be misunderstood, it is the TEMPTATION which I mean was created, and is still supported by the government. It is questioned by some if the evil has increased under the present system of beer shops. Why the *increase of temptation*, occasioned by the increased number of houses where "beer is sold," and also the improved quality of the beer at once solves the doubt, and, although it may appear anomalous to quarrel with the last named circumstance, the improvement of the beer, still under the present state of things, I hold it to be a great misfortune that the quality of the beer sold by retail is improved,—a misfortune equal in the exact degree to the blessing, the advantage such an improvement in the beverage would be, provided it was made at home, where it would be moderately used.

I have heard the evil of gin shops compared to the evils of beer shops, and indeed I have often heard the former denounced as the most injurious to society. The evil occasioned individually to the unhappy votary of either, and to their immediate families, may, I admit, be about equal; but that the evils arising from beer shops extend through the victims of these establishments more injuriously to the community generally, than those which arise from the "other hell" the gin shops, everyday experience fully illustrates. I have been in gin shops in the metropolis. I have there seen the feeble enervated self-destroyer, totter from the entrance to the counter on which he sought to lean for support, and demand the glass of gin which was taken and consumed with palsied hand and lip, and then immediately retire to make room for twenty other like instances of human depravity and vice, and numberless others not yet matured in the devoted habit which leads to certain destruction and disease. This sad scene brought to my mind the starving children and unfurnished comfortless dwellings all to be attributed to what I had just witnessed. I confess on the impulse of the moment I exclaimed—the gin shops are the pest of society; they are worse in their effects than the beer shops; but subsequent reflection has satisfied me that gin shops are the least evil of the two. This may be thought impossible by persons living in towns who do not, and who cannot, know the horrid effects arising from beer shops—a few of which I will endeavour to explain. The first danger which exists in the one and not in the other is, evil counsel, for seldom does the beer shop frequenter, like the dram-drinker, take his

pint of beer at a draught and be off; no, if it be cold weather, the comfortable *settle* which incircles the good fire and the merry companions who occupy the *settle*—enjoying themselves with their beer and tobacco, ensure his loiter for a time; and at the end of half an hour they reckon him one of the company for the night; and on the other hand if it be fine warm weather he sees his companions in the "Alley," for the window of the kitchen usually is managed to look into the garden which is metamorphosed into a four corner yard—a nine-pin green—a space for pitch and hustle—a ring for marbles and new named the "Alley," surrounded with elbow seats, chairs and stools with one or two "shady bowers." He promises himself he will only look at them for five minutes while he drinks his pint of beer; he *will not* stop longer. How this promise made to themselves by half the beer shop frequenters when they first enter is kept, is best answered by the peals of clamorous delight which on a summer's evening are heard to arise from these places. When the fumes of the beer and tobacco have alike destroyed the discretion and temper of the party, a quarrel and fight among themselves often occurs, and still more often the unseasonable and senseless abuse of their neighbours, the head of the parish, the clergyman, the squire, and the farmers. From this abuse of character in the first instance brought about perhaps by unfounded statements and erroneous views of things (of course I do not mean that reflections on the character, and conduct of the superiors of a parish are always unfounded) associations are formed for a strike for higher wages; some nocturnal depredation is agreed to be committed on the person or property of some unpopular parish officer, or one or two more desperate than their companions plan and execute the incendiary fire.

How many poor wretches since 1830, have expiated on the gallows this crime, and who perhaps when the first *pint of beer* was taken on the afternoon which led to the offence, had no more thought of committing such a crime than the reader whose eye is now on your pages. Such melancholy instances have frequently occurred, the fire has not been lighted from any settled villany of purpose or long withheld determination of revenge; but from some slight offence not reckoned mighty five minutes before this sad step was taken, so injurious to the community, so fatal to the deluded martyr of the beer-shop council.

It is thought by some persons that the habit of public house and beer shop going is from long custom so completely engrafted in the nature of the lower orders, that even if the malt tax was repealed, and they were again enabled to brew at home, very few only would have the inclination to do so, and the majority would continue their old habits of intemperance and riot, and that immediately on the repeal of this tax, the number of beer shops would increase.

I cannot believe that this would be the fact. Not that I think the repeal of the malt tax would operate like magic on the habits of degraded men, but I hope it would gradually and surely have the effect so much desired, namely; to give domestic habits to thousands who are now destitute of this social virtue. As regards the few of the number of beer shops increasing with cheap beer, let government interpose and parry this evil by placing a high duty on beer sold by retail, and in truth there is no moral doubt but the government would take this step, for having provided by other means for the necessary supply of the deficiency of the revenue which would be occasioned by the repeal of



the malt tax, (and this deficiency I believe must be supplied from some source or other before the malt tax be repealed), the motive to support these places would be at once destroyed, and then the least sagacious of our legislators would not be backward in the discovery that the system of retailing beer had long been the Moloch of the age.

Then too, it may be hoped with such an inducement as the repeal of this tax would hold out to the labourer to have comforts at home in preference to vice and riot abroad, the force of example would be brought more completely to bear. Men in a state of destitution are not prone to imbibe virtuous precept and fair example, and they are the less inclined to do so when this destitution is brought about by some glaring act of imprudence of their own; and when it is admitted that wages at this time are lighter in respect of the necessities of life than they have been at former periods when the lower classes were better supplied with those necessities, it is a clear proposition that this falling off must rest with the people themselves. This they are conscious of, and neither are they ignorant of the real source of the evil. A working man yesterday observed to me "it is impossible to resist the temptation, whatever field we are at work in, there is a beer shop close at hand."

I am, Sir, your obedient and very humble servant,  
Sussex, Feb. 6, 1835. AGRICULTOR.

### THE AGRICULTURAL INTEREST.

Mr. Editor,—At this moment, when Parliament must in a few days meet to deliberate on the measures best calculated to relieve those interests of the country which are now suffering under severe depression, I am anxious, through the medium of your columns, to call the attention of the public to the state of the agricultural interest. The price of agricultural produce generally, but especially wheat, has long been below a remunerating price to the producer, even if he had cultivated his land rent free; therefore no reduction of rent on the part of the landlords can remedy the evil. But even could a great reduction of rent effect the necessary relief, I would here ask why the landlords, who have contracted debts and mortgages, and entered into contracts, with wheat at 8s. or 10s. the bushel, while Parliament was declaring that it should never be below 8s., why are they to be compelled, by the fall of prices, to sacrifice their rent, and consequently their prosperity (for they cannot reduce their mortgages and engagements)—why are they to be reduced from affluence to poverty—why are the labourers, servants, and tradesmen, among whom the landlords' incomes have been spent—why are they to be turned adrift on the world, deprived of their means of support? Is it in order that the fundholder's pound may buy him four bushels of wheat where it used to buy him only two? But, at present prices, if rents were reduced from 30s. the acre even to 5s., even then, generally speaking, except on the very best lands, corn could not be grown with profit to the tenant. Therefore it is clear that one of two things must be effected—either the expenses of agriculture must be reduced to range with present prices, or the prices must be raised to range with present expenses. It is clear to all those practically acquainted with agriculture, that the expenses of farmers cannot be reduced below the present scale; unless, indeed, the labourers would willingly suffer themselves to be brought back again into a state of greater poverty, or rather brought

back to inferior food, clothing, and houses, so as to be willing to live on three shillings a week less than at present. If labourers' wages were reduced only in proportion to the fall in wheat, the labourer would still be infinitely worse off than ever, because the taxes prevent the retail prices of general commodities bought by labourers from falling in proportion to the fall in the wholesale price of wheat. Moreover, expenses cannot be reduced while the poor-rates continue high. The rates must continue high until better prices enable farmers to be able to employ the labourers with profit to themselves. Thus, then, expenses cannot be reduced without reducing and diminishing the means and comforts of the labouring classes; and who, besides the political economists of the Malthusian school, would wish to see the poor worse off than at present? Nor can expenses be reduced without diminishing the poor-rates, which reduction cannot be effected until the means of profitably employing labourers are afforded. Therefore, the only remedy is to raise prices generally by such an alteration of the money-laws as shall permit a more extended circulation of money on a sound basis. The general ignorance of the causes of high and low prices is so great, that I must trespass on your time for a few moments. Price signifies the exchange of money for an article. The rate of exchange depends on the comparative value of each thing to be exchanged—the value depends on the comparative estimation in which the exchangeables are held—the estimation depends on the supply as compared with the demand. If then the demand for money and articles continue the same, and the quantity of each in the market remains the same, the price of the article will remain stationary. If an article increases in quantity while the quantity of money remains the same, the demand for the money also remaining the same, the article will sink in estimation below the money—for there will be the same demand, the same money, but more of the article; therefore the exchanging value or price will be less—so likewise the converse, viz. the article diminishing will produce the opposite effect, as then the increase or decrease of an article (the demand continuing the same) affects the price or value of the article, so likewise the increase or decrease of money affects its price or value. The price or value of money is exemplified by what it will sell for, or, in common terms, by what it will buy. If then the quantity of money is diminished while the demand for it and while the quantity of articles remain the same, the money will rise in estimation above the article—that is, the price of the article will fall; the converse of this is also self-evident—the demand for wheat has been annually increasing with the increasing population. The increased supply in this country, including Irish, colonial, and foreign wheat, has not more than counterbalanced the increased demand, and yet the price has fallen one-half, so that money has risen one-half in value, for the pound will buy double what it formerly did. At the same time we know that the quantity of money circulating has been diminished one-half. How then can we doubt the cause of the fall of prices? or feel any hesitation as to the mode of remedy? But it is said higher prices will injure the labourer, and destroy foreign trade; but, so far from injuring the labourers, higher prices would benefit them. As prices rise the farmers will be able to afford to employ more labourers, the labourers will therefore naturally demand and obtain higher

wages; the taxes not being increased, retail prices will not rise in proportion to wholesale. Moreover, a labourer produces say six times more than he consumes—his wages will rise in proportion to the rise in the value of the six parts—his expenses will increase only on the one-sixth part which he consumes—therefore the rise of prices producing the rise of wages will benefit him.

As to foreign trade, the prosperity of it depends on our being able to undersell the foreign manufacturers. Underselling is the being able to give more of our goods in exchange for foreign goods than other nations can give for the same goods. If we are all prosperous at home, we naturally want and consume an increased supply of foreign goods. Therefore, as our prosperity increases, we make a larger demand for foreign goods; that is, they rise in value at home; therefore our merchants can afford to give more of our goods to obtain foreign goods, because they are worth more when brought here. By this means we undersell foreigners.

Now a rise of prices will restore a remuneration to industry, will enable landlords, manufacturers, and the whole body of the productive classes to make a demand for foreign goods, and thus will benefit our foreign trade. To conclude—unless something speedily is done, the whole tenantry of the kingdom will be utterly ruined, for they are paying their rents out of their capital, though the rents have been reduced 40 and 50 per cent. Before long no one will be found to cultivate the soil, and famine must follow.

Feb. 10.

A FARMER.

#### MATTERS BETWEEN OUT-GOING AND IN-COMING TENANTS FURTHER CONSIDERED.

*To the Editor of the Lincolnshire Chronicle.*

SIR,—The remarks which I addressed to you on the 23rd of January last, on the above subject, have at length elicited a reply from your correspondent who signs "An Old Farmer." Your old-fashioned men are the men for me, and greatly am I obliged to him for his sensible observations. Truly the usual course when a change of tenancy takes place is, that each party shall appoint his man to value crops set, whether corn, or seeds, ploughing, &c., these men also appointing a third, should they not agree; and I doubt not that, in case the in-coming tenant should not comply with a decree so made, that then the law would step in and protecting the out-goer.—This, sir, was in truth my impression, when I last addressed you; but how strange then it is that some of your old arbitrators should show a disposition to deviate from this plan of justice and sound principle, and that they should be looking about for new systems. I have heard one or two, who are called clever men in these matters, assert that they would never again allow for rent in the dead fallow; than which, nothing can be more absurd, unless you overturn the time-out-of-mind usage of a neighbourhood, by calling upon all landlords to pay to their present tenants the amount which such tenants paid for rent of the dead fallow when they entered, by which mode it might cease to be a part of the entry charge. But why overturn a system which, while it admits of no objections, has a tendency to induce an out-going tenant to make such preparations as are likely to be highly beneficial to his successor, and which cannot, by any possibility, have a contrary effect.

I assure you, sir, that I am not making more of this subject than it deserves, inasmuch, that farmers of all gradations are in hundreds of instances suffering from the innovations upon it. I at this moment have my eye upon the following case.—An incoming tenant is even now actually refusing to discharge the amount of his entry because—but who will believe it—because forsooth the out-goer is unwilling to abate him at the rate of two pounds per acre for deficiency upon an oat-crop, he not having been permitted to enter before Lady-day to set such crop, alleging that the deficiency arose out of the lateness of the sowing, as it was performed after Lady-day. Now, I would ask, what business had the in-coming tenant to enter for sowing until the one in possession had quitted? Of course, however, he could only enter on sufferance; but I happen to know that he was not prevented entering; that he would not have been prevented; but that he never asked permission. Well! even doctrine of this sort is not without its advocates strange to say. Oh, Mr. Editor, these things cannot be allowed to obtain—your theoretical agents will not do for these times; we must have practical men, or—mark my words, landlords!—you must soon all turn farmers yourselves. I say—and though I speak in the character of landlord, I speak practically—that a vigorous effort must be made to meet the occupier of the soil, or he sinks for ever, and this instantly. His premises must be made ample and restored, if out of order, at the landlord's cost—his land must be drained at the landlord's cost—and with respect to the rents, as these are known to vary as much as 30 or 40 per cent. in relative amount, why, if we are to have any at all, it must be but little, unless the produce shall carry a better price.

There is a point upon which I was anxious to receive information, which my friend, the "Old Farmer," has disappointed me in by not noticing, namely, whether an out-going tenant has his remedy against his landlord or not for crops set and left, &c. &c. As he has not answered this question, I will venture to assert that the landlord would be liable; for suppose the farm about to be vacated should not be re-let, I presume the person quitting is not to lose his just claim; and hence I arrive at the conclusion that the landlord is in all cases equitably, if not legally, liable, but I think legally too; and therefore it is his agent's bounden duty to protect the out-going tenant, and to take care that he is paid, whether the farm shall have been re-let or not.

I remain, Sir, yours, and  
THE FARMER'S WELL-WISHER.  
Feb. 16th, 1835.

#### MR. HENRY HUNT.

Mr. Hunt, whose death has recently been announced, was born at Widdington-farm, in the parish of Upavon, in the county of Wilts. For a number of years he regularly attended Devizes market, seldom, if ever, missing a market day. After his father's death, he was elected, or rather promoted to his seat, which was that of chairman of the table of the principal dining-room of the farmers at the Bear Inn; the daughter of the landlord of which Inn (Miss Halcomb), he married. Fond as he was of pleasure, no man attended more strictly to his farming business, and the farms of no man in the kingdom were managed better, or were in higher condition. He had also the best flock of Southdown sheep in the county, bearing the finest fleeces, the wool of which sold for the



very highest prices. Some idea of the extent of his farming business may be formed from the following fact : During Mr. Pitt's administration in the year 1801, the fear of an invasion was so great, that the Lord Lieutenant of the county caused letters to be written to the churchwardens and overseers of every parish, to return an account of all the moveable property, live and dead stock, &c. In Hunt's schedule was enumerated : wheat, 1600 sacks ; barley, 1500 quarters ; oats, 400 quarters ; hay, 250 tons ; cart horses, 30, value from 30 to 70 guineas each ; working oxen, 10 ; cows, 20 ; sheep, 4200 ; &c., &c., altogether valued at upwards of £20,000 ; the whole of which he voluntarily tendered to the government, to be at their disposal, in case of an invasion. He also engaged to enter himself and three servants, completely equipped, and mounted upon valuable hunters, as volunteers, into the regiment of horse, that should make the first charge upon the enemy. The liberal and patriotic offer was talked of all over the country ; and he received the thanks of the Lord Lieutenant. The years 1801 and 2 may be said to have been the zenith of the farmer's glory : wheat being at this time 4*l* a sack. Although Hunt generally drove four-in-hand to Devizes market, he was able to do a day's work with any labourer in the county ; and it is related of him, that after returning one Wednesday evening from a jaunt of pleasure, he was informed that his thrashers had struck for higher wages. A quantity of wheat was necessary to be thrashed out for the following day's market at Devizes. Determined however not to yield to his laborers, within five minutes after he dismounted from his carriage, he was in the barn, and, with the assistance of his coachman, and some of his household servants, thrashed out the requisite quantity, and attended the market with it on the Thursday morning. Before marriage, he spent one Sunday with Miss Halcomb at Heytesbury, a distance of nearly thirty miles from his father's house, where the time passed so pleasantly that the clock struck twelve before he recollected that he had an engagement with his father's mowers, at four on the Monday morning, to attack a field of oats of seventeen acres and a half, a very heavy crop, to see if they (five in number) could not cut it down the same day. It was one o'clock before he started ; within two hours, however, he arrived home, and without waiting to take off his tight leather breeches (which were in fashion at that time) or his boots, he mounted another pony, and reached the field of oats (three miles off,) just as the four men were stripped and whetting their scythes in order to begin. He went to work with them, and in ten minutes after the sun had sunk below the horizon, the last swath was laid flat, and not one oat left standing ;—a day's work which stands unrivalled in this county ; and which is the more uncommon, as, in fact, there were only four scythes at work during the greater part of the day ; for it being exceedingly hot, one of the men, the worst mower of course, was principally employed in riding to and from the inn at Everley, to replenish the bottles.

Hunt was an enthusiast in every thing he undertook, and in nothing more so than as a hunter. One day whilst holding the plough, the hounds passed by ; when Hunt, without hesitation took the fore-horse from the team, and, mounting it without saddle, was first in at the death, and triumphantly cut off the brush.

On another occasion, at the end of a very severe stag chase, after a run of nearly thirty miles, the

hounds pressed the animal so close, that they caught him as he was swimming over a deep part of the river Avon, between Salisbury and Stratford. Hunt, with the master of the hounds (Mr. Michael Hicks Beach) and two or three gentlemen were up with the hounds at the time, and they were all much distressed to see the noble animal, which had afforded so much sport, becoming a prey to the hounds. While every one was lamenting its fate, it being nearly exhausted, Hunt hitched his horse's bridle to a stake in the hedge, and stripped in *buff*. He dashed head foremost into the stream, when the remainder of the pack which had kept pelling on the banks, now leaped in after him, thus placing him in considerable danger. Many of the hounds, too, that had been worrying the stag, seeing a naked man rise as it were from out of the deep, quitted the animal, and swam towards him. Hunt's fellow-sportsmen apprehended his inevitable destruction, and seeing the hounds seize upon him, implored him to retreat ; but Hunt, calling each hound by its name, swam and fought his way through them. They all now turned, and continued to swim with him again to the poor stag, with the exception of one old hound, *Old Trojan*, who, unperceived, seized fast hold of the thumb of his right hand. Hunt dragged it under water, and seizing it by the throat with the other hand, held it there till it let go its hold. During this struggle they both disappeared under the water together, to the great consternation of the beholders. Up they came together, but Hunt continued to grasp the dog firmly with his left hand by the throat, and for a short time exhibited it with its mouth open and tongue out ; then giving it another ducking let it go. He then continued his course towards the stag, followed by every hound in the pack except *Old Trojan*. On coming up with the animal, and laying his hand upon its back, the whole pack began their attack upon it with redoubled vigour. A gentleman threw his whip to Hunt, which he applied to the heads and ears of the hounds, but without effect. He then took another course. The first hound that came near him, he grasped by the throat ; and in this state, with its mouth still open, he held it a short time under water. This had the desired effect. He continued it until the stag was free. By this time he was nearly exhausted himself, for it was on a cold day in February ; however, he took the animal around its neck, and swam with it to the opposite bank ; but as the bank was four feet above the river, those on the outside were obliged to fasten the thongs of their whips round different parts of its body, and it was with difficulty they could drag him safe on shore. Hunt himself was afterwards dragged out in the same way, with the thongs of his fellow-sportsmen's whips ; he soon recovered, however, and, mounting his mare, rode with his friends to the Bear Inn, the only house in Old Sarum.

Hunt was a Member of the Yeomanry Cavalry, but in consequence of some misunderstanding, he received a letter from Lord Bruce, saying, "that his services were no longer required in the Marlborough troop, and requesting that he would return his sword and pistols by the bearer. Hunt replied, that he was astonished at the communication—that he would attend on the next field day for an explanation, and that he should not fail to bring his arms with him, not recollecting an instance of his having failed to perform the duty of a soldier. On the next field-day, he accordingly fell into the ranks.—The sergeant called over the roll call, and the moment Hunt's name was omitted in the re-

gular order, he put spurs to his horse, and brushed furiously up to the sergeant, of whom he sternly demanded the authority for passing over his name. The sergeant said it was done by order of Lord Bruce. Hunt then went up to Lord Bruce, and asked what charge he had to make against him either as a soldier or a gentleman. His Lordship replied—"I make no charge, but as commanding officer, I have a right to dismiss any man without assigning a reason." Then (said Hunt) "you are no longer my officer. You have offered me a deliberate insult. I demand that satisfaction which is due from one gentleman to another; and unless you give it, I shall post you as a coward." For this offence, Hunt was indicted in the Court of King's Bench, found *guilty*, and sentenced to pay a fine of 100*l*, and to be imprisoned for six weeks.—In prison he met with Waddington and some other radicals, to which may be attributed his subsequent political sentiments.

### THE TIMBER TRADE.

Office of Committee of Privy Council for Trade,  
Whitehall, Feb. 19, 1835.

Sir,—I have received, and laid before the Lords of the Committee of the Privy Council for Trade, your letter of the 18th inst., requesting, on the behalf of the Shipowners' Society, information as to the intentions of the government with respect to the future admission of foreign timber from our North American Colonies; and their lordships having taken the same into their consideration, have directed me to state to you, for the information of the Society for which you act, that in their opinion the inducement held out by the existing law for sending round by our North American Colonies European timber intended for this market, is an anomalous incident of a regulation which had a very different object in view; and that although they cannot at present disclose the nature of the correction which they may think ought to be proposed to parliament, still it may be due in fairness to those persons who might otherwise engage in the circuitous voyage for the present season, to apprise the trade that their lordships do intend to suggest some legislative measure, the operation of which would prove injurious to the interests of those parties who should adventure upon that voyage, under belief that no change would in the meanwhile be made in the present state of the law.

I am, Sir, &c. &c.

(Signed) THOMAS LACK.

W. Oviatt, Esq., Secretary, Shipowners' Society.

**TITHES.**—The first charter by which tithes were granted in England may be considered as a curious historical document. The following is given as a literal translation of it:—"I, Ethelwolve, by the grace of God, King of the West Saxons, &c., with the advice of the Bishops, Earls, and all persons of distinction in my dominions, have, for the health of my soul, the good of my people, and the prosperity of my kingdom, taken the honourable resolution of granting the tenth part of the lands throughout my whole kingdom to the Church and Ministers of religion, to be enjoyed by them with all the privilege of a free tenure, and discharged from all the incumbrances incident to lay-fees. This grant has been made by us in honour of Jesus Christ, the blessed Virgin, and all Saints; and out of regard to the Pascal Solemnity, and that Almighty God might vouchsafe his blessings on us and our posterity,—Dated at Wilton, Ann. D., 854, at the feast of Easter."

### AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

We have upon many former occasions endeavoured to impress the agricultural community with the importance, nay, the absolute necessity of forming societies for the protection of their interests in every county in the United Kingdom, and, indeed, there are but few counties in which from their extent, several societies, which should upon important occasions co-operate with a central one, might not be advantageously formed. A careful observation of the success, or otherwise, of those societies which have existed for some years, and among which the Smithfield Club and the Bath and West of England Agricultural Society have pre-eminently flourished, has led us to the conclusion that the total exclusion of politics and political feeling, so rigidly adhered to in these two societies, are essential to promote that "union" in which alone "strength" consists. It is possible that an individual possessing a large extent of landed property may have a body of tenantry who with their dependants will be sufficient to form a considerable agricultural association. These instances are, however, very rare, and it may be safely asserted that the usefulness of agricultural associations will be very materially impaired if not altogether destroyed as soon as they shall become a species of Political Union. It was with much regret we learned the declaration of the Duke of Buckingham, when presiding recently at a great meeting of farmers in Buckinghamshire, "that he considered such meetings as strictly political meetings." The Buckinghamshire association is one of the kind to which we have just alluded, which in consequence of the property and personal influence of one, two, or three individuals, may be maintained as a political club. But where landed property is more equally distributed when there exists in the same district men of all shades of political opinions, and all equally "interested in the prosperity and the protection of agriculture" as in the county of Northampton, it must be a source of deep regret to those who have really the interest of agriculture at heart, to witness the exclusion of any individual from an agricultural association, apparently from political motives, and that, too, in direct violation of the *rules and declaration* of the association itself. It may not, perhaps, be generally known to our readers that the first annual meeting of an association styled the "NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF AGRICULTURE," was held on the 17th of January, at Northampton. A declaration had been some time previously agreed to and published, which contains the following words. "Having this object (the protection of agriculture), solely in view—disclaiming any desire to obtain for themselves any undue preponderance over any other class of the community, or to associate for party or political purposes, many owners and occupiers of land in the county of Nor-



thampton have agreed to form themselves into an association to be called "THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF AGRICULTURE." On the 27th of December last, a resolution was passed at a meeting of the Provisional Committee, "*that all owners and occupiers of land in the county of Northampton, and others interested in the prosperity and protection of agriculture may become members of the association agreeably to the rules of the society, on payment of a subscription of ten shillings each, by expressing their wish to do so to the secretary, on or before the 17th of January, inst.*" In pursuance of this resolution, publicly announced in the county paper, Lord Milton, who had besides been specially invited by the provisional committees to become one of their vice-presidents, expressed by letter his wish to become a member of the association. The letter was read at the annual meeting on the 17th inst., whereupon Mr. Watkins, of Daventry, "objected to the admission of the Noble Lord, and trusted the association would not be such idiots as to elect a man who was the sworn enemy of the agriculturalists." Much confusion and discussion took place upon the question of admitting the noble Lord, which terminated in a division, upon which his Lordship was excluded, whereupon many gentlemen left the room, stating their intention of retiring from the association altogether, amongst whom was Mr. Hildyard, the President of the Northampton Agricultural Society, one of the most eminent practical agriculturists in the kingdom, and a most zealous friend of the farmer. Thus have the seeds of dissension been sown in this infant association by the mistaken zeal of some persons, who, however honest in their motives, are lamentably wanting in discretion. Mr. Watkins "trusted the association would not be such idiots as to elect a man who was the sworn enemy of the agriculturalists." Now who is this "sworn enemy of the agriculturalists?" [The heir to one of the largest landed estates in the kingdom, and who, as much, if not more than any individual in the country, must be deeply interested in the prosperity of the agricultural interest. It is indeed true that the views of the Noble Lord, as to the protection afforded to the British farmer by the duty imposed upon the importation of foreign corn are peculiar, and upon which we altogether differ with him, but that very circumstance seems to point him out as a most fitting individual to be received as a member of an association composed of gentlemen whose zeal for the cause appears to be unbounded. In what manner would the mistaken notions of Lord Milton be so likely to meet correction as by frequent communication with yeomen and gentlemen who have all their lives been practically engaged in agricultural pursuits, and who from sad experience can testify to the neglected, the depressed condition of the British farmer? Does Mr. Watkins entertain such apprehension of the talents of Lord Milton, as to fear his mislead-

ing all the other members of the association, and thereby converting the society into an association for the "DESTRUCTION," not the "PROTECTION" of agriculture? From the respect which his family has long been accustomed to command, from the influence which his station in society and his extensive property must give, it was worth something to gain over the Noble Lord to a right view of so important a national question, and we think the Northamptonshire Association has not acted wisely in losing an opportunity of effecting an object so desirable. We cannot rid ourselves of an apprehension, which for the sake of British agriculture we trust will turn out to be unfounded, that there is a disposition manifesting itself at the present moment to form Agricultural Associations, not for the sole purpose of protecting agriculture, but also for political purposes. We are the more encouraged in this belief by the expressions of some of the Conservative Journals, one of which has very recently put forth the following observation. "No triumphs of the Conservative party have been more signal than those achieved in South Lancashire, Buckinghamshire, and Northamptonshire. In each of these districts CONSERVATIVE, or, still better, AGRICULTURAL - ASSOCIATIONS were early organized, and have been conducted with diligence and spirit. We give the preference to the designation of Agricultural Associations, because while these afford the opportunity of carrying into effect any desirable object, they are not characterized by any title which can by the perversity of faction be construed into a party or offensive signification." Here, then, as it seems to us, is an open acknowledgement that the term AGRICULTURAL is only used as being more likely to be palatable than CONSERVATIVE, and that to these so styled AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES, the success of a certain political party is ascribed, and which party most assuredly can not monopolize to itself the character of protectors of agriculture, there having been a greater number of Reformers than Conservatives who voted in favour of a repeal of the Malt Tax when last brought under the notice of the House of Commons.—*Mark Lane Express.*

**PLOUGHED STREETS.**—At Savannah, one of the eastern cities of the United States, after heavy rains, it is customary to plough the roads, as in a field, in order to render them sooner dry. This method of drying streets appears new to a stranger; but certain it is that the object is accomplished with extraordinary rapidity, the depth of the furrows enabling the sandy soil to imbibe the water much sooner than if it were left to drain away of itself.

**HIGHLAND SOCIETY.**—The first part of the Highland Society's premiums for the present year has been made public. No institution has laboured so much for the improvement of every branch of art and industry connected with the agriculture of Scotland; and from the scheme of rewards for essays, inventions, manufactures, and experiments, it will be seen that their zeal continues unabated in every department of useful practical knowledge.

# AN EXPLANATION OF A PREVIOUS LETTER; AND ON GAME DEPREDATIONS, &c.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE MARK LANE EXPRESS."

Sir,—Contrary to my intention, I am almost compelled, once more, to take up the pen in consequence of a very remarkable error, or misprint, which appears in my last letter "On Spade Husbandry," in the *Agricultural Reporter*, of Feb. 2, p. 51. It is there stated that half an acre of land will employ a man about six weeks per annum; and that if to this be added about 20s. for clear profit, a labourer, so supplied, may be considered as taken out of the labour market nine weeks in a year. Applying this to a particular parish,—containing 116 heads of agricultural families—we find that 58 acres of land will supply in work, and profit, about 20 men; which of course would still leave 30 superfluous hands out of 50, the number assumed. In the printed letter it will be seen, that out of 50 surplus men, 110 would remain, which of course is absurd and impossible.

Whether the error belongs to the writer or the printer, I have no means of ascertaining, but in the course of my correspondence I have certainly met with a considerable number of misprints, which I have never taken the trouble to point out, hoping that the good sense of most readers might in general be sufficient for their correction. Thus, in some of my letters, *gad* has been printed instead of *gaol*, *magistrates* for *magnates*, *perpetrated* for *perpetuated*, and, in the letter on tithes, *advantages* for *disadvantages*, &c. &c.

I shall take this opportunity of adding a few words on the important question of *game depredations*; a subject on which I believe I have written but little, but which is alone sufficient to show the intolerable despotism of the present relations of landlord and tenant.

My own proposal for limiting the powers of the lords of manors, &c., published nearly sixteen years ago, was to allow an average injury of 6d. an acre, and to compel the owners of game to pay for *all further damages* by arbitration, unless the landlord, in his leases or agreements, made a specific claim to any larger amount of what may be termed game agistment, in which case valuation and remuneration to be made for any further loss.

Such was the substance of what related to game in a sketch of a new act for the general protection of the tenantry from the arbitrary power of the owners of land and tithes; and had not the farmers of Scotland (as well as those of South Britain) treated the subject with their characteristic apathy, I have no doubt they might have escaped a large portion of the various evils which have ruined their thousands, and distressed their tens of thousands.

The meeting of the game deputation of the tenantry (of Perthshire) with Sir G. Murray (*Agricultural Reporter*, Nov. 3, 1834, p. 29), shows that certain Scottish farmers have suffered a damage of 1,491l. on the corn crops alone of ten farms, the rental of which is 2,962l. Sir G. Murray "felt the hardship of the tenant's case," yet saw little prospect of getting over the difficulties; because, "no measure could interfere with the stipulations of *existing* leases, or hinder proprietors from letting their lands in *future* on such conditions as *they pleased*." My opinion, I beg leave to say, is, that in this (and nearly all the other matters of which I have written) there is but *one substantial difficulty*, which is, that the *landlords* and not the

*tenants make the laws!* These tenants of Perthshire of course complain of what they deem a manifest injustice. Now, if the British legislature will not check injustice, because it is inflicted by the great and powerful, of what use is the legislature at all? Reformed or unreformed, if the farmers alone, of all classes of society, are to be subject to *unrestricted arbitrary power*, the parliament is, at all events, *of no use to them*; and they might possibly, and indeed probably, fare better if dependent on the will of his Majesty alone.

"May I not do as I will with my own?" said one, in former days, who had paid a part of his labourers *more than their due*. But his modern imitators use the same phrase for nearly an opposite purpose, viz., to claim *more than their due*, in the profit of all improvements in land and buildings; and the right, after having let a farm, to consume the tenant's crop with stock of their own. I have noted from the old *Farmer's Journal*, June 29, 1829, a game trial,—*Richmond v. the Earl of Kinnoul*. The Earl of Kinnoul, it appears, opposed the case in various ways; but at last, *some clause in a late judicature act* appeared to *authorise* the process being brought before the Sheriff of Perth. But before trial, in the Jury Court, the landlord is understood to have come forward, and *allowed three years rent*, and paid tenant's expenses!!!

A year or two ago a petition from Perthshire, respecting depredations of game, was presented to the House of Lords, when (if I recollect aright) the above-named nobleman arose, and said that "the farmers of Perthshire had very little reason to complain of game." Now we find they are complaining again, still more loudly,—one of them of a loss exceeding the rental—so that it may safely be left to the common sense of the reader, whether the valuation of *impartial persons* ought to be allowed by law or not? and whether any one—seeing how the philo-pheasant rage has spread all over Britain for many years—can expect to find such impartial persons in either landlord or agent?

My own opinion is, most decidedly, that whatever apparent independence a land agent may assume, he cannot with impunity allow more for game depredations than he sees his principal is willing to grant: and of course if the former allows *half the rent* where the latter says, "there is little reason to complain," &c., his own salary comes to a full stop, and the farmers' complaints (*à la Perthensis*), remain *in statu quo*. The *County Chronicle*, March 19, 1833, contained a letter, from an Essex farmer, on game depredations, signed Z. He says he is under a lease of ten years to come—suffers damage by game 100l. a year—game-keepers bagged 1000 rabbits on his farm in a few months—landlord and law-agent laugh at him and tell him he has no remedy. He adds that if the sale of game is allowed, the landlord's game may eat up his whole crops.

What honourable or honest man can read such statements without feeling disgusted? and still more so when reforming members of a reformed parliament are found to hint that—so sacred is the landlord's claim to despotic authority—the case is *almost beyond remedy*? Yet I believe almost every farmer has heard, or seen, similar cases,—valuations of damages carried to the proprietors—payment refused—afterwards allowed in part—regular allowances made, in extreme cases—farmers asserting such allowances to bear little proportion to the loss, &c., &c. I have no doubt that many of the game lovers have meant to be just, where the sufferers have been very far from allowing that justice was done; and they would sometimes



have seen with astonishment, the difference between the valuations of their own agents, and those of a jury of two or three impartial arbitrators.

My writings—relating principally to the sufferings inflicted on tenants by the arbitrary power intrusted to landlords—it has been said, often shew an impolitic, if not unjustifiable, severity of remark. To this I would beg leave to reply that my object has been to point out in a variety of points of view, the enormous evils which despotism has inflicted on the agricultural tenantry; together with a safe and easy remedy, beneficial to almost all classes, and injurious to none. Now, if peers, or princes, together with a host of inferior landed gentry, set their faces against this great national measure of reform, to flatter what I esteem to be palpable errors or prejudices, would be to betray and give up the cause of the tenantry: and, on the other hand, if truth, if plain unvarnished facts, be offensive to the lovers of arbitrary power, it is but the common consequence and fate of all reforms and all reformers, to gain the reproach and ill-will of those who love neither truth nor justice.

Ambition (which is generally only another name for despotism), has been described as “the glorious fault of angels and of gods.” In my humble opinion, however, the love of unbounded rule is productive of more mischief, more misery to mankind, than any other of the wayward passions of frail humanity. “The glorious fault” of Bonaparte, the wish to have rule over all Europe, is said to have cost the lives of five millions of our species. “One murder makes a villain, millions a hero.” But some are born the unlimited potentates of kingdoms; and such are equally unwilling to give up the power of fleecing their subjects, as the owners of a few hundred acres of land are of resigning what they seem to esteem as *their right*, that of plundering an improving tenant of the fruits of his labour, or consuming as much as they please of his crops by game, rabbits, &c. I believe the reasons alleged are equally good in the prince, the peer, or the peasant,—that is good for nothing: they all want power for the same purpose only, namely, to do mischief; for the power to do good no one would wish to deprive them of. A writer who signs his letter Lincoln (in the *Old Farmer's Journal*, No. 1226), says, “there is one evil of still greater magnitude, and which oppresses the tenantry more than the tithe, and injures them ultimately still more than taxation; this is the *diabolical law of landlord and tenant*, which enables the artful and avaricious landlord under its sanction, to plunder the ignorant, unsuspecting, confiding tenant of his property.” I quote this to shew that there are who have condemned existing laws in stronger terms than I have made use of. On the other hand Mr. W. Bennet (in *Old Farmer's Journal*, No. 1218), says, “this evil has long been insisted on, and the remedy pointed out, in a very forcible manner, by ‘The Author of the Rights of the Farmer,’ whose work, had not the author been nameless, would have entitled him to great celebrity.” On this compliment—however gratifying to one who has had so few coadjutors—I may be permitted to observe that I have very little faith that the author's name could have had any influence—where the arguments had none; which seems to have been nearly the case in quarters where the writer was not anonymous.

In conclusion I may add, that the principle of remuneration for improvements of estates, is far from being unknown among lawyers and judges,

as appears from a case in the Roll's Court, *Chenel v. Martin*, respecting property held in possession (unlawfully as it appeared) for 40 years, (*Vide Farmer's Journal*, No. 1234). The counsel contended for remuneration; the judge, after making several objections, at last said, “but acting on equity, beyond the law, he should refer it to the Master, to what extent the estate was improved by Martin the defendant.” Lord Wynford mentioned also (in a conversation with Lord Brougham, in 1830), that such remuneration was allowed—to such as had been the *supposed* landowners—by the laws of every country in Europe, and likewise (I think, he added) in the civil and the Roman law. Let the farmers enquire of their new friends whether an “equity beyond the present law” is not at least as necessary for tenants as landlords, and judge of their sincerity by the result of their conduct in parliament.

I remain, Sir, yours, &c.,

THE AUTHOR OF THE RIGHTS OF THE FARMER.

### LINES.

On a Grave-stone in the Church-yard of —, (placed to commemorate the death of —, who died in her fifteenth year), is the following inscription:—‘Affection Weeps.’

“Affection weeps,”—ah, these are words

That should not pass away;

We fain would chain them in a spell,

To save them from decay,

That time would spare and not erase

The sweet line from its simple place.

What more could labour'd verse express

For those who mourn on earth,

What better record could it give

Of the departed's worth?—

There needs no marble image here

In memory of the early bier.

“Affection weeps,”—a magic pow'r

The sentence hath for all—

E'n for the gazing stranger's eye,

For what does it recall?

Two mighty streams that rush in part,

And find a home in every heart.

It tells of love, too strong for death,

Unfading, deep, and pure,

Binding the living, as a chain,

For ever to endure;

Though now it hovers o'er the tomb,

It must not have—it *hath* no gloom.

It tells of woe—the sighs, the tears

That o'er her rest were shed,—

Of treasure'd hopes, once bright and fair,

All buried with the dead.

Though sorrow has its darken'd share,

It is not wildness and despair.

“Affection weeps,”—enough is writ,

Young spirit, on thy grave;

'Tis better than the sculptor's art,

Or the proud banner's wave;

They both would crumble into dust,

But love and grief in Heav'n may trust.

Kimbolton.

B. B. B.

In answer to an application made by a member of the Select Vestry at Taunton, the Poor Law Commissioners have decided “that where it is possible for the Parish Officers to set able-bodied paupers to work, it is *illegal* for them to give relief to such paupers without work.”

## THE HORSE.

The following extract is from a cheap and useful little work, published by Simpkin and Marshall, London.

The chief requisite for becoming a good horseman is confidence; and this once obtained, a good seat, as it is commonly called, is not very difficult of attainment. It is undoubtedly the chief, though not the only point in riding, to be able to sit a horse without danger of being thrown. It is a common custom in military equitation, to ride with very long stirrups, to sit perfectly erect, and to move but little in the saddle; that is to say, the motion of rising in the stirrups when trotting, is, as much as possible, avoided. The seat is to be placed well down on the saddle; that is, not projecting back towards the cantle, but, in riding-masters' phrase, kept "well under the rider." To effect this, the body must be thrown back, and the legs and arms kept steady. The best mode of learning to ride is to begin without any stirrups, so as not to acquire a habit of placing too much reliance upon them, for the firmness of a man's seat on horseback mainly depends upon the knees and thighs, although in some cases, as in leaping, the calf of the leg is of great service. The leg should be placed, as near as possible, so that a line dropped from the knee may touch the toe; the ball of the foot should rest in the stirrup, and the heel be inclined downwards and turned out, but not too much so, by which means the knee has a firmer hold of the saddle. The right hand, when not used, is, by soldiers, allowed to drop rather behind the corresponding thigh. On putting a horse into a trot, both legs should be equally pressed to his body; but, for the purpose of making him canter, the heel of the rider opposite to the leg which the horse is required to strike or lead with, should be applied to his side smartly and farther back than the other heel: thus, to make a horse lead with the right leg, close both legs upon him at the same time, but press firmest and farthest back with the left, at the same time shortening the left rein, so as to incline his head to that side, and throw his hind quarters the other way; *et vice versa*. Some horses require lifting with the hand to make them canter; but though, at this pace, it is well to raise the horse in a slight degree at every stroke, yet it has a very ugly appearance to see a man jerking his horse's head previously to putting him into a canter, and resembles that elegant trick, which several old gentlemen practice, of tugging three or four times at the rein when driving, in order to accelerate the pace of their beast. The use of the hand is of the very greatest importance in riding. The general mode of holding the reins taught in military schools, is as follows: To take up a single snaffle bridle, place the little finger between the two reins, then draw them through the palm of the hand, turn the ends over the forefinger, and close the thumb upon it, at the same time shutting the hand. If a double bridle, after taking up the snaffle as before described, and before shutting the hand, draw the curb rein on one side through the palm, until of the same length as the snaffle, and then take up the loose part with the right hand, passing it between the fourth and ring-finger, and the first finger and thumb; or if both bridles be held in one hand, the third finger may be passed between the snaffle rein, and the fourth between the curb, after which both are to be brought over the forefinger, and held fast by the thumb. In riding on the road, the stirrups are generally shortened so as to permit a slight rise from the saddle while the horse is

trotting; a motion both pleasanter to the rider and easier to the animal than the jog-jog pace at which soldiers are taught to ride. In hunting, crossing the country, and racing, the stirrups are still more shortened by a hole or two than when on the road; by which means the horseman is enabled to stand in his stirrups, and avoid touching the saddle; a position less wearisome to a horse than the former, but only practicable at a gallop. The expression of "*standing in the stirrups*," is very common, although, were this to be actually practised, it is questionable whether it would be so easy to a horse as when the rider sits firm on the saddle; but the fact is that, instead of bearing the whole weight on the stirrups, the body should be mainly supported by gripping the saddle firmly with the knee, both in this position and every other. In leaping, the knee and thigh are chiefly to be depended on; some people, indeed, quit their stirrups previous to taking a high leap, for fear of the foot being entangled in case the horse should fall. The body should be slightly inclined forward when the horse rises to leap, and thrown backwards as he falls; the thigh and knee should keep a firm hold of the saddle, and the leg, thrown rather backwards, should be tightly pressed against the horse's belly, taking care, however, not to hold on by the spurs. Many horses are thrown down in leaping, by the awkwardness and indecision of their riders, who first run them at a fence, and, when near it, and too late to retract, wish they had not done so, endeavour to pull up, and thus check their horse while in the act of making his spring. When coming to a leap, therefore, make up your mind whether you will ride at it or not; and if you decide in favour of the former, go at it resolutely, and let no after-thought baulk your determination. In riding, whether on the road, or elsewhere, keep your arms and legs steady, for nothing looks worse than to see a man with out-stretched arms, as though he were going to leap out of his saddle, and working his legs to and fro, so as to merit the accusation of going faster than his horse. In racing, a horse should be kept well in hand, and, when spurred, the heels should be drawn back to his flanks with as little motion as possible, and not, as is frequently the case, kicked into him, when at the last rush, in such a manner as to expel the little wind he has left in him.

## TO THE EDITOR OF "THE MARK LANE EXPRESS."

Sir,—I wish you to make mention, from the immense advantage they have been to me, of Courtney's Cattle Medicines, which I think are superior in effect to any I have ever used. It is for public good I state it. I speak particularly of the two medicines adopted for the present season, the Animal Restorative and Scour Balls. It is not only from my own testimony that I consider them entitled to publicity, but from the patronage and recommendation given to them by many practical farmers of Hampshire to them.

I am, Sir, yours,

A HAMPSHIRE FARMER AND BREEDER OF STOCK.

A GOOD LEAP.—A few days ago a fat drove of fat oxen were passing the Durham new line of road, and when near the Gateshead Arms public house, Low Fell, one of them, a fine looking animal, supposed to be nearly 70 stone weight, very deliberately walked up to a stone wall about seven feet high, and making a sudden spring, leaped completely over it, and very quietly joined some cows that were grazing in an adjoining part of the field.



## DRUMMOND'S AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM.

We are glad to see by the third report of this institution, established at Stirling by Messrs. Drummond and Sons, that it has been productive of the most beneficial effects in that district, by giving rise to a spirit of enterprise among Agriculturists, which cannot fail to lead to great ultimate improvements. The report enumerates the specimens of soils, plants, implements, and seeds, which have been placed in the Museum; and describes their peculiar characteristics, properties, or peculiarities, as guides for others in making experiments. As a whole the report is well worthy the attention of Agriculturists; and we hope the Museum will meet with increasing encouragement. We would, however, suggest to the writer of the report the propriety of bestowing a little more care on his composition, a want of attention to which is exhibited in several places. In some cases we think the amount of produce far overrated; and in particular we are surprised at the writer's adoption of the Scottish acre, instead of the imperial, at a time too when every one ought to use their best endeavours to influence the farmers to conform to the Act of Parliament. These are, however, blemishes only in the execution, and will no doubt be hereafter avoided. We quote a few extracts:—

**BONE DUST.**—The merits of this manure appear to be decidedly established in this quarter; it is particularly effective in light soils where it soon decomposes; in the heavier soils it is advisable to mix more or less dung with it. Mr. Morrison, factor at Clangregor, who has used this manure very extensively for turnip, applies at the rate of 25 bushels per acre; and in his Communication, published in our Report of 1833, he recommends depositing the bones at 3 inches deep, and the seed along with them, as “much of the success of a turnip crop depends upon the seed being put pretty deep, and immediately among the fructifying matter, particularly in dry weather.”

In gravels so small a quantity as 14 bushels per acre, dibbled in, has produced a good crop of turnip, which afterwards eaten off with sheep, has ensured excellent grain crops; this practice, it is considered, may be accomplished to a great extent and very profitably. When bones are left of the size of half an inch to an inch, they are called drill bones.

It appears from the Report of the Doncaster Agricultural Association, that one gallon whale oil has been proved equal to one bushel bones in raising turnip. It should be mixed with screened soil at least one month before using, in the proportion of a gallon to three bushels of soil. Should succeeding trials be favourable, it will be of greater importance than even bone dust. Unrefined whale oil averages about 1s 3d per gallon.

**SALT.**—The Legislature having, by taking off the duty, placed this substance more within the reach of the farmer, it becomes of importance to direct attention, at least to experiment, on the many advantages which are mentioned as resulting from its moderate and judicious use. The following among many others are adverted to, viz.:—

1. As manure sowing 10 to 16 bushels per acre, after the grain is harrowed in, or the potatoes covered; the same quantity as a top-dressing for grass, which also destroys the moss in old pasture;

2. Layers of it in compost with coarse herbage or weeds and with peat; 3. Mixed with oats, 1-20th part preserves from grub; 4. With flaxseed, weight for weight, improves quantity and quality; 5. Improves hay, 15 to 20lbs. for a ton, in stacking; 6. Found excellent for horses, cattle, and sheep; and by many who give it regularly, is looked upon as a condiment essential to their health and strength, and almost as necessary as food.

**POTATOES.**—Taylor's Fortyfold and Ross's American Early, from Messrs. Drummond. A comparative trial on the same lot, and under the same treatment, planted 2d May, raised 20th August; one fall of Fortyfold produced 270lbs.; one fall of Ross's early produced 212lbs. The kinds equally early, and equally dry and mealy, but the former is fully the best flavour, is well adapted for the market.

Red, a variety from Blairdrummond. 36 sets, 2lbs.; one shaw produced 8lbs. 6 oz.; very mealy, flavour excellent, one of the earliest of the late class of potatoes. In so far as it has been proved, appears to possess the best qualities of productiveness, excellent flavour, and long keeping, being what may be called a medium early, would be suitable where wheat was intended to follow.

Garnock Seedling, from ditto. Is well recommended.

Potatoes without having been earthed up, from Messrs. Drummond. Produce fully equal to those earthed up under the same circumstances; there did not appear to be more of the tubers exposed above ground than usual. This following year (1834) one of the lots on trial has been taken up, August 21st, and proved 20 per cent. to the advantage of those not earthed up, which may be attributed in a great measure to the ground having been kept more moist, the furrows operating in the other case as so many small surface drains. The plan has been tried in England, it is said, with success. We intend to prosecute the experiment respecting it further.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE HEREFORD TIMES.

Downton, Feb. 9, 1835.

SIR—You have stated in your last paper, that, at the last meeting of the Agricultural Society of Herefordshire, I recommended that less wheat should be sown; which I did, inadvertently, by pointing out the obvious circumstance, that the increased, and rapidly increasing, consumption of potatoes and animal matter (much more palatable and wholesome species of food than bread), had necessarily diminished the consumption of wheat, and that the supply of that article had, in consequence, exceeded the demand for it. I stated that I had foreseen this, and that my tenantry in this vicinity, under the influence of my advice, had raised a much greater breadth of turnips, and artificial grasses of different kinds, and less breadth of wheat; and that, by cultivating highly and expensively, they had employed much labour, and sent much to market; and that I had the satisfaction to say, that I believed that they were contented and doing well. They now sow much less breadth of wheat than formerly; but they sow upon ground in much better condition, and, therefore, the diminished produce of wheat is not nearly proportionate to the increased produce of animal food, and of other articles.

The labouring classes are apt to think, erroneously, that the price of wheat, and other agricultural

produce, can never sink too low relatively to their benefit; but experience has proved, that excessive depressions in the value of agricultural produce, have invariably been, within very short periods, highly injurious to them. The farmer cannot, and the freeholder will not, expend a shilling in raising that which can be sold for tenpence only in the market; and the labourer cannot, consequently, find employment, except at very low wages; and the tradesman becomes without customers, and, therefore, without the means of giving employment. This occurred in the latter part of the first twenty years of the present century; and the greatest amount of distress which this country ever felt, was about the year 1743, when the price of wheat did not exceed twopence a gallon. A tenant of mine, in the parish of Wormsley, who died about twenty years ago, told me that, at that period, he conveyed, on the backs of horses, twelve ten-gallon bushels of wheat to Kyneton (Kington), the best market in the county, for which he asked a guinea only, but could not obtain it, and he was obliged to convey his wheat back to Wormsley. The agricultural labourers were then wholly without employment, and consequently without the means of procuring means of subsisting.

The severe and destructive winter of '39-'40 had caused the price of wheat, in the following year, to be excessively high; and the attention and capital of every farmer were directed to the produce of that article. The supply in consequence exceeded the demand, as it now does to a more limited extent, and owing to other causes. A reduction both of rents and tithes must take place, if the markets remain in, or nearly in, their present state; and by this the farmer, but the farmer only, can be relieved. The demand for labour must sink with the price of the produce of labour; and the tradesman, and those whom he employs, if taxation continues as it now is, will and must bear their share of privation. A proper and equitable commutation of tithes would be productive of benefit to every class of society; and I am quite certain that, in a pamphlet which you have noticed in your paper, I have pointed out a plan which is perfectly practicable. But I despair of seeing any such brought forward. Nothing can be done without an Act declaratory of what is, and what is not, the property of the tithe owner; and great difficulties will, I suspect, occur in the passing of such an Act: one party will not feel disposed to relinquish the enormous amount of property which the judges, appointed during the reign of George III., awarded them; and with this party the present Ministry dare not quarrel; and the opposite party, including a large majority of the House of Commons, are probably not prepared to concede that which was never due, nor ever *legally*, though *judicially*, given. From another—and a most oppressive and unjust—tax, the farmer has a just claim to be relieved—that of repairing any parochial roads, except those used exclusively as husbandry roads. Those who use the public roads, ought to pay for the repair of them. I have understood that it was the intention of the late Ministry to have relieved the farmer from the oppression of this tax; and if the present House of Commons do their duty, this most iniquitous tax upon the farmer must cease to oppress him.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

T. A. KNIGHT.

**TOLLS.**—It is now the law that no toll shall be paid for cattle and other beasts going to or from water or pasture, or to or from being shod or farried, or passing on any turnpike road, provided they

do not pass more than two miles on such turnpike road. All horses and beasts drawing carts for materials for the repairs of roads, although the wheels of such carts shall be less than four inches and a half, are also to be exempt from toll. Lastly, all horses or carriages, cattle or other beasts, crossing any turnpike road, or not going above one hundred yards thereon, are exempt.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING HERALD.

SIR,—In a former letter, which I addressed to you on the very important subject of the preservation of the potatoe crop, I stated my conviction that many of the alleged cases of failure had originated in a defect of the seed tubers, caused by slight frosts in the preceding autumn, by which the cuticle became abraded, and many of the eyes rendered inert. Decay, as a natural consequence, would take place, and wherever such defective eyes were planted, there *could* be no vegetation.

I have subsequently perceived that my opinion has been combatted, not theoretically, as founded in error, but on the ground that similar frosts must have occurred in previous seasons of potato-digging, which had not, however, been succeeded by decay and failure. The great evil, it is observed, has occurred during the present and the last years; and therefore it must have had a specific actuating cause. I am not prepared positively to assert that no such cause could have existed in Lancashire, and other remote northern counties, nor in Ireland; but the facts I stated were certain, and the results assured. I saw my frosted tubers at the moment when the phenomenon occurred; and subsequently I ascertained the consequences by direct inspection. The other causes assigned are merely so many conjectures. However, I indited my last letter, as I now indite this, not to cavil or to raise disputes, but candidly and simply to state facts and induce cautionary care. I also pointed out an effectual remedy, namely, that of cropping with fine, moderate-sized, entire potatoes; for it is certain that if a tuber be somewhat frosted, there may remain one or more sound eyes, which will break and produce a crop, and thus obviate the vexatious disappointment which must always result from completely bad seed. Sowing with whole potatoes, it is true, requires a considerable supply of roots in the first instance; it also may not yield so bulky a return as the same quantity would produce were the tubers divided into sets with two eyes each, that is, provided those eyes were in perfect condition; but then it secures a good and regular crop; and this advantage is, in my opinion, nearly paramount. I have had the great satisfaction to observe, that comparative experiments upon a large scale have been undertaken by gentlemen and farmers in different parts of the kingdom, not excepting those wherein the disease has been said to be peculiarly prevalent, and these have furnished a mass of evidence, conclusive of the great superiority of planting fine whole tubers. The public prints have recorded these experiments, stating the names of the parties who instituted them, and their places of residence. It is to the honor of the venerable President of the Horticultural Society that he led the way to this most advantageous practice, by his articles published in the Transactions of that Institution. To me also he communicated, in several letters, his peculiar method of practice, and the comparative yield of several varieties. I adopted the plan suggested, have practised it for several years, and have never witnessed a failure. I will add one more corroborative fact. My crop of pota-



toes, including at least 20 sorts, are safely housed: no frost in any way corresponding in character with that of Nov. 14, 1833, has occurred. Among these numerous varieties, three four-yard rows of a rough Cornish red, planted whole, yielded two bushels, good measure; three similar rows in the same plot of ground, of the very same potato, cut into two-eyed sets, produced one bushel only, and some sets failed in the rows. It is Mr. Knight's practice, confirmed by experiments at Chiswick, superintended, I believe, by Dr. Lindley, to plant the rows in a direction pointing north and south. The rationale of this practice may, I conceive, be thus interpreted. From the day of planting, say the 1st of April, to that of the termination of visible growth, the sun's altitude is on the increase, or his power is at its maximum. The foliage acts as the laboratory of light, and a greater breadth of that foliage is presented to the solar ray, by the position of plants so exposed. The light acts also more equably, since, at noon, the whole length of every row is exposed to its energy alike, on each side. Hence the haulm becomes more erect, is less liable to fall over, and, therefore, is retained in full health and vigour. The tubers consequently are formed at an early period, become mature in good time, and unless the season be very unpropitious, may be secured before there can be a possibility of severe and injurious frosts.

THE AUTHOR OF "THE  
Nov. 1854. DOMESTIC GARDENER'S MANUAL."

### CULTURE OF THE ONION.

MR. EDITOR,—It is very gratifying that this salubrious bulb, which is in such general estimation, and so extensively employed, can be raised to the utmost perfection, so as not merely to equal, but to surpass the onions of the growth of Spain and Portugal. I do not at all allude to the common processes of garden culture; they, with some slight shades of difference, are known to every gardener. But the one, and I believe one only, by which bulbs of extraordinary beauty, size, and mildness of flavour may be procured, has been communicated by the venerable President of the Horticultural Society. Few persons have the Transactions of that institution at command, and, therefore, as I have been favoured with two direct communications from Mr. Knight upon the subject, and am perfectly aware that it is his wish to disseminate knowledge, I embrace the present opportunity, through the medium of your influential columns, to communicate a few particulars which may greatly improve the practice of those who are desirous to ascertain what can be effected in England. It is rather late in the season now to commence the experiment, but the time is not passed; and if the process be immediately commenced it may succeed perfectly.

Let a gentle hot-bed be prepared—every man acquainted with "forcing," will understand what this means; to others it may be proper to observe, that about two good barrows of horse dung that has lain in a heap for two or three weeks, mixed with half the quantity of oak or beech leaves, and turned twice, so as to blend the materials; these materials employed in the proportions named, and to any required extent, will form a bed that will yield a gentle and permanent heat.

Late in January or during the first fortnight of February, this bed should be in action. Place on it a stratum of light sandy garden soil, three or four inches thick. It will be all the better that this bed be

covered with a frame and light, but Mr. Knight observes that mats will do. The plants will soon appear, bearing the little black covering of the seed of each (testa) upon its point. At the beginning of April the young onions are to be planted out in distances, six inches by twelve, in rows. These rows and spaces are best formed by stretching two garden lines at right angles one with the other, and moving each, as needful, to the required distance, drawing merely lines, not drills, to indicate the points of intersection where the onions are to be placed. These are to be "*laid flat upon the ground with the leaves pointing north*, lightly covering the roots with soil. They very soon erect themselves, and by the great extent of foliage outgrow immensely all sowed and not removed plants. A little quick lime is, after planting, and occasionally afterwards, sprinkled over the beds." This precaution is taken to prevent attacks of worms, which, in fact, are the grand enemies of the work, by mining the soil, and drawing in the points of the leaves while they thus deracinate the bulb. To obviate this inconvenience, I would recommend that a flat tile be laid under the leaf of each onion, and extended beyond its point, for when the leaves become erect, and not till then, will the plant be in security. If the soil be good and the season propitious, the results will be most gratifying. "I had many onions last year" (1834) observes Mr. Knight, "which exceed two pound ten ounces, and one which weighed three pounds."

To prepare the bed, I would select a plot exposed well to the south; the soil light, filled with perfectly fermented and black manure (forked in to the depth of six or eight inches,) and then *beaten hard* with a turf-beater. Upon such a surface the lines may be drawn, or rather scratched, without making it rough. The hardness of the soil renders the onion a perfect *surface bulb*, its fibrous, or true roots, only penetrating the ground. Two sources of failure may be mentioned. The first, and most obvious, is a bad soil and exposure; the second is the season. If April and May prove arid and scorching, the young roots will find some difficulty to establish themselves, and time will thus be lost. The onion, to mature it perfectly, requires the operation of the most powerful sun which our climate will afford; yet the plant loves moisture, hence it may be prudent to press a round pole forcibly upon the soil, so as to form a groove or channel in the centre of the spaces between the rows, and to pass a sharp pointed stick, diagonally, in a direction towards the roots underground in different parts of the grooves. Then, by pouring a volume of water along the channels, it will flow along them, and down the oblique holes, so as to supply the lower soil, without flooding the surface. But rain, in due time, is the best; all the irrigating processes of man are succeeded only.

Botanically, the onion belongs to the 1st order of the 6th Linnæan class—*Hexandria Monogynia*. In the natural system it is referred to the great class *Monocotyledones*, and to the order *Asphodelæ*. Its natural character is clearly and beautifully described by D. Lindley, in "*Ladies' Botany*," p. 231.—Feb. 6.

By advices from Leghorn to the 5th inst, we learn that the imports of grain during the past year were—693,177 sacks of wheat, 75,830 of barley, 111,794 of oats, and 225,988 of various other kinds of grain, amounting in all to 1,106,789 sacks. It was expected that the admission of grain into Spain would be allowed in the course of the present year.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE 'FARMER'S MAGAZINE.'

Sir,—Allow me a small space in your columns in answer to Mr. J. Richardson, Heydon, respecting the prospects of the farmer, under the present administration, and I will do what he has omitted to do, institute a comparison betwixt the advantages derived to the farmer from the Liberals and the Tories. Mr. Richardson dates the first injury the farmer received from Peel's bill of 1819, and certainly proves his statement by showing that two years before, the average of Wheat was 94s and 83s per qr, and that of 1820, only 65s 10d. Now I will ask any reasonable man whether he thinks at this period, when the country had been in a state of peace for four years, and a prospect of its continuing, whether it would not have been madness in any ministry to endeavour to perpetuate the high rate of profit accruing to the farmer during the war, and to hold up the price of wheat at either 94s or 83s per qr? and whether he does not think that such an attempt to hold up prices to that amount, must have brought on dreadful riots, if not a bloody revolution? I do not understand the question of the currency sufficiently to give a decided opinion; but, I should rather incline to Sir R. Peel's opinion with all his selfishness than to Mr. R's. I will therefore admit that it had a considerable effect upon the price of corn, and had it reduced the average no lower than in 1820, viz., 65s 10d per qr, by permanently settling the monetary system, and affording something like that price to the farmer, it would have been a great national benefit; but it appears that in 1822, the average was reduced to 43s 5d, and from 1820 to 1827, the average was 57s 2d; though from the mode of taking the averages, it is well known the farmer did not receive so much perhaps within 3s or 4s per qr, and this was considered by these vile Tories not a sufficiently remunerating price; they, therefore, revised the corn laws, and gave us a system of progressive duties varying from a high rate to 1s per qr, which minimum duty would have stopped at 5s if the Liberals had not prevented it. This Act was passed in 1827. The Tories went out of office in 1831, and for the four years this bill was administered by the framers of it, with a minimum duty of 1s instead of 5s, it did yield, according to Mr. Richardson's own showing, an average of 65s 4d, and for these four years the average only varied 2s per qr. Mr. Richardson may theorize and speculate as he pleases as to the effect of Peel's bill; he may institute comparisons as to the price of wheat and that of stocks, but the fact is that for the four last years of Toryism, their measures did yield an average of 65s 4d. Then comes political agitation; then Reform is all the order of the day. Reform which was to bring security and prosperity to our country, comforts to our firesides, and to render our gardens and our fields an universal *el dorado*! But somehow or other all men are not conjurors, and what impudent quacks will boldly prognosticate, subsequent events will sometimes maliciously contradict; and thus Sir, from Mr. Richardson's own showing on the first year of the Liberal Administration, the average was reduced 7s 4d less than the last year of vile Toryism. But it does not stop here, another year of Liberalism passes over, and the average is reduced to 52s 11d, making a difference of 13s 5d. Then comes a third year of Liberalism: and it might be said that for the first two years the ministers had so much to do that they could not attend to every thing, but one would suppose that in three years a body of talented men might embrace in their views the most important points on which their country's welfare rested; what is the result? the average is re-

duced to 45s, making a comparison against Liberalism of 21s 4d! Few people will forget the bright anticipations they indulged when the Liberals introduced into the King's speech their commiseration with his suffering farmers, and what did these liberal *puffers* and their tail do when the average was reduced 21s 4d per qr? why, they took off the duty on shepherd's dogs, amounting to the enormous sum of 8s per annum, when those farmers who most wanted relief, did not keep a shepherd dog because their land was unfit to keep sheep! Then Sir, comes the close to the blessings of Liberalism, so far as the farmers are concerned. In October 1834, the ministers are turned out, and the average price of wheat is 42s per qr, and look at this *ye sticklers for Whigish liberal rule and misrule*, 24s 4d less than the last year of Toryism, and giving for the four years the Whigs were in office, an average of 49s 5d,—16s 5d less than the last four years, and 7s 9d less than the eight worst years of Toryism,—enough to make a man *turn his coat* and wear it threadbare also. I should be ashamed of myself, if like Mr. Richardson I ascribed all this declension entirely to political causes, to one set of ministers; but I am satisfied that the first considerable impulse downward, was given by political agitation, and that accelerated during the last two years by an abundant crop. Some party in the country must have rule, the Whigs were driven from power because they satisfied no one, not even those who are now loudest in wishing them back again. I think the country will not admit a radical government. Mr. Richardson will not allow the Tories to remain whom I have proved are the best friends to the farmer, but I trust the thinking part of the community will not be led away by Mr R. or any other vapid declaimer, but will judge of the present ministers by their conduct, and while that conduct is any thing like what it ought to be, will unite in putting down political agitation, which is as great a curse as a country can well be subjected to. As this is a first attempt in your Magazine, I sign myself

A FARMER.

## THE AGRICULTURALISTS.

The very limited number of publications on Agriculture which have been produced by practical farmers, increases in a wonderful degree the pleasure which we experience on the perusal of any work emanating from such a source. The work to which we are about to allude, although by no means strictly agricultural, contains so much useful information on the subject, and displays so much sound judgment and solid discrimination, that we trust it will be perused by all those who can afford to obtain it. A younger brother of Mr. Patrick Shireff, of Mungoswells, in the county of East Lothian, having expressed an earnest desire to emigrate to some part of North America, Mr. Shireff, with a fraternal feeling which does him infinite credit, determined to make a transatlantic excursion for the purpose of forming an opinion on the propriety of such a step. He set out on the 20th of April, 1833, and having completed his tour and returned home, we rejoice much that "solicitations of his friends have induced him to give his opinion to the public," and we predict with confidence, that "the result will not prove their partiality to have been greater than their discernment." Our limits



will not permit us to take so extensive a notice of this publication as we could wish, we shall therefore simply call the attention of our readers to a part of it which refers to a subject the opinions upon which, as expressed by our transatlantic brethren, are equally applicable to our own situation.

Mr. Shireff having traversed a part of the state of New York, arrives at Bucl farm, the property of a Mr. Bucl, who is esteemed an eminent farmer in that part of the country, although as Mr. S. observes, his farm "presents few attractions to any one conversant with British Agriculture." He is described as a man of enlarged mind, and enthusiastically devoted to agriculture. On the departure of our author, Mr. Bucl presented him with the printed proceedings of the New York State Agricultural Society. This Society was incorporated by an act of the Legislature, on the 26th of April, 1832, a report recommending a Legislative grant, was approved in Feb. 1833, and without doubt has ere this time been obtained. The report of the select Committee on the memorial of the New York State Agricultural Society, is given in Mr. Shireff's work, and contains such an estimate of the importance of the farming interest, as we could wish to see more generally entertained in this country. After adverting to the peculiarly patriotic feelings of the farmers of the state of New York, the report goes on to say, "When a storm arises in the horizon, and danger awaits us from abroad, or when crazed ambition at home drives the frenzied passions of men to madness and all its excesses, it is in the farming interest of the country that you find the steady hand which holds the balance of political power, and by its strong arm repels the foe, or by its electoral voice annihilates the unjust hopes of the aspiring ambition of profligate politicians." The high rank which the state of New York holds among the states of the Union, and the attention devoted to the education of every other class of society are next alluded to, and the following pointed question relating to the farmers is put, "Is it then unfair to ask what has been done by the legislature for a class of its citizens so numerous, virtuous, and meritorious? The stranger when he sojourns in your land, and views all that has been done for the cause of science, for education in the higher branches of literature for your various schools, for the reformation and punishment of crimes on a scale superior to any state in Europe, naturally enquires, Show me your agricultural school? You are essentially an agricultural people, a class of society who have aided so liberally to the institutions of your state, must have received the constant and peculiar care of legislative protection and patronage." Now who is there can read the above passage, and not be forcibly struck with its literal application to the condition of the farming interest in this country. During the palmy days of agricultural prosperity in England, Agricul-

tural Societies were promoted and flourished, but if the details were strictly analyzed, it would be found that their success was mainly owing to the exertions of the tenantry themselves. Not one single step has been taken by the Government to advance the science of agriculture. The report continues by enforcing the advantages which would be derived from founding Agricultural Schools, in which education in the theory and practice of agriculture should be combined. In the report of the State Agricultural Society, Albany, made in 1833, and which in Mr. Shireff's book follows that to which we have alluded above, we find the following remark. "It should be the policy of Government, therefore, which watches over the interest of all, to infuse into the labour of husbandry all the lights of science and knowledge—to take care to expand and elevate the minds of those who are to give it efficiency and character, and to call forth skill and industry by proffered rewards." Thus in a new country like America, possessing all those natural advantages which give to the pursuit of agriculture a superiority which enables it to rival the older and better cultivated countries, it is deemed of importance to lay down a system for the education of those whose future labours are to be dedicated to the culture of the soil, whilst in this country an object so deeply important in its consequences, is left to the accidental means which may fall within the reach of the parents. What a picture does our author draw between the farmers of Great Britain and those of New York. "How different," says he, "is Britain and Ireland from the state of New York, where the 'tillers of the soil' are regarded as the most patriotic class, hold the balance of political power, and alike ready in repelling foes and restraining profligate politicians. In former ages the cultivators of the British soil were considered mere vassals and termed villains. At present they are lightly esteemed by those who chiefly reap the benefit of their exertions, and although this is the age when the schoolmaster is said to be abroad, judicious steps have not been taken to improve their condition." We shall embrace an early opportunity of offering some suggestions for promoting the science of Agriculture, and by an improved system of education, enlarging the mental faculties of those who contemplate devoting their energies to the cultivation of the soil.—*Mark Lane Express.*

A SURE SERVANT.—"Man Jack," said a farmer in the neighbourhood of Glasgow, the other day, to his ploughman, "but you're an unco slow feeder." "Vera true, maister," said Jack, flourishing the spoon, "but I am a real sure one."

The weather has been extremely bleak and stormy within the last day or two, which has given a salutary check to overforward vegetation. We have had frequent showers of hail and snow, and the hills around us are all clad in white.—*Carlisle Patriot.*

## AGRICULTURAL REPORTS.

## DEVONSHIRE.

Few winters have been altogether more favourable to farming operations than the present. Frost, without being severe, has been sufficient to chasten the fallows, and those which have been already cross ploughed, are in fine condition for receiving spring corn. In some places inconvenience has arisen from the want of water; but the rains, within a few days, have removed all apprehensions for the future.

Wheat and vetches look superb at a distance; on a nearer inspection, however, a great quantity of weed is discovered. To the wet and retentive soils the season has been peculiarly propitious. Stock of all kinds has been kept out, without the usual injury from treading pastures saturated with water, and at very little expense of hay; while turnips have been consumed with the least possible waste. The markets have been abundantly supplied with grain, which has been sold since the last harvest for less than it cost those who had no rent to pay. It may indeed be fearlessly averred, that the present prices leave nothing for rent on nine-tenths of the arable land of this extensive county. Corn has sunk to about one half of what twenty years ago was considered its legitimate price, but the cost of production has not been lowered more than a fifth, or at the most a fourth, without one single cheering ray to brighten the gloomy prospect. The burden of the poor-rates had become so severe, that we hailed with pleasure a plan that promised to mitigate their severity; but after waiting many months in vain for instructions from the Poor Law Commissioners, we begin to suspect that this costly apparatus was, like most of the jobs of the Whig ministry, intended to increase their influence by patronage. Before this time we expected a complete uniformity in the mode of administering relief to paupers, and such official regulations for the diet, clothing, and discipline of all inmates in workhouses, as might be suggested by a board composed of men of great research, intelligence, experience, and energy. In these hopes we have hitherto been sadly disappointed, yet we are willing to believe that much good might arise from the late act, particularly if some of its clauses were amended.—Feb. 17.

## KENT.

We still continue without rain, except a few slight showers, so that the land is in a fine working condition; great numbers are taking advantage of it, and are very busy getting in their spring crops—indeed, the extent already sown is greater than has been known at so early a period for a number of years. There are at the present time some fields of oats and barley looking quite green and promising, and if we should have a fine March they will no doubt produce a heavy crop. The want of rain is greater than has been known at this season of the year for several years, and owing to it farmers are put to much inconvenience, having to drive their cattle some distance for water, and at the same time to fetch it for household purposes.

The wheats in general are looking well, but in a number of instances there is a want of plants, which may be accounted for by there not being sufficient moisture in the earth to make it vegetate.

Our corn markets still continue in a very heavy state, and little spirit in the millers to buy, except

at their own prices, and that for the best sorts; others are quite unsaleable.

The cattle markets have a full supply of beef, with a decline in price for even the prime ones. The want of money has been much complained of both with buyers and sellers.

Sheep in general have been doing well, and the numbers which have been at grass at so late a season of the year is unusually large, and has greatly helped to lengthen out the turnips, which are now nearly gone in a number of instances, but we may look for a full supply at the markets if we should have severe weather, as the keep will then be very short.

There has been more doing in wool of late, with a firm market as respects price.—Feb. 18.

## WILTS.

The weather continues warm and spring-like, as it has been indeed through the winter with very little exception, so much so that there have been very few days of rain or frost sufficient to prevent the ploughs from working.

Sheep have done well on the downs, and are in better condition than they usually are at this season. They are just beginning to lamb, and though the crop of hay was very short, the peculiarity of the season will nearly make up the deficiency.

An unusually small quantity of rain has fallen since last August, and in some situations sheep and cattle have suffered from want of water. The winter streams on Salisbury-plain do not exist this year. There is perhaps reason to fear that we shall now have more wet than will be convenient during the spring sowing season, when a great loss accrues from the working cattle not being able to move.

The present year will nearly ruin many Wiltshire farmers, particularly from the failure of the barley and most other spring corn crops, and those who think the deficiency will be made up by the comparatively high price of sheep and wool are much in error. The gradual fall in the price of wheat, from 1830 to the present time, will put all contracts and money payments out of place and still injure the tenant. The poor-rate too, will probably turn out to be still on the increase, and where the tenant pays the rate on the tithes (as is mostly the case in this county) it has the effect of increasing that burden.

The alteration in the poor-laws, and the very judicious circular instructions have as yet had little or no effect on the amount of monthly payments to the poor, but it is generally agreed among practical men, that the consequence has been wonderful on the conduct of the respectable labourers. They know now that if they are indolent or impertinent and go to the magistrate, that he does not order them to be put on the same footing as the worthy and industrious. The administration of this part of the unamended poor-law was most mischievous. Still there are too many able labourers for whom no profitable work can be found.

Wishing our friend and fellow-labourer, Mr. Ellman, every success with the malt-tax, I cannot help thinking he is too sanguine, or, in other words, that the taking off the tax will not do all the good he anticipates.

Our crops of barley have suffered of late from smutty or black ears, and if any of your correspondents should know any remedy and will communicate the same (liming and brining or otherwise) through your magazine, they will oblige, &c.



## THE AGRICULTURAL INTEREST.

## PETITION TO PARLIAMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHAMPTON MERCURY.

Millbrook, Jan. 28, 1835.

Sir,—Will you again allow me, through the medium of your ancient and valuable journal, to call the attention of my brother farmers to the necessity of bestirring themselves on the subject of our fallen interest? It is vain to ruminate over the burdens which are weighing us down, if we never take upon ourselves the trouble to act with the determination of pointing out the means by which those burdens may be taken from our shoulders. I have twice before endeavoured to arouse their thoughts to this subject, and it has not been a vain endeavour, as far as I can speak of the determination of my neighbours. It is my wish, however, that it may be no partial effort, confined to a single district in Bedfordshire; but that a general, widely-extended appeal may be made from all parts of the country to Parliament, praying them to place the burden of the poor fairly upon all classes, by taking the necessary relief for the poor from the public revenue, and thereby enable us to say, "Now is the winter of our discontent made glorious summer." Hence, as the vernal sun restores and fructifies the soil we till, so shall we again behold a bright and cheering prospect opening to our view. I have enclosed the copy of a letter which I addressed to Sir Robert Peel, with the reply thereto; and it is gratifying to be assured that this great statesman is not indifferent to the subject. Let me then, I beseech you, my brother farmers, again impress upon you the necessity of urging this important subject forward, as the accomplishment of this grand object would prove the greatest blessing which the government could possibly confer upon us, a blessing which would extend itself to every other interest in Britain.

I am, Sir, your's, &amp;c.

GEORGE GREEN.

TO THE RIGHT HON. SIR ROBERT PEEL, BART.,  
FIRST LORD OF HIS MAJESTY'S TREASURY.

Millbrook, Beds, Jan. 19, 1835.

Sir,—It is incumbent upon me and every other farmer to think seriously of our present distressed state, and to endeavour to suggest the means by which relief may be extended to us. I hope this will be received as an apology for the presumption of so obscure an individual taking upon himself to address a letter to such a distinguished and enlightened statesman as Sir Robert Peel. It has been said that the late administration took off taxes to the annual amount of five millions; it may be true they did do so, but the agricultural interest is more distressed at the present moment than at any time in my remembrance. It therefore appears useless to call upon government to take off taxes in order to relieve the distress of the occupiers of the soil. What then can be done to relieve the agricultural interest? It is my present object to suggest an answer to this important question; and it is my firm conviction, if you can render my suggestions practicable, they will lead to the happiest results. The arm of the farmer is almost paralyzed; and unless he can meet with timely relief, he will be unable either to hold or drive the plough much longer. The great and insupportable burden which he has to sustain is the poor. The idea of taking

this burden from the shoulders of the occupiers of the soil may at first sight appear startling; but, to a mind so enlightened and comprehensive as yours, Sir, I entertain a lively hope that the means will present themselves for effecting this grand object. The operation of the amended Poor Law would assist government greatly in their endeavour to do so; for as soon as the workhouse system of managing the poor can be rigidly adopted, it will set the poor upon a new footing, and the management will be comparatively easy. I make this assertion from my own knowledge; and, if government were to take the management of the poor it would be found easy to point out to the surplus labourers such parts of the country where employment might be found. But how are the means to be raised to enable government to bear the burden of the Poor? If it be possible to apply the Malt Tax to such a purpose, that would be a great means, or any other tax now in existence: but if additional taxes are found necessary, could not a Property Tax, be fairly assessed for the purpose? And, if other taxes are found necessary to raise a revenue commensurate to the additional expenditure which the entire management and relief of the poor would cause to the government, then I should humbly suggest that as many of the taxes as are wanted for the purpose, which the late government have taken off, and which do not affect the common necessities of life, be put on again, in order to raise a sufficient revenue. Hence would arise the prosperity of the agricultural interest, upon which hangs in a great measure the prosperity of every other interest in Britain. By taking the relief for the poor out of the public revenue, it will be placing the burden fairly upon all classes; and it is firmly impressed upon my mind, that the prosperity of the country depends upon this grand object being carried into effect, more than upon any other measure which can possibly be brought under the consideration of Parliament.

This subject has been gaining popularity in our neighbourhood in consequence of a letter which I sent to the *Northampton Mercury* a few weeks ago, and it is now in contemplation to petition Parliament; but as great confidence is inspired in the public mind, that the present administration will in their wisdom direct some means for the relief of the farmer, it has been thought advisable that a letter should be addressed to you before the petition is got up, praying you to condescend to favour me with a reply, if it be possible consistently with the high office which you adorn in his Majesty's government, to offer a word of advice to so obscure an individual as myself.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE GREEN.

TO MR. GEORGE GREEN.

Whitehall, Jan. 21, 1835.

Sir,—I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant, and to express a wish that the parties, on whose behalf you write to me, should take their own course in respect to their petition to Parliament, unfettered by any opinion of mine. I trust that they will neither attribute *that wish* to disrespect towards them, or to indifference to the subject on which you have addressed me.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

ROBERT PEEL.

N

THE COLONIES.

At the present period, when the public interest in our vast Colonial possessions is evidently gaining ground, we deem that the following statistical abstract of the resources of our British colonies in North America alone will be interesting to many of our readers. We take them from Mr. Montgomery Martin's able work on the colonies, and considering the imperfect state of the census system in all our settlements, they bear the stamp of great correctness. This table strongly and readily illustrates the vast capabilities of our North American possessions, which have ample resources for the reception of the redundant population of the mother country, securing at once a truly reciprocal trade between both countries, and affording increased strength against foreign aggression by the means which the carrying trade possesses in fostering and extending the naval power of Great Britain, all which are circumstances that forcibly press upon Government the policy of ruling them correctly, and of encouraging the mutual interchange of benefits which this kind of commerce peculiarly possesses over foreign trade. So long as our colonies are viewed as integral parts of the British empire, so long will the empire exist.

| Colony.                            | Date of Acquisition. | Ceded, Conquered or Colonized. | Continental or Insular. | Locality.      |                  | Area in Square Miles.* | Population.† | Value of Maritime Commerce. |             |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
|                                    |                      |                                |                         | Lat. N.        | Long. W.         |                        |              | Imports.                    | Exports.    |
| Canada, Lower....                  | 1759                 | Cont. Do.                      | Cont. Do.               | 45° 52' 58" N. | 80° 17' 17" W.   | 250,000                | 600,000      | £ 1,700,000                 | £ 1,200,000 |
| Canada, Upper....                  | Do.                  | Cont. Do.                      | Cont. Do.               | 41° 49' 7" N.  | 117° 17' 17" W.  | 100,000                | 320,000      | £ 600,000                   | £ 427,000   |
| New Brunswick....                  | 1630                 | Colon. Do.                     | Colon. Do.              | 45° 48' 63" N. | 67° 27' 70" W.   | 27,704                 | 100,000      | £ 1,035,650                 | £ 887,367   |
| Nova Scotia.....                   | 1623                 | Cont. Do.                      | Cont. Do.               | 43° 46' 61" N. | 67° 15' 617" W.  | 15,617                 | 150,000      | £ 78,000                    | £ 80,000    |
| Cape Breton.....                   | 1758                 | Cont. Do.                      | Insular. Do.            | 45° 47' 59" N. | 61° 3' 123" W.   | 3,123                  | 36,000       | £ 70,000                    | £ 32,000    |
| P. Edward's Island.                | 1763                 | Ceded. Colon.                  | Ceded. Do.              | 46° 47' 62" N. | 65° 2' 131" W.   | 2,131                  | 33,000       | £ 833,000                   | £ 803,000   |
| Newfoundland....                   | 1583                 | Cont. Do.                      | Cont. Do.               | 46° 51' 52" N. | 59° 50' 140" W.  | 35,913                 | 80,000       | £ 50,000                    | £ 39,000    |
| Hudson's Bay, and N. W. Ter., &c.. | 1670                 | Do.                            | Cont.                   | 50° 47' 56" N. | 114° 40' 140" W. | 3,700,000              | 500,000      | £ 3,616,660                 | £ 3,408,367 |
| Total..                            |                      |                                |                         |                |                  | 4,134,490              | 1,819,000    |                             |             |

| Colony.                            | British and Colonial Shipping. |               | Colonial Finance. |              | Land.     |            | Stock.      |             |             |             | Value of Property. |              | Capital City.  | Locality.     |                |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|--------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                                    | Inwards.                       | Outwards.     | Revenue.          | Expenditure. |           |            |             |             |             |             |                    |              |                |               |                |
| Canada, Lower....                  | Tons. 271,000                  | Tons. 276,000 | £. 200,000        | £. 180,000   | 2,065,913 | 4,000,000  | No. 116,666 | No. 389,706 | No. 543,343 | No. 295,137 | £ 17,417,696       | £ 60,970,228 | Quebec ....    | Lat. N. 46.48 | Long. W. 70.72 |
| Canada, Upper....                  | 230,000                        | 185,000       | 102,289           | 101,035      | 3,540,965 | 3,540,000  | 36,530      | 160,000     | 300,000     | 250,000     | 13,160,000         | 37,581,183   | Toronto ....   | 43.33         | 79.20          |
| New Brunswick....                  | 216,267                        | 150,000       | 68,000            | 39,000       | 500,000   | 1,500,000  | 12,006      | 90,000      | 120,000     | 80,000      | 3,441,666          | 16,575,000   | Fredericton .. | 45.57         | 66.45          |
| Nova Scotia .....                  | 50,000                         | 56,000        | 85,000            | 90,000       | 1,300,000 | 2,000,000  | 20,000      | 150,000     | 200,000     | 100,000     | 6,893,332          | 34,340,000   | Halifax ....   | 44.40         | 63.40          |
| Cape Breton.....                   | 17,000                         | 21,000        | 10,000            | 12,000       | 100,000   | 500,000    | 5,000       | 50,000      | 100,000     | 60,000      | 1,146,336          | 3,361,342    | Sydney .....   | 46.18         | 60.3           |
| P. Edward's Island.                | 100,000                        | 95,000        | 14,000            | 17,000       | 100,000   | 100,000    | 1,000       | 10,000      | 50,500      | 25,000      | 1,896,000          | 5,368,832    | St. John's ..  | 47.35         | 52.48          |
| Newfoundland....                   | 3,000                          | 3,000         | —                 | —            | 50,000    | 50,000     | 100         | 2,000       | 100         | 300         | 25,000             | 100,000      | York Fort..    | 57.03         | 92.26          |
| Hudson's Bay, and N. W. Ter., &c.. | 887,267                        | 786,000       | 488,289           | 449,035      | 5,907,878 | 12,690,000 | 198,316     | 883,706     | 1,323,943   | 830,437     | 43,980,030         | 158,196,585  |                |               |                |
| Total..                            |                                |               |                   |              |           |            |             |             |             |             |                    |              |                |               |                |

\* It is unnecessary to give the area also in acres, as the multiplication of the square miles by 640 will give the amount.

† The organized militia of each settlement are in

numbers as follow :—Lower Canada, 100,000; Upper Canada, 60,000; New Brunswick, 12,000; Nova Scotia and Cape Breton, 20,000; Prince Edward's Isle, 6,000; Newfoundland, 2,000. Total, 200,000.



## ON SPADE HUSBANDRY, &amp;c.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE 'FARMER'S MAGAZINE.'

Sir,—There are few questions of more importance, in rural economy, than that relative to the eventual benefit, or loss, resulting from spade husbandry, to the landlords, the farmers, the poor, and the public. The following calculation is the result of some observation and inquiry among spade husbandmen.

The prices assumed are low, but not quite so low as the actual prices, on the supposition that these are now depressed below the average, by a rather abundant produce.

## ESTIMATE OF EXPENSES AND AVERAGE PRODUCE.

| 1st Year, POTATOES.                                                                                                             | Per rood.            | Per acre. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| Soil loamy or sandy.                                                                                                            | £ s. d.              | £ s. d.   |
| Rent, including tithes, church, highway and poor-rates ...                                                                      | 0 7 6                | 1 10 0    |
| Manure, filling, spreading, carriage in a barrow or truck a quarter of a mile, six cart loads on a rood, labour 15d a-day ..... | 0 4 0                | 0 16 0    |
| Digging, 2d a pole (strong land, 3d, or more) .....                                                                             | 0 6 8                | 1 6 8     |
| Potatoes for seed, 8 bushels, (at 10d in the spring) ....                                                                       | 0 6 8                | 1 6 8     |
| — cutting, carriage, dibbling, and covering .....                                                                               | 0 2 6                | 0 10 0    |
| Flat-hoeing, moulding up, and weeding .....                                                                                     | 0 2 6                | 0 10 0    |
| Digging up, pitting half, carriage of half, 3d a pole....                                                                       | 0 10 0               | 2 0 0     |
| Removing, sorting, and picking off shoots in the spring                                                                         | 0 4 0                | 0 16 0    |
| Sacks and sundries .....                                                                                                        | 0 1 6                | 0 6 0     |
| [Labour, per acre, 5l 18s 8d.]                                                                                                  |                      |           |
| Total expense....                                                                                                               | 2 5 4                | 9 1 4     |
| Produce of potatoes, 2 bushels per pole, at 9d .....                                                                            | 3 0 0                | 12 0 0    |
| Clear profit.....                                                                                                               | 0 14 8               | 2 18 8    |
| 2nd year, WHEAT.                                                                                                                |                      |           |
| Rent, tithe, and rates .....                                                                                                    | 0 7 6                | 1 10 0    |
| Digging, 2nd time, and glean- ing small potatoes, 2d a pole                                                                     | 0 6 8                | 1 6 8     |
| Wheat for seed, five-eighths of a bushel per rood, at 5s 6d                                                                     | 0 3 5 $\frac{1}{4}$  | 0 13 9    |
| Dibbling in seven-inch rows, bunches five inches apart .                                                                        | 0 2 0                | 0 8 0     |
| Hoeing and weeding twice ..                                                                                                     | 0 2 0                | 0 8 0     |
| Reaping close to the ground, binding, &c. ....                                                                                  | 0 1 6                | 0 6 0     |
| Stacking, thatching, carriage, &c. ....                                                                                         | 0 1 6                | 0 6 0     |
| Thrashing, &c. probably in dwelling-house .....                                                                                 | 0 2 0                | 0 8 0     |
| Tools and sundries .....                                                                                                        | 0 1 6                | 0 6 0     |
| [Labour, per acre, 3l 2s 8d.]                                                                                                   |                      |           |
| Total expense....                                                                                                               | 1 8 1 $\frac{1}{4}$  | 5 12 5    |
| Produce, 24 bushels per acre, at 5s 6d .....                                                                                    | 1 13 0               | 6 12 0    |
| Clear profit.....                                                                                                               | 0 4 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ | 0 19 7    |
| Total average profit, per acre, 1l. 19s. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.                                                                     |                      |           |

I shall now add a few remarks on the causes which must lead to the success, or the failure, of spade husbandry. It is very evident that success must depend upon care, skill, and industry, a soil easily dug, and either fertile enough to bear such moderate crops, as

above stated, or capable of being made so by marl, lime, drainage, &c.; a situation near home, so as to render the expense of carriage, &c., very moderate; a temporary loan of capital so as to render it not necessary to sell much of the produce; a pig to consume the inferior potatoes, and to make manure; and lastly, a rent not exceeding the value to the ordinary farmer. A temporary addition, however, may be made, as a re-payment by instalments of money advanced for seed, labour, &c. It has been objected that cultivation by the spade is much more expensive than by the plough, and that potatoes and wheat are very exhausting crops. The greater expense is of course to be compensated, in part, by more valuable crops constantly repeated, the superior care and attention which belongs to working for one's own profit, and the opportunity ever occurring of preventing any accumulation of root-weeds, which renders the expensive process of summer fallows indispensable to the common farmer. And, with respect to the supposed process of exhaustion, a cottager with his family is always consuming at home, wood, coal, bread, meat, &c., which being the produce of other soils, exhaust them to enrich his. He has therefore, I believe, in general, either in bulk or value, about two loads of manure to spare annually from his small garden at home. Then, if the occupier of two acres has 16 loads of manure for his acre of potatoes, the two loads of what may be termed extra manure, will evidently add one-eighth to the fund of fertility; and if the allotment be only half an acre, the additional manure will be one-third, and the land must continually improve.

It may, however, be prudent and useful for the occupiers of an acre or more to vary their crops occasionally with barley, turnips, carrots, &c., though either of these crops must lessen the immediate, if not the ultimate profit.

But the whole course of agriculture shews that if the straw, &c., is properly made into manure, much of the corn, meat, butter, &c., may be annually sold, without producing any perceptible exhaustion of a fertile soil.

Amidst all these signs of prosperity for the English cottager, who is allowed land to cultivate with the spade, the opponents of this system triumphantly allege that it has been extensively tried in Ireland, and found to produce nothing but misery, beggary, and indolence. These evils, of course, have their origin, in a great measure, in the surplus population; but the immediate and main cause, is evidently the extortionate rents the poor cottiers are called upon to pay, such as 3, 4, 5, and £6 for an English acre of land, rents which almost any English landlord would be ashamed to ask, and which ought therefore (together with its main source, the system of under-letting) to be abolished at once, by the strong arm of the law.

A reference to the preceding calculations, will make the evils resulting from extortionate rents abundantly manifest.

Suppose, first, the principal tenant gives 30s per acre; he underlets an acre at 70s, and thus takes to himself the whole clear profit (40s), leaving the cottier merely his wages (15d a day), but nothing at all for his skill, care, and attention.

The hand-labour on an acre of land cultivated by the spade, seems to be about 72 days' work, value 4l 10s 8d.

Now, secondly, let a more severe master add 30s more to the rent of the con-acre (as it is termed in Ireland), which will make it 5l. The result is that the sub-tenant, deprived before of his whole expected

profit, now loses one-third of his wages, or works for 10d a day instead of 15d.

Thirdly, make the rent 6*l*, and this will reduce the reward of labour one-third farther; and of course his immediate superior can at any time expect or command his labour, in part payment of rent, at 6d or 7d a day.

This last supposition seems to form a correct picture of a large portion of the ill-fated Irish peasantry; where the pork, the wheat, &c., is nearly all sold, and much of it sent to England, to pay the rents of Irish absentees, and at the same time to impoverish the English farmers. A general tax on all Irish produce imported into Great Britain, of about 3 per cent. *ad valorem*, would amount to about 200,000*l*, and would tend much to diminish the consequent evils to both countries, especially if devoted to the sole purpose of enabling the Irish to consume more of their produce at home, by the cultivation of their immense bogs, and by other public works.

Perhaps the principal objection which political economists have made to Irish farms in their diminutive size, often not exceeding from one to two English acres. This objection is not without weight, provided no other employment can be found to occupy their spare time, since by the preceding calculations it will appear that about four acres are necessary to employ one man 48 weeks in the year. Let a portion of the surplus labourers in either country occupy such a portion of ground, of a convertible kind, at a moderate rent, and near their homes, and I am fully persuaded that they might go on and prosper, and the country be so far relieved of all the miseries caused by able-bodied men supported in vice and indolence.

As a general, and more immediately practical, system, I should think garden allotments of half an acre each, would be more advisable in England. These might be about nine poles square, and thus furnish no temptation to horse labour, nor any great outlay in pig-sties, or other buildings. If such tenants be allowed about 20*s*. profit, in addition to their annual six weeks' work, bestowed in cultivating their allotments, with that additional attention which self-interest is sure to inspire, they may fairly be considered to be taken out of the market for labour at least nine weeks per annum. If a parish of 2,500 acres contains 50 surplus labourers, (like the one where this is written,) and half an acre be allotted to every labourer, more than 116 of the parochial labourers would thus be supplied, and about 110 would still remain for the land-owners to employ in improving their estates, and for public works or emigration. With respect to the cultivation of the Irish bogs, I presume this is at present impracticable, on account of the intermixture of properties, the necessity of extensive drainage, the claims of heirs of entailed estates, &c.

These knots, if they cannot be untied, ought to be cut at once by an Act of Parliament, authorising enclosure, valuation, and public sale to individuals, companies, or the Government itself, for the employment and location of the surplus peasantry. To render effectual the various means of employment I have pointed out, nothing is, or has been, wanting for the last twenty years but an Act of Parliament, laying the support of unnecessary, or superfluous, labourers on the landlords, instead of the tenants; for that would have been quickly followed by another Act (first recommended by me, and probably me alone, about 28 years ago,) to secure mutual justice between landlords and tenants, by equitable arbitration in respect to all permanent improvements, injuries from game, &c. Cottagers, as well as farmers, have always had an equitable claim to such protection,

which, had it been granted, would have given constant employment to many thousands, and tens of thousands, in Great Britain and Ireland, and would have saved millions, if not tens of millions of money, which have been altogether thrown away.

I consider that modern incendiarism, and other acts of violence, have been caused entirely by the system,—equally unjust and impolitic,—of sending surplus hands to the farmers for support; and to have already cost the country little short of two millions sterling. Altogether, the cost of maintaining the semi-feudal thralldom under which the cultivators of the British Isles have been held *during the last 20 years*, I believe have not cost less, probably much more, than has been given to liberate the West Indian negroes.

In maintaining this long, and hitherto fruitless, contest with arbitrary power, which, in many despotic countries, would have subjected the author to fines, imprisonment, expatriation, and even death,—it may be judged no small sacrifice has been made. Whatever of merit or demerit may belong to it must be left with futurity, or to oblivion, since the ultimate benefit of any extensive measure of reform is invariably questioned or neglected by contemporaries, and often only becomes evident, and acknowledged when the originator has long slept in the earth.

I have thought it might be useful to the farmer's cause, if a cheap edition of my papers, or such as might be thought useful, were printed and distributed among the principal public writers, but have ascertained, some years ago, that a complete apathy pervades the tenantry on this, and almost all other, points. They seem, in fact, to have made up their opinion, that their superiors in Parliament will do nothing for their good until they clearly perceive it is also for their own.

In the hope that some efficient advocate of the tenants' cause may yet arise in the next Parliament, I remain, Sir, yours, &c.

THE AUTHOR OF THE "RIGHTS OF THE FARMER."

EARLY STRAWBERRIES.—The season of forcing this delicious fruit approaches, and to effect the process it is customary to prepare the early runners of the last summer, or cuttings of the roots of old established plants, by potting one or other of them, two or three in a pot, of the size termed the "broad thirty-two," at almost any period, between June and the end of September. These pots, so prepared, are finally placed near the glass of a vinery, or some other forcing-house that will admit of free ventilation, about January or February. By a gradual and due increase of heat the plants blossom, and bear fruit during March, April, and May, according to circumstances, to the extent, on an average, of ten, fifteen, or twenty berries each pot. We could much enlarge on this subject; but as it is not our intention to enter upon the description of pot-culture, we only advance the foregoing observations to serve as a foil or set-off to a method of forcing strawberries, by which, perhaps, three or four times the above crop may be obtained; not indeed quite so early, but with much more certainty and precision. We will suppose, then, that some of our readers have, or may choose to prepare, a brick pit of three lights, each being a yard, or three feet six inches wide, by six or seven feet long, sloping to the south, or south by east, at an angle of 15 or 16 degrees. The brick-work might be of sufficient depth to admit of an internal bed of oak or beech leaves, of two feet, to afford a gentle bottom heat to a stratum of mould of at least 12 inches in the front, sloping at an angle corresponding nearly with that of the lights towards



the back. The slope might be regulated by the bed of leaves underneath; and this, if leaves were scarce, might be of stable or farm-yard manure. Four-inch work would be sufficient, and would admit the heat of a back lining of dung, or leaves, to act upon the atmosphere of the pit. The soil should be prepared some months before it is wanted, of good garden soil, or the loam of a pasture, enriched with one-third of well-fomented manure, or good leaf mould. In fact, we know that in pure leaf mould, two or three years old, strawberries, cucumbers, and even melons, will grow well, and yield fine crops. When the bed is settled, so as to admit a clear space of from 14 to 18 inches between the surface and the grass, the plants may be put into it, in rows nine inches apart, in a direction from front to back, and four inches asunder, plant from plant. If these have been prepared by letting the strong, st first runners establish themselves in pots during the preceding autumn, the bed may be planted in January; but if the plants have rooted in the ground, the transplanting ought to be made not later than October, and in that case the lights should not be put on till the period of forcing. The best crops will be obtained by remitting this operation till February, or even March, as it will then be powerfully assisted by the decided increase of solar lights; but early fruit may be obtained by putting on the lights after the turn of day, and by assisting the plants with hot linings, &c. A small hot water apparatus, with a single advance and return pipe in front, within the pit, would perfect the machinery. However, by anticipating the natural fruiting season for a month or six weeks only, excellent fruit may be obtained without the aid of bottom heat, linings, or fire-aid, in any form, provided a moderate supply of air and water be regularly given. The crops we have seen, under such circumstances, are astonishing; and we venture to believe that no one who shall have once ascertained what *may* be thus effected, will, in future, rely entirely upon the product of plants in pots. We regret that our limits will not permit us to dwell further upon minute, but we must add, that to secure cleanliness, it would be a good practice, when the plants come into bloom, to lay a row of well washed flint stones, or a line of moss, between every two ranks of plants. These will not only protect the fruit, but tend to retain the regular moisture of the bed of earth. Gardeners are perfectly aware that the heat required at any season, to force the strawberry, independently of that of the solar ray, should average between 50 and 65 deg.

### PRESERVATION OF DUNG.

Practice differs in the modes adopted respecting the *care of farm-yard dung*. Most farmers allow it to accumulate for a long time in the yard, adding fresh straw regularly to the heap, from an impression that the bottom, if unremoved, will become the richest part and that its accumulation imparts a certain degree of warmth to the cattle; while some recommend "that it should be cleaned out once a month at least, not only to sweeten the yard, and thereby to increase the health and vigour of the animals, but in order that its contents may be properly mixed in some other place, to induce and bring on a regular fermentation."

Now, on this it may be observed, that the fears which are entertained by some persons of the vapour arising from dung which is contained in the open air of the yards becoming prejudicial to the health of the cattle are proved by experience to be completely visionary. No really bad odour prevails there; for, although it may be offensive

to delicate nostrils, the air is always respirable, and when not confined in close stalls, by which the circulation is prevented, no ill effects are ever known to arise from it. But when the cattle are either fed upon turnips or other green food, the quantity of urine which they discharge drenches such a quantity of straw, that the beasts cannot be easily kept dry; or if they be crowded in badly-arranged yards, and immersed in the filth proceeding from a scanty covering of straw, and the want of proper drains to carry off the superfluous moisture, they may then indeed be exposed to injury from the wet, and the dung should be removed, though in almost any case "once a month" would be found too often. In many instances the yards are never cleared until the cattle are turned out after the close of the winter; and, unless in a very plentiful season for straw, it is seldom done more frequently, after they are shut up, than perhaps once more in the early part of the spring; except they be soiled during the summer, in which case it becomes frequently necessary. When proper care has been used to prevent an excess of rain-water, the manure thus obtained from the bottom layer will doubtless be found of superior quality; but the whole heap ought to be well mixed, in order to render it of equal value.

An eminent agricultural author, complains that he has not, in any one instance, been able to find anything like system in the mechanical arrangement of the component parts of farm-yard mixens, which he generally found put together as they arise, according to circumstances, and without any regard to rule. Hence it follows that their real value as manure can never be distinctly known to the farmer, nor can he apply that proportion which a more accurate knowledge of the contents would enable him to apportion to different kinds of grain, or to the particular soils and seasons in which they can be most advantageously applied. A heap, for instance, composed entirely of dung from stables where horses have been plentifully fed with corn, must be far superior to one produced by cattle in the straw-yard; yet so little is this very material point adverted to, that nothing is more common than to hear of "so many loads per acre" being laid upon the land, without regard to the ingredients which it contains, though nothing is more certain than that its power over the crops will be in exact proportion to the qualities of the materials of which it is composed.

This writer advocates the separation of the various species of manure, in order that the properties of each may be distinctly ascertained; yet another author, of equal experience, says, in treating of Norfolk, "that the principal error in the common method of manufacturing farm-yard dung originates in the prevailing custom of keeping the dung arising from different descriptions of animals in separate heaps or departments, and applying the same to the land without intermixture, and consequently in an improper state." He then alludes to the difference arising in the manure from the modes of keeping, fating and storing cattle in yards by themselves, "while horse-dung is also usually thrown out at the stable-doors, and there accumulates in large heaps, which very soon ferment and heat to excess;" he therefore recommends that litter to be spread over the straw-yard, and the whole of the dung from the different yards and the hogstyes to be mixed together.

On these opposite opinions we have to remark, that, when either the soil or the intended crop is essentially different, it may be very desirable that

the manure to be employed should possess distinct properties, and therefore, in such cases, a portion of it should be separately kept, as well as differently prepared. Thus warm and cold soils require manures of a contrary nature; an advanced stage of their fermentation is in some cases less favourable to vegetation than in others; and, in the instance of potatoes, it is well known that stabling is employed with more effect alone than when mixed. It may, therefore, be advisable that horse-litter in particular should be separately kept in the yards, not merely for the purpose just mentioned, but that, as being of a hotter nature than any common dung, it may be mixed with that of other cattle in such proportions as may be thought best adapted to the purposes for which the compost may be required. If no better arrangement can be made, the litter should be placed within some dry ditch, which will answer the purpose of a more regularly constructed pit, where its moisture may be maintained without too greatly heating it, and without exposing it to the evaporating action of the air. Thus, if care be at the same time taken to prevent it from becoming dry, the fermentation will be checked; and should it be thought expedient to still further retard that operation, it may be effected by a mixture of hog's-dung, which, though rich, yet being of a colder nature, is less fermentable. By this union the dung becomes decomposed into a soft and pulpy mass, which forms a very powerful manure, and, by a little judicious management, can be either promptly got ready or be kept back at pleasure.

Under other circumstances, however, and especially on small farms, where the quantity of materials may not be sufficient to allow of their being separated without incurring the risk of loss by the excess of evaporation, or by the want of due fermentation, it is found more generally expedient to spread together all the different sorts of the dung of the larger animals in different layers, so that each may be regularly mixed and partake equally of the common properties of all, by which means the faults of one species are corrected by another; the too rapid fermentation of the dung of horses is checked, while that of hogs and horned cattle is accelerated, and thus the whole mass acquires the enriching properties of the most fertilising compost.—*Hereford Times*.

#### THE MALT TAX.

Sir,—At the present period of Agricultural distress, and at a moment of strong political excitement, allow me, through your widely circulated paper, to ask my brother Farmers, whether they have seriously reflected upon the evils arising to us as a body, by the payment of that most obnoxious impost, the Malt Tax? To the continuance of this Tax may be attributed many of the difficulties under which we at present labour, in confirmation of which, allow me ask—What is the Malt Tax? Neither more or less than a heavy tax upon the produce of our own soil. The Malt Tax adds to the price of that article (Malt) 40 per cent. The Malt Tax increases the price of Beer quite 40 per cent. From the Malt Tax, the productive Labourer is unable to procure a sufficient quantity of Beer, which is a beverage he so much needs in the discharge of his daily labour. Take off the Malt Tax, and you remove the main spring which clogs our national industry—this done, we shall give important relief to the Agriculturist—relieve the poor man, and finally benefit all classes.

FARMER JOHN.

Tending Hundred, Jan. 1835.

#### WHICHNOR BACON.

On the regular mail-road from Sheffield to Birmingham, half-way betwixt Burton-on-Trent and the city of Lichfield, stands, on the left hand, a very well-built and commodious inn, bearing the sign of a large fitch of bacon, with the motto "Win it and wear it." It forms part of the village of Whichnor, the small church of which is seen to the right hand, apparently in the open field, at the distance of about a mile; and but for the few trees around it, and the small glimpse of the Trent, which runs near it, would be passed almost unnoticed. Whichnor possesses no peculiar object to interest the traveller except the long bridge, or rather succession of bridges, over the river Trent, which here, as in many other parts of its course, is in the habit of frequently overflowing the low lands in its neighbourhood to a very great extent, and the sign, or "Fitch of Bacon," before mentioned. The latter is a memento of a singular tenure, like that at Dunmow, of which the following is the history and ceremony.

The manor of Whichnor with that of Sirescote were granted by William I. to one of his Norman followers, of the name of De Somerville, by the tenure of a knight's fee and three-fourths; and, like other military services, the rendering of aids and reliefs to the superior lord of the fee, which superior lord was the possessor of the Honour of Tutbury. Sir Philip de Somerville, a descendant from the original possessor, was a great friend and favourite of his superior lord, John of Gaunt; and his companionable qualities made him a frequent and welcome visitor to Tutbury Castle. The Duke of Lancaster, who was very remarkable for singular, and, in many cases, jocular institutions, wishing to free his companion from the liability of being called upon for his aid at times inconvenient to himself, established the following commutation for the moiety of his claims; that is, in all probability, for the manor of Whichnor.

"That he," Sir Philip de Somerville, "should find, maintain, and sustain one bacon-flyke, hanging in his hall at Whichnor, ready arrayed at all times of the year but in Lent, to be given to every man or woman married, after the day and year of their marriage be passed; and to be given to every man of religion, archbishop, bishop, prior, or other religious; and to every priest after the year and day of their profession finished, or of their dignity received, in form following.—Whosoever that any such before-named will come for to inquire for the bacon in their own person, or by any other for them, they shall come to the bailiff, or to the porter of the lordship of Whichnor, and shall say to them in the manner as ensueth;—'Bailiff, or Porter, I do you to know, that I come for myself, (or, if he be come for another, showing for whom he demands), to demand one bacon-flyke hanging in the hall of the Lord of Whichnor, after the form thereunto belonging.'"

Application being thus made, the bailiff or porter shall appoint a time for the applicant to come again, bringing with him two of his neighbours. "In the mean time the said bailiff shall take with him twain of the freeholders of the lordship of Whichnor, and they then shall go to the manor of Rudlow belonging to Robert Knyghtley, and then shall summon the aforesaid Knyghtley, or his bailiff, commanding him to be ready at Whichnor the day appointed, at prime of day, with his carriage, that is to say, a horse and a saddle, a sack and a pryke (*basket*), for to convey and carry the said bacon, and come a journey out of the county



of Stafford at his cost. And thus the said bailiff shall, with the said freeholders, summon all the tenants of the said manor to be ready at the day appointed at Whichnor, for to do and perform the services which they owe to the baron. And at the day assigned all such as owe services to the baron shall be ready at the gate of the manor of Whichnor, from the rising of the sun to noon, attending and awaiting for the coming of him that fetcheth the bacon. And when he is come there shall be delivered to him and his fellows chaplets, and to all those who shall be there to do their services due to the baron. And they shall lead the said demandant, with trumpets and tabour, and other manner of minstrelsy, to the hall door, where he shall find the Lord of Whichnor or his steward, ready to deliver the bacon in this manner.

"He shall inquire of him who demandeth the bacon, if he has brought twain of his neighbours with him, and he must answer, 'They be here ready.' And then the steward shall cause these two neighbours to swear, if the said demandant be a wedded man, and if, since his marriage, one year and one day be passed, and if he be a free-man, or a villain. And if his neighbours make oath that he hath for him all these three points rehearsed, then shall the bacon be taken down, and brought to the hall-door, and shall there be laid upon half a quarter of wheat, and upon one other of rye. And he that demandeth the bacon shall kneel upon his knee, and shall hold his right hand upon a book, which book shall be laid above the bacon and the corn, and shall make oath in this manner:—

"Hear ye, Sir Philip de Somerville, Lord of Whichnoore, mayntener and gyver of this bacohne, that I, A., sithe I wedded B. my wyfe, and sythe I hadd hyr in my kepyng, and at my wylle, by a yere and a day after our marriage, I wold not have chaunged for none other farer ne fowler, rycher ne pourer, ne for none other descended of greater lyneage, slepyng ne wakyng, at noo tyme. And yf the said B. were sole, and I sole, I wolde take hyr to be my wyfe, before all the wymen in the worlde, of what condicions soever they be, good or evylle; so help me God, and hys sayntis, and thys fleshe, and all fleshes."

"And his neighbours shall make oath that they trust verily he hath said truly. And if it be found by his neighbours before-named, that he be a free-man, there shall be delivered to him half a quarter of wheat, and a cheese; and if he be a villain, he shall have half a quarter of rye without cheese. And then shall Knyghtley, the Lord of Rudlow, be called, for to carry all these things before rehearsed; and the said corn shall be laid upon horse, and the bacon above it; and he to whom the bacon appertaineth shall ascend upon his horse, and shall take the cheese before him, if he have a horse; and if he have none, the Lord of Whichnor shall cause him to have one, and a saddle, until such time as he has passed his lordship; and so shall they depart the manor of Whichnor, with the corn and the bacon before him that hath won it, with trumpets, tabrets, and other manner of minstrelsy; and all the free tenants of Whichnor shall conduct him past the lordship of Whichnor; and then all shall return, except him to whom appertaineth to make the carriage and journey out of the county of Stafford, at the costs of his Lord of Whichnor. And if the said Robert Knyghtley do not cause the bacon and corn to be conveyed as is rehearsed, the Lord of Whichnor shall cause it to be carried, and shall distrain the said Robert

Knyghtley, for his default, for one hundred shillings, in his manor of Rudlow, and shall keep the distress so taken irrevocable."

Sir Oswald Mosley (from whose recently-published 'History of Tutbury' part of the foregoing account has been extracted) observes,—"The merry Sir Philip continued to treat his bacon with due respect, for we find him granting to Hugh, son of Walter de Newbold, and Agnes his wife, by deed in the 16th of Edward I., several small pieces of land in Dunstall, upon condition that they should render to him and his heirs annually eight hens at Christmas, and one chaplet or nosegay of white and red roses, to decorate the bacon at Whichnor every year, on the feast of St. John the Baptist; they were also under an obligation to dress the said bacon, with flowers prepared for them, ten times a year, viz., to begin on Easter Eve, and continue the same monthly until the feast of St. Michael, and upon the vigil of All Saints and Christmas Eve they were to decorate the same with ivy."

The manor of Whichnor no longer remains in the family of the Somervilles; it has had various possessors, and the hall in which the flitch originally hung has been long since destroyed. Leland says, that "Whichnor was the site of a very ancient mansion which was then in ruins, and that the spot on which it stood was subject to inundations from the Trent. Traces of this mansion are still visible in the meadows at a small distance south-west of the church. The moat is square, encompassing an acre of ground." A new building, however, has been erected, and bears the name of the lodge; in the hall of which a piece of wood in the form of a flitch of bacon hangs near the chimney, as a remembrance of the obsolete tenure.

## OCCUPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

(From the 'Companion to the Almanac.')

### YORK (EAST RIDING.)

|                                                 |        |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Occupiers of land employing labourers . . .     | 3,331  |
| Occupiers of land not employing labourers . . . | 1,661  |
| Labourers employed in agriculture . . .         | 12,727 |
| Employed in manufacture . . .                   | 175    |
| Employed in retail trade or handicraft . . .    | 12,917 |
| Capitalists, bankers, &c. . . . .               | 2,398  |
| Labourers not agricultural . . . . .            | 4,663  |
| Other males twenty years of age . . . . .       | 2,627  |
| Male servants . . . . .                         | 939    |
| Female servants . . . . .                       | 8,235  |

The East Riding of Yorkshire would be entirely agricultural, did not the town of Kingston-upon-Hull (with its suburb Sculcoates) contain the manufactures indispensable at an active seaport, about 100 men being there employed in making ropes, sail-cloth, and sacking, and in preparing colours. Boilers for steam-engines are also made at Hull, but this manufactory is on a very limited scale.

### CITY AND AINSTY OF THE CITY OF YORK.

|                                                 |       |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Occupiers of land employing labourers . . .     | 340   |
| Occupiers of land not employing labourers . . . | 253   |
| Labourers employed in agriculture . . .         | 1,184 |
| Employed in manufacture . . . . .               | 211   |
| Employed in retail trade or handicraft . . .    | 4,069 |
| Capitalists, bankers, &c. . . . .               | 589   |
| Labourers not agricultural . . . . .            | 1,212 |
| Other males twenty years of age . . . . .       | 650   |
| Male servants . . . . .                         | 298   |
| Female servants . . . . .                       | 2,161 |

The City of York contains nearly 200 men em-

ployed in linen manufacture, and 18 comb-makers; the brush-makers are entered above as handicrafts.

#### YORK (NORTH RIDING.)

|                                                 |        |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Occupiers of land employing labourers . . .     | 4,950  |
| Occupiers of land not employing labourers . . . | 4,334  |
| Labourers employed in agriculture . . .         | 14,646 |
| Employed in manufacture . . .                   | 1,005  |
| Employed in retail trade or handicraft . . .    | 12,749 |
| Capitalists, bankers, &c. . . . .               | 1,870  |
| Labourers not agricultural . . . . .            | 4,391  |
| Other males twenty years of age . . . . .       | 2,836  |
| Male servants . . . . .                         | 844    |
| Female servants . . . . .                       | 9,251  |

The North Riding of the County of York may be deemed entirely agricultural, the manufacturers inserted in the list being weavers of linen-yarn, which seems to be entirely the product of domestic industry. These weavers are much scattered, 123 at Hutton, 73 at Appleton-upon-Wiske, 62 at Osmotherly, 48 at Northallerton, 27 at Thornaby, 25 at Barrowby, 22 at Sowerby, 21 at Burton-upon-Yare, and 20 at Broughton. At Startforth is a very limited manufacture of carpeting; at Whitby and Whitby-Strand about 90 men are employed in making sail-cloth and sack-cloth, and 17 in the delicate manufacture of jet ornaments.

#### YORK (WEST RIDING.)

|                                                 |        |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Occupiers of land employing labourers . . .     | 7,096  |
| Occupiers of land not employing labourers . . . | 10,636 |
| Labourers employed in agriculture . . .         | 25,509 |
| Employed in manufacture . . . . .               | 74,662 |
| Employed in retail trade or handicraft . . .    | 40,109 |
| Capitalists, bankers, &c. . . . .               | 8,354  |
| Labourers not agricultural . . . . .            | 33,685 |
| Other males twenty years of age . . . . .       | 10,336 |
| Male servants . . . . .                         | 3,274  |
| Female servants . . . . .                       | 22,167 |

In the three wapenstakes of Agbrigg, Morley, and Sky-rack respectively, are found 17,000, 22,000, and 29,000 men employed in the manufacture of woollen cloth. The places most eminent in woollen fabrics and worsteds are—the parish of Halifax, containing nearly 12,000 men so employed; Leeds, 9,400 in the town and liberty; Bradford, 7,900; Almondbury parish, 4,500, and (adjacent to it) Huddersfield, (worsted and silks) 3,700; Kirk-Burton, 2,400; Calverley, 2,100; Dewsbury parish, 1,800; Birstal, 1,700; Batley, 1,400; Kirk-Heaton, 1,200; and Saddleworth, about 1,300, besides the same number employed in cotton factories. In the manufacture of thread and linen goods, Leeds employs upwards of 500 men; Barnsley, 1,300; the wapentake of Claro, about 1,000, many of whom are at Knaresborough. In the wapentake of Staincliffe and Ewcross, about 2,300 men are employed in linen and cotton fabrics; in Staincross wapentake, about 1,000 in woollen and linen promiscuously; in Ripon liberty are about 100 linen weavers. The manufacture of iron and hardware is mostly confined to the wapentake of Strafford and Tickhill,—Rotherham being mostly occupied in the foundry and heavy goods, and Sheffield in edge-tools, to which it now adds silver-plated furniture for the table, and a variety of articles in such profusion that the entire parish of Sheffield, or Hallamshire, contains as many men so employed as Birmingham itself, nor is the catalogue of articles very dissimilar. In the other townships workmen are distinguished as brass-founders, button-makers, die-sinkers, makers of edge-tools, and grindery in large proportion, makers of files, fire-irons, fenders, forks, table

knives, haft-pressers, knife-blades, moulders, razor-smiths, razor-case makers, ring-makers, saw-smiths, scale-cutters, makers of scissors and screws, scythe-grinders, sheer-steel and sheer-makers, silver smiths, silver-platers, spade-makers, spring-knife grinders, steel-casters, steel-forgers, steel-burners, rollers and drawers of steel, stove-grate makers, tilters, turners in wood and ivory, type-founders, and white-metal smiths—in all 11,600; and at Bradfield and Ecclesfield are about 1000 men employed in similar occupations. Carpets are made at Dewsbury; glass and earthenware at Witchwood and other places; and about 200 nailors find employment at Darton, and its vicinity.

#### FEEDING.

Turnips are chiefly grown upon flock-farms for the support of sheep, but in many parts of the country it is the practice to draw some of the largest for bullocks. The drawing of turnips for the supply of working cattle upon open ground, is, however, but seldom practised, as it is in many respects more convenient to confine them within the interior of the yard; though, when this mode of feeding is adopted, they are not permitted to be in the same enclosure with the fattening stock, which get the choice of the food, leaving the surplus for followers who come after; and in this manner the ground is often divided into three shifts, the food in the latter being cleared off by lean stock only, or by store sheep.

When cattle are either housed, or fed in yards, upon turnips, this is better done by laying in a small stock for their use, whenever the weather is favourable, instead of going every day to the field, when the land is perhaps wet, and is soon poached, and the horses employed in drawing them are strained by the labour. At the proper season, when the turnips are completely grown, and the cattle are taken into the yards, these roots are gathered in quantities from the field, and either piled in stacks placed upon the ground, or else carted to the feeding-house, which is made with a door wide enough to allow the carts to back in and throw them down. The turnips, while fresh and palatable, are then given whole—or else the tops and tap-roots are cut off and given to store cattle—in bins or small cribs, under the sheds or about the yard, and straw is scattered in the course of the day, both fresh and from the horses' litter; for it is remarkable that oxen will often browse upon the litter in preference to sweet straw, and will toss it about with their horns to pick out even that which may have been wetted by urine. When turnips, however, are intended for stall-feeding, the whole of the green tops, or shaws, and tap-roots, are cut off and given to the lean and working stock, and the bulbs, if not stacked, are piled up in one end of the barn or feeding-house, and dry straw laid over them, which will effectually guard them for a long time from being injured by frost. They are then sliced, either by means of coarse turnip-knives or instruments commonly used for that purpose, or else cut into quarters by small choppers upon a narrow bench or stool, under which there is a basket for catching the pieces. The ploughman, or feeder, holding the turnip by the root, disengages it, by one stroke, from the top, which is then thrown aside with the root, and the sliced bulbs are alone given to the fattening cattle, which always have a preference over the young and working stock. The advantages thus arising are, that the green tops, being cut off when fresh, are immediately consumed; that a large quan-



tity of the best turnips, if allowed to remain on the field during winter, are very commonly spoiled by the effects of the weather, when, if stacked or housed, they may be secured against the most pinching time of the spring; and though they will shrink in weight, yet Swedes, in particular, not only lose no portion of their nutritive quality, until well advanced in the season, but are improved, by allowing their watery particles to evaporate; provided, however, that this drying system be not carried too far, for it has been proved that bulbous roots may become exhausted of their nutritive properties, when too much exposed to the sharp winds of the spring months. By having a month's supply ready drawn, a farmer need never be deprived of the use of them by severe frost, which frequently so completely locks them in the ground, as to prevent their being got up; or, should he not find it convenient to lay in so large a quantity at once, he can still take the opportunity of a fine day, as it occurs, to add to his stock in the house.

This, however, applies chiefly to Swedes; for, with whatever care the common turnips may be stored, they will show indications of decay in about three weeks, according to the state of the weather, and after that period they become unpalatable. This has been satisfactorily proved by an experiment on feeding with the same turnips—one parcel taken fresh from the field, and the other from a sound store-heap, the leaves and roots of which had been carefully topped and tailed; for several cows were turned out successively in order to prove them, and, after smelling at both, each began to eat those taken from the ground, and did not taste the other parcel until they were finished. It is also impossible to keep a large quantity of turnips of any kind for more than a short space of time under the same roof with cattle, as they soon become tainted by the effects of the breath and perspiration of the beasts, together with the effluvia arising from their dung, and are no longer eaten with any degree of relish. When turnips are overtaken by frost, it is well known that cattle not only find great difficulty in making an impression with their teeth, but that, when pressed by hunger to swallow them, they afterwards discover symptoms of uneasiness—raising up their backs and drawing in their feet, as if seized with a fit of the cramp. But this may be obviated, if the turnips, whilst frozen, be placed under cold water, and allowed to remain there for three or four hours, after which they will be found, on taking them out, to be perfectly fresh and sound.

The quantity of turnips that a working bullock may be supposed to consume daily must necessarily depend upon his size, as well as upon the extent of his labour, and upon his constitution, in which cattle differ so materially, that no calculation can be formed that may not be contradicted by other experiments. The quality of the roots also differs essentially, not only according to the particular species, but to the state of culture, the season, and the soil; thus the Swedish turnip contains in the proportion of about three to two more nutriment than any other kind, and although a difference to that extent is not apparent in the other sorts, yet the common white turnip, though the most generally cultivated, and the most abundant in produce, is known to afford less nourishment than any other. They cannot, however, be exclusively preferred, for they require a considerable difference in soil and culture: the tankard, globe, and common white, are the earliest species, then the red and green tops; after them the yellow Aberdeen, and, lastly, the Swedes, which, retaining their sap the longest,

are preferable for Spring feed. Thus nature supplies a variety according to the season, and animals are found to delight in a change of food.

It has been judiciously observed by Mr. Sinclair, that those who have made experiments to prove the comparative degree of nourishment contained in the different species of food, by means of feeding and weighing, have found the results of such experiments quite in conclusive, for—

Firstly, The quality of some species of food will often vary from 1 to 20 per cent. in the course of the experiment.

Secondly, Different breeds acquire various proportions of flesh from equal quantities of the same food consumed by them. And,

Lastly, Scarcely two individuals of the same breed can be found that will gain equal weights of flesh from equal quantities of the same kind of food. He justly remarks that, although a certain quantity of food will maintain an animal for a certain length of time, without sensibly increasing or diminishing its weight or strength, yet, if the food which it can consume be augmented, its flesh and power will be increased. But we have no means of accurately ascertaining the exact proportion required for those two purposes, distinctly, for it depends not on the quantity and qualities of the food alone: the age of the animal, its breed, and its exposure to heat or cold, are also to be considered; the nutritive powers of the food cannot, therefore, be absolutely determined by those means, though the comparative merits and value of the different breeds are thereby fully ascertained: for it is manifest that it is not occasioned by the deficiency of nutritive matter in the food, but by the want of power in the animal to profit by it.

Thus no rule can be drawn from the quantity of food which a bullock may require daily, and still less for the power with which he may be able to sustain his labour; but it may be assumed, as a common average of the usual breeds of working oxen, that, if allowed the run of the straw-yard, with about 12 stone of Swedish turnips, to 18 or 20 of the common sorts, they may be maintained in good order; and there can be no doubt that, if allowed that quantity, with plenty of good straw, they will be in a better condition than if fed with a limited quantity of even the best hay alone. Care must, however, be taken to supply them with a sufficiency of palatable solid food, or they will scour. The dry fibre of hay or straw, if combined with turnips, assists materially in correcting the watery nature of the latter; and it has been stated, in numerous instances, that oxen thus fed will go through their usual winter work without any diminution of flesh or strength. In the course of the winter, however, the straw loses a portion of its sap, and the increased exertion of Spring sowing requires at least 10 or 12 lbs. daily of meadow or clover hay, but still with the free use of the straw; and if Swedish turnips be allowed, there can be no occasion for the use of corn, which when given to working oxen, will ever be found a losing concern.

If parsimoniously fed upon indifferent hay and straw, it then becomes necessary to cut it into chaff, for otherwise the oxen will reject that which is bad; but, if mixed, they will eat the good along with it. When, however, they have a plenty of good food, that precaution becomes unnecessary, for the animals prefer it in its natural state; the cutting of it can therefore only occasion waste of time, and even if given with hay, they will select enough of the best parts of the

straw to satisfy their appetites, and the remainder may be used for litter.

There can thus be no doubt that oxen can be well maintained during the winter months upon straw and turnips, if the straw be good; and will support their strength better upon a full allowance of that food than with a small quantity of hay instead of the straw. It should, however, be given as fresh as possible from the flail; for the thrashing exposes it so much to the air, that, if kept too long, it becomes deprived of what little nutriment it possesses, and cattle do not thrive upon it. There can, indeed, be no question that the air has an injurious effect upon all kinds of fodder, and that the more it is guarded from the influence of the atmosphere, without suffering it to grow mouldy, the better it will be. When the farmer's necessities do not compel him to thrash out his grain in large quantities, it should therefore be kept in stack, and the straw be gradually used during the winter; nor should it be employed in any other way than as litter after the month of March, for it loses much of its value as fodder during the sharp winds of that month, and the working stock at that time require the additional nourishment of hay. The allowance, too, should then be full, for if oxen be not well fed when hard worked, they will assuredly fall off; or, if maintained in condition with inferior food, it can only also be with proportionately light labour, which will be found the very reverse of judicious economy.

Although the straw of oats is usually preferred for cattle, as being more palatable, yet that of wheat has been considered by many persons as more nutritious. It is, indeed, coarser, but, so far as we have the means of judging, it appears to contain more saccharine matter, and if used with a small addition of turnips, cattle are found to thrive on it. Two winters ago, eighteen young stock—consisting of eight rising three years old, five rising two, and five yearlings—were fed from the beginning of November till the middle of May. They had two acres of yellow turnips—a middling crop—of which the oldest two lots got scarcely any, the largest proportion being given to the youngest. They were therefore kept almost entirely on wheat-straw alone, and got nothing else for six weeks previous to their being turned to grass; yet they all grew well and retained their condition, no falling off being perceptible during the last six weeks. We do not, however, mean this as an inducement to the feeding of working cattle on straw alone, but merely as stating a fact illustrative of the nutriment contained in the straw of wheat.

When cattle are turned into a straw-yard, they are allowed to eat as much as they please; no saving is there requisite, because the largest proportion is generally consumed in litter. But in some instances economy becomes necessary in the consumption of that, as well as of every other species of fodder; and, to effect it, no means appear so practicable as—first, to cut it small; or, secondly, to steam it.

Experience teaches us that almost all vegetable substances are capable of certain modes of preparation which develop nutritious qualities that, without such management, exist only in a feeble degree. Thus, bruised or pounded grain has been found more nourishing than when left whole; and bread still more so than flour. We have also seen that boiled or steamed roots afford more of sustenance than when raw; and there are many other vegetables which, though apparently worthless, yet are capable of being converted into food. It is well known that, in times of scarcity, the leaves of trees, and of various plants not

commonly used, are made to yield very tolerable fodder, when mixed with chopped straw; and bran, which contains but little alimentary substance, may yet have that property improved by steeping it in water, and allowing it to ferment until it sours. In like manner, we learn that the peasantry in some of the German provinces provide winter food for their cattle by a peculiar method of preparation; and there can be no doubt that, were attention turned to every vegetable substance, our own stock could be materially increased.

Salt, however, always enters into these preparations. The liking evidence for it by all animals proves how much it adds to the energy of their digestive powers, and consequently how useful it must have been to their health. They are frequently observed to forsake the best provender, and to eat the litter from the horse's stables: this being probably occasioned by the state of their stomachs, which seems to require the stimulus of the volatile alkali contained in the urine of the horses, and absorbed by the straw.

We have omitted the mention of *potatoes* and of *carrots* in the feeding of working oxen, because we have been convinced, by calculations upon the subject, that, unless by the partial use of chafs, and of carrots unsaleable in the markets, no profit can be derived from the support of bullocks upon those roots; though the growers affirm that an acre of either will feed as many cattle as three of turnips, which exactly agrees with the comparative weight of nutritive matter afforded by carrots—which is three to one—and still more in the potatoe.

But we think otherwise of *mangel-wurzel*; for there can be little doubt that, according to a series of experiments made under the direction of the Doncaster Agricultural Association, they can be grown on light land as well as upon land stronger than is fit for Swedish turnips, that they produce more weight; and that, although there are some difference of opinion upon the subject of their nutritive qualities, there can be no doubt that they will be found a most profitable root in the feeding of all cattle.—*Hereford Times*.

## ON THE RECENT FAILURES OF THE POTATO CROP.

(FROM THE QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.)

As the rotting of the potato-set in the ground after planting has occasioned a very serious loss in this country (Ireland,) both last year and this, I have been induced to pay particular attention to it, with a view to find out its cause, and I flatter myself I have succeeded.

I had about half an acre of ground belonging to Mr. Richardson, at Ingram Cottage, near Lisburn, trenched, and duly prepared for planting potatoes; and I carefully superintended all the operations myself. The first ridge of ground was mostly planted with yams, and I believe ninety-nine out of the hundred have done well. The next ridge was planted with the small American, without being cut, few of them being larger than a very small walnut, and I may say there is not a plant wanting. About half of the next ridge was planted with a fine large purple coloured potato, brought from England some time ago by Mr. Richardson. A fourth ridge was planted with another kind of potato, and it is doing well. On looking over the ridges, as the plants were coming above ground, I observed the purple kind very blanky. I examined the sets, to find out the cause of the fail-



ure, and found fully half their number quite rotten; and, what is remarkable, every rotten set had been placed with its cut surface on the dung, and the dung had become as it were glued to it. These circumstances led me to think that the rotting of the sets had been somehow or other caused by the dung; but still I could not satisfy myself in regard to the cause. After I had observed all this, I had five drills of them put in with the same dung as the others; but, in order to guard against the rotting causing a loss of the whole crop, as this same kind of potato had rotted the year before, I caused a parcel of the sets to be put into the head ridge of the five drills, *without any dung*; my intention being to take up these sets on the head ridge after they had sprung, and, with them, to fill up any blanks that might occur in the five drills.

The ridge of the purple potato presenting so many blanks, I resolved on taking up all the plants that had sprung above ground, when I found all the sets quite sound, and putting out vigorous shoots, and their skinny surface next the dung. Some days after this operation, I examined the five drills, and found many of the sets rotten; but only those whose cut surfaces had been placed in contact with the dung, which was again glued to them. The sets were never affected when the round or skinny surface was placed next the dung. These facts convinced me that the dung was the cause of rottenness in the sets. I presume the dung put into the ground in warm weather, continues to ferment, and that this fermentation is communicated to the cut surface of the set. The rotten set feels like a piece of boiled turnip, and has a most offensive smell. In some cases, about one-sixteenth of the substance of the potato was found adhering to the skin, and a puny shoot proceeding from it.

As a corroboration of what I have stated, I may mention, that a neighbour, Mr. Seeds, has three fields of potatoes, one-half of which has failed. He mentioned his loss to me, and on examining the crop, we found all the sets which had been placed with their cut surfaces on the dung, rotten, while the most forward and vigorous plants had the round uncut side next the dung.

From all these circumstances, I am quite satisfied, that were a little earth put over the dung, before planting, or the uncut side put undermost, or, what is still better than either, the potato planted whole, no failure, such as has affected the potato crop for the last two years, in this country, would happen.

No one need fear to plant small uncut potatoes, for, in a piece of ground that unintentionally grew potatoes last year, I found many very vigorous plants, three inches above the ground, in the end of April, and on taking some of them up, several of the whole potatoes which had formed the seed were not larger than the eye of a large haddock. The coarse kind of potato, called cups, never fail, which I suppose is owing to their containing little saccharine matter, and that they are thus not easily acted on by the fermentation of dung. A. A.

**CHENOPodium QUINOA.**—Humboldt says this plant, in Mexico, ranks in utility with the potato, the maize, and the wheat. The leaves are used as spinach or sorrel, or as greens; and the seeds in soups and broths, or as rice. Throughout great part of South America, and especially in Peru, the seeds are in as common use as rice is in Hindostan. The seeds are considered more heating than rice, and on that account they are frequently given to domestic poultry to make them lay early. The plant is an annual, and in general appearance resembles the

*Atriplex hortensis*, or French spinach; and, under the same circumstances of soil, climate, &c., will grow to about the same height as that plant. The seeds are small, yellowish white, round, somewhat flattened, about a line in diameter, and, on a cursory glance, might be mistaken for those of millet. Mixed with the latter seeds, and fermented, a pleasant kind of beer is said to be produced. They are contained in a single envelope, from which they are very easily separated. The quinoa was first introduced into England in 1822, and it has ripened seeds at Kew. No particular notice, however, appears to have been taken of the plant till this season, when it has been grown by A. B. Lambert, Esq., V. P. L. S., at Boynton, where it has ripened abundance of seeds on plants varying from three feet to seven feet in height. These seeds Mr. Lambert will, no doubt, distribute all over Europe; and, we trust, the plant will now have a fair trial both in gardens and fields. To do any good in producing nutritious seeds, the plant should be subjected to field culture, in which we see not the slightest difficulty. It might be sown very thinly in drills, three feet apart, at about the same season as barley, and the plants afterwards thinned to the distance of one foot apart. There appears, at present, no reason whatever why it should not become as common in the fields of Europe as barley, wherever that grain can be cultivated. In the mean time, we hope it will be tried first in gardens, in order to raise abundance of seed for future experiments in the field. Dombey, the botanical traveller, on his return from Peru, was lavish in praise of the quinoa as a valuable esculent, and took great pains to naturalize it in France; but the seeds which he brought with him failed, and it is uncertain, at this moment, whether the plant is any where on the Continent of Europe, unless, perhaps, in Spain. Great credit is due to Mr. Lambert for having been the first to prove that it may be grown in England as well, in all respects, as it can in Mexico and Peru; and for directing public attention to it (at a meeting of the Linnæan Society, Nov. 4, 1834) as a plant calculated to rank with the potato in its copious supply of human food. The circumstance of its having been in the country since 1822 (see *Hort. Brit.*, p. 99, in which a green and a red variety are mentioned), shows that it is not sufficient to bring useful plants into the country, but that, to make them truly serviceable to society, they must be properly introduced as such, by forcibly pointing out the purposes to which they are applied in their native country.—*Gardener's Magazine.*

**FARMING IN NOVA SCOTIA.**—Some farms consist of six acres, some of twenty, and seldom more than thirty. Each farmer generally has five, or six, or seven acres cultivated, and chiefly planted with grain and potatoes. They keep a pair of oxen for ploughing, drawing wood, &c. They also keep three or four cows, two or three pigs, also some keep a few geese and sheep. They always endeavour to raise enough in a summer to last the year out, until the summer returns again. In the winter but little can be done, owing to snow and other storms; in which time the women are spinning, weaving, and making clothes, and not many can afford to wear shoes and stockings. The men in the winter wear mocgasins. Fresh food is seldom to be got, unless by shooting game, or by fishing. The natives often exchange work with each other, and, if the winter be open, the men weave shingles for houses, make clapboards, staves, &c.; by which they add a little to their living; and, in a word, every family endeavours to depend altogether on itself.

## WHO ARE THE FARMERS' FRIENDS?

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE."

Sir,—As the meeting of a new parliament is at hand, the party now uppermost are putting forth their electioneering claim to be esteemed "the best friends of the agricultural interest." This may perhaps be true, since it means literally "their own interest;" the Tories claiming as their partisans a great majority of the benefited clergy, and the titled owners of a large portion of the soil of the United Kingdom. I shall make no objections to the exertions of every one to preserve his own property—the only question being, whether such property was honestly acquired? And where the present value of land and tithes rests on the unrequited exertions of the tenantry for a series of years, I make no scruple in asserting that such portion of the property is not honestly acquired! Here is indeed a *legal right* where the claim is decidedly *immoral*; the clergyman and landlord claim a profit where the tenant suffers a loss. Such is at this moment the law of our land, and I lament to have occasion to say, that the reign of the *Reformers* has, at present, passed away, without any indication of a wish to reform the laws of *landlord and tenant*, so as to secure to the latter the fruits of his labour. Whigs, Tories, Radicals, with all their various shades of distinction, are unanimous in one thing—not in friendship, nor enmity, but simply in neglect of the interests of the tenant-farmers! As to the professions of the Tories, one of their own party shall pass sentence on them:—Mr. Rolfe (at the Buckinghamshire Agricultural Dinner,) said, "he was sorry to see that unless agricultural distress intervened, the generality of landlords were guilty of apparent apathy. Nothing but absolute necessity—nothing but seeing that the farms lay a dead weight upon their hands, made them come forward and open their eyes." The Duke of Buckingham, in reply, is stated to have asked—"Was there a single landlord in the county blind to the distresses of their tenantry, or of their fellow men? (*Cheering.*) The interest of the landlord and the tenant were inseparable, because if the tenant failed, the landlord became a beggar. (*Hear, hear.*) It was the landlord's interest, therefore, that the tenant should prosper." The *hear, hears*, above mentioned must have proceeded, I imagine, from the landlords, for the tenantry for many years past have heard enough, and too much of these "inseparable interests," and "landlords and tenants standing and falling together." The Bucks farmers must be staunch Tories to the backbone, if they could swallow so bitter a draught at one gulp without disturbing the digestion of their dinner. Neither Mr. Rolfe, nor any one else, could suppose that landlords could not see the distresses of their tenantry—what they could not see was an adequate disposition to relieve those distresses! The noble duke must surely be vexed that his Tory friends should put so illogical a speech into his mouth, for when, "the tenant fails," it is himself, and not his landlord that becomes a beggar: and, many landlords, or their stewards, in such cases, have been known to degrade themselves by making an abatement of thirty per cent., to a new tenant, where they had refused ten per cent. to him their extortion had made a beggar, or a pauper. Mr. Rolfe, if I understand him distinctly, says, it is their estates rather than their tenantry, these agricultural "gatherings" are intended to save. This was also the all-subduing argument, addressed by Lord Brougham to the Toryism of the House of Lords, on his introduction of the New Poor Law Bill. Mr. Hutton, who spoke after Mr. Rolfe, although a

Peelite, could not forget that Sir Robert's Currency Bill "had depressed, in the most grievous way, the agricultural interests." What farmer can ever forget that bill, which destroyed at one blow one-third of every farmer's property, and left the landlord's claim to rent entire, so long as the remnant of the farmer's property remained unconsumed? Had the landlords' and tenants' interests been "inseparable," or in other words had the tenants been co-lawmakers with their landlords, the tenants would have insisted that all rents, and debts, including the funds, should have been cut down at once thirty-three per cent. by law, in common with all other property. So, with respect to the last sentence quoted from the noble chairman, it is the moral duty rather than the interest of landlords, that their tenants should prosper. On the difference between duty and interest, what a lucid comment is offered by the condition of the ragged, dirty, potatoe-fed, penny-less, and friendless wretches who form the lower class of agricultural tenantry in Ireland. This, I presume, is mostly the deplorable result of the vile under-letting system—not of the smallness of the farms, but of the extortionate rents; at least double as much as any English landlord would have the conscience to ask. Hence, it happens, that the English markets are depressed by the annual influx of cattle, sheep, pork, butter, &c., from Ireland, to the amount of seven and a-half millions sterling; half of which, at least, could and ought to be consumed by the cottiers at home, whose sufferings (as quoted in the *Courier*, from Mr. Inglis,) "far exceed the worst of those endured by the American Indians, or the savages of New Holland."

The following quotations from my notes will further illustrate the "inseparable interests," &c.—At the Smithfield Club, Dec. 1810, Sir J. S. Sebright, after drinking "long leases to good tenants," said, "I attribute the superiority of British farming over that of other countries, more to the prevalence of leases in this country than to any other circumstance, and consequently to the improvement being effected by *sensible men*, whom they certainly cannot be who will place their property, their family, and their all, at the will and caprice of any man, or the agent of any man." The applause that followed this speech was long and ardent. At the same club, at another meeting, Sir J. S. S. gave the toast, "long leases to good tenants, and let no man's industry depend on the will or caprice of another." This was drank with three times three and loud plaudits. Again, Dec. 1824, (I find it recorded in my notes,) Sir J. S. S., at the same club, observed, "that landlords most truly forwarded their own interests by encouraging the exertions of their tenants," and "that it could not be expected for men to embark their capital upon land without the security of *adequate leases*. No man who had a regard for his family should do so, but it was frequently the case."

My next quotation shall be from a speech made by the Duke of Buckingham, at a dinner given to his Grace's tenantry, at Stowe, Feb. 2, 1822,—*"Every tenant of mine knows that he shall remain in his farm as long as he can live on it; he has the full benefit of his improvements if he remain upon it, and if he is obliged to leave it, he appoints one referee and I another, and an equivalent for what he loses by leaving his farm before his improvements are fairly worn out, is thrown back to him in his rent. What can the admirers of long leases want more?"*

Partly to the same purpose is the following statement by Mr. Cann, steward to Earl Stanhope, (*Old Farmer's Journal*, No. 1248, p. 260,) "Lord Stan-



hope tells his tenants, if they will give six months warning they may leave; and if a tenant leaves any thing on his farm which he claims to be allowed for, submit it to two farmers, his neighbours, one to be chosen on each side, and pay him for what he leaves on the farm. Is this oppression, gentlemen?" &c.

The *Evening Mail*, June 19, 1822, writes on the Irish tenantry, as follows: "When we see that the occupier of the soil derives no final benefit from his own exertions, but builds, and drains, and fences, and repairs, and leaves all to be enjoyed by the proprietor of the land, can it be altogether preposterous to imagine that some law might be made to secure the tenant, on going out, as (also) in this country, an estimated proportion of the increased value which his own toil has added to another's estate, thus animating him to the improvement of his wretched habitation, and to a more exact and diligent care of the property which he undertakes to cultivate."

In the *Old Farmer's Journal*, No. 1235, I find the following: "The King of Denmark has established a Court of Equity, or Arbitration, the members of which are paid entirely by the Government, and no expense incurred by the parties applying for its decision. No suit can be instituted in any court without a certificate to state that the parties have ineffectually attempted to have it settled by arbitration."

I hope some of the eight hundred Buckinghamshire farmers are your readers, and if they are not yet quite satisfied of the purport of their Lord Lieutenant's "inseparable interests," let them read the letter signed R in the last *Agricultural Reporter*, p. 44. Among other things, relative to the arbitrary power of distraint, &c., the writer says, "I have known a few landlords so ashamed of the right they possessed, that they have relinquished their claim upon another (person's) cattle after they have been distrainted." "If I am not mistaken, the greatest portion of the soil is let to the tenant farmer considerably above its value." "The landlords ought to employ the surplus labourers in permanent improvements, such as underdraining, &c., and charge the interest, &c." "It is not reasonable that the tenants should be obliged to employ them, and pay their wages out of his own capital." "As to real improvements made by farmers, landlord often take a most unfair advantage of them by raising rents immediately they are made," &c. "The hardships often experienced by outgoing tenants in not being allowed for permanent improvements made at their expense," &c. "The landlord before he lets his farm should insist on the incoming tenant making a fair allowance for the same; which would be in some measure tantamount to leases," &c.

Such as have read any of my former writings will be aware, that nearly all of the preceding extracts are sufficiently confirmatory of my views as to the lamentable oppressions—authorised by law—which have fallen on the British and Irish farmers within the last twenty years. These liberal speeches, &c., are like oases in a desert; or "like angel visits, few and far between." Every farmer, at the time, praised the liberal declaration of the Duke of Buckingham, and well they might, considering that in such public declaration his Grace then stood, and even now almost stands, alone; I have formerly adverted to this speech, but not, I think to the fatal clause by which its efficacy seems almost nullified; viz., that the tenant is not to have any claim for permanent improvements till he has probably long ceased to make any—till he is become unable longer "to live on the farm, and is obliged to leave it." In Lord Stanhope's case, we see the tenants were to remain one year after they had begun to complain of "oppression."

I would beg to ask any impartial person, whether it is possible to secure to the tenant the benefit of improvements, unless he is able to make the claim in a legal way, whenever he is obliged to leave for any cause whatever; and especially whenever the rent is altered, or ought to be altered? With respect to leases—in modern declining times, and at fixed rents—I must allow that the Duke of Buckingham was right, and Sir J. S. Sebright in a very great error, if he thought such leases could prevent a farmer's industry from depending "on the will and caprice of another."

This could only be done by the original arbitration law between landlord and tenant, proposed by myself in "The Rights, &c.," in 1819, and (as will be seen by the above extract from the *Times*) advocated, as to its principles, three years afterwards in the leading journal.

To prevent the sufferings of the farmers from the caprice and extortion alluded to (as has been seen) by Sir J. S. Sebright, three times over at the Smithfield Club, has been the main, and almost sole design of my exertions, since 1819, in the *Old and New Farmer's Journal*, and the *Mark Lane Express*. About forty-eight letters have been written on this subject, almost any one of which I think ought to have convinced every person that the interests of landlords and tenants in some main points, instead of being "inseparable," were indeed nearly opposite; and that the tenure of farms, under the present laws, particularly as respects the surplus population, is a base and slavish one; more especially unworthy of a country which professes to amend and reform its institutions.

What have been the results? Has any party in the state, Whig, Tory, or Radical, or any influential individual in either party, taken up the question? No, not one! Neither has any newspaper (so far as I can learn,) advocated the cause of the tenants against the extortion of their superiors. These, and other reasons still more cogent, admonish me to surrender the cause into abler hands, and to desist from further advocating their cause, who have never presented a single petition to the Government in aid of reasonings which no one has seriously attempted to controvert. If the farmers do not allow themselves to be fit only for slavery, let them petition, protest, and remonstrate, in every possible way, against the present laws of landlord and tenant, which can scarcely be said to regard or respect the interests of the latter at all.

With respect to the question, Who are the farmer's friends? I would answer, that they are such as use their best endeavours to make the interests of landlord and tenant truly mutual and inseparable, which is now, in many points, far enough from being the case. My long, cherished project for effecting this purpose, though apparently equally neglected, or despised by all parties in the state, is certainly not founded on Tory principles, yet it deserves the name of *Conservative*, for I believe it is the only thing that can preserve what yet remains of affection, esteem, and respectful attachment between the rural classes, and the lay and clerical aristocracy. Other reforms, it is feared by some, might lead to revolution, but the only tendency of this is to prevent revolution. The high, the polished, the magnificent, "the Corinthian pillars of society," should, above all others, preserve the perpendicular line of rectitude; if these deviate far from their uprightness, the civic temple is evidently "nodding to its fall."

I remain, Sir, yours, &c.,

THE AUTHOR OF THE RIGHTS OF THE FARMER.

## ACCOUNT OF THE FAIRS IN SCOTLAND—ROXBURGHSHIRE.

(From the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture.)

**I. KIRKYETHOLM FAIRS.**—Kirkyetholm is a small village, situate in the valley of Beaumont Water, in the parish of Yetholm. It lies equidistant from Kelso and Jedburgh, to the eastward of both, not far to the south of the *direct* road from Kelso to Wooler. Kirkyetholm has long been famed as the head-quarters of a race of gypsies, which wander to and fro during the summer, through the Border counties. There are three fairs held at this place.

**1. KIRKYETHOLM FAIR.**—This is held on the 27th of June. The number of cattle shown seldom exceeds 200 to 300, a small proportion of which are fat, and generally bought by the Morpeth dealers. The great proportion are half-fat and lean short-horn steers and heifers for grazing, milch cows, &c. The grazing cattle are principally bought by the York-shire dealers; the milch cows, newly calved, and to calve, by the Edinburgh cow-dealers; and the younger cattle for country use. But this is principally a sheep fair, from 8,000 to 10,000 of which being generally shown, principally lean and rough Cheviot hogs and wethers for grazing. All the hogs are shown rough, but of late some lots of the wethers are clipt. The remainder are Leicester and half-bred hogs, partly clipt and partly rough. Some of the sheep are bought by south country dealers; but the greatest number pass into the hands of farmers, such as the Cheviot hogs, dinmonts, and wethers, which are laid on the high lands for a year or two; and into that of graziers, who feed them for the fat market. The ewe hogs are mostly bought for breeding. The Leicester and half-bred hogs are bought by the graziers in Roxburghshire and adjoining counties, except such as are fat, which are picked up by the dealers, for the Morpeth and Edinburgh markets. There is a very poor show of horses at this fair.

**2. TOWN YETHOLM LAMB AND WOOL FAIR** is held on the 5th of July. There are generally about 10,000 lambs shown here, about one-half of which are Leicesters, the remainder Cheviot, and half-bred between the Leicester and Cheviot. This is allowed to be the best fair for lambs, in point of quality, in the south of Scotland. All the arable farmers now feed a number of sheep in winter on turnips; all, however, do not breed sheep. Many in Roxburghshire, Berwickshire, Northumberland, and East Lothian, keep only a flying stock, to maintain which this fair affords a supply of lambs, which are fed off the following year. The price of lambs at this fair is generally regulated by the price of hogs and wool; and this being the first lamb market of the season, it generally regulates the prices of all others. In some seasons, the top price of Leicester wether lambs has been as high as 28s; in others not above 15s; the average price may be quoted at 20s. The price of half-bred and Cheviot lambs is in proportion.

This has also been a great wool fair for many years; the greater bulk of the wool grown in Roxburghshire, Berwickshire, and Northumberland, having been here bought up by the principal wool-staplers from Wakefield, Leeds, Huddersfield, Bradford, &c. But, since the establishment of wool markets at Dunse, Kelso, and Berwick, comparatively little is now sold here. It has now more of the character of a place of meeting, at which buyers and sellers give and receive information regarding the quality, quantity, and price of wool, than as a market of sale and purchase. In seasons of briskness, such as the present and last year, several lots may exchange hands, and even much may be disposed of before the fair day. From

the great number of the buyers and sellers of wool assembling at this fair, being the earliest one for that purpose, it is always an animated scene.

**3. YETHOLM AUTUMN FAIR** is held on the 31st of October, when about 2,000 sheep are shown, principally Cheviot ewes and wethers, which are mostly bought by farmers and graziers in the neighbourhood, and adjoining counties. Very few sheep go to the south from this market, the wethers being bought to feed on turnip, and the ewes to produce lambs.

**II. KELSO MARKETS.**—Kelso is a considerable town, beautifully situate on the north bank of the Tweed, near to the spot where it receives the Teviot. It contains 4939 inhabitants. It is forty-two miles south from Edinburgh, on the great road from Newcastle to Edinburgh by Wooler and Coldstream. It is a market town for the sale of corn, and corn-dealers from Berwick-upon-Tweed and Dalkeith attend the market every Friday. The delivery of Corn at Berwick and Dalkeith, however, is a serious drawback on the farms in this part of the country. It is remarkable that in so populous and highly cultivated a district as this is, so great an inconvenience has never yet been obviated, for in no part of Scotland could a railway be more easily constructed, than along the bank of the Tweed from Kelso to Berwick, its natural sea-port.

**1. KELSO MONTHLY MARKETS.**—These are now the most important markets in Kelso, and are now held on the second Friday of every month throughout the year. They were instituted by the Border Union Agricultural Society; and when first instituted, they were held on the last Friday of the month from December to June, which caused them to follow the day after the Coldstream monthly markets on Thursday. This was felt to be an inconvenience. Since then it was arranged that these monthly markets should be held at Kelso and Coldstream alternately every fortnight. As the same kind of stock and purchasers generally attend these markets, as at the monthly markets at Coldstream, which have been already described in the last Number of the Journal, or in this same volume at page 291, it appears unnecessary to repeat the observations which have been there made. One observation only seems requisite—the quantity of stock shown is generally greater than at Coldstream; but the latter place has the advantage in regard to quality and weight, though much fine stock may be occasionally seen throughout the year at Kelso, and it is pleasing to reflect that they are improving every year.

**2. KELSO ST. JAMES'S FAIR** is held on the 5th of August, about two miles on the south side of Kelso, on a beautiful flat piece of ground called Fleurs' Haugh. Some years ago a large quantity of cattle was shown at this fair, but in consequence of the influence of the monthly markets, the show has of late years dwindled away very much. There is now not more than 300 to 400 cattle shown, very few of which are fat, the largest proportion consisting of half-fat and lean short-horn steers and heifers, half-fat north country cattle, milch cows, &c. Any thing approaching to fatness is generally bought by the Morpeth and Edinburgh dealers, very few of the south country dealers attending this market; and the half-fat and lean stock are bought by the graziers in Roxburghshire and adjoining counties. The milch cows are picked up by the Edinburgh cow-dealers. There is still a large show of horses at this fair, some of which are of a superior order for the field, road, and draught. A large number of Cumberland and other south country horse-dealers attend this fair. The old Fair of Kelso and the draft ewe fair established about twelve



years ago, are now entirely superseded by the monthly markets.

3. **KELSO HORSE MARKETS.**—These are held on every Friday in March, but the first and second are the principal, and constitute, particularly the second one, the largest horse fairs in the south of Scotland. Horse-dealers from a great distance, both from the north and south, attend these markets. Many first-rate horses for the field, the road, and the draught, are exhibited here, and frequently fetch high prices. As may be expected in such markets, horses of the meanest as well as the highest description may be seen; indeed every species of customer, from the nobleman to the tinker, may gratify his taste at these fairs.

III. **ST. BOSWELL'S FAIR.**—St. Boswell's Green is near the small village of Lesudden, in the parish of the same name, and is situate ten miles west from Kelso, and four miles east of Melrose. The only fair at St. Boswell's is a large and important one, and is held on the 18th of July. Ten or twelve years ago this was the largest lamb and sheep fair in the south of Scotland, generally about 30,000 being shown, but of late it has fallen off very much in point of numbers. The greater part of the Cheviot lambs that used to be brought to St. Boswell's is now shown at Melrose Fair on the 12th of August. The Selkirk and Peeblesshire farmers find it their interest to retain their lambs on the pasture of the high lands till the middle of August, because by that time vegetation is there in full vigour, and the lambs make a great improvement in size and condition during that time. The number may now be stated under 20,000, one-third of which are Leicester, and one-third half-bred lambs; the other third consists of Cheviot lambs, Cheviot and black-faced wethers, Cheviot and black-faced ewe and wether hogs, partly rough and partly clipped. The great part of the stock is bought by Berwickshire and East Lothian farmers and graziers, who keep no breeding flocks; a small proportion by farmers and graziers in Roxburghshire, Northumberland, and Durham; and a few go to the western and northern counties of Scotland. The Leicester and half-bred sheep get full feeding in winter, and are fed off in summer, and seldom receive a second winter feed on turnips, as they come sooner to maturity than the Cheviots. The Leicesters are even frequently sent to the fat market immediately after being clipped, their great adaptation to fatten bringing them to maturity at fourteen months old. The crosses are next ready for the fat market, when they get the same good keeping as the Leicesters.

Although this market has fallen off in numbers, it has decidedly improved in quality, the greatest proportion of the lambs shown now being Leicester and crosses. The remarks which have been made on the lambs at Yetholm, may be made on those in St. Boswell's in respect to quality and variation of prices. The older sheep at this fair have fallen off both in quantity and quality, although this year the quantity shown was greater than for some years past; but the quality generally is very inferior. Some very superior lots of wethers used to be shown here, but the best sheep are now sold at the early markets and at the homesteads. Not nearly so many wethers are kept in this district as formerly, because the upland farmers find the ewe stock pay them better, especially since the system of crossing them with the Leicester type prevailed. The wethers are now only kept on very inferior high lands unsuitable to the ewe stock, which circumstance may perhaps account for the present inferiority of the wether sheep. This year Cheviots, and black-faced ewe and wether hogs of

inferior description, which had been unsold at Yetholm and other markets, were shown. Although very few Cheviot lambs are presented at St. Boswell's, a great number are sold to dealers who know or have seen the flocks. These dealers buy so as to lift them a few days before Melrose and Lockerby fairs, where they generally show very large lots, particularly at Melrose. At times, nearly the half of the lambs shown at these places are in the hands of dealers, who make a good or a bad speculation of their purchases, according as the prices between St. Boswell's and Melrose fairs are for or against them.

The show of cattle at this fair is very inferior to most of the cattle markets in the surrounding country, and has fallen off in numbers very much of late; indeed, all the midsummer markets in the south of Scotland are now small, and any good cattle are only to be got at the markets in winter, spring, and beginning of summer. The number shown this year did not exceed 300, and nothing like a fat beast was to be seen. One-third consisted of half-fat and lean one and two year old short-horn steers and heifers for feeding, which were bought by graziers from East Lothian, Berwickshire, &c.; one-third half-fat and lean north country cattle, bought for the same purpose; and the other third of calving and other cows. The calving cows were bought by the Edinburgh cow-dealers. The old carved and farrow cows were bought to feed, and for country use to give milk at the harvest. Very few English cattle-dealers attend this market. The stock mostly changes owners from one class of farmers to another, and from breeders to graziers. The horse-market bears a different character, as horses from a distance of fifty miles round are brought to it, and dealers from all parts of the north of England and south of Scotland attend this fair. It ranks among the largest in the south of Scotland. Many superior horses for the road and draught, and occasionally some good field horses, are to be picked up here, such as are rarely to be found in the horse-markets in this district. As might be expected, the middling and inferior sorts prevail. The Cumberland horse-dealers buy largely at this market.

This is among the last of the wool fairs; and it generally winds up the wool trade for the season. This year several clips remained unsold, particularly laid wools, in consequence of the high prices obtained at Yetholm and other wool markets raising the ideas of the wool growers, and depressing the activity of the wool staplers and manufacturers. The staplers generally make large payments at this market for wool they had previously bought. The principal buyers seldom appear in the wool market after St. Boswell's fair, commissions being entrusted to persons residing in the country to purchase unsold lots. This fair is generally of great importance in the south of Scotland, especially for the sale of lambs and horses; and it is more fully attended by sellers and buyers than almost any other market in the same district of the country.

IV. **PENNYMOOR TRYSTS.**—These markets were only established about four years ago, for the sale of lambs and wool. They are held on the ground formerly called Milesend, in the parish of Hownam, eleven miles south-east of Jedburgh, and four from Rink, on the property of the Duke of Roxburghe. The establishment of these markets has affected those at Rink, and perhaps double the number of stock is shown here to what is now collected at the latter place.

1. **PENNYMOOR FIRST BORDER TRYST.**—This market is held on the 31st of July, principally for the sale of Cheviot lambs, and partly for wool, 6,000 or 7,000 being generally brought forward. Two-thirds of the number are half-bred, and the remainder Che-

viot lambs, and some fine lots of Cheviot wether hogs. The Cheviot sheep at this fair are of the very best description, having been bred in the finest parts of the Cheviot Hills, where very great attention is paid to this species of stock. The Cheviot lambs bought here generally make excellent sheep, and the crosses with them and the highest bred Leicester tups make very superior sheep. But should the tup be impurely bred, the pure Cheviot sheep are much better worth the cultivation than the impure cross.

The lambs are bought by farmers and graziers in Roxburgh and the adjoining counties. If there is a briskness in the wool trade, many of the Yorkshire wool-staplers attend this market, and a good deal of business is sometimes done in the wool that has been left unsold from the Kelso and St. Boswell's fairs.

2. PENNYMOOR SECOND BORDER TRYST is held on the 15th of October, for the sale of Cheviot ewes and young and old wethers, the numbers of which may be from 3,000 to 4,000. They are bought by farmers and graziers in Roxburgh and the adjoining counties, the ewes to take a lamb from and feed off the following year, and the wethers for feeding off on turnips. The age of the ewes is generally four years, and some may be five. The wethers are from two to three years old, most of the lots of which are excellent: the same character may be given to the ewes.

(To be continued.)

## THE BARKING FISHERMEN'S APPRENTICE AND THE POOR LAW BILL.

Some weeks ago we gave, under the head of Ilford (Essex) Petty Sessions, the particulars of several applications made to the magistrates composing that bench, for an order for the removal of a pauper, named James Wheeler, from the parish of Barking to that of Layton, to which latter parish it was contended he legally belonged. The brief circumstances of the case were these — The pauper had been bound by the parish officers of Layton to a fisherman at Barking, but after being for some time in the service of his master he, the master, through misfortune, was obliged to sell off his smacks, and become the servant of another himself. The apprentice through this was thrown on the parish of Barking, owing to his settlement as an apprentice, but the term of his apprenticeship not having terminated at the time the time the Poor Law Bill passed, the parish officers of Barking conceived that under the 67th clause of that enactment they were relieved from the future burden of the pauper, and they therefore instructed their vestry-clerk (Mr. Griffin) to make an application to the bench of magistrates at Ilford for an order for his removal to the parish of Layton, from which he had been apprenticed. The clause under which the order was sought is as follows:—"And be it further enacted, that from and after the passing of this act no settlement shall be acquired by being apprenticed in the sea service, &c., nor by any person now being such an apprentice, in respect of such apprenticeship."

The magistrates on the first application would have granted the required order, believing that they were bound to do so, but for their clerk, Mr. Sterry, who gave it as his opinion that the Poor Law Amendment Act did not apply to the case, as the pauper, Wheeler, had gained a settlement in the parish of Barking previously to its passing, by having resided there for upwards of 40 days, and that therefore he could not be legally sent to the parish of Layton. The magistrates, or at least a

majority of them, bowed to this opinion, and refused the order, but the question being one of considerable importance to the parish of Barking as well as other sea ports and fishing places throughout the country, they recommended that the opinion of some high legal authority should be taken on the point. In consequence of this recommendation a case was drawn up, and submitted for the opinion of Sir John Campbell, the then Attorney-General, and it perfectly agreed with that previously given by Mr. Sterry, the magistrate's clerk, and stated that the clause applied to such apprentices only where the binding took place subsequent to the passing of the new act. The parish officers, notwithstanding this, renewed their application for the order, and at the same time, as the question was of the utmost importance to the parish, there being some hundreds of apprentices then bound who might become chargeable to it, and as they would be debarred from trying it any other shape than that of an appeal, prayed that an order might be granted. Under these circumstances the Rev. Mr. Fanshawe and Major Anderson signed the order, and on the officers of Layton being made acquainted with the fact, they at once served the churchwardens and overseers of Barking with a notice of appeal. At the late Quarter Sessions for the county, at Chelmsford, the case came on for argument before J. M. Leake, Esq., Chairman, and a bench of magistrates. The question at issue then was, whether the latter words of the clause, "nor by any person now being such an apprentice in respect to such apprenticeship," applied to cases wherein a settlement had been completed when the act passed, or to those only which at the period had not gained a legal settlement, or were to be bound after its passing. The case was argued at great length by Messrs. Knox and Turner, on the part of the parish of Barking, and by Mr. Jessop and Mr. Bosanquet on behalf of that of Layton; and after much discussion *pro* and *con*. the Court decided in favour of the parish of Barking, holding that the words of the latter part of the clause had a retrospective effect, but granted a case for the opinion of the Court of King's Bench. The decision has given the greatest satisfaction to the parishioners of Barking, who have been for years subjected to an enormous tax for the support of the outscourings of the metropolitan poor houses who had obtained legal settlements there through being apprenticed to fishermen, who took them merely for the premiums which they got with them, and which was willingly paid by the different parishes and charities for the mere purpose of getting rid of them.

## IMPROVEMENT OF WASTE LAND IN IRELAND.—

The great extent of mountain heath, marsh and rocky land, and of low-land bog, which is annually added to the arable land of this country, is truly astonishing. Districts, which a dozen years since presented an interminable waste of apparently useless land, have been broken in, and are now either reclaimed to the utmost limit, where the black oat and cup potatoe will thrive, or chequered with interspersed fields—a sure prognostic that the whole, as far as the most persevering industry and an utter disregard of toil can accomplish it, will speedily be reclaimed. We some time since walked over the great Sugar loaf Mountain in the county of Wicklow, in order to ascertain whether the cultivated fields, near its summit, and which are fully twelve hundred feet above the sea, and exposed to every wind except



that from the sea, could by any possibility yield a crop sufficient to repay the trouble of reclaiming the lands and cultivating them. The land, we were informed by one of the occupants, is let to him on terms which induce him to bestow upon it the labour necessary for rendering it productive; and what was the consequence? A pile of rocks and stones, with which the surface was almost completely covered, has been collected into a broad wall round the holding; and in this occupation, the man, his wife, and two healthful and not half-clothed children, were engaged on the day we first observed their farm. To undermine some of the rocks, it was necessary to descend five or six feet into the yellow clay; yet every difficulty was surmounted; and we had the satisfaction to observe a crop of oats and potatoes growing on this ground, last summer, which bids fair to render its possessor as independent as he could desire to be. We particularize this instance, because it is within a morning's drive of the metropolis. But similar instances occur wherever the tenant has an interest sufficiently encouraging. How many thousand acres there are in the same county, (Wicklow,) which might and would be reclaimed at no other expense to the proprietors, than the trouble of directing the proper steps to be taken. A very remarkable instance of this improvement recently came before us, on the estate of an indulgent landlord, on the shore of Long Derg, in the county of Clare. An extent of some thousand acres of mountain land has, by allowing the occupants a sufficient interest, been brought into cultivation, and in some instances at an expense of labour fully equal to that in the county Wicklow. An excellent road is now forming through this highly improved property, by which the produce can with facility be delivered to the steam boats at Killaloe, and through them to the British market.—*Irish Farmer's Magazine*.

### TO THE EDITOR OF THE "FARMER'S MAGAZINE"

Sir,—I have read with great satisfaction, the statement in your last (taken from the "Law Commercial Daily Remembrancer,") respecting the vital question of a repeal of the Corn Laws; particularly as affecting the mutual interests of agriculturists and manufacturers. If ever there was a question which, in a greater degree than another, called for the deepest consideration, and claimed, at the hands of the legislature, the most deliberate caution, before rashly innovating, or blindly yielding, by uncalled for concession to the mercenary rapacity of the sordid and designing, or the ignorant and infatuated clamour of the shallow and visionary theorists of the "free trade school of philosophers," this, Sir, is the question.

The motive I have in view in trespassing on your valuable space, is to urge the attention of your readers to the plain and unanswerable facts to which the publication referred to very properly alludes; and not the least important fact is, the crafty and wary caution with which the self-dubbed "friends of the working classes" uniformly avoid all allusion to the certain result which must instantly follow the removal of the restriction on the importation of foreign corn (in addition to making food cheaper) by a *general, sweeping, and universal fall in wages*. This important circumstance, so clearly inevitable, is, for very obvious reasons, carefully and cautiously concealed from the view of the credulous multitude, by the designing advo-

cates for a repeal of the Corn Laws; and for what reason, but because the avowal of such an unanswerable truth would at once open the eyes of their deluded followers, who would instantly nauseate and reject both the quacks and their nostrums. Equalize the price of corn in England with the price of corn on the Continent, by allowing the importation, duty free, or at a low rate of duty, and you also equalize wages and the rate of remuneration given for labour. This is the real, though concealed motive of nine-tenths of the educated advocates for the free admission of foreign corn into Great Britain, thinking thereby to benefit their own interests and not those of the working-classes, whose wages, from competition with foreign workmen, would speedily sink to that level which must make any advantage gained by obtaining food at a lower rate, though a nominal advantage, a real loss. To illustrate this, it must be well considered by the manufacturers and mechanics, that the landlord farmer and agricultural labourer will, in the event of a repeal of the Corn Laws, be no longer either able or willing to pay a monopoly price for any manufactured article they require, caused by the heavy restrictions placed upon foreign commodities. The shoemaker must prepare to resign his monopoly duty of 3s. and 2s. 6d. a-pair on womens' boots; of 1s. 6d. a-pair on infants' shoes; of 4s. 6d. a-pair on mens' boots. The agriculturists will not suffer the cooper to enjoy, at their cost, the monopoly of cask-making, by a tax of 50 per cent. levied on foreign casks, but may choose to purchase them from those parts of Europe where men buy a four-pound loaf for 4d., but work for 5s. or 7s. a-week, instead of that amount per diem, which it appears the coopers' journeymen \* now obtain in England. The agriculturists can likewise no longer be expected to submit to the glove-maker's monopoly, in the shape of a duty of 5s. on each dozen pair of gloves, and 7s. on each dozen pair of womens' gloves imported into England. The latter will be called upon to give up the protecting duty of 11s. 4d. on each straw hat of 22 inches in diameter, and 10s. 6d. on each beaver hat; and the paper-maker the protection he enjoys of 9d. a-pound on foreign paper—a duty tantamount to a prohibition. The landed interest may wish to see the 40 per cent. tax levied on foreign linens repealed, and may prefer silks manufactured at Lyons, Grenoble, or in Switzerland, to those of Spitalfields, Coventry, or Norwich: they may also require the extortionate monopoly of the Sheffield cutlers to be thrown open to competition with the cutlers of Germany, where men work 15 hours a-day for 7s. a-week; in fact, in every branch of the manufactures of this country, a protecting duty against foreign competition has been called for and granted. Even in the necessary commodity of soap I find the very modest sum of 90s. on each 112lbs. of foreign soap imported into Great Britain has been acceded to, to protect the manufacturer of soap.

The agricultural interest have not been the men to say nay to the claims for protection urged by any body or description of manufacturers; they have not been the men to clamour for the overthrow of monopolies which enhance the price of all they require and consume; neither are they the men to bring forward measures for their own gain, calculated to cause ruin and destruction to large masses of their fellow-countrymen: but if the merchants, manufacturers, and artisans, will call

\* Vide Speech of Sir James Graham on the Corn Laws, the last Session of Parliament.

for a repeal of those laws which protect the agricultural interest from destructive competition with the pauper peasantry of France, Germany, Prussia, Poland, &c., why, then, the landed interest will, in self-defence, demand the repeal of all protecting duties which give to British manufacturers the monopoly of the home market—that market in which the great outlay of the farmer lies. This subject was slightly alluded to by Sir Robert Peel during the last session, and the awkward attempts of the “free trade philosophers” to throw sneers and ridicule on the protecting duty “on walking-sticks and canes,” plainly displayed their anxiety to attract attention from a mode of argument they were well aware would destroy their hollow and visionary theories.

This, however, I believe, must be the field on which the agriculturalists will meet the preposterous and absurd demands of those who are anxious to destroy the monopolies of others *but retain their own*. Can it be possible that the working classes of the United Kingdom fail in seeing through the flimsy veil which conceals the ultimate object of these rapacious theorists? What means the jargon of, “we shall, by making food cheaper, be able better to compete with foreigners?” Can there be but one interpretation, one meaning, and that meaning this—*by lowering British wages to the foreign standard?* This is the sum total of the tender mercies of the “philosophers” for the working classes,—these are the means by which they wish to work out their theories. They crave permission to reduce the workman’s wages one half, or to one-third of their present rate, and console with the saving of twopence a-day in the cost of their provisions. In grasping at the shadow of reciprocity in trade with foreign kingdoms, the philosophers would, in their blind folly, drop the reality, now mutually enjoyed, for the reciprocal benefit of both, by the British manufacturer and British agriculturist, against the overwhelming pressure of the mendicant poverty of an entire Continent. I am, Sir, &c.,

OBSERVER.

LONDON AND SOUTHAMPTON RAIL-WAY.—It appears that the London and Southampton Railway Company have completed their capital, and therefore obtained the magistrates’ certificate to enable them to take up all the lands on the line, and thus to proceed in the execution of this great national work, which has already been commenced on three or four different points between London and Basingstoke. We are authorized to state, that the Company has already made contracts for a large quantity of rails and locomotive engines, as it is their intention to remove the earth by locomotive power, upon the same plan as that which is now adopted with so much economy and effect in the north of England; and, from the arrangements now in progress, there can be no doubt that great activity will be shown in carrying on these works. The Directors and parties to this rail-way, contemplate a junction with that which is projected from Basingstoke to Bath, thus uniting the British and Bristol Channels, with each other, and with the metropolis. This combination of interests must necessarily produce a very powerful competition with the Company called the Great Western, with the obvious advantages in favour of the London and Southampton Company, of having obtained their Act, and completed their capital.

## NORTHAMPTON NEW AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE “FARMER’S MAGAZINE.”

SIR,—As I perceive that you have devoted the leading article in the last number of your valuable and well conducted Journal, to the consideration and examination of the merits, and demerits of Agricultural Associations generally; and more particularly to that of Northamptonshire, recently formed, I presume you will deem the subject of sufficient importance to be again adverted to in your columns, and more especially as it appears to me that you have misrepresented, or very insufficiently explained some important facts relative to the Infant Agricultural Association of Northamptonshire, which are calculated to prove highly injurious to the *Bantling* in the estimation of the Agricultural community, if suffered to pass uncontradicted in your widely circulated paper:—and as I conclude you have been in some degree misled by taking the report of the meeting from the “Northampton Mercury,” and from the account of your partial correspondent, whom I think I should have but little difficulty in pointing out, as one of the principal seceders and political opponents of the society, (and presuming such to be the case), it is therefore no matter of surprise that your opinions may have been influenced by such a one-sided and partial view of the question. And in order in some degree to counterbalance this influence I shall take the liberty of sending you also a copy of the “Northampton Herald,” containing a very different view of the matter; and giving it a different complexion; and if you steer the middle course between these two extremes, you will be more likely to arrive at the real, impartial, and true state of the case. Without further preface I will now as briefly as possible advert to the points to which I wish to direct your attention; and in the first place I would unhesitatingly, and in the most positive and unequivocal terms deny the charge conveyed in your remarks, “that the Northamptonshire Agricultural Association is formed for any party or political purpose whatever,” or for any other purpose than that expressed in their declaration, that of the “protection of agriculture,” and to which fundamental principle the society is determined strictly to adhere, notwithstanding the “untoward event” caused by a few individuals at the first annual meeting, and I assure you the members are too independent to be under the influence of any person or party, as you would seem to insinuate, may be the case with other societies of a similar nature, to which you allude.

In the next place, one word as to the rejection of Lord Milton as a member, and Vice-President of the Association, which you so strongly deprecate; and I most distinctly and positively deny that this exclusion was the consequence of any political nature, (as you would infer)!—or that it was “a direct violation of the rules and declaration of the society itself,” (as you so uncerimoniously assert) but strictly in accordance with both; and had you perused Lord Milton’s letter, (which you will find in the “Northampton Herald,”) you would probably have formed a different conclusion. Lord Milton certainly was invited to become a member and vice-president of the association by the provisional committee, in common with every other nobleman and large landed proprietor in the neighbourhood; and the committee would no doubt have been immediately charged with po-



litical bias, and making invidious distinctions if they had omitted his lordship's name in the general list of names to whom the secretary was directed to send circular invitations. These invitations were sent, *however*, (he it observed) presuming that no gentleman would accept the invitation who was not prepared at the same time, to adopt the *declarations* of the society, (a copy of which was sent with each letter) as the fundamental principle and creed of the society; that Lord Milton could not conscientiously do this, is evident from his letter, wherein, instead of accepting or declining the invitations positively, he says, "my opinions on the present corn-laws (which I sincerely believe to produce no effect for the benefit of the farmer) are no doubt, known to those who will compose the association; if they can admit me as a member, knowing me to entertain such opinions, I shall be most happy to become one." Now you will observe from the terms of this letter, it became necessary, in common courtesy, that it should be brought specially before the notice of the society, in order that the sense of the meeting should be taken upon it, and an answer returned to his lordship accordingly; and in accordance to the rules of the society, which require "that every member should be proposed and seconded by two members," &c. &c.,—leaving the society at liberty, and giving them the opportunity of accepting or rejecting the proposed member according to their opinion of the eligibility of the person proposed, this course was of necessity adopted with Lord Milton, as with every other member, and his lordship was rejected by a *very large majority*. Not however, most certainly (as has been stated) for the purpose of casting a vote of censure upon his lordship, or from political motives; but simply because the great majority of the meeting were decidedly of opinion that his lordship's sentiments on the corn laws were directly opposed to their best interests, and they therefore did not consider him a fit person to join a society with objects so diametrically opposed to those professed by his lordship; whose opinions it must be particularly observed are not merely for a change of the present corn laws for a fixed and sufficient protecting duty, (in which myself and many would unite) but his lordship advocates the removal of the present inadequate protection for a duty "*for the purposes of revenue only*," or in other words, for a free trade in corn without any protection to the British farmer! Could any society formed "*for the protection of agriculture*" admit any person holding such opinions as one of their members??? For if you admit the principle by admitting one such individual, you open the door to any number advocating the same doctrines, and thereby virtually destroy the association! Is it not directly contrary to the practice and policy of any established society, association, sect or body of men, to admit persons as members of their community known to hold opinions diametrically opposed to those they profess and practice?? The maxim that, "A house divided against itself cannot stand" is not easily to be controverted; and on these grounds the society are justified in rejecting such members. I will not trespass further on your time or valuable space, but conclude with a few observations on the "*untoward event*" which is much to be regretted; and which has induced some few persons to secede, from the mistaken notion that the society would assume a political and party position. If you should think it worth your while to make some further and more impartial inquiries, you will probably find that the three or four gentlemen

who took so prominent a part in the discussion (and whose cause you so ably advocate) were not altogether free from the charge of "having sown the seeds of dissension in this infant association," as they first plainly and distinctly charged those who differed from them in opinion as to the admission of Lord Milton, with a *political bias*; which as a matter of course aroused the indignation of the parties accused, who naturally refuted the charge with some warmth. It was also assumed by one of those gentlemen, "that the association was not formed, and therefore not competent to act," although he had himself taken a most active part in the business of the provisional committee; but the meeting being appealed to, and the resolution of the former meeting read, whereby the association *was formed*, the question was immediately decided in the affirmative. The Rev. Sir G. Robinson then proceeded in no very friendly or courteous terms to criticise a sentence in the declaration, which he said, "that neither Lord Milton or himself considered to be either English or common sense," the words (alluding to anti-corn law societies, &c.) were therefore slightly altered from "*untried theories necessarily involving, &c.*" to "*untried theories involving it is to be feared*" making a distinction without a difference to satisfy their fastidious taste. The original sentence however seemed to be perfectly understood, and considered as "*common sense*" by every person to whom it was addressed, not disposed to cavil and "*strain at a gnat*," with the exception of these two very learned and critical gentlemen, though not perhaps strictly grammatical or literally correct, but in being so far enlightened on the subject, as to be informed by these too learned and talented gentlemen, that untried theories could not necessarily involve consequences, it appeared that the committee of farmers who prepared the declaration, did not expect to be so nicely criticised; and had read the sentence, and universally considered it in its obvious meaning and intention, that these untried theories (if reduced to practice) would necessarily involve the utter destruction of British agriculture, &c. I had no intention of addressing you at such length, and will conclude with apologizing for so far intruding on your attention, but the interest I feel in the subject must plead my excuse.

I am Sir, your constant reader,  
A MEMBER OF THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.  
Northampton, Feb. 5.

IMPORTANT TITHE CASE.—Mr. Edward Parkins of Chesfield, appeared before the magistrates assembled in petty sessions, at Stevenage, on Monday, the 26th ult., to answer a complaint of the Rev. T. F. Green, rector of Graveley, for the non-payment of the tithe arising from a certain fir plantation in the parish. Mr. Hawkins, of Hitchin, who appeared for the complainant, observed, that the only question for the decision of the magistrates was, whether the firs in the plantation were titheable or not. The Chairman asked if they claimed a tithe in composition or in kind? Mr. Hawkins said a tithe in kind; for if a composition had existed no question could arise as to liability. Mr. Hawkins then proceeded to state, that by an old statute, so early as Edward the Third, woods were divided into three sorts, which were distinguished by the old Anglo-Norman name of Gros-bois, that which can be properly be called timber; Haut-bois, or great or high

wood; and Sub-bois, underwood. There were several cases bearing on the point. Lord Ellenborough, in p. 446, vol. 10, East's Reports, in the case of *Aubrey v. Fisher*, said nothing could be considered as timber but oak, elm, and ash; but by the custom in particular localities other woods might be considered timber. If it was timber, it was not titheable; therefore it would be important to know whether the firs were assessed to the poor rate. In Buckinghamshire, by the custom of the county, beech is held to be timber, and exempt from tithe; it was, however, not timber in any other part of England. Lord Coke was quoted as the authority in that case, and being a Buckinghamshire man may be considered as a good authority, as being the more likely to know the custom of the county. Mr. Justice Bayley, in *The King v. Ferrybridge*, observed, "that if all wood which is not timber be underwood, it would follow that horse chesnuts, limes, plane trees, and aspens would come within that description, yet surely it would be a perversion of language to call such trees underwood." The Rev. J. Pollard said, that from the books he had read on the subject, he had no doubt that fir plantations were titheable when cut, and he was prepared to make an order in this case, with the sanction of his brother magistrate. An order was then made, not to be executed until the next bench meeting. J. Green, Esq., declined acting in the case, as the Rev. T. F. Green is his son, and he is the patron of the living.—*Essex Mercury*.

## COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

### HORSE WARRANTY.

#### DOYLEY v. THE EARL OF LIVERPOOL.

Mr. PLATT (with whom was Mr. BUSBY) stated, that this was an action to recover damages for the sale of a mare warranted sound, and which afterwards proved not to be so. The plaintiff was an attorney residing at Morton, in Worcestershire. In the month of May, 1834, the defendant disposed of the mare in question by sale at the Horse-bazaar in Oxford-street, and on that occasion the plaintiff became the purchaser of the mare for the sum of 50*l*, and paid the money for her, and had her sent to the Red Lion stables, in Water-lane, Fleet-street. The mare was warranted sound, and quiet to ride. On the very evening on which she was brought there, she was observed to cough, and on the following morning the coughing was continued. The plaintiff, however, liked the mare, and did not wish to get rid of his bargain; he therefore had her bled, and administered some warm mashes to her, in the hope that she would get better. In a few days afterwards, he set out with her to return home, and proceeded at a slow pace with her to Henley, and thence to Nettlebed. While on his journey, the pace at which he travelled did not exceed four miles per hour; but on his arrival at Nettlebed, he was obliged to leave her, and she was taken on in the most careful manner to Oxford, where she had the benefit of the assistance of Mr. Wild, an eminent veterinary surgeon of that city. She was put under his care on the Sunday evening, and was removed from Oxford on the Wednesday following. During this period she was bled, and again had hot mashes, but did not recover. The cough, a dry husky cough, that had affected her from the beginning, still continued; and when by easy journeys she got down to the plaintiff's stables, and was taken every possible care of, it was discovered that the cough was so bad that it never could be cured. On the 18th of

June the plaintiff wrote to the auctioneer at the Horse-bazaar, stating that the mare had been very ill, but saying, that if her cough got well he should wish to keep her, and he should therefore wait another week to see the result of his treatment of her. The mare did not get well, and the plaintiff was finally obliged to sell her for 20*l*, and then sent to the Earl of Liverpool demanding to have the loss he had suffered compensated to him. When after being told in his Lordship's letter, written in answer, that the time for returning the mare had, by the rules of the bazaar, elapsed, he was assured that the mare had been bred by his lordship, and had been in his stable up to the time of the sale, and had no cough at all, or at least "no cough to signify." It was true that the time for returning the mare had been suffered by the plaintiff to elapse, because from the first he had hoped to be able to conquer her cough, but when he found himself deceived in that hope, he was not prevented from claiming in damages so much money as he had lost by the purchase, namely, the difference in price and the sum he had expended in medicine upon her.

James Tiley: I was ostler at the Black Lion, Water-lane, Fleet-street, in May last; a grey mare was brought there; it was some time in the evening of the 26th of May; a young man from the Horse-bazaar brought her; I observed nothing further than her coughing, and that she had the string-halt; I put her in the stables; she continued coughing what time she was with us; Mr. Doyley was at that time staying at the Sussex Hotel, Bouverie-street; I told him that she had a very bad cough; it was a dry kind of husky cough; I recollect Harvey, a farrier, being sent for; he bled her; she continued two nights at the stables, went away for one night, and then returned for two nights more; I took the greatest care of her; all disorders in a horse come from a cough; if it is not stopped in time it will prove fatal.

Cross-examined: On the Monday evening, the day he bought her, the plaintiff heard the mare cough; and on the Tuesday morning, before he took her to the bazaar, it was evident to every one that she then had a violent cough; he brought her back about one o'clock, and she coughed in his hearing; cannot say where he went with her on Wednesday; the cough never left her; she left on Saturday afternoon; she got no better while she stayed with us; plaintiff rode her away on Saturday morning; he told us the night before to take great care of her, because he was going to take her a long journey; I do not think that she was in a state to be ridden ten miles, nor even five miles, without distressing her; she had two flannel horse-cloths on at night while in our stables; I dressed her in the open air; she was entirely under my care.

Re-examined: The weather was then very warm; I know the Horse-bazaar; there is room to gallop a horse there for about 100 yards; I know what a roarer is; you may gallop a horse from some stables for a mile and not find out that he is a roarer, but the next day you cannot ride him for 20 yards without knowing it.

The under-ostler corroborated this evidence.

Harvey, a farrier: I saw this mare; I bled her on the Tuesday morning; I heard her cough before I bled her; she had a husky cough; not a running cough; after her bleeding she had a good hot mash or two; she was not sound at that time.

Cross-examined: I was a farrier in the 4th Light Dragoons for many years; I understand horses as well as many men in London (*a laugh*); I am fre-



quently called in to see horses when they are ill; on this occasion I was sent for to bleed a mare; that was the message; I brought my instrument with me; I desired afterwards that she might have some hot mashes; I saw her the next day, and bled the mare with a *fleam*; that is a safer way than by a lancet; I did so by desire of the plaintiff.

James Inwood, the landlord of the Red Lion, at Nettlebed: Saw the plaintiff on his mare when on his way to Oxford; plaintiff was going at a foot pace with the mare; when she got into the stables she was quite cool.

Mr. Wilde: I am a veterinary surgeon; I reside at Oxford; I first saw the mare on the 21st June; the animal was at the time quite cool; the breathing was much increased; it was what was called a short breath; I was told that she had been bled in London; that was the proper way to treat her; I bled her on the Sunday; she did not cough the first time that I saw her, nor the second, which was within ten minutes afterwards, and she did not cough then; I saw her a third time, in the evening; she had a peculiar grunt and roar at the end of the cough, that made me suspect her to be a roarer; I desired her to have a light diet and mashes; the bleeding relieved her, but the cough still was there; she remained under my care till Wednesday; I saw her frequently during the time, and she coughed repeatedly; I could not move her across the stall without her coughing.

Cross-examined: Plaintiff is an attorney; I do not know whether he is a good judge of a horse.

John Ryman, groom to the plaintiff, went to fetch the mare away from Oxford on the Sunday morning; but by the direction of Mr. Wilde, he did not remove her till Wednesday; witness was directed by Mr. Wilde to take her gently; he did so; he was seven hours going twenty-seven miles; and she had the physic prescribed by Mr. Wilde; when she got to plaintiff's stables she was treated with the greatest care.

Cross-examined: Plaintiff kept three hunters, and some horses for running; plaintiff rode the mare while she was in his stables.

Mr. Hicks, a farmer, near Worcester, saw the mare, and rode her, and thought she was a roarer; witness bought her as a brood-mare, for 20*l*; he kept her till August, and sold her for 23*l*.

The letters of Mr. Allen to the plaintiff, and of the plaintiff to Lord Liverpool, and of Lord Liverpool in answer, were read. This closed the plaintiff's case.

Sir J. CAMPBELL (with whom was Mr. R. V. RICHARDS) addressed the jury for the defendant. Unfortunate was the party who sold a horse to a man who was at once a jockey and an attorney. The plaintiff here was both. He knew how to take advantage of the circumstances in which he was placed, and therefore, when the time for returning the mare had gone by, he wrote to Lord Liverpool, telling him what the law was with regard to a horse that was unsound. The plaintiff clearly had no right to return the mare. When he was at the bazaar a day or two after the sale, he had the tail of the mare cut, and he spoke about the improvement that the cutting of the tail would produce in the appearance of the mare; but he said nothing of her having a cough; yet, in one of his letters he stated that he had mentioned this matter to the people at the bazaar, who had admitted that the mare had a cough the day previous to the sale. The plaintiff wrote to the defendant, claiming compensation for the loss which he alleged he had sustained from the purchase of this mare, and said

in the letter, "It behoves your Lordship to ascertain whether a cough constitutes an unsoundness, and for that purpose, I beg to refer your Lordship to,"—and then the letter went on to state various cases from law books, in which Judges had held doctrines favourable to the rights of the plaintiff. He should show the fact, that the mare had no cough at the time of the sale, and that the plaintiff had not complained of her having one when he went to the bazaar a day or two afterwards. Was it possible for the jury to believe that the mare had been ridden with all the gentleness that had been described? or, was it not more probable, that when she was at the plaintiff's, and he rode her out for two or three hours, that, hunter as he was, he amused himself with following the hounds upon her? He should prove that the mare was not unsound when in the defendant's stables; and it would then be for the jury to say, whether the defendant was properly called on for damages in the present case.

George Langham: I am one of the grooms at the Horse-bazaar; I have been there for two years; I remember the grey mare; she was under my care for two days when she came to the bazaar; I exercised her in the usual way; I never heard her cough; she did blow a little, that was from fright or freshness.

Cross-examined: Fright from the omnibuses made her blow; I think that was from freshness; it was snorting.

Mr. Houghton, the auctioneer at the bazaar, remembered the grey mare; he saw her every day she was at the bazaar; I saw her on the day she was sold; I remember her being sold; on the next day or next day but one, Mr. Doyley brought her back: he said he wished to have her tail cut; he asked me whether I did not think it would improve the appearance of her quarters, and whether he had a man to cut her tail; I said yes, and her tail was cut at his request; he made no complaint of her being unsound, but said she had a slight cold, but that he should take her home, and have some blood taken from her, and give her some mashes, and he thought she would soon be well; I never admitted that the mare had had a cough before she was sold; I did not suggest the taking of blood, that was plaintiff's own suggestion; coughs come on very suddenly, from change of stable.

Mr. Allen: I am the proprietor of the bazaar; I made this bargain with the plaintiff; I, myself, do not know anything of this mare.

Cross-examined: This is my hand-writing; I believe that Lord Liverpool franked this note that I might send it; this note of his Lordship was put into the same frank.

This note was afterwards read.

Sir J. CAMPBELL replied upon these notes, and

Mr. PLATT replied upon the case. He remarked, as a specimen of the defence, that the plaintiff was accused of following the hounds in July (*a laugh*), and that the coughing of the mare was pretended to be snorting. It was clear, however, that it was something else, and the groom called it "blowing," which was much nearer the truth than snorting. No doubt when his Learned Friend heard this word, he thought of the lines—

"Oh, Nelly Gray, Nelly Gray! how could you tell me so?"

I've met with many a breeze before, but never such a blow?" (*Laughter*.)

Lord DENMAN summed up the whole case to the jury, who returned a verdict for the plaintiff.—Damages, 33*l*.

## POPULATION RETURNS.

|               | POPULATION. | STATUTE ACRES. |
|---------------|-------------|----------------|
| England.....  | 18,089,338  | 32,342,400     |
| Scotland..... | 2,365,807   | 22,654,697     |
| Wales.....    | 805,236     | 4,751,960      |
| Army and Navy | 277,017     |                |
| Ireland.....  | 7,734,365*  |                |
| Isle of Man.. | 40,985      |                |
| Jersey.....   | 36,782      |                |
| Guernsey....  | 26,000      |                |

24,375,330

|                     |        |               |
|---------------------|--------|---------------|
| * Ireland contains  | 31,933 | square miles, |
| viz., Leinster..... | 7,356  | "             |
| Munster.....        | 9,224  | "             |
| Connaught....       | 7,154  | "             |
| Ulster.....         | 8,199  | "             |

|                                          | ANALYSIS OF<br>O C C U P A T I O N S. |                   | Number of Families in |           | Total No. of<br>Persons 1831. |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
|                                          | Years                                 | Army and<br>Navy. | England.              | Wales.    |                               |
| 1. Agricultural Occupiers.....           | 1781                                  | 250,000           | 7,473,000             | 450,000   | 250,000                       |
| 2. Ditto.....                            | 91                                    | 260,000           | 8,175,000             | 500,000   | 258,955                       |
| 3. Mining.....                           | 1801                                  | 470,958           | 8,331,430             | 541,540   | 600,000                       |
| 4. Milling.....                          | 11                                    | 640,500           | 9,538,830             | 611,785   | 1,110,000                     |
| 5. Artificers, Builders, &c.....         | 21                                    | 319,300           | 11,261,437            | 717,438   | 1,160,000                     |
| 6. Manufacturers.....                    | 31                                    | 277,017           | 13,089,338            | 805,236   | 1,500,000                     |
| 7. Tailors, Shoemakers, and Hatters..... |                                       |                   |                       |           | 200,000                       |
| 8. Shopkeepers.....                      |                                       |                   |                       |           | 400,000                       |
| 9. Seamen and Soldiers.....              |                                       |                   |                       |           | 310,279                       |
| 10. Clerical, Legal, and Medical.....    |                                       |                   |                       |           | 319,300                       |
| 11. Disabled Pensioners.....             |                                       |                   |                       |           | 80,000                        |
| 12. Priests, Annuitants.....             |                                       |                   |                       |           | 100,000                       |
| Total.....                               |                                       |                   |                       |           | 192,888                       |
|                                          |                                       |                   | 2,941,383             | 3,303,504 | 16,537,398                    |

STATE OF HORTICULTURE, &c., IN  
JANUARY.

The first month of the year has passed over, and it may be asserted that a finer season has never been witnessed. The only circumstance to be regretted is the paucity of water; for a really dry summer, with the single local exception of a few days of copious rain in Berkshire, part of Oxfordshire, Hants, and perhaps of Warwickshire, about the middle of July, was succeeded by an autumn equally splendid and sunny; hence the wells in many districts have become dry, and farmers have been put to the inconvenience of procuring water for their cattle from a considerable distance. The month of December had none of its usual gloom; the temperature was genial throughout, and fears were rationally entertained that the old proverb might begin to be realized by the *growth of the grass* during the first month of the year. But January was ushered in with frost, and thirteen days have been more or less frosty. The greatest depressions of the thermometer that we have witnessed occurred on the 6th, 7th, 20th, and 21st; on the last of these days it stood at 18 degrees at 8 o'clock a.m., but rose to 31 degrees by noon. Some rain has

also fallen, and we now anticipate an ample supply. Thus, to the present period, the season has been very propitious to the gardener and farmer; the crops of the former are rich and healthy, but without precocious growth, and those of the latter are green and promising, but not luxuriant. In 1834, the deluges of rain in December, followed by a consistently warm January, rendered the wheat so rank, that many had recourse to the ambiguous remedy of "feeding off" with sheep. Now the wheats are green, but short and clean: the Swede turnips healthy and strong, and abundantly productive of good bulbs. The general standing crops of the garden may be noticed in very few words. The Brassica (cabbage) tribe is very fine; the early Yorks and Vanacks, which remain in nursery-beds for removal at the earliest approach of the growing season, are sound and without defect; while those which were transplanted into beds in November, are ready to start off at once into growth. Savoys are firm, and the brocolis promise to come in very early; celery remains sound at heart; celerica is extremely well bulbed. In respect to our deservedly esteemed early fruits, currants give promise of being very productive, the flower buds being closely knitted at the base of the spurs. The bushes, and those of the gooseberry and raspberry, ought to be pruned about this time, as they will soon begin to push. Filberts, in many gardens, show abundance of the beautiful male catkins, those harbingers of good promise for the future crop; this tree requires peculiar management to render it very fertile; but our limits will not now permit us to notice that mode of training and pruning which is so successfully attended to near Maidstone. Wall-fruit trees may safely be suffered to remain unregulated for two or three weeks, though the apricot will require the watchful eye of the attentive gardener.

In the flower garden few flowers have yet appeared, the late frosts having retarded that early development which formed one of the peculiar characteristics of January, 1834. The greenhouse, however, affords some beautiful proofs of the influence of the advancing sun, for several varieties of geraniums—the round leaved cyclamen, occasionally the Persian cyclamen, Chinese primula, pink and white, lichenaultias, &c., are in excellent blossom; a few camellias are to be met with, though by far the greater number remain unopened.

A recurrence of a few more days of frost, and then a copious supply of rain, preparatory to the drying winds of March, will render the commencement of 1835 a season of the finest promise. We ought to notice the extraordinary altitude of the barometer; it has been, on an average, far above 30 inches, and that for a period which has rarely been recorded, at least within our recollection.

NEW COLLEGIATE INSTITUTION IN AMERICA.—The Manual Labour Academy, of Manly County, Kentucky, which was opened four years ago with only seven pupils, has been formed into a college, under the title of Jackson College. The trustees own 310 acres of land, with substantial buildings for the accommodation of 72 students, and they are now erecting other buildings. 160 applications for admission were made during the last year. Two hours' labour a-day are required from each student, and 16¢, in addition to this will pay for his board and tuition. Donations are now solicited for the purchase of a library, philosophical apparatus, and the endowment of a professorship.



## BIRMINGHAM,

1st MONTH, 28th, 1835.

We have delayed issuing our annual circular in order (as on previous occasions) to complete some statistical tables. In the retrospect of the corn trade for the past year, the most striking feature is the remarkable depression in the price of wheat, which, with a few trifling fluctuations has now progressively receded from the commencement of 1831; the average in December, 1830 being 66s 6d.—1831, 61s 8d.—1832, 55s 2d.—1833, 48s 5d.—1834, 41s 1d. This depression has so far exceeded the calculations of the most experienced persons in and connected with the trade, that it renders any opinion as to the cause, or how long it may continue, of little value. It is now generally admitted that upon the whole, the two last years have yielded over an average crop, but the absence of all foreign and colonial grain for home use for several years, except a trifling liberation, the progressive increase of population, and the augmented consumption occasioned by the reduced price, not only for bread, &c., as human food, but for distillation, feeding cattle, pigs, &c., makes it fair to presume will prevent a still further decline. The long continued fall in prices having however not only destroyed the spirit, but in many instances the means of speculation, as respects millers, factors, and farmers, we cannot confidently look forward to any material advance till the stocks in the hands of all parties are light: and should the appearances in the spring be favourable, we may not have much improvement on our present rates: should any thing on the contrary arise to induce capitalists to make investments in wheat, the prices are so remarkably low, that there would be a large margin for profit before it rose to the average of the last seven years. Best bread has been selling for some months here by all the principal bakers at 5d a quarter loaf.—a lower price than it has been rendered to the public since the commencement of the present century. There is every reason to suppose that the complaints both of the quantity and quality of the wheat in Ireland are well founded; and owing to the comparatively high prices of oats and barley, the distillers are, and have been taking it freely instead of the two latter kinds of grain: the imports of wheat from that country are consequently less than usual. The appearance of the young wheats, as might be expected from the mildness of the season, is very luxuriant. The foreign prices, as will be seen by the annexed, are rather lower in the Baltic and North of Europe generally, than last year, while in the Mediterranean and South, its value is fully as high. Wheat in bond may be considered as nominal; the last sale in Gloucester was about equal to 22s per Imperial quarter for a fine lot of soft Russian, which would now be taken for a further quantity. At these prices we think it likely there may be some demand in the spring for export. The present quotations for fine English red, are 5s to 5s 6d; white, 5s 2d to 5s 10d. Irish red, 4s 10d to 5s 3d; white, 5s to 5s 4d per 62lbs at Birmingham.

Our barleys, with little exception, are by no means of fine quality; yet they are found to work tolerably well. The prices of all descriptions have rather given way, but not to the extent that is usual at this season of the year, which we attribute to the crop being light; consequently neither the local or distant supply by any means heavy. Our

maltsters have made much less than last year, and the brisk state of the iron trade having caused an increased demand, the stocks of malt are considered very trifling; an advance in the price of barley is therefore rather confidently expected by many; but in forming an opinion, the quantity of wheat used by the distillers as a substitute for this grain, should be taken into consideration. In the West of England, whence we usually obtain a considerable supply, it generally weighs so light, and the price is relatively so high, that very little has come to Gloucester since harvest. Some of the best samples of Irish, particularly from Wexford, have given satisfaction to our maltsters, and are at present worth 29s. to 31s. per im. qr. at Birmingham. The duty has been paid on one small lot of foreign at Gloucester, of a quality superior to any English that we have seen of this year's growth, and we think it likely carefully selected parcels may be worth the attention of importers before summer. English malting samples are a free sale at 29s to 34s; grinding, 25s to 26s per 392lbs at Birmingham.

Of oats, although we have had a tolerable import, yet very few remain in granary at present; and as not many are coming forward from Ireland, we think there is little prospect of their being any cheaper, though the increased consumption from the inferior crop of beans will in some measure be counterbalanced by the substitution (as with barley) of wheat for oats, by the distillers: they are now in fair demand at 21s 6d to 23s 6d per 312 lbs at Gloucester.

Beans are undoubtedly a deficient crop, but they have been by no means a brisk sale lately, and a considerable quantity of old from the farmers has recently been brought forward, which, with the liberation of foreign, and the usual slackness of the demand at this season of the year, has depressed the price 1s to 2s per qr; it is, however, probable, that as spring advances they may be higher, and that imports of good qualities which can be laid down in Gloucester at 26s to 27s in bond, are a safe investment. There are at present only 2,381 qrs under lock at Gloucester.

Peas, both grinding and boiling, have borne a good relative price during the season, though the import has probably fully made up for any deficiency in the crop. At present the sale is very dull for good foreign at 48s to 50s per qr for breakers, and 15s 6d to 15s 9d for grinding, per 196lb. For coarse flour, during the past month, the demand has much fallen off, and the price receded about 1s per sack.

JOSEPH AND CHARLES STURGE.

## AN ACCOUNT OF THE TOTAL QUANTITY OF WHEAT, AND WHEAT FLOUR, IMPORTED INTO GREAT BRITAIN FROM IRELAND, FROM 1800 TO 1825.

| Year. | Qrs.    | Year. | Qrs.    |
|-------|---------|-------|---------|
| 1800  | 749     | 1813  | 217,154 |
| 1801  | 524     | 1814  | 225,821 |
| 1802  | 109,519 | 1815  | 189,544 |
| 1803  | 61,207  | 1816  | 121,631 |
| 1804  | 70,071  | 1817  | 59,025  |
| 1805  | 81,087  | 1818  | 108,239 |
| 1806  | 102,363 | 1819  | 151,031 |
| 1807  | 45,111  | 1820  | 104,747 |
| 1808  | 43,497  | 1821  | 569,700 |
| 1809  | 68,124  | 1822  | 46,004  |
| 1810  | 127,510 | 1823  | 100,068 |
| 1811  | 147,567 | 1824  | 356,408 |
| 1812  | 169,545 | 1825  | 396,918 |

### THE QUANTITY OF CORN, MEAL, AND FLOUR, IMPORTED INTO GREAT BRITAIN FROM IRELAND, IN THE YEARS 1826 TO 1833.

|           | Wheat.<br>Qrs. | Oats.<br>Qrs. | Barley.<br>Qrs. | Beans.<br>Qrs. |
|-----------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1826..... | 241,925        | 1,179,896     | 64,884          | 7,190          |
| 1827..... | 468,820        | 1,946,339     | 88,480          | 14,188         |
| 1828..... | 474,994        | 1,805,336     | 84,204          | 7,068          |
| 1829..... | 340,084        | 1,417,729     | 97,140          | 10,444         |
| 1830..... | 337,641        | 1,226,486     | 189,095         | 19,053         |
| 1831..... | 407,714        | 1,286,254     | 185,642         | 15,039         |
| 1832..... | 552,740        | 1,662,786     | 123,097         | 14,529         |
| 1833..... | 541,475        | 1,353,533     | 101,767         | 19,113         |

|           | Peas.<br>Qrs. | Rye.<br>Qrs. | Malt.<br>Qrs. | In. Corn. |
|-----------|---------------|--------------|---------------|-----------|
| 1826..... | 1,452         | 76           | 1,202         |           |
| 1827..... | together.     | 601          | 925           |           |
| 1828..... | 4,226         | 1,424        | 853           | 233       |
| 1829..... | 4,435         | 568          | 2,011         | 30        |
| 1830..... | 2,520         | 414          |               |           |
| 1831..... | 4,663         |              | 10,888        | 501       |
| 1832..... | 1,915         | 293          | 8,228         | 2,875     |
| 1833..... | 2,645         | 166          | 7,017         | 117       |

|           | Oatmeal.<br>Cwt. | W. Flour.<br>&c. Cwt. | In. Meal.<br>Cwt. | Pollard.<br>Cwt. |
|-----------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1826..... | 194,602          | 255,240               |                   |                  |
| 1827..... | 438,966          | 618,313               | 160               |                  |
| 1828..... | 421,749          | 621,569               |                   | 1,664            |
| 1829..... | 402,127          | 626,268               |                   |                  |
| 1830..... |                  | 672,265               |                   |                  |
| 1831..... | 581,371          | 524,318               | 210               |                  |
| 1832..... | 611,412          | 831,434               | 522               |                  |
| 1833..... | 642,692          | 1,659,587             |                   |                  |

1834 accounts not yet made up, but expected to be less than 1831.

### AN ACCOUNT OF THE AMOUNT OF CORN, GRAIN, AND FLOUR, IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM IN EACH YEAR, From 1st Jan., 1815, to the 5th Dec., 1834.

| Year.     | Imported from Ireland.<br>Qrs. | Imported from the B. N. American Colonies.<br>Qrs. | Imported from all other Parts.<br>Qrs. | Total Imported.<br>Qrs. |
|-----------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1815..... | 821,192                        | 25                                                 | 333,041                                | 1,154,258               |
| 1816..... | 873,865                        | 3                                                  | 319,203                                | 1,193,071               |
| 1817..... | 699,808                        | 25,877                                             | 1,775,353                              | 2,501,039               |
| 1818..... | 1,207,351                      | 56,618                                             | 3,474,051                              | 4,738,520               |
| 1819..... | 967,861                        | 14,257                                             | 1,693,255                              | 2,675,373               |
| 1820..... | 1,417,120                      | 40,587                                             | 1,300,953                              | 2,758,970               |
| 1821..... | 1,822,816                      | 40,916                                             | 216,738                                | 2,080,470               |
| 1822..... | 1,063,089                      | 23,439                                             | 102,365                                | 1,188,893               |
| 1823..... | 1,528,153                      | 209                                                | 53,432                                 | 1,581,794               |
| 1824..... | 1,634,024                      | 891                                                | 609,147                                | 2,244,062               |
| 1825..... | 2,203,932                      | 95,059                                             | 962,718                                | 3,261,739               |
| 1826..... | 2,693,391                      | 30,500                                             | 2,218,830                              | 3,942,721               |
| 1827..... | 1,830,314                      | 61,035                                             | 2,550,300                              | 4,441,659               |
| 1828..... | 2,826,988                      | 21,600                                             | 1,272,896                              | 4,120,914               |
| 1829..... | 2,307,817                      | 7,335                                              | 2,680,414                              | 4,995,566               |
| 1830..... | 2,215,549                      | 79,634                                             | 2,325,412                              | 4,650,595               |
| 1831..... | 2,466,721                      | 225,240                                            | 3,316,760                              | 6,008,721               |
| 1832..... | 3,026,541                      | 129,475                                            | 658,422                                | 3,824,439               |
| 1833..... | 2,700,375                      | 117,745                                            | 336,524                                | 3,154,644               |
| 1834..... |                                | 66,829                                             | 492,071                                |                         |

### CORN, GRAIN, MEAL, AND FLOUR, ENTERED FOR HOME CONSUMPTION IN 1833 AND 1834.

|        | Wheat.<br>Qrs. B. | Barley.<br>Qrs. B. | Oats. B. | Rye.<br>Qrs. B. |
|--------|-------------------|--------------------|----------|-----------------|
| 1833.. | 60,990 7          | 1,207 9            | 9,753 4  | 0 6             |
| 1834.. | 45,872 6          | 11,031 3           | 56,553 2 | 21 7            |

|        | Peas.<br>Qrs. B. | Beans.<br>Qrs. B. | Maise.<br>Qrs. B. | Blank.<br>Qrs. B. |
|--------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1833.. | 18,054 3         | 6,025 2           | 4 4               | 1 4               |
| 1834.. | 57,561 5         | 43,423 5          | 216 1             | 1 3               |

|        | Flour<br>Cwt. qrs. | lb. | Total.<br>Qrs. Bu. |
|--------|--------------------|-----|--------------------|
| 1833.. | 75,450 2           | 5   | 112,408 0          |
| 1834.. | 65,726 1           | 20  | 236,902 0          |

Of which 59,955 qrs of wheat, and also 75,884 cwt of Flour, in 1833; and 45,710 qrs of wheat, and also 65,638 cwt of the Flour, in 1834, were colonial.

### CORN, MEAL, AND FLOUR, IMPORTED, ENTERED FOR HOME CONSUMPTION, & DUTY PAID SINCE 1823, INCLUSIVE,

The first year duty was levied on Corn.

|           | Qrs.<br>Imported. | Qrs. for<br>Home Cons. | Duty Paid.<br>£ s. d. |
|-----------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1823..... | 53,866            | 12,362                 | 10310 4 3             |
| 1824..... | 612,594           | 677,195                | 176383 15 6           |
| 1825..... | 1,060,537         | 834,425                | 304919 15 5           |
| 1826..... | 2,252,271         | 2,095,944              | 442755 14 9           |
| 1827..... | 2,622,283         | 2,998,866              | 792934 15 8           |
| 1828..... | 1,294,378         | 1,237,494              | 196834 0 2            |
| 1829..... | 2,394,432         | 1,959,355              | 907320 5 5            |
| 1830..... | 2,691,884         | 2,649,348              | 790577 0 0            |
| 1831..... | 3,570,569         | 2,265,392              | 547809 0 0            |
| 1832..... | 668,422           | 475,680                | 309076 0 0            |
| 1833..... | 481,506           | 112,408                | 36252 0 0             |
| 1834..... | 560,056           | 236,902                | 99416 0 0             |

### AN ABSTRACT OF THE CURRENT PRICES AT FOREIGN MARKETS.

|                    | Wheat.<br>s. d. s. d. | Barley.<br>s. d. s. d. | Oats.<br>s. d. s. d. |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Baltimore.....     | 34 10 to 35 2         | —                      | 11 0 12 0            |
| Bremen.....        | 25 0 27 0             | 18 0 20 0              | 11 0 12 0            |
| Copenhagen.....    | 21 0 22 6             | 14 6 15 0              | 11 0 13 8            |
| Danish Isles.....  | 21 0 22 6             | 14 0 15 0              | 10 6 12 0            |
| Danzig, high mixed | 29 0 31 0             | 17 0 18 0              | 11 0 12 0            |
| — other descripts. | 25 0 27 0             | —                      | —                    |
| Emden.....         | 25 0 28 0             | 13 6 15 0              | 10 6 13 9            |
| Hamburg.....       | 20 4 26 9             | 14 0 17 6              | 11 10 13 10          |
| Hobart Town.....   | 96 0 116 0            | —                      | —                    |
| Kiel.....          | 21 0 22 0             | 14 0 16 6              | 11 0 13 6            |
| Konigsberg.....    | 24 0 30 0             | 16 0 17 0              | 12 8 13 0            |
| Leghorn Tusc. wh.  | 40 4 45 11            | 12 2 14 5              | —                    |
| red                | 38 3 42 6             | —                      | —                    |
| Lubeck.....        | 21 0 22 0             | 14 0 16 6              | 11 6 12 0            |
| Memel.....         | 24 0 28 0             | 16 0 17 3              | 12 0 13 0            |
| Montreal.....      | 30 0 32 0             | 22 8 24 0              | 10 6 —               |
| New York.....      | 34 6 38 10            | 22 4 —                 | 14 4 —               |
| Paris.....         | —                     | —                      | 17 0 21 0            |
| Philadelphia.....  | 34 10 37 9            | —                      | 10 3 10 0            |
| Riga, Courish..... | 24 0 28 5             | 17 6 18 6              | 12 8 13 7            |
| Rostock.....       | 22 0 23 0             | 14 6 15 6              | 11 6 12 6            |
| Stettin.....       | 24 0 24 6             | 15 6 16 0              | 11 0 13 6            |
| Trieste.....       | 26 8 33 10            | 15 3 15 10             | 11 18 20 0           |
| Wismar.....        | 21 0 22 6             | 14 6 15 0              | 12 0 13 8            |

|                 | Foreign Linseed.<br>s. d. s. d. | Lubeck..... | Memel..... | Riga..... |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|-------------|------------|-----------|
| Danzig.....     | 42 0 to 44 0                    | 45 0 47 0   | —          | —         |
| Konigsberg..... | 40 0 46 0                       | 43 6 45 0   | —          | —         |
| Leghorn.....    | 54 2 62 3                       | 44 3 45 3   | —          | —         |

### AVERAGE PRICE OF GRAIN PER QUARTER, IN ENGLAND AND WALES,

For fifteen years, ending 1834, and Wheat, since 1797

|           | Wheat.<br>s. d. | Barley     | Oats  | Beans. | Peas. |
|-----------|-----------------|------------|-------|--------|-------|
| 1797..... | 52 2            | —          | —     | —      | —     |
| 1798..... | 50 4            | —          | —     | —      | —     |
| 1799..... | 66 11           | —          | —     | —      | —     |
| 1800..... | 110 5           | —          | —     | —      | —     |
| 1801..... | 115 11          | 1820 67 11 | 24 9  | 43 4   | 45 11 |
| 1802..... | 67 9            | 1821 56 2  | 19 6  | 30 11  | 32 9  |
| 1803..... | 57 1            | 1822 44 7  | 18 2  | 94 6   | 26 5  |
| 1804..... | 69 5            | 1823 53 5  | 22 11 | 33 1   | 35 0  |
| 1805..... | 87 1            | 1824 64 0  | 24 10 | 40 1   | 40 8  |
| 1806..... | 76 9            | 1825 64 7  | 25 8  | 42 10  | 45 5  |
| 1807..... | 73 1            | 1826 58 9  | 26 9  | 41 3   | 47 8  |
| 1808..... | 78 11           | 1827 56 9  | 27 4  | 47 7   | 47 7  |
| 1809..... | 91 5            | 1828 60 5  | 22 6  | 38 4   | 40 6  |
| 1810..... | 103 3           | 1829 66 3  | 22 9  | 26 8   | 36 8  |
| 1811..... | 103 3           | 1830 64 3  | 24 5  | 36 1   | 39 2  |
| 1812..... | 122 8           | 1831 66 4  | 25 4  | 39 10  | 41 11 |
| 1813..... | 106 6           | 1832 58 8  | 20 6  | 35 5   | 37 0  |
| 1814..... | 72 1            | 1833 53 1  | 18 7  | 36 7   | 33 0  |
| 1815..... | 63 8            | 1834 46 2  | 20 11 | 35 3   | 39 3  |
| 1816..... | 75 2            | —          | —     | —      | —     |
| 1817..... | 94 0            | —          | —     | —      | —     |
| 1818..... | 83 8            | —          | —     | —      | —     |
| 1819..... | 72 3            | —          | —     | —      | —     |



## GRAIN IN BOND IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1st MONTH, 5th, 1834-5.

| Wheat.                                                                                | Barley.      | Oats.        | Rye.       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| 1834..694,082 qrs.                                                                    | 95,368 qrs.  | 224,331 qrs. | 5,720 qrs. |
| Peas.                                                                                 | Beans.       | Flour.       |            |
| 350 qrs.                                                                              | 37,223 qrs.  | 450,073 cwt. |            |
| Of which 44,656 qrs of Wheat, and 41,747 cwt of Flour were Colonial.                  |              |              |            |
| Wheat.                                                                                | Barley.      | Oats.        | Rye.       |
| 1835..660,440 qrs.                                                                    | 164,750 qrs. | 329,820 qrs. | 5,108 qrs. |
| Peas.                                                                                 | Beans.       | Flour.       |            |
| 9,955 qrs.                                                                            | 28,453 qrs.  | 377,968 cwt. |            |
| Of which 46,471 qrs of Wheat, 666 qrs of Oats, and 38,452 cwt. of Flour are Colonial. |              |              |            |
| Total of Grain of all kinds in Bond,                                                  |              |              |            |
| 1st Month, 5th, 1834, 1,060,008 qrs.                                                  |              |              |            |
| Ditto, do, do, do, 1835, 1,215,198 qrs.                                               |              |              |            |

## AN ACCOUNT OF THE QUANTITY OF CORN, GRAIN, MEAL, AND FLOUR, IMPORTED INTO GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND, IN THE YEARS 1827 TO 1834.

|            | Wheat.      | Barley.   | Bigg.            | Oats.          |
|------------|-------------|-----------|------------------|----------------|
|            | Qrs. Bus.   | Qrs. Bus. | Qrs. Bus.        | Qrs. Bus.      |
| 1827 ..... | 283,236 0   | 208,117 1 |                  | 1,741,091 3    |
| 1828 ..... | 715,242 6   | 169,673 0 |                  | 166,423 1      |
| 1829 ..... | 1,544,960 1 | 281,752 2 |                  | 541,938 0      |
| 1830 ..... | 1,414,262 6 | 131,715 0 |                  | 499,047 0      |
| 1831 ..... | 1,857,278 0 | 369,021 0 |                  | 617,568 3      |
| 1832 ..... | 405,884 4   | 101,147 0 |                  | 31,862 2       |
| 1833 ..... | 247,625 5   | 85,221 0  |                  | 23,335 5       |
| 1834 ..... | 131,566 3   | 87,187 5  |                  | 175,206 5      |
|            | Beans.      | Peas.     | Rye.             |                |
|            | Qrs. Bus.   | Qrs. Bus. | Qrs. Bus.        |                |
| 1827 ..... | 142,726 1   | 31,694 4  | 30 313 3         |                |
| 1828 ..... | 73,370 7    | 52,928 1  | 29,562 5         |                |
| 1829 ..... | 45,050 3    | 37,069 3  | 65,910 0         |                |
| 1830 ..... | 17,013 0    | 32,910 3  | 44,755 0         |                |
| 1831 ..... | 21,544 6    | 59,472 2  | 93,805 0         |                |
| 1832 ..... | 27,914 3    | 20,198 6  | 4,645 5          |                |
| 1833 ..... | 22,857 5    | 15,887 5  | 1,605 7          |                |
| 1834 ..... | 51,849 2    | 63,895 6  | 10 0             |                |
|            | Wheat.      | Barley.   | In. Corn or Mal. | Wh. Meal & Fl. |
|            | Qrs. Bus.   | Qrs. Bus. | Qrs. Bus.        | Cwt. Qr. lb.   |
| 1827 ..... | 9,392 1     | 154,097 4 |                  | 94,348 0 24    |
| 1828 ..... | 21,036 2    | 19,649 6  |                  | 151,038 3 8    |
| 1829 ..... | 18,400 4    | 27,022 1  |                  | 461,895 0 25   |
| 1830 ..... |             | 1,031 4   |                  | 560,249 3 2    |
| 1831 ..... | 6,521 3     | 59,232 6  |                  | 1,627,742 1 0  |
| 1832 ..... |             | 1,582 0   |                  | 224,068 3 0    |
| 1833 ..... | 33 4        | 7 1       |                  | 170,092 4 14   |
| 1834 ..... | 1 1         | 27 7      |                  | 149,554 2 14   |

## A COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE MONTHLY AVERAGE PRICE OF GRAIN, In the years 1833 and 1834.

|               | WHEAT.      | BARLEY.     | OATS.       |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|               | 1833. 1834. | 1833. 1834. | 1833. 1834. |
| s. d. s. d.   | s. d. s. d. | s. d. s. d. | s. d. s. d. |
| 1st Month ... | 52 6 48 11  | 27 9 27 11  | 17 6 18 6   |
| 2nd .....     | 52 6 48 8   | 26 7 27 1   | 16 8 18 2   |
| 3rd .....     | 52 9 47 7   | 26 9 27 3   | 16 9 18 0   |
| 4th .....     | 53 4 47 6   | 26 5 27 10  | 16 10 18 4  |
| 5th .....     | 53 8 47 8   | 25 0 28 4   | 17 4 20 0   |
| 6th .....     | 53 3 47 7   | 25 4 28 5   | 18 9 22 10  |
| 7th .....     | 55 5 48 6   | 26 1 28 10  | 19 1 23 11  |
| 8th .....     | 54 11 48 4  | 26 9 28 10  | 19 5 22 11  |
| 9th .....     | 54 3 43 7   | 29 8 29 8   | 19 10 21 10 |
| 10th .....    | 51 8 41 7   | 30 7 29 10  | 19 10 21 10 |
| 11th .....    | 51 0 42 3   | 30 9 32 6   | 19 10 21 11 |
| 12th .....    | 49 5 41 1   | 29 1 31 11  | 19 4 22 4   |
|               | BEANS.      | PEAS.       | RYE.        |
|               | 1833. 1834. | 1833. 1834. | 1833. 1834. |
| s. d. s. d.   | s. d. s. d. | s. d. s. d. | s. d. s. d. |
| 1st Month ... | 31 9 32 3   | 39 0 36 11  | 32 6 31 10  |
| 2nd .....     | 30 1 31 7   | 34 4 35 4   | 32 4 32 0   |
| 3rd .....     | 29 8 31 6   | 33 0 34 5   | 32 9 32 0   |
| 4th .....     | 30 1 32 5   | 31 8 34 4   | 31 8 31 8   |
| 5th .....     | 31 2 54 3   | 30 9 35 6   | 31 4 33 2   |
| 6th .....     | 33 1 35 10  | 33 8 39 11  | 31 6 33 0   |
| 7th .....     | 34 4 37 3   | 33 8 45 0   | 31 8 34 6   |
| 8th .....     | 35 7 37 7   | 37 4 43 7   | 33 6 35 0   |
| 9th .....     | 37 11 37 3  | 37 8 40 3   | 35 6 33 9   |
| 10th .....    | 36 0 36 9   | 41 1 40 11  | 35 1 31 9   |
| 11th .....    | 35 3 38 4   | 41 3 42 8   | 34 7 32 9   |
| 12th .....    | 34 1 37 9   | 39 6 41 10  | 33 2 32 1   |

HEREFORDSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY was numerous and respectfully attended on Monday, Feb. 2. Amongst many others were Sir G. Cornewall, Bart., Sir R. Price, and K. Hoskins, Esq., E. B. Clive, Esq., M. P., Mr. Knight, Mr. P. Jones, Mr. James Phillips, Mr. Hornyard, Mr. F. Price, Mr. Hayton, Mr. Unett, and about fifty principal yeomanry, farmers, and graziers of that and other counties. Much discussion (without the slightest allusion to political subjects) took place on various topics of agricultural interest, and Mr. Andrew Knight recommended that *less wheat* than usual be sown (where practicable) during the present depreciation of that article. The exhibition of cattle, &c. was generally considered equal to former occasions, and the successful candidates for the premiums were thus announced from the Chair:—

1. Mr. R. Tench, for the best yearling bull.
2. Mr. Walker, of Burton, for second-best yearling ditto (Mr. Yeld's being disqualified.)
3. Mr. Jones, of Breinton, for best two-year-old bull.
4. Mr. Turner, of Noke, for best three-year old ditto.
5. Mr. Thomas Yeld, for best aged ditto.
6. Miss Tomkyns, for second-best aged bull; and
7. Mr. Vevers, for best cart stallion.

The receipts for the year, 1834, in Goblets presented to the Society, and in Cup subscriptions, amounted to 94l 10s; the expenditure to 113l 8s 1d; reducing the former balance in favour of the Society to about 25l.

The stock exhibited was, as usual, from our most celebrated breeders, and the bulls and all the cattle excited general admiration.

EMIGRATION TO VIRGINIA.—The subject of emigration is one of great importance. We perceive that 50,000 acres of selected land in Virginia, adapted for this object, are to be submitted to sale by Mr. Robins. We have received what may be considered almost a work on this subject, but can only find room for the following statement of the individual to whom the conduct of the sale has been confided, and who is practically acquainted with the property itself:—"So much of deception (misapprehension perhaps would be a milder term) has been brought into the field, with a view to seduce the unlearned and the unpractised in these matters to seek an improvement in their fortunes in foreign climates, that it became an important duty with the individual who has the conduct of this sale, to scrutinize, with the eye of impartiality, every possible advantage, and compare it with the probability of a partial failure; the result is so satisfactory, that he begs most earnestly to invite each class of the community who have large and moderate means at their command, and have entertained the idea of amassing wealth in foreign climes, to give to this sale a candid, yet searching scrutiny; to weigh well every possible difficulty, and unless the mighty, moral certainty, which he has indulged in, be the result of this severe review, then, and in such case, he prays them to banish the adventure from their thoughts; if contrarywise, they feel with him, that the more it is inquired into, the brighter will be the prospect, with the certainty of realizing an independence, free from doubt and uncertainty, then he trusts they will prefer the present sale to the visionary schemes which have unluckily tempted so many thousands to their ruin. It should be remarked, by way of concluding these prefatory remarks, that in no instance are the favourable conclusions which follow, drawn from suppositious statements; sound rea-

soning is, in every instance, called to aid the moderately-estimated result of embarking successfully and largely in 'the land of promise.' The analysis and capabilities of this vast property are given in terms perfectly easy of comprehension, and apparently void of any attempt to colour the picture highly. It is, at all events, worth the consideration of every farmer, adventurer, and mechanic resolved on improving the situation of himself and family."

## COMPARATIVE PRICE OF CORN AND LABOUR IN EUROPE AND AMERICA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—Having remarked with some interest the accurate statements of the price current of corn abroad and in Great Britain occasionally exhibited in the columns of your paper, it has occurred to me that a well-substantiated account of the comparative price of labour in the same countries might give rise to correct and just views of the various points which bear upon the all-important subject of the corn laws, and tend to elucidate the advantages or disadvantages of a free trade in that great staple commodity.

I take, therefore, the present occasion to address you relative thereto, and would only premise that, having passed several years abroad in those countries which have hitherto furnished the greatest supply of corn, and having, early in life, taken much care to make myself acquainted with the influence of supplies from abroad on the interests and prosperity of Great Britain, my attention was devoted to obtain correct and general information of the value of labour in those sections of Europe and America where such immense supplies were raised.

The wheat which is sold at Riga comes principally from Russian Poland, and is placed in London in bond at the prices of 24s to 26s. The province of Lithuania, comprising that portion which lies on the river Dwina, to a great distance in the interior towards Smolensk, and the town of Viel, on the Dwina, as also that portion of Courland accessible from the same river, are the positions (independent of the coasting trade supplies) from whence the Riga wheat is drawn. The manner in which the commissariat department for obtaining those large quantities of grain is arranged is interesting, and during my residence at Riga I became acquainted with its details.

The principal dealers in grain are the merchants from the interior, chiefly Polish Jews, who, either resident in the interior themselves, or by their subordinate agents, make those arrangements with the proprietors of estates, or their factors, which insure a delivery after harvest of the amounts for which they, in Riga, contract to furnish the foreign exporting houses.

Immense amounts are thus negotiated for before the material has shown itself much above the surface of the ground.

In effecting such contracts considerable sums of money are advanced by the exporting houses in Riga to those merchants, upon their faith in the individuals who have contracted: furnished with supplies of money, the interior merchants repair to those points where the facilities of obtaining grain present the best aspect. They arrive at a time when the necessitous proprietors, and great landed nobles, are best disposed to enter into engagements, into mortgages, in fact, of their next year's revenue. It is needless here to observe the scenes of usury and rapacity which mark such an epoch. It is little known in

this country how deeply plunged in debt are the unfortunate proprietors of estates, and at what heavy sacrifices they anticipate their incomes. Whatever it may be, it results in immense profits to the interior merchants, and in many instances to the exporting houses, whose agents sometimes these men only are.

To whom, then, does the benefit of the price given accrue? Not to the landed proprietors nor to their serfs, but to the middlemen, if they can be so termed, who stand between the grower of the grain and the consumer.

The condition of the labouring classes in Lithuanian Poland is indeed deplorable. Attached as slaves of the soil, they change their masters as the estates change hands, and, ignorant of the happier condition of the rest of mankind, they drag on an existence which is only sufferable by early habit, strong power of endurance, and the degradation of their nature, in which they are thrown by the acts of their fellow-creatures.

The food of the Lithuanian peasant is coarse, but nutritious, consisting of black bread, potatoes, peas, a kind of soup or gruel, cabbage prepared with vinegar, and occasionally, though rarely, meat or butter. Their drink is water, and sometimes a kind of beer made from quassia and molasses. All the little earnings and savings of whole families could not suffice to obtain them a weekly allowance of the nefarious ardent spirits which are sold in every village, at little shops, kept by the factor of the nearest estates, through a sub-agent, or by Polish Jews, these shops answering at the same time as pawnbrokers' shops, where the filthy and coarse woollen clothing of the peasantry is occasionally pledged for 1d.; and this is the mode, and these are the means, and such is the remunerating price of labour to the peasantry and agricultural labourers of Poland! I have thus far dwelt upon the corn trade with Riga, more particularly to point out the condition of all Russia, and of all those provinces which supply her exporting cities with grain. The trade per Riga, did not otherwise merit that it should take such a conspicuous position in the present remarks. Liebau is supplied from the coast of Courland, and from the interior of that province, but the amount exported is inconsiderable, compared with other places. St. Petersburg is the great mart for Russian grain, and the exporting houses there frequently negotiate largely at Riga and Liebau. The northern provinces, and the middle provinces of European Russia supply that market. The price of St. Petersburg, Liebau, and Riga wheat, in bond, in London, is 24s. to 26s.

A better order of things fortunately exists in Prussia. Wages are higher there, or rather actual wages are obtained by the Prussian labourer. Agricultural labourers' wages amount to 3s. per week, varying still lower under that amount, as circumstances and the position of the agricultural districts may determine. They live, however, on the coarsest food—potatoes, cabbage, rye, or buck-wheat. They manufacture their own linen, and their wool is spun by their females. They are not able to indulge in two changes of clothes, but wear what they have until it is no longer useful to defend them from the weather. I was much pleased with what I saw in Prussia. There is a healthy tone of contentment and quiet in the mind of the Prussian labourer; from early habit his food is nutritious, and he takes as much satisfaction in his vegetable diet as the English labourers in bread and bacon. There, also, the remunerating price of labour is more directly received, and the labourer benefits in proportion; the profit on grain is not swallowed up by the few, but is dispersed through a more general channel. The



price of good Dantzic and Königsberg wheat, finest high mixed at London, in bond, is from 38s. to 40s. —lowest priced wheat, 28s. to 29s., the average price may be considered at 34s. At Dantzic and Königsberg, both flourishing cities, the price of labour is higher than in the interior; in summer, common labourers receive 5s. 6d. per week—in winter, 4s. 6d.

We may regard the situation of Zealand and Denmark, which also furnish considerable supplies of grain, as somewhat similar to that of Prussia. The Danish labourers in those parts of Denmark in which I have been are, perhaps, on the whole more favourably situated. Their living is somewhat better, as they possess the means of obtaining cheap fish. The country, too, is prolific, and the land yields excellent crops. The access to market is more easy, and the demand for labour greater than in Prussia, and the wages somewhat higher.

Matters assume a highly different aspect in France, both with regard to the price of wheat, the situation of individual labourers, and the remunerating price of labour. The superior condition of the French labourer is so well known that the data collected by me while there will be unnecessary to add here. At Chalons-sur-Marne, the price of wheat of the first quality is from 29s. to 30s. 6d. per quarter. At Dijon, wheat of the first quality varies from 15f. to 15f. 50c. the hectolitre; and of the second quality from 14f. 50c. to 15f., the mean price being equal to 34s. 4d. per quarter. At Nantes, the price of wheat is equal to 55s. to 57s. 6d. per quarter. At Bordeaux, wheat is from 33s. to 39s. per quarter. The wages of agricultural labourers at Bordeaux are 6s. per week; at Marseilles, day labourers get 7s. 6d. to 9s. 6d., the average price of corn in France being 33s. 6d. per quarter during 1834.

The price of Canada wheat placed in London, in bond, is 47s. to 48s. per quarter. The price of labour in Canada and the United States is high in comparison with Prussia, Denmark and France. In the interior, agricultural labourers receive little actual money; if single men, they eat with the family of the farmer; if married, they are allowed a certain amount of bacon, Indian corn, meal, and flour, which, with orders upon the adjacent stores or shops for any article of luxury which they may require, and from time to time a little money, constitute the payment they receive. The amount of labour price varies in such countries as these, according to the position in which the agricultural district may be as regards an immediate market. If a market is easily accessible, then higher wages are given, and a greater number of labourers are in demand, in consequence of the desire which the farmers or proprietors have to clear and get under cultivation their additional land. In the interior the price of labour, I perceive, by my notes, varied from 7s. to 9s. 6d. per week. This refers only to Canada and the non-slave-holding states of the United States. In the slave states, such as Virginia and North Carolina, the farmer generally estimates that his crop of Indian corn will support his family and negroes by the meal, and the hogs that are fed upon the corn and the crops of wheat are considered as nearly all clear gain. The cost of food per week for the negroes, including their clothing and usual allowance of tobacco, is about 5s. 6d. Their food consists of an unlimited supply of Indian corn, meal, and a sufficient supply of bacon or salt fish every day. I consider the condition of the negroes of Virginia and North Carolina as much preferable, in point of comfort, to that of the serfs of Russia. No instance ever came under my notice of cruel treatment towards the slave population of the United States; in fact, they are looked upon more in the

light of children, and much of that feeling seemed to exist between master and slave which can be traced in the history of the Jewish patriarchs of Scripture, and unfortunate as their situation is, divested of the rights of mankind, which ought to be inalienable, their lives pass on in apparent content and buoyancy of spirits.

The average price of wheat in England, up to October, 1834, was 43s. 2d. per quarter. The average price of agricultural labour is 10s. per week. The labourer in England is well clothed, has sufficient meat, bread, and beer, can indulge in the luxuries of tea, coffee, and sugar; and when he marries and has children, if unable to support them, they are maintained at the expense of the parish in which he is located. If he becomes maimed, indigent, or if old age overtakes him, he is provided at the public expense with a comfortable refuge from want and distress.

| Price of Grain, bond price.                                                           | Remuneration for Labour.                                        | State of the Population.                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| RUSSIA.<br>24s. to 26s. ....                                                          | { Supplied with the necessities of life of the coarsest kind. } | { Slaves, plunged in misery and ignorance. }                                                                                                                                              |
| PRUSSIA.<br>Best, 38s. to 40s. }<br>Lowest, 28s. to 29s. }                            | { 2s. 6d. per week, }<br>{ food coarse .. }                     | { Comparatively free, but in poverty and ignorance. }                                                                                                                                     |
| DENMARK.<br>24s. to 26s. ....                                                         | 3s. to 4s. per week..                                           | { The same state as in Prussia. }                                                                                                                                                         |
| FRANCE.<br>Not bonded, 33s. 6d.                                                       | 6s. per week .....                                              | { Free, and supplied with the necessities and luxuries of life. }                                                                                                                         |
| CANADA<br>and the non-slave-holding states of the United States.<br>47s. to 48s. .... | 7s to 9s 6d per week                                            | { Free and educated; abundantly supplied with the necessities and luxuries of life, and enabled to save money. }                                                                          |
| ENGLAND.<br>43s. 2d. ....                                                             | 10s. per week .....                                             | { Free and educated; supplied abundantly with the necessities of life, sparingly with luxuries, abundantly with clothing, enabled to save money, and always protected from actual want. } |

#### THE PILGRIM IN EUROPE.

STEAM NAVIGATION TO INDIA. — The following is a precise account of the time and distance occupied by the Enterprise steamer, as printed in the Minutes of Evidences taken before the Commons Committee:—The Enterprise left the land on the 16th of August, 1825, reached Calcutta on the 7th December, 1825; that was 113 days (of which she was 103 actually under weigh), from the land to Diamond Harbour; she used both sail and steam. The greatest run by sail in 24 hours was 211 miles; the least, 39; the greatest by steam, assisted by sail, 225 miles; the least, 80. The greatest heat in the engine-room during the voyage was 105 degrees; the air at the same time being 84½ degrees. The total distance was 13,700 miles, and the consumption 580 chaldrons of coals, being nine chaldrons per day for 64 days, the rest being under sail; the engines were 120 horse power, the speed of the engine in calm weather was eight knots an hour, the log giving nine from the wash of the paddles."

## ON THE ABUSE OF THE POWER OF DISTRESS FOR RENT.

MR. EDITOR—In addition to the useful and appropriate observations made by your Correspondent in your last number of "The Farmer's Magazine" on this important subject, I beg permission to be allowed to add my mite of information in many cases where it not only operates to the disadvantage of the landlord, but to the utter ruin of the tenant. I mean with respect to the very oppressive and expensive mode adopted on distrains for rent above 20*l*.

For the recovery of rents not exceeding 20*l*., the legislature has adopted a very salutary measure, making it penal on the landlord, his bailiff, broker, or any other person, if he exact from the tenant any other costs than are set forth in the schedule of an Act passed in the year 1817. The schedule of that Act is on a moderate and fair scale. I have inclosed you a copy of this Statute. You will no doubt think with me that it is worthy of more notoriety. Will you, therefore, do me the favour, for the public good, to insert it *verbatim* at the foot of this letter.

In distrains for rent above 20*l*. the tenant is still left to the mercy of the landlord, or rather to the merciless harpies employed by him; for if landlords in general were better informed of the cruelties and waste of property inflicted and incurred by brokers, sheriffs' officers, and bailiffs' followers, authorized by landlords to recover arrears of rent, they would be more circumspect who they employ for these purposes; and they would be more anxiously solicitous to constrain their underlings to dispose of property taken in distress to better advantage than is generally observed.

Within my experience in business I could give a catalogue of barbarities exercised against tenants which would startle those who have not contemplated the abuses of this necessary power. When I say *necessary power*, I mean when properly qualified and restricted.

A person occupying a tavern in the borough of Southwark was in arrear with his landlord, less than 50*l*. for a quarter's rent. His stock in trade and furniture had been twelve months before valued to him at nearly 400*l*. as incoming tenant. He was distrained upon for this small sum. The broker had ingenuity enough to procure two other men of the same trade, his public-house companions to value the property distrained (which, in fact, was the whole stock and furniture) at about 75*l*. The whole property was accordingly condemned at that sum, being the amount of the rent and expenses. Five vans were employed to convey this ill-fated property to its new and more wealthy, but less honest, owner, to the dismay and ruin of the tenant.

Another case occurred to a grocer in my neighbourhood, whose property, to nearly the same amount, was sacrificed for the payment of a still smaller amount of arrears of rent; but with this difference, instead of the brokers taking the goods at their own condemned price, the property was disposed of at an auction room, with the colour only of publicity to cover a sham sale.

Thus were the tenants ruined, the premises much dilapidated by the hasty removal of fixtures, &c., and the landlords lost their tenants.

If less severity had been shewn, they would no doubt have surmounted their difficulties, instead of being now in a state of pauperism.

To remedy these unjust proceedings, I would propose that the expenses of distrains for rent

above 20*l*. should also be limited by a schedule of moderate fees; and that in cases where goods are appraised and condemned by brokers the tenant should have a few days *breathing time* allowed to redeem his property, over and above the five days given for replevy.

The public would derive another advantage by an alteration in the law of landlord and tenant, if the period for distraining for arrears of rent was limited.

At present a landlord and tenant may collude to defeat *bona fide* creditors from recovering their just demands, under the pretext that there are several years rent in arrear.

Equal justice seems to require that the power of distraint for rent in arrear should be limited to six months, leaving the landlord to his remedy by action, in common with other creditors, for the recovery of his rent beyond that period.

Much fraud against creditors in general would thus be prevented.

Your most obedient servant,  
AMICUS.

## AN ACT TO REGULATE THE COSTS OF DISTRESSES LEVIED FOR PAYMENT OF SMALL RENTS.

[July, 10, 1817.]

WHEREAS divers persons acting as brokers, and distraining on the goods and chattels of others, or employed in the course of such distresses, have of late made excessive charges, to the great oppression of poor tenants and others, and it is expedient to check such practices; be it therefore enacted by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lord's Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that from and after the passing

No person making any distress for rent, where the sum due shall not exceed 20*l*., to take other charges than mentioned in the Schedule annexed;

of this Act no person whatsoever making any distress for rent, where the sum demanded and due shall not exceed the sum of twenty pounds for and in respect of such rent, nor any person whatsoever employed in any manner in making such distress, or doing any act whatsoever in the course of such distress, or for carrying the same into effect, shall have, take or receive, out of the produce of the goods or chattels distrained upon and sold, or from the tenant distrained on, or from the landlord, or from any other person whatsoever, any other or more costs and charges for and in respect of such distress, or any matter or thing done therein, than such as are fixed and set forth in the schedule hereunto annexed, and appropriated to each act which shall have been done in the course of such distress; and no person

nor to charge for any act not done.

or persons whatsoever shall make any charge whatsoever for any act, matter, or thing mentioned in the said schedule, unless such act shall have really been done.

Party aggrieved by any such practice may apply to Justice of the peace.

II. And be it further enacted, that if any person or persons whatsoever shall in any manner levy, take, or receive from any person or persons whatsoever, or retain or take from the produce of any goods sold for the payment of such rent, any other or greater costs and charges than are mentioned and set down in the said schedule, or make any charge whatsoever for any act, matter, or thing mentioned in the said schedule,



and not really done, it shall be lawful for the party or parties aggrieved by such practices to apply to any one Justice of the peace for the county, city, town, and acting for the division where such distress shall have been made or in any manner proceeded in, for the redress of his, her, or their grievance so occasioned; whereupon such Justice shall summon the person or persons complained of to appear before him at a reasonable time to be fixed in such summons; and such Justice shall examine into the matter of such complaint by all legal ways and means,

Justice may adjudge treble the amount of the monies unlawfully taken to be paid, with costs, which may be levied by distress.

and also hear in like manner the defence of the person or persons complained of; and if it shall appear to such Justice that the person or persons complained of shall have levied, taken, received, or had other and greater costs and charges than are mentioned or fixed in the schedule hereunto annexed, or made any charge for any matter or thing mentioned in the said schedule, such matter, or thing not having been really done, such justice shall order and adjudge treble the amount of the monies so unlawfully taken to be paid by the person or persons so having acted to the party or parties who shall thus have preferred his, her, or their complaint thereof, together with full costs; and in case of nonpayment of any monies or costs so ordered and adjudged to be paid, such Justice shall forthwith issue his warrant to levy the same by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the party or parties ordered to pay such monies or costs, rendering the overplus (if any) to the owner or owners, after the payment of the charges of such distress and sale; and in case no sufficient distress can be had, such Justice shall by warrant under his hand commit the party or parties to the common gaol or prison within the limits of the jurisdiction of such Justice, and there remain until such order or judgment be satisfied.

Justices may summon witnesses.

III. And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, that it shall be lawful for such Justice, at the request of the party complaining or complained against, to summon all persons as witnesses, and to administer an oath to them, touching the matter of such complaint or defence against it; and if any person or persons so summoned shall not obey such summons, without any reasonable or lawful excuse, or refuse to be examined upon oath, or if a quaker upon solemn affirmation, then every such person so offending shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding forty shillings, to be ordered, levied, and paid in such manner, and by such means, and with such power of commitment as is herein-before directed as to such order and judgment to be given between the party or parties in the original complaint, excepting so far as regards the form of the order, and hereinafter provided for.

If complaint unfounded, Justice may give costs to the party complained against.

IV. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for such Justice, if he shall find that the complaint of the party or parties aggrieved is not well founded, to order and adjudge costs, not exceeding twenty shillings, to be paid to the party or parties complained against, which order shall be carried into effect, and levied and paid in such manner, and with like power of commitment, as is herein-before directed as to the order and judgment founded on such original complaint; pro-

No judgment to be given against the landlord, unless he personally levies the distress.

shall have personally levied such distress; provided always, that no person or persons who shall be aggrieved by any distress for rent, or by any proceedings had in the course thereof, or by any costs and charges levied upon them in respect of the same, shall be barred from any legal or other suit or remedy which he, she, or they might have had before the passing of this Act, excepting so far as any complaint to be preferred by virtue of this Act shall have been determined by the order and judgment of the Justice before whom it shall have been heard and determined; and which order and judgment shall and may be given in evidence, under the plea of the general issue, in all cases where the matter of such complaint shall be made the subject of any action.

Parties not to be barred of other legal remedies.

Signature of the justice proof of judgment.

V. And be it further enacted, that such orders and judgments on such complaint shall be made in the form in the schedule hereunto annexed, and may be proved before any court by proof of the signature of the Justice to such order and judgment; and such orders as regard persons who may have been summoned as witnesses shall be made in such form as to such justices shall seem most fit and convenient.

Brokers to give copies of their charges to the persons distrained.

VI. And be it further enacted, that every broker or other person who shall make and levy any distress whatsoever, shall give a copy of his charges, and of all the costs and charges of any distress whatsoever, signed by him, to the person or persons on whose goods and chattels any distress shall be levied, although the amount of the rent demanded shall exceed the sum of twenty pounds.

Printed copy of Act to be hung up in Sessions House.

VII. And be it further enacted, that a fair printed copy of this Act shall be hung up in some convenient place in such halls or rooms where the Justices of each and every county in England and Wales shall hold either their quarter or other sessions.

#### SCHEDULE referred to in this Act.

FORM of the order and judgment of the Justice before whom the complaint is preferred, where the order and judgment is for the complainant.

In the matter of the complaint of *A. B.* against *C. D.* for a breach of the provisions of an Act of the fifty-seventh year of his Majesty King George the third, intituled *an Act [here insert the title of this Act,]* *I, E. F.,* a justice of the peace for the county of \_\_\_\_\_ and acting within the division of \_\_\_\_\_ do order and adjudge that the said *C. D.* shall pay to *A. B.* the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ as a compensation and satisfaction for unlawful charges and costs levied and taken from the said *A. B.* under a distress for rent; and the further sum of \_\_\_\_\_ for costs on this complaint.

(Signed) *E. F.*

FORM of the order and judgment of the Justice, where he dismisses the complaint as unfounded, and with or without costs, as the case may be.

IN the matter of the complaint of *A. B.* against *C. D.* for the breach of the provisions of an Act of the fifty-seventh year of his Majesty King George the third, intituled an Act [here insert the title of this Act,] *I, E. F.*, a Justice of the peace for the county of \_\_\_\_\_ and acting within the division of \_\_\_\_\_ do order and adjudge that the complaint of the said *A. B.* is unfounded; [if costs are given] and I do further order and adjudge that the said *A. B.* shall pay unto the said *C. D.* the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ for costs.

(Signed) *E. F.*

SCHEDULE of the limitation of costs and charges on distresses for small rents.

|                                                                                                                   | £ | s. | d. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----|----|
| Levying distress .....                                                                                            | 0 | 3  | 0  |
| Man in possession, per day .....                                                                                  | 0 | 2  | 6  |
| Appraisement, whether by one broker or more, sixpence in the pound on the value of the goods.                     |   |    |    |
| Stamp, the lawful amount thereof.                                                                                 |   |    |    |
| All expences of advertisements, if any such .....                                                                 | 0 | 10 | 0  |
| Catalogues, sale and commission, and delivery of goods, one shilling in the pound on the net produce of the sale. |   |    |    |

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "MORNING HERALD."

Sir,—The culture of the vine has justly been considered one of the most important objects of gardening, and men of all grades in the art, and from the most remote period, have strenuously endeavoured to excel; but the palm of excellence ought, perhaps, to be awarded to Speechly, the justly famous gardener at Welbeck, who died at an advanced age, in the year 1820. But great as was his fame, and much as he has taught us, by his celebrated "Treatise on the Culture of the Vine," it is notorious that very great improvements have recently been effected, one of which is the *successful propagation of the vine in pots*. Many persons have endeavoured to throw a doubt upon the fact—they have argued that a plant which propels its roots to so great an extent in the open borders, cannot be expected to succeed when confined to the small limits of a pot. But as the argument is fallacious, so it is misplaced, inasmuch as the two methods of cultivation have different objects in view—that in the open border is calculated to produce successive crops, at certain definite periods; while pot-culture, on the contrary, is intended to procure a supply of the finest fruit, at any period of the year, from plants constantly renewable. My limits will not now permit me to enter into minute detail; but as I have witnessed and proved the facts which it is the object of this letter to advocate, I am particularly bound to advert to a new method of raising vines, which has recently been announced by one of the first grape-growers in the kingdom. It is no less remarkable than true, that Welbeck is the site of this great improvement, and to Mr. Mearns, the present gardener to his Grace the Duke of Portland, we are indebted for its publication.

I am perfectly aware that the inventor has com-

municated his mode of culture to the Horticultural Society, and also to the Editors of two or three of the periodicals, but numbers of persons may not have seen or heard of it; and as I have been favoured by direct information from Mr. Mearns himself, I have seen and possessed several specimens of vines produced by him, and have proved the facts by my own experiments, I am called upon to give them all the publicity I can, and I know not how to do this more effectually than through the medium of your most influential columns.

The practice in question has for its object, indeed, the perpetual production of *forced* grapes; it therefore requires artificial heat in the first instance, but it prospectively includes the production of perfect vines either for the vinery, the stove, the greenhouse, or the exposed wall. No mode of operating can be more effectual or more comprehensive. I cannot now enlarge, especially as at no distant period an opportunity may be afforded me to describe particularly the cultivation of vines in pots; but I shall at present content myself by referring to a few heads of the process communicated to me by Mr. Mearns himself, so long back as the summer of 1833. A bunch of grapes was finely swelled off from a cutting of the same sprig; this was a *Muscat*. Another was obtained from a black Tripoli; a third, from a black Damascus. The cuttings alluded to were branches, 5 to 10 or 20 feet long, coiled round the inside of a pot, which was then filled with a good compost, "leaving from three, four, six, to ten feet above the soil, mossing the stem, and keeping it moist to prevent evaporation." After the buds expanded and the grapes set, the moss was removed, and the roots that were matted therein were cut off; the pots were plunged into some material which furnished bottom heat.

The vegetable physiologist will, in these few hints, obtain abundant matter for mental reflections; he will recollect, however, that, in these incipient experiments, there were no roots to the branches when they were coiled; roots, buds, fruit, and branches, were produced within the short period of a few weeks from the commencement of the operation. The experiment has since been carried to a far greater extent: and it has been proved beyond a doubt, that vines bearing fruit may be formed by one process, and that, by another, vines may be prepared for the next season, which cannot fail to yield from eight or ten, to thirty or forty fine bunches of grapes each.

The tree, to the physiological botanist, is one of great interest; the internal structure of the stem is peculiar, and its anatomy presents objects of singular microscopic beauty. Its flower and fruit are produced in clusters; the former are of a pale greenish colour; calyx of five parts, or segments; corolla deciduous; stamens five; germen with a small obtuse stigma, succeeded by a round or oval berry, enclosing five seeds, some of which are often abortive. These characters are correct, but not sufficiently explicit. The corolla is lifted off upwards by the expanding stamens, and it appears as though it was divided upwards: in fact, while seated on the flower it seems to act as a veil or hood (calyptra). The blossoms, when the stamens are released, and the farina formed, emit a delicious odour, somewhat approaching to that of mignonette.

The Vine (*Vitis Vinifera*) is the type of the natural order Vineræ.

I am, Sir, your's, very respectfully,

THE AUTHOR OF THE "DOMESTIC GARDENER'S MANUAL."



# MONETARY SYSTEM—THE CAUSE OF OUR NATIONAL AND PRESENT DERANGEMENTS — DEFICIENCY OF NATIONAL CAPITAL, &c.

Mr. Editor,—In addressing myself to you on the general state of trade, manufactures, agriculture, and finances of this country, and the capital necessarily required to carry on so vast and important national concerns, you must be fully aware, cannot (nor, indeed, is it necessary) be explained to that nicety of amount and value, so desirable on questions or statements of so much consequence to every class of society, from the peer of the realm to the humblest mechanic and labourer of the country; but particularly to those classes of society who hold the destinies of the country in their hands as a sacred trust, confided to them by the people of England—our legislators—whose duty it is to devise and maintain a just equilibrium of the affairs of the country and of society, to the great end of securing to every man those privileges and blessings of equal laws and comforts, to which they are so justly entitled at the hands of a well-regulated and liberal government, professing to legislate for a free people, whose misery and degradation now begin to assume a more serious aspect than, what I fear, is contemplated by the legislature or the government. These certainly are not times for delusion to be practised upon the country. Assertions of national prosperity so often and so repeatedly re-echoed in both Houses of Parliament, are a delusion no more to be believed by the people—pompous displays of the increasing produce of taxation have been, and are still, held up to the country, as the evidence of its increasing wealth and happiness, whilst the converse of the assertion is the fact. England, with her well-paid standing armies—an highly eulogised and enlightened nobility—an upright and active magistracy—a zealous and conscientious clergy, &c., I maintain, are not signs of our increasing wealth, but of our increasing poverty and pauperism: and these are the instruments in the hands of the government, periodically reiterated to blind the people into a belief that they are happy and prosperous too.

I feign would ask these wealth-increasing classes, what are the products of their hands? Is it possible to calculate their value to the state, except that they are all living in affluence and ease at the fountain of industry, while the people, who raise all and pay all, present a widely different picture for contemplation in their wretchedness and sorrow?

With the gloomy and portentous prospect before them of the operations and mighty benefits of the Poor Law Amendment Bill, which at once gives the lie to these reiterated displays of our national prosperity, while it degrades the people who have been pauperised by the system into every species of wretchedness.

It is not my duty or province, voluntarily or officiously to advance any propositions, either for obtaining the desired equilibrium or preventing the sad and portentous consequences which must necessarily and inevitably follow the existing and acknowledged derangements of the country. They are now great and extensive. First, in the monetary system, brought upon the nation by repeated tamperings with the currency. In the train of which have followed all the derangements of our agricultural pursuits, low wages and pauperism, with a continued drain upon the farmers of high rental, taxation, poor levies, &c. The same evil effects are as keenly felt in every department of our manufactures, trade, labour, &c., all of which are merging to that state of poverty too serious

to pass unnoticed, and too portentous not to create alarm. But the wise men of the land (our legislators) must, ere long, both open their eyes and their ears to the existing derangements of the country, or themselves sink into its ruin. Nothing calls so loudly for their serious attention as the monetary system, which is too limited or contracted for all the purposes of a mercantile and agricultural nation like England. Hence arise all the derangements, the bankruptcies, and ruin, caused by the want of a well-regulated currency, which the Parliament have the means of creating, by its own powers, to meet all the existing demands and energies of the people, by the establishment of a national bank, the profits of which might be made available to the nation in the liquidation of the debt, and the payment of its other demands; so that the present system of taxation and other burdens might be greatly reduced, and the people relieved from that continued stress upon their property and industry to an extent both honourable to the government and satisfactory to the nation.

I am, and I believe every man is perfectly aware, that the present capital of the country, that is, the amount of the circulating medium, is far too limited or small for the mighty extent of British speculations and industry. And, to establish the fact, only on the supposition, that, in the first place—

|                                                                    |              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. The agricultural annual produce of the country amounts to ..... | £200,000,000 |
| 2. The annual produce and value of our manufactures .....          | 300,000,000  |
| 3. The annual taxes of the government .....                        | 45,000,000   |
| 4. Clergy and poor .....                                           | 14,000,000   |
| 5. Rental of the land, 46 million acres, at 30s. per acre .....    | 69,000,000   |
| 6. Rental of the houses of the country .....                       | 69,000,000   |
| 7. The ship-owners .....                                           | 8,000,000    |
| 8. The mortgagers, &c. ....                                        | 10,000,000   |
|                                                                    | <hr/>        |
|                                                                    | £713,000,000 |

Besides other transactions requiring the aid of money, such as mining, internal navigation, steam vessels, railways, turnpikes, coach and waggon conveyances, &c., supposing the whole amount to be 800,000,000*l.*, as a total. I shall now appeal to the calculator, the merchant, tradesman, land proprietors, and the government itself, to know whether the present national capital, as a metallic circulating medium of 30,000,000*l.* in specie, and 20,000,000*l.* of paper, Bank of England and local, in amount 50,000,000*l.*, is sufficient to meet all the exigencies of the country?—but particularly to enable the merchants and tradesmen to meet their bills of exchange at two and three months' date, to the annual amount of many millions, not very readily to be calculated or guessed at. Suppose 200,000,000*l.*, available in cash, when due; that is, every such two and three months. It must appear obvious to every man that so small a capital is quite inadequate to carry on the concerns of the country—hence all our national derangements and present ruin. Trusting the remedy may not come too late from the hands of the government and legislature, &c., I remain your's, &c.

Nottingham, Nov. 3, 1834.

J. C.

## AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT GOOLE.

A very numerous and highly respectable meeting of land-owners, occupiers, and inhabitants within the extensive district of the Goole Agricultural Association, was, pursuant to advertisement, held at Goole, on Wednesday, February 4th, to take

into consideration the expediency of addressing petitions to the King and to the two Houses of Parliament, for improving the condition of the agricultural population: John Egremont, Esq., in the chair; when the following resolutions were unanimously adopted, viz.—

That this meeting sees with extreme regret the continuance of agricultural distress, especially as that distress has rather increased than decreased within the last year. That although a duty upon the admission of foreign grain is absolutely necessary for the protection of British agriculturists, such a duty is in itself insufficient to maintain their produce at such a price as will enable them to pay their taxes, rents, and parochial rates, out of the annual profits of farming. That for the payment of the present taxation and local burdens, prices materially higher than those at present obtained are indispensably necessary, and that no reasonable prospect of obtaining such prices can be entertained, so long as Sir Robert Peel's bill for regulating cash payments remains in full force. That for the present a petition, grounded on the above resolutions, be addressed only to the King: waiting for his Majesty's speech, on the opening of the ensuing session, upon which may be grounded other petitions to the two Houses of Parliament. That the petition to his Majesty now read be adopted, and forthwith signed and presented. And that (the business of the day being closed, and the chair vacated,) the thanks of this meeting be given to John Egremont, Esq., for his able and impartial conduct in the chair.

#### COPY OF THE PETITION.

*To the King's most excellent Majesty.*

Sire,—We, your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, owners and cultivators of land in the vicinity of Goole, in the county of York, wish to express our sincere thanks to your Majesty for having, in your address to Parliament, at the opening of the last session, most graciously called its attention to the distress of the agricultural interest. We, however, at the same time, feel called upon to express our great disappointment that your Majesty's most gracious recommendation to Parliament did not meet with the attention from the legislature which we conceive it deserved, and that no efficient measures for abating our distresses have been adopted. Great as were our privations and sufferings at the opening of the last session of Parliament, we feel that we ought not to conceal from your Majesty the fact that they have been progressively increasing from that period down to the present, and that, in consequence of the change in the value of the currency, the decrease of taxation, as far as related to our interest, is merely nominal. We, therefore, humbly implore your Majesty once more graciously to direct the attention of Parliament to our steadily increasing distress. We are, &c.

#### DEVON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Annual General Meeting of the Members of this Society was held at the Society's Rooms, Exeter, on Tuesday, February 3.

S. TREHAWKE KEKEWICH, Esq., took the Chair, and, previous to the commencement of the ordinary business, presented to the meeting a beautiful specimen of the Cashmere Goat's Wool, as imported from Alexandria; of which goat's Mehemet Ali has a large flock in Egypt, which he clips twice a year. The wool is exceedingly soft and fine, of a white colour, very long, and much resembling silk. The honourable gentleman also presented a

fine specimen of the common goat's wool, as imported from Alexandria, of which kind Mehemet Ali has an immense flock, which are also clipped twice a year. This wool is of a dark brown colour, very soft, but short, and not so fine as the Cashmere. These specimens, which attracted much interest, were kindly given to Mr. Kekewich to be laid before the Society, by W. Collyns, Esq., of Kenton.

#### ACCOUNTS.

The accounts for the last year were read, and there appeared a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of 17. 6d. on the year. It appeared that upon the three years from the commencement of the Society, there is a balance due on arrears of subscriptions not paid, of the large sum of 429. 19s. 6d., deducting the arrear of 10l. for a donation.

In conformity with the 5th rule of the Society, 12 members of the General Committee went out of office, and 12 new ones were appointed as follows: J. Sillifant, jun., Esq., H. B. Pennell, Esq., Captain T. L. Lewis, J. Yarde, Esq., Jos. Davey, Esq., Messrs. J. Gould, Upham, Elliott, Beare, Cockram, Pile, and Sharland.

#### PREMIUMS.

The CHAIRMAN said before this question was proceeded with, he was desirous of stating that he had heard that persons in other parts of the county had raised great objections to the restrictions as to the feeding of sheep; they objected to the restriction of green food, and wished it to be left open to every one to feed his sheep in whatever manner he pleased, for the purpose of increasing their fatness and making them look as well as he could for the exhibition. He was not himself of this opinion, as he considered the restriction to green food ought to be continued, which he believed to be the opinion of most of the practical agriculturists connected with the Society; he thought it right, however, to mention the circumstance for their consideration.

Mr. JOHN DREWE said there was a very great objection to removing the restriction, as feeding with corn was most injurious to rams.

The CHAIRMAN said, he understood from the gentlemen who had principally stated the circumstance to him, that the objection was raised for the purpose of removing any jealousy or suspicion as to the manner in which the sheep had really been fed: it was thought if it were thrown open, all that feeling would be obviated. It would be desirable if this could be obviated, but he was of opinion the restriction was essential.

Mr. T. HUSSEY considered if the restriction to green food was removed, it would defeat the principal object of the Society. The sheep were quite fat enough, and even too fat already, on green food; if this was altered, and other feeding allowed, the county would be deprived of some of their best sheep, which would be rendered useless by over-feeding.

Several others present expressed their dissent to the alteration being made, and the rule was ordered to stand as before.

It was then announced by the Secretary, that the first exhibition for the present year would be the third Tuesday in May, being the 19th of May, the day previous to the Exeter Fair; and the second exhibition on Thursday, 5th of November.

#### NEW PREMIUM.

Mr. HUSSEY having pointed out the advantages which would arise from encouragement being given for the Stock produced by the Society's Horse,



Mr. KEKEWICH expressed his concurrence, and said, in order to meet that object, he would give an annual premium of *Five Guineas*—(cheers) for the best colt from the stock of the horse *Elephant*; the prize to be a piece of plate of the above value, with a suitable inscription.

Mr. YARDE moved, and several members seconded the motion, that the best thanks of the meeting be given to Mr. Kekewich for his very handsome offer, and that it be accepted,—which was carried by acclamation. It was suggested that the colts should be from half-bred mares only, but this part was left to be arranged by Mr. Kekewich and Mr. Hussey.

On the motion of Sir THOMAS ACLAND, seconded by Mr. SILLIVANT, it was resolved that the Yearling Bull winning the Sillivant Prize should be disqualified from winning either of the other Prizes, but the mere entering for the Sillivant Prize not to disqualify from competing for the others also.—And while upon this subject, Sir THOMAS said, that he wished not to prevent others from preceding him in so good a race, but if none more worthy stepped forward, he should be most happy next year to stand in the shoes of his hon. friend Mr. Sillivant, and as his successor in his turn present the Society with TEN GUINEAS, to be appropriated as a Premium for the Yearling Bull, precisely in the same way as had been observed in the appropriation of that of his hon. friend.—This was received, as the intimation of Mr. Kekewich had been, with a burst of applause.

Mr. SILLIVANT in a very able address, pointed out the advantages of the allotment system, and urged its extension, in conformity with the professed objects of the institution.

Mr. KEKEWICH concurred in all that Mr. Sillivant had so well said on the subject; and Dr. MILLER suggested that the Society should offer two medals: one as at present, and the other confining the allotment to one parish; which was unanimously agreed to, with this reservation, that the same person should not be entitled to both.

On the motion of Mr. KEKEWICH, a letter of thanks was directed to be sent to William Collyns, Esq., Kenton, for the specimens of Egyptian Wool with which he had furnished the meeting.

The Committee Meetings are in future to commence at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, instead of two in the afternoon.

There were in the room specimens of both White and Red Potatoes, raised from seed by the Rev. John Huyshe, at Clysthydon.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE MARK LANE EXPRESS.

Mr. Editor,—In your observations on the repeal of the Malt Duty, in your paper of the 9th inst., you say it will materially benefit the farmer, yet you allow it will not advance the price of Barley; how, therefore, can it benefit him? Only in the opportunity he will have to malt his grain, and that most likely in a very imperfect manner, if done at home, and dried in an oven, as no doubt many would do; to the poor man, also, it would amount to but little benefit as you, I am sure, are aware the sum reduced would be only 2s. 7d. per bushel; whereas you now say it would be bought for 3s. 9d. to 4s. per bushel, malt being now 8s. 6d. per bushel, retail. If so, you would injure the farmer, as the malt could not exceed 32s. per quarter, retail price; barley, therefore, would be 30s per quarter, and under for inferior qualities, when, now, with the duty, it averages

nearly 40s. per quarter for malting. Again, if the Malt Duty is repealed, it would only reduce the price of beer one halfpenny per quart, as the estimated quantity of beer, taking all the qualities together, amount to 3½ barrels per quarter; such is the quantity allowed in making the excise average for the charging brewers' licences; this quantity divided into the 20s. 8d, the malt duty, per quarter, leaves nearly 6s., per barrel reduction, or one halfpenny per quart. Should the price of barley advance, which I have little doubt it would, at least for a time, the reduction could not be carried out as permanent unless the brewers or publicans were losers; so that the principle persons, who would be actually benefited by the reduction of the malt duty to any amount worth notice, would be the gentleman or nobleman, who wet his 100 quarters per annum, and who, as landlord, would also reap the advantage of the higher price of the barley, in having his rents better paid, or his backward dues cleared off. The real consumer would be so little advantaged, and the licence so much reduced, that I apprehend it being held out to the farmer as a relief, would prove but little to him; if it is considered to press so heavily with the untoward circumstances of bad seasons, which, thanks to kind Providence! we have not lately experienced. Let the farmer be so reduced in his rent, and let the cottager have the advantage of a few rods of land to cultivate as a garden, these things done would give more solid advantage than the repeal of the malt duty. Previous to the repeal of the beer duty (which was indeed obnoxious, as falling only on those who could not brew at home), the amount of malt used, on an average of years, in private houses, would, if made into beer by the public brewer, and paid the duty of 10s. per barrel, have amounted to nearly 1,000,000l. per annum, which sum was actually left in the pockets of all those nobles, and gentlemen, and those who could brew at home; whereas all those who were obliged to buy of the public brewer were paying 3½ millions per annum as beer duty. Should you be disposed to put the matter in a fair light before your numerous readers, you will find room for these observations, and I shall be very happy to see the farmer and the poor man both benefited in a more substantial manner than by the reduction of 2s. 7d. per bushel from malt. Remaining yours,

February 11.

A CONSTANT READER.

**SUPERSTITION.**—A scene of the most ludicrous and gross superstition took place lately at Perth. A wealthy old farmer having lost several of his cattle by some disease very prevalent at present, and being able to account for it in no way so rationally as by witchcraft, had recourse to the following remedy, recommended to him by a weird sister in his neighbourhood as an effectual provocation from the attacks of the foul fiend. A few stones were piled together in the barn-yard, and wood and coals having been laid thereon, the fuel was ignited by fire obtained by friction. The neighbours having been called in to witness the solemnity, the cattle were made to pass through the flames in the order of their dignity and age, commencing with the horses and ending with the swine. The ceremony having been duly gone through, a neighbouring farmer observed to the enlightened owner of the herd, that he, along with his family, ought to have followed the example of the cattle, and "the sacrifice to Baal" would have been complete.

## CORN LAWS.

MR. EDITOR,

On the Corn Question, as on all other comprehensive subjects, much may be fairly urged on either side; and some advantage on the score of Foreign Trade, might be shown pretty clearly to attend a less restrictive policy in the importation of corn, but the question is, would it or would it not be overbalanced by disadvantages another way?

The value of an export trade should be estimated not by itself, but in conjunction with home consumption; a falling off in the latter might more than counterbalance an increase of the former; at any rate very little direct trade in manufactured goods would be likely to take place with the corn countries, the chief of which are Russia, Poland, and the North of Germany; our low prices could not have much influence when their own manufactures are protected by duties or prohibition, for as our prices were reduced their protection and vigilance would be increased; and, admitting that our goods might be received without restriction, in what state is the great bulk of the population there, as to the taste for or the capability of purchasing our manufactures? The former, no doubt, might be acquired, but the latter must be a work of very many years, as regards Russia and Poland: our purchases of corn would enrich the nobles and great landed proprietors, without much ameliorating the condition of the inhabitants generally; and if it were otherwise, we should have first to enrich those countries, and to take our chance of drawing back the money afterwards, and besides if it were wished to establish foreign manufactures in opposition to our own, could any way be devised so likely to promote such an object, as by throwing capital into foreign hands?

With respect to the protection for the home growth of corn, I do not pretend to fix the precise amount; but it should be such as would make us, or keep us, a great corn producing nation.

The great object never to be lost sight of, is, to give such protection as will, in average seasons, insure the produce of the bulk of what we consume; thereby to preserve within ourselves the most effective means of national independence. It may be asked, how does the more free admission of foreign corn interfere with this proposition? I answer by throwing land out of cultivation. To this it may be replied, let landlords reduce their rents, and cultivation will go on as before—but what is rent? It is clearly the proceeds of produce from land over and above paying wages, taxes, tithes, poor-rates, and all other charges that land is subject to; no other rent can be sustained: the capital of tenants on lease may for a time give something more, but this must be very limited both in amount and duration. I will endeavour to shew more clearly by an example, how low prices would throw land out of cultivation.

You occupy one hundred acres of land, which, with great care and good management affords you and all others employed upon it, a maintenance, with a surplus of 15s. an acre for the landlord, there is another farm near at hand, of the same quantity of better land, more productive and requiring less labour, for which you can afford to pay 40s. per acre and you hire it at that rent; now let the prices of farm produce be so reduced by the competition with foreign grain, that you can only afford to pay 25s. an acre for the better land, what becomes of the other farm? Is it not

obvious, that it cannot be kept in tillage? Consequently, the labourers that had been employed upon it must be thrown out of work, and cast as a burthen upon the better land; and the evil may go on increasing till our agricultural population may become one general mass of paupers. This of course is assuming that foreign grain would in the first instance cause a reduction in prices, for if it had not that effect, its introduction could not attain the commercial results that are contended for.

Having shown that home growth must decline under foreign competition, it becomes a serious question whether prices would long continue low, after the home supply had materially fallen off? It is more than probable prices would be frequently much higher than they have been under the present system, for we have seen an advance in cotton from 6d to 18d per pound, caused by speculation set on foot by reports industriously circulated, (with very little foundation) of an expected scarcity; and let us consider how much more powerfully men's minds would be acted upon if such reports were so applied to bread corn; and should we have to encounter a real scarcity instead of a fictitious one, the very thought of it is appalling.

MERCATOR.

## ENGLAND FIVE CENTURIES SINCE.

There is in Pinkerton's collection an account of Gonzali's voyage to England in 1330. He speaks highly of the air of Suffolk. Norwich he states thirty years back was computed to contain 50,000 inhabitants. It is curious to observe with what curious eyes different persons travel. Westmoreland he describes as a filthy marshy country, and pities the poor inhabitants; and Don Bank, on the banks of the Don, he characterizes as the best feeding ground in England. The description of London and the manners of its inhabitants is highly curious. He speaks of the sumptuous houses inhabited by persons of quality in Queen-street and Queen-square, Westminster. As much good white bread, he says, may be bought for 1½d. or 2d. as will serve an Englishman a day; good strong beer may be had of the brewer at 2d, and at the alehouses at 3d. per quart. Port wine he values at 2s the quart, or 18l to 20l the hogshead; and French wines, from the duty, double the price. A coach and pair of horses, 10s the day; a sculler 3d for two miles; a good horse lets for 4s a day, an ordinary one for 2s 6d; a hunter for the city hounds, with liberty of hunting an English chase once a week in the season, accompanied by many young gentlemen and tradesmen, at 5s per day. He speaks of meeting in the coffee houses after dinner at four; and again all the gay world get abroad after dinner; between four and five in their gayest equipages, bound to plays, operas, masquerades, concerts, &c. Houses of parliament meet at noon. The post comes in every other day. The two houses commonly sit from nine till one, but on urgent occasions do protract their sitting, and do business by candle-light.—*Gentleman's Magazine*.

A person in Augsburg has discovered a mode of making from potatoes sugar, wine, vinegar, beer, and a pure distilled spirit convertible into rum and brandy. The remains of the potatoe, after the extraction of its saccharine matter, are used for feeding cattle.



## ALLOTMENT SYSTEM.

A nation with an impoverished and discontented peasantry is

"Like an inverted cone,  
Which wants its proper base to stand upon."

If Englishmen were actually to see the nation in the form of the poet's simile, tottering on a pivot, without sufficient stability to bear firmly against the slightest breathing of anarchy, what would they do? If they knew how, they would, no doubt, begin to lay a foundation broad and deep, whereon to fix props to support the social fabric.

The only effectual way to do this, in our opinion, is by adopting extensively throughout the whole kingdom, the Allotment System, by which every industrious man will be enabled to maintain himself by his own exertions, and by so doing, improve both his physical and moral condition.

We once expressed our opinion that the Allotment System would be of no benefit to the inhabitants of a large city. Our objections were, the distance the occupiers of land would have to travel to cultivate it, and the unsuitableness of out-door work to those accustomed to an in-door, if not a sedentary life. If, however, any persons in a town can be found willing to occupy and to cultivate a piece of land, there cannot be any objection to their so doing; and if they succeed, they place the advantages of the system beyond all dispute.

Mr. Lowder has actually tried this in the neighbourhood of this city, and as it is now about 12 months that the land situated in the parish of Charlcombe, has been occupied by about 56 tenants, having a quarter of an acre each, we deem it our duty to state the results thus far, which we find to be every way favourable. Mr. Lowder has had every disadvantage possible to contend against; first of all his own habits of life, as a gentleman residing constantly in the city, are such as would not lead him to take any such a system. He has taken the land for the purpose of trying whether or not the Allotment System be of that benefit it has been represented to be; for this purpose Mr. Lowder was determined to give it a fair trial; and notwithstanding the tenants were neither gardeners nor country labourers, but consisting of masons, shreemakers, and mechanics, and notwithstanding the land was poor and highly-rented, being so near a town, the tenants have, with the aid of a subscription to purchase manure for them at the onset, received one crop, and greatly improved the condition of the land. The first year has been of course, one of great difficulty: the land was rough and heavy, and required much labour, and many of the tenants had been long out of employment. The result of the first year has been as good a crop of potatoes as could have been expected—about 80 sacks per acre. The land is now brought into fair tillage, and in the course of a year or two, will no doubt be brought into a high state of cultivation. Mr. Lowder has retained an acre of the land for experiment, to shew the tenants the capability of the land when well worked, so that an allotment of this nature is a school for industry and economy, in which the industrious labourers, by rivalling each other, will contribute to the comfort and happiness of themselves and families, have no time for idleness and crime, and be placed above the degradation of pauperism. Mr. Lowder, in his observations at the last annual meeting of the Labourer's Friend Society, which we then had not room to insert, recommended every land-owner to have a model garden amongst the allotments.—*Bath Journal*.

## BRIDLINGTON AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

A very numerous meeting of the members of the above association, was recently held at the Green Dragon Inn, in Bridlington, pursuant to notice given for that purpose, to take into consideration the propriety of sending an address to his Majesty, and petitions to both Houses of Parliament, on the subject of agricultural distress. Mr. Sidney Taylor (the secretary to the association) opened the meeting, and explained the cause of its being then called together, and read the address and petitions. Francis Coverley, Esq., the president, addressed the meeting at considerable length. He felt upon the fit period of time it was, to address his Majesty and petition Parliament. He congratulated the meeting on the awakened apathy of the agriculturists, who were at last aroused to speak out what they really and too deplorably felt, for without a patient making known his complaint, how is it possible for a remedy to be effected? He assured the meeting it was no trivial subject on which they were then met—no matter to be treated with levity—it was a most important duty they had to perform, and what they owed and had been long in debt, to themselves and to the country at large. Just now was a moment the most critical; the first reformed parliament was at an end, after two short years' duration, without having made the least effort to relieve the farmer. The King, our most gracious Sovereign, had exercised his prerogative; had dismissed his ministers and dissolved his parliament; and it was now our duty to exercise our privilege; to address his Majesty and petition parliament; and such coming from so powerful and respectable a class of the community, could not but be heard and obeyed. Public opinion was now no longer to be disregarded, but must be treated with the merit it deserves. He deeply censured the conduct of the landlords in general, (admitting some few exceptions,) for not coming forward to assist their tenantry, and concluded by proposing the address to his Majesty, and the petitions to both Houses of Parliament, which were unanimously agreed to.

The address and petitions were highly approved of, and they are couched in moderate but firm language, stating the past and present deplorable state of the farmer, and praying for relief. They pointed out no specific mode of redress, but earnestly urged an immediate attention to their claims for relief, as parliament in its wisdom might judge proper.

## HINTS TO AMATEUR GARDENERS.

Those who grow early cucumbers, or are forcing asparagus, mushrooms, grapes, &c., or have pet collections of store or green-house plants, must not depend on the promising state of the weather, so unusually mild thus early in the season, but take the same precautions in covering up and uncovering their houses and frames until February is gone. In pruning wall trees, leave all the wood of the last summer's growth, except the thick and unsightly shoots, which never bear, but draw the sap away from the small blooming wood; in shortening back some of the shoots to produce a succession of young wood, always leave one bud or more of last year's growth. This rule holds good as regards peaches, nectarines, and Morella cherries. Other fruits generally produce fruit on spurs, formed on the two (or more than two) years old wood; but to keep a succession of healthy bearing wood, it is requisite to shorten back, from time to time, to the heart of the tree. The shoots proceeding from such pruning, to be

carefully laid in, to replace the old or cankered branches. The test of judicious pruning is, to have your trees covered with fruit on every branch, and not in some moderate sized gardens merely at the extremities. If you have an old grape vine, even to the top of the house, that produces small fruit, cut it down to within a foot or two of the ground. It will produce fine shoots the following season, (I have seen such forty feet in length the first year;) these should be trained up the house, or wall, four to five feet apart, parallel to each other. Shorten them back to the strongest bud that breaks the following spring, and every other eye will produce, right and left, lateral shoots, those latter produce the fruit. In the first or mid summer pruning those lateral shoots are each to be shortened back, so as nearly to meet mid-way; the lateral from the corresponding main shoot of last year. Every winter pruning the whole of those laterals must be cut back to one strong bud, or eye, of the same year's growth, from which bud proceeds the fruiting wood of the following summer, the main shoots always continuing in the position they were first placed in; by this simple method you may always (except when destroyed by severe spring frost) make certain of having a luxuriant crop; the wall of your house, garden, or graperies, clustered over. Regarding the pruning of fruit trees in open quarters, or espaliers, excessive pruning should be avoided, all cross branches, or those cankered, ought to be cut clean to the parent branch. If the tree has become useless from neglect, and your soil good, the best method is to head it back to the original stem, and in a few seasons it will produce a good tree. The only way to have fine mulberries, is to keep the knife at work on the head of the tree.

### TRIFOLIUM INCARNATUM.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE."

Sir,—The agriculturists of Italy, France, Spain, and Switzerland, are acquainted with the extraordinary productiveness of the clover lately introduced into this country, called *Trifolium incarnatum*.

Its value is greatly enhanced by not interfering with the main crop of a farm, yet supplying abundance of green food at a time of the year when most wanted, viz., before other grasses have become fit to cut or feed off.

The best time to sow this clover has been considered in Autumn, to produce an early crop of green food in the Spring; but it may, with great profit, be sown in the Spring, so as to produce a crop in the Summer; and, when sown at this time, the plant is not exposed to the various contingencies of winter, which may be so severe as partially to destroy the crop, consequently, the Summer crop will be found most certain and most abundant.

I am not an agriculturist, and therefore cannot fully detail the many valuable qualities of the *Trifolium incarnatum*, but, should you be pleased to insert these few remarks in your valuable Journal, it may draw the attention of practical persons to write more fully on the subject. In conclusion, I may just remark, that it is not a fanciful idea of mine to recommend sowing this seed in the Spring, for it is generally sown at that season on the Continent. I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

P. X. Z.

### TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—As you have introduced my name in your observations this morning on the case as reported from the Bath papers, on the ill-treatment of the Freshford paupers, perhaps you will allow me to say a few words in explanation.

On Wednesday, the 28th ult., I received whilst at Calne, Wiltshire, the following instructions from the Board of Poor Law Commissioners:—

"The Board request that as soon as you have concluded your proceedings at Calne, or during any convenient interval, you will forthwith proceed to the parish of Freshford, and examine and report as to the truth of the allegation contained in the enclosed communication from Colonel Napier, and others, inhabitants of that parish.

"You will examine upon oath such witnesses as may be offered, or as you may be able to procure, touching the allegations as to the past mismanagement of the parish. You will give the parties accused a full opportunity of being heard; and having heard all relevant witnesses, you will report whether you deem any and what of the allegations proved; and if so,

"1. Whether, with relation to the assistant-overseer, you deem the evidence of past misconduct renders it necessary for the future correct and safe management of the paupers of that parish that he should be dismissed from his office by the Board.

"2. Whether, further, the case is one which requires a public prosecution of the assistant-overseer, or of the officers who may be inculpated with him.

"3. What steps appear from the circumstances of the parish to be requisite for the improvement of the existing administration of relief, and for preventing a recurrence of the past mal-administration; and especially for insuring to the aged, the infirm, and the impotent, the present inmates of the workhouse, and the proper objects of relief, that distinct provision and humane care which it is the wish of the commissioners to insure for them."

I immediately summoned the officers of Freshford to meet me at the New Inn there, on Friday morning, the 30th ult., at 11 o'clock, and after examining upon oath Colonel Napier, Captain Burt, the Rev. Thomas Spencer, and several other witnesses, who clearly proved the most cruel oppression and brutal neglect of the poor of Freshford by Thomas Dike, the assistant-overseer, and George Watts, the churchwarden, I certainly did feel it my duty to recommend to the Board the instant dismissal of Dike, and the severe censure of the Board on the churchwarden, Watts; and it is true also that I did recommend that Freshford, with some of the surrounding parishes, should be united to either Bath or Bradford, for the purpose of procuring for the deserving poor those comforts and that improved parochial management which it is the object of the Poor Law Commissioners to obtain for them.

I cannot, however, conceive how the cruelties and neglect exercised by these unfeeling officers towards the poor of Freshford can be said to be the "effects of the new Poor Law Act."

The transactions spoken of by the witnesses as evidence of cruelty extended over a period of more than a year and a half past; it is so stated, Sir, in the account which you cite as evidence of the effect of the new Poor Law Bill.

The local magistrates have the same power as



they had previous to the passing of the act to check such misconduct on the part of the parochial officers; indeed, the 46th clause of the new act not only confirms the previous power of the justices, but actually extends it in these matters, but the magistrates on being applied to to interfere, did not do so.

The new act does not supersede the local authorities in such parishes; if neglect takes place, the overseers are answerable, as before the act, for their misconduct. The magistrates in such parishes now, as before the passing of the act, are bound to interfere.

The new act superadds a new controlling authority in this case; the new authority was applied to to put an end to an abuse of the old system, generated by the old system, and this new authority supplied a remedy, for which the old authorities doubted their competency.

Now as to the charge impugning the conduct of the Commissioners. The first charge against the assistant-overseer was received on the 15th of January; Freshford is 100 miles from London, and notwithstanding it will readily be conceded that out of 16,000 parishes this is not the only case that presses on the attention of the Board, the inquiries were gone into fairly and impartially between the accuser and the accused, and the sentence of dismissal issued against the offender on the 4th of February.

It would not become me to add another word as to the "effects of the New Poor Law Act," they will speak loudly for themselves some twelve months hence. I will therefore only beg further to state, that the gentlemen at Freshford who signed the application to the Commissioners (one of whom is a magistrate) expressed themselves much pleased with the promptitude by which the case had been met by the Board.—I am respectfully, Sir, your most obedient servant,

Feb. 9.

CHARLES MOTT.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE 'FARMER'S MAGAZINE.'

Sir,—You will greatly oblige a constant reader of your valuable Magazine by contradicting a paragraph inserted in your last publication, entitled "The New Poor Law Bill in the Country," and by inserting the following, which has not been circulated so widely as that which you have copied from the *Chellenham Free Press*, but which I hope, through the medium of your Magazine, will find its way into the hands of all who have seen the other; as the one which you have copied has scarcely a word of truth in it.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DEVIZES GAZETTE."

Sir,—In looking over your Gazette of Thursday last, I see an account, which you have copied from the *Buth Journal*, of a large body of labourers going to Bowood to state to Lord Lansdowne the hardships they were receiving from the farmers or the vestry, most of whom are his lordship's tenants, by being refused either work or money. I assure you, Sir, the greatest part of that paragraph is a gross falsehood. It is true, about fifty men went to Bowood, but I believe not a quarter part of that number had been before the vestry to make any complaint. The fact is, the greatest part of them left constant places of work to join the mob. I do not believe there was any communication between Lord Lansdowne and the men, through his steward. The principal ground of complaint of these men was the low price given

for labour, more than the want of it. The farmers of Bremhill are giving 7s. a-week, when the labourer is working by the week; but many of the men have been getting more than 10s. a-week, by piece-work. Seven shillings a-week is the regular price of labour round this neighbourhood, and that, little as it may seem, is more than the farmers can afford to pay, as the produce of the land is now selling. As an inhabitant of Bremhill, I can take upon me to say that the poor of the parish are as comfortable and as well off as the poor in any parish in this part of the country, in every sense of the word.

A LOVER OF TRUTH.

## CIRCUITS OF THE JUDGES.

| SPRING<br>CIRCUITS,<br>1835. |         | HOME.                      | MIDLAND.                             | NORFOLK.                     | OXFORD.                   | NORTHERN.                 | N. WALES.  | S. WALES.    | WESTERN.                   |
|------------------------------|---------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------|--------------|----------------------------|
|                              |         | Ld. Dorman,<br>J. Gaselee. | Ld. C. J. Tindal,<br>J. Littleclafe. | Lord Abinger,<br>J. Vaughan. | J. Park,<br>J. Coleridge. | B. Parke,<br>B. Alderson. | B. Boland. | J. Williams. | J. Paterson,<br>B. Gurney. |
| Thursday<br>1-35.            | Feb. 26 | ....                       | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | Reading                   | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>2-35.              | March 2 | ....                       | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>4-35.           | March 3 | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>5-35.              | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Saturday<br>6-35.            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>7-35.              | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>9-35.           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>10-35.             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>11-35.             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>12-35.          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>13-35.             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>14-35.             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>15-35.          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>16-35.             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>17-35.             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>18-35.          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>19-35.             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>20-35.             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>21-35.          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>22-35.             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>23-35.             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>24-35.          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>25-35.             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>26-35.             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>27-35.          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>28-35.             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>29-35.             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>30-35.          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>31-35.             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>April 1            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>April 2         | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>April 3            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>April 4            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>April 5         | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>April 6            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>April 7            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>April 8         | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>April 9            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>April 10           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>April 11        | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>April 12           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>April 13           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>April 14        | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>April 15           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>April 16           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>April 17        | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>April 18           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>April 19           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>April 20        | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>April 21           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>April 22           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>April 23        | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>April 24           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>April 25           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>April 26        | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>April 27           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>April 28           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>April 29        | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>April 30           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>May 1              | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>May 2           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>May 3              | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>May 4              | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>May 5           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>May 6              | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>May 7              | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>May 8           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>May 9              | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>May 10             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>May 11          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>May 12             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>May 13             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>May 14          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>May 15             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>May 16             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>May 17          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>May 18             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>May 19             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>May 20          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>May 21             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>May 22             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>May 23          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>May 24             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>May 25             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>May 26          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>May 27             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>May 28             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>May 29          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>May 30             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>May 31             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>June 1          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>June 2             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>June 3             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>June 4          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>June 5             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>June 6             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>June 7          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>June 8             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>June 9             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>June 10         | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>June 11            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>June 12            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>June 13         | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>June 14            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>June 15            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>June 16         | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>June 17            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>June 18            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>June 19         | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>June 20            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>June 21            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>June 22         | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>June 23            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>June 24            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>June 25         | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>June 26            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>June 27            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>June 28         | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>June 29            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>June 30            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>July 1          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>July 2             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>July 3             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>July 4          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>July 5             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>July 6             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>July 7          | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>July 8             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>July 9             | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>July 10         | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>July 11            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>July 12            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>July 13         | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>July 14            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>July 15            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>July 16         | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>July 17            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>July 18            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>July 19         | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>July 20            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>July 21            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>July 22         | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>July 23            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>July 24            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>July 25         | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>July 26            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>July 27            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>July 28         | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>July 29            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>July 30            | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>July 31         | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>August 1           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Monday<br>August 2           | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Wednesday<br>August 3        | .. ..   | .. ..                      | .. ..                                | .. ..                        | .. ..                     | .. ..                     | .. ..      | .. ..        | .. ..                      |
| Friday<br>August 4           | .. ..   |                            |                                      |                              |                           |                           |            |              |                            |

## THE SHEEPSTEALING DOG.

In the pastoral and sequestered district of Tweeddale, where the manners of the people retain a simplicity scarcely known elsewhere, crimes of capital magnitude occur very rarely. There is no want of small offences, perhaps, such as assaults, thefts, and so forth, most of which are punished with a short imprisonment in the tolbooth of Peebles. But it is not above once in an age that a native of this primitive district is doomed to expiate his guilt at Edinburgh or Jedburgh. It might be supposed, that, in the border counties, where at no remote period habits of predatory warfare prevailed, a little cattle-lifting or so would neither be unfrequent nor regarded severely; but this is not the case. Offences against property, if considerable either in kind or in extent, are looked upon with as much horror and reprobation in this province as in any other; the guilty parties are spoken of as lost and unhappy creatures: and their relations generally find it very difficult to stand up against the painful feeling which their name excites, but, leaving the locality, seek to hide their shame in distant countries. Indeed, the few instances of heinous crime which have occurred in Peeblesshire during the last eighty years, are traditionally remembered in almost every particular: and the descendants and collateral relations of the parties, even to the fourth generation, could still be pointed out. Such events become, like the chivalrous adventures of an earlier period, the materials of grandam tales for the amusement of children, to whom they are never related without many a solemn admonition respecting the danger of allowing the heart to be tempted to violence, or the eye to go a-hungering after the goods of another.

Among the narratives of this kind which still entertain the fireside circle in Tweeddale, one of the most remarkable refers to an extraordinary case of sheepstealing, which took place in the year 1772. A young farmer in the neighbourhood of Innerleithen, whose circumstances were supposed to be good, and who was connected with many of the best store farming families in the county, had been tempted to commit some extensive depredations upon the flocks of his neighbours, in which he was assisted by his shepherd. The pastoral farms of Tweeddale, which generally consist each of a certain range of hilly ground, had in those days no enclosures: their boundaries were indicated only by the natural features of the country. The sheep were, accordingly, liable to wander, and to become intermixed with each other; and at every reckoning of a flock, a certain allowance had to be made for this, as for other contingencies. For some time, Mr. William Gibson, tenant in Newby, an extensive farm stretching from the neighbourhood of Peebles to the borders of Selkirkshire, had remarked a surprising increase in the amount of his annual losses. He questioned his shepherds severely, taxed them with carelessness in picking up and bringing home the dead, and plainly intimated that he conceived some unfair dealing to be in progress. The men, finding themselves thus exposed to suspicions of a very painful kind, were as much chagrined as the worthy farmer himself, and kept their minds alive to every circumstance which might tend to afford any elucidation of the mystery. One day, while they were summering their lambs, the eye of a very acute old shepherd named Hyslop was caught by a black-faced ewe which they had formerly missed (for the shepherds generally know every particular

member of their flocks), and which was now suckling its own lamb as if it had never been absent. On inspecting it carefully, it was found to bear an additional *birn* upon its face. Every farmer, it must be mentioned, impresses with a hot iron a particular letter upon the faces of his sheep, as a means of distinguishing his own from those of his neighbours. Mr. Gibson's *birn* was the letter T, and this was found distinctly enough impressed on the face of the ewe. But above this mark there was an O, which was known to be the mark of the tenant of Wormiston, the individual already mentioned. It was immediately suspected that this and the other missing sheep had been abstracted by that person; a suspicion which derived strength from the reports of the neighbouring shepherds, by whom, it appeared, the black-faced ewe had been tracked for a considerable way in a direction leading from Wormiston to Newby. It was indeed ascertained that instinctive affection for her lamb had led this animal across the Tweed, and over the lofty heights between Cailzie and Newby; a route of very considerable difficulty, and probably quite different from that by which she had been led away, but the *most direct* that could have been taken. Mr. Gibson only stopped to obtain the concurrence of a neighbouring farmer, whose losses had been equally great, before proceeding with some of the legal authorities to Wormiston. Millar, the shepherd, observing the approach of the formidable group, ran off and attempted to hide himself in a field of grain, where he was taken into custody. On arriving at the farm-house, Mr. Gibson knocked, and was answered by the unfortunate farmer himself, who, supposing it to be a friendly visit, expressed much pleasure at seeing his neighbour, and desired him to walk in. Mr. Gibson, whose feelings were now affected in a way he had not calculated upon, declined the proffered hospitality, and with a choking voice, said that Mr.—(here he mentioned the name of a well-known *messenger*, resident in Peebles) wished to speak to him in the close. "Mr.—!" cried the farmer; "what can Mr.—want with me?" He retired for a moment into the house, and, after whispering a word or two to his wife, reappeared. Mr. Gibson, who was in the passage, saw the unfortunate woman throw her head distractedly upon the table at which she was sitting, and exclaim, "Oh, death, come and break my heart!" The farmer was then conducted with his shepherd to Peebles, where bail to a large amount was in vain offered for them by their friends. On a search of the farm, no fewer than thirty-three score of sheep belonging to various individuals were found, all bearing the condemnatory O above the original *birns*; and it was remarked that there was not a single ewe returned to Grieston, the farm on the opposite bank of the Tweed, which did not *minny* her lambs—that is, assume the character of mother towards the offspring from which she had been separated.

The magnitude of this crime, the rareness of such offences in the district, and the station in life of at least one of the offenders, produced a great sensation in Tweeddale, and caused the elicitation of every minute circumstance that could possibly be discovered respecting the means which had been employed for carrying on such an extensive system of depredation. The most surprising part of the tale is the extent to which it appears that the instinct of dumb animals had been instrumental both in the crime and in its detection. While the farmer seemed to have deputed the business chiefly to his shepherd, the shepherd seemed to have deputed it



again, in many instances, to a dog of extraordinary sagacity, which served him in his customary and lawful business. This animal, which bore the name of *Yarrow*, would not only act under his immediate direction in cutting off a portion of a flock, and bringing it home to Wormiston, but is said to have been able to proceed solitarily and by night to a sheep-walk, and there detach certain individuals previously pointed out by its master, which it would drive home by secret ways, without allowing one to straggle. Some very curious particulars of the practices of the two thieves and their quadruped associate are given in an early volume of *Blackwood's Magazine*, apparently by one who had a minute traditional knowledge of the transaction. These we shall take the liberty of quoting:—

"While returning home," says this authority, "with their stolen droves, they avoided, even in the night, the roads along the banks of the river, or those that descend to the valley through the adjoining glens. They chose rather to come along the ridge of mountains that separate the small river of Leithen from the Tweed. But even here there was sometimes danger, for the shepherds occasionally visit their flocks even before day; and often when Millar had driven his prey from a distance, and while he was yet miles from home, and the weather-gleam of the eastern hills began to be tinged with the brightening dawn, he has left them to the charge of his dog, and descended himself to the banks of the Leithen, off his way, that he might not be seen connected with their company. *Yarrow*, although between three and four miles from his master, would continue, with care and silence, to bring the sheep onward to Wormiston, where his master's appearance could be neither a matter of question nor surprise.

Adjoining to the thatched farmhouse was one of those old square towers, or peel-houses, whose picturesque ruins were then seen ornamenting the course of the river, as they had been placed alternately along the north and south bank, generally from three to six hundred yards from it—sometimes on the shin, and sometimes in the hollow of a hill. In the vault of this tower, it was the practice of these men to conceal the sheep they had recently stolen; and while the rest of their people were absent on Sunday at the church, they used to employ themselves in cancelling with their knives the ear-marks, and impressing with a hot iron a large O upon the face, that covered both sides of the animal's nose, for the purpose of obliterating the *brand* of the true owner. While his accomplices were so busied, *Yarrow* kept watch in the open air, and gave notice, without fail, by his barking, of the approach of those who were not of *the fancy*.

That he might vary the scene of his depredations, Millar had one night crossed the Tweed, and betaken himself to a wild farm among the mountains of Selkirkshire; and as the shepherds have wonderfully minute knowledge of localities, he found no difficulty in collecting part of a flock, and bringing away what number he judged convenient. Sheep are very loth to descend a hill in the night-time, and more so to cross a river. Millar, to keep as clear as possible of the haunts of men, on his return brought his drove over the shoulder of Wallace's hill, opposite, and intended to swim them across a pool in the river Tweed. But his prey being taken from the most remote part of the farm, happened to be mostly old ewes (of all kinds of sheep the most stubborn in their propensities,) and all the exertions of a very active man, intimately acquainted with the habits of the animals,

and assisted by the most sagacious dog probably ever known, were found inadequate to overcome the reluctance of the sheep to take the river. Millar continued to exert himself until the dawn of the morning warned him that any further effort was inconsistent with his habitual caution. Still he was unwilling to relinquish his booty, since, could he only get the sheep across the river, he was within little more than a quarter of a mile from the old tower. He therefore left the future conduct of the enterprise, as he had often done before, to *Yarrow*—crossed the river himself, and went home, encouraging the dog by his voice, while he was yet not too distant, so as to risk being heard by some early riser. The trustworthy dog paused not, nor slackened his exertions—the work was now all his own; such had been his efforts, as he furiously and desperately drove in first one flank of the drove and then another, that two of the ewes were forced from the bank into the river, and were drowned, as they could not regain their situations for the pressure of their companions. But he was finally unsuccessful; for he too knew the danger of being seen in the broad light of the morning driving sheep "where sheep should na be." The ewes were observed, in the course of the ensuing day, wending their weary way homeward, and half covered with a new keel with which Millar had himself marked them in a small sheepfold in a lonely place on his way. Millar himself was astonished at the stubbornness of the sheep, and the persevering energy of his dog; and he told the story to a respectable sheepfarmer in prison, while under sentence of death."

The farmer and his servant were tried at Edinburgh in January, 1773, and the proceedings excited an extraordinary interest, not only in the audience, but among the legal officials. Hyslop, the principal witness, gave so many curious particulars respecting the instincts of sheep and the modes of distinguishing them both by natural and artificial marks, that he was highly complimented by the bench. The evidence closed on the second day at five o'clock, and the speech of the Lord Advocate, with the replies of Messrs. Crosbie and Rae, the prisoners' counsel, occupied till eleven. The jury, which was then enclosed, sat till five o'clock next morning (Sunday), when they gave in a verdict, finding the master guilty by a plurality of voices, and the servant unanimously. The counsel for the unfortunate men pleaded for a few days, to prepare some objections to the verdict; and this being granted, the court met once more in February, and took these into consideration. They rested, firstly on the illegality of a verdict given on a Sunday, and secondly on various circumstances which were alleged to be out of rule in the references of the verdict to the indictment and the evidence. All of them were overruled by the court, and sentence was pronounced. The unprecedented step was then taken of an appeal to the House of Peers; but this was decided to be incompetent, and the judgment of the law was accordingly executed.

The general tradition is, that *Yarrow* was also put to death, though in a less ceremonious manner; but this has probably no other foundation than a *jeu d'esprit*, which was cried through the streets of Edinburgh as his dying speech. We are informed by the same writer in *Blackwood*, that the dog was in reality purchased, after the death of Millar, by a sheepfarmer in the neighbourhood, but did not take kindly to honest courses, and his new master having no work of a different kind in which to engage him, he was remarked to show rather less sagacity than the ordinary shepherd's dog.

## LOTHIAN DINNER TO HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH.

We have given rather a lengthened report of this interesting Meeting, in order that every publicity may be given to the merits of an individual so highly deserving as the Duke of Buccleuch, and to prove that there is no class of men who appreciate more gratefully a kind consideration for their interests than the British tenantry. There are many, very many, extensive landowners in the United Kingdom, who have it in their power to confer as much happiness upon a numerous tenantry. We trust they will imitate the example. The reward will assuredly follow.

EDINBURGH, Feb. 13.—To-day the tenantry of the Three Lothians, viz., Edinburghshire, Haddingtonshire, and Linlithgowshire, gave a grand dinner to his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch, in testimony of his great merit as a landlord, and his excellent character as a private individual. The meeting took place in the large assembly room, in which were present upwards of 600 persons, and we do not recollect ever having witnessed a more numerous meeting, or a more respectable display of kindly and enthusiastic feeling, than was exhibited on this occasion. The most substantial of the tenantry in the three Lothians—the richest, and perhaps the most independent districts of the country—asssembled on this occasion; and they seemed to be actuated by feelings of the deepest attachment and respect to the noble Duke, though he is, comparatively speaking, less intimately connected with the Lothians than with other counties in Scotland. The *élite* of the three Lothians assembled on the occasion, *without regard to political sentiments*; and it was quite evident that the feeling throughout was equally spontaneous and enthusiastic.

Professor Low was in the Chair, supported on the right by the Duke of Buccleuch, the Very Reverend Principal Baird (who officiated as Chaplin), Sir J. S. Forbes, Major Wyndham, of the Scots Greys, and others; and on the left by the Marquis of Lothian, Lord Ramsay, Sir George Warrender, and others. The Croupier, Mr. Hawden, was supported on the right by the Earl of Selkirk, Sir John Hope, Bart.; and on the left by Lord John Scott, Sir Francis Walker Drummond, &c.

After the usual prefatory toasts, the CHAIRMAN said that he was honoured in being made the organ of the sentiments of the tenantry of the three Lothians, and to beg them to unite in a cordial welcome to their honoured guest the Duke of Buccleuch—(*cheering*). He was here to offer no flattery to wealth—no homage to power—but to render honour to whom honour was due, to private worth and public virtue—(*applause*). They were the tillers of the ground, and were not ashamed of their calling; and amongst them was one who rendered fitting honour to the plough, one ever ready to share their pursuits and devote to their happiness those hours which PROVIDENCE had blessed to him with affluence and leisure, one ever ready to counsel and befriend—the Duke of Buccleuch—(*great applause*). After eulogising his Grace on his encouragement of agriculture and the useful arts, which he supported by a munificent patronage, and the path he had chosen, not of pleasure and luxurious ease, but of duty and manly action, Professor Low gave “his Grace

the Duke of Buccleuch,” which was drunk with all the honours.

The Duke of BUCCLEUCH rose amidst the most enthusiastic cheering. “If ever (he said) it becomes a difficult task for any one to return thanks for an honour which has been done him, in the case, more particularly of the honour which it has pleased you to bestow upon me this night, you will, I am sure, agree with me in saying, that my task at present is no easy one. I wish I had words to express, or power to utter the genuine feelings which I now experience for this unprecedented—I believe it is quite unprecedented—mark of your kindly feelings towards me, which you have been pleased to bestow upon me this evening—(*cheers*). Dinners, no doubt, have been frequently given to public men, or to private individuals, as a mark of esteem for particular circumstances, but the compliment which you have now paid me is of a far higher nature. I am not aware that the line of life which I have adopted, or that actions which I have at any time performed, can in any way equal the high compliment which you have now paid me. I am sure that I am now addressing far too sensible a body of men for them to imagine that I am anxious, by word or deed, to seek to attain any unworthy popularity, or that for its sake, fleeting as it is, I should flatter any man or body of men—(*cheers*). I can assure you that I have ever been actuated by the principles of honour and integrity—(*loud cheers*), turning neither to the right hand nor to the left, neither setting before me, as a motive of action, the fear of unpopularity on the one hand, nor the hope of approbation on the other—I have endeavoured, in every situation in which I have been placed, to act a strictly independent part—(*cheers*). My friend who addressed you last has painted my character in far too glowing colours, and I cannot hope to merit the high praises which he has bestowed upon me; but as he stated that in these sentiments he was the organ of the numerous and respectable audience now assembled, I may be allowed to say that if I have done any thing to deserve popularity among the individuals with whom I am personally connected, I trust they know that I have done it, not only from the feeling which I think ought to actuate every man, whatever be his station, but also from that kindness of feeling towards them which was imbued into my mind from my earliest infancy. When in early life, I was taught to look upon the tenantry, not merely as the tillers of the soil, but as those who were connected with myself and family, and myself and family connected with them—(*loud cheers*). From my earliest infancy I was taught this, that the connection between us is so intimate, that it was impossible to discover where it commenced or ended, except by severing the links altogether—(*renewed cheers*). With regard to what I have done for agricultural affairs, or to support the agricultural interest, I felt that it was no more a duty than I experienced it to be a pleasure, to follow this line of conduct. To be connected with a body of men so celebrated every where as connected with this country—I mean the tenantry of Great Britain, who are not equalled in any other nation—must always be a source of pride to any person. I have had considerable experience with a large body of these men, I know the difficulties they have to encounter—the vicissitudes they have to contend against; and I know, too, how manfully they have contended against those difficulties, and who that understands their circumstances would not be proud to come forward and assist them on every occasion?—



(*great cheers*). Unfortunate is the lot of those—and I trust the instances are rare—where the landlord and his tenantry have not this kindly feeling towards each other—who look upon each other with distrust—and who seem ever to be calculating upon what one can gain from the other. I have always acted upon the principle of reposing confidence in my tenantry, and of expecting confidence from them in return. I have acted on every occasion, as far as was in my own power, with strict and impartial justice on all sides, neither showing too much leniency on one occasion, nor acting with rigour, much less with injustice, on another, and without giving way to every statement, without first making a strict investigation—a course by which, I am certain, in most cases, more injury is done than good is received. I fear I am occupying your time too long—(*cheers and cries of "No;"*) but I trust you will excuse me if I cannot adequately express my feeling on this occasion—(*loud cheers*). Though I am always nervous in matters of this kind, yet in such a large assembly as the present, and set to return thanks for the honour which has done me, this is a situation in which I feel far different from any in which I was ever placed before—it is a situation highly honourable and excessively flattering. Allusion was made by the Chairman to the circumstances under which I succeeded to the estates. Certainly, no greater misfortune can befall a man than to enter upon life without the guardianship of a parent's care. No one can feel this more than I do—(*cheers*), but I am happy to say, that in early life the highest principles were instilled into my mind; and in commencing my career of public life, I was determined to abide by those principles, without which I do not see how any individual or set of men can order their conduct aright—(*cheers*). Allusion has also been made to the difficulties under which the tenantry at one time laboured, and to the plans of amelioration which were devised for their relief; but the credit of those plans are not due to me, for they were put in practice before I came into possession of the estates, but you all know to whom their credit is due, and I have endeavoured to follow the mode of management which they set before me; I endeavoured by my practice and example to improve that which was committed to my care, and which I hold in trust—(*loud cheers*). And if by any thing that I have done, or by following the example they have set me, I have been able to do any good, or to excite a desire of imitation in other quarters, though I can scarcely imagine that any thing I may have done is worthy of imitation, I can assure you that the manner in which my conduct has been approved by this intelligent meeting is the best reward I can receive—(*cheers*). I believe you know, at least I have expressed the sentiment before, that my feeling with respect to landlord and tenant is, live and let live—(*loud cheers*)—and I am certain, from the intelligence that characterises the tenantry, and the good sense which they have always shown, that wherever they are satisfied that their landlord acts on the dictates of conscience and principle, though at the moment the decision he comes to may not satisfy them, yet the angry feelings arising from their not having gained their object must soon pass away. I can assure you that if there are some disappointments on the part of the tenantry, the landlord also is not without his occasional disappointments; and if they feel as I do, though not pleased at the moment, yet on a cooler examination of the merits of the case, those unpleasant feelings soon pass

away—(*cheers*). I assure you, that so long as health and strength are spared me, so long as I am spared in this life, I shall endeavour to act fearlessly and independently, whether in the relations of public or private life. I shall endeavour more especially from my intimate connection with the agricultural interest to support that body; yet I will not support it at the expense of the other interests of the empire, for in my opinion they are all so intimately connected, that it is impossible for one to prosper without the other—(*cheers*). As far as my power extends I shall endeavour to encourage the timid, to restrain those who are over hasty, to hold up the active and enterprising as examples, and to spur on those who may be inclined to go too slow—(*laughter and cheers*). While at the same time I shall be always ready to introduce every real and rational improvement which may be devised for the advancement of the agricultural interest, and wherever I may be called in after life, be assured that this high compliment which has now been paid me by a respectable body of men, for whom I entertain the highest regard and respect, will ever be deeply engraven on my memory—(*loud cheers*). I beg again to tender you my best thanks for the honour you have done me, and I trust I shall be excused that I have not been able so fully as I could wish to express the feelings with which I am so deeply impressed at the present moment—(*loud and continued cheering*).

The CHAIRMAN.—I have to propose that venerable establishment the Church, under which we have lived the citizens of a Christian State—the defenders of that faith, the free possession of which our ancestors secured to us by their valour—the guardian of those sacred truths, which from youth to age we have been taught to reverence—(*cheers*). On my soul, gentleman, I do believe, that an institution more venerable by the piety of its teachers, more suited to the religious instruction of the people, exists not than the Church of Scotland—(*loud cheers*).

Principal BAIRD.—It has fallen to my lot, in the name of the Church, to express her acknowledgments for the flattering compliment in which the Chairman has proposed the toast. These acknowledgments, under present circumstances, I think it right to give, not with prolixity, but in a single sentence. In the name of the Church and of Churchmen, I have to express our entire and decided satisfaction with which this toast has been given and received, and when it reaches the remotest manors in Scotland, it will be found to operate as a sweet reward for the labours that are past, and a strong incentive to fidelity and zeal in the discharge of future duty—(*cheers*). I have only farther to say, that I trust the clergy of the Church of Scotland, and the Clergy of every other denomination in the land, may live together in a becoming Christian spirit—(*cheers*)—with no rivalry betwixt them but how to increase their mutual comfort and mutual usefulness—(*cheers*). I have only farther to express my wishes and my prayers, that under the guidance and the blessing of Heaven, the Clergy may be as zealous, as skilful, and as successful in cultivating and improving the soil of the Christian mind, as the enlightened and active individuals I see before me are in cultivating and improving the soil of our mother earth.

Mr. NIMMO gave "the Peerage, the safeguards of our institutions"—which was briefly acknowledged by the Marquis of LOTHIAN, who proposed the "Agricultural interests of the country."

Lord RAMSAY rose, and was received with loud cheers.—In asking you to join with me in doing honour to the toast which has been confided to my care, “the Tenantry of Scotland,” I wish to linger for a moment in expressing my sense of the honour which has been conferred on me in being permitted to lead the way to do honour to a class of men who are peculiarly our country’s strength and boast—(cheers). If the task had been imposed upon some one whose years would have enabled him to add the weight of experience in telling what the tenantry had done in times that are past, it would, perhaps, have been more fortunate. Yet still I feel that their value is so peculiarly marked in every passing circumstance of every passing day, that he that runs may read. It is, perhaps, that we are so very familiar with the fact that we are apt to overlook the great advantages which Great Britain enjoys through her tenantry over all the countries in the world. Look at the other nations, “search Europe wide from sea to sea,” and you will find a gap between the higher and the lower classes, which in our country is filled up, and happily filled up, by the class of the tenantry—(great cheering). In all other countries there exists a line strongly marked, which again becomes a gulf, and it in its turn becomes an impassable obstacle, placed between the landowners and the peasantry, while in this country the tenantry act as a connecting link, in which the wants, the wishes, and the feelings of all are fused and blended together, till they become amalgamated into one mass—(cheers). The tenantry of Great Britain stand distinguished for their enterprise and skill over those of all other lands, and the tenantry of Scotland are distinguished even in Britain, as may be shown from the surprisingly rapid strides which agriculture has made within the last fifty years “from Tweed to Spey.” After enlarging on the kindly feelings which existed between landlord and tenant in Scotland, his Lordship gave the “Tenantry of Scotland,” which was drunk with great enthusiasm.

Mr. FINNIE.—The infinite pleasure with which I rise to propose the toast which has been allotted to me, is alloyed with one consideration only, and that is a perfect sense of my inadequacy to introduce to your notice, in a suitable manner, a subject in which the dearest feelings of our noble guest is involved—(cheers). Assured, however, of a unanimous and cordial response to my call, I will neither waste your time in apologising for my incompetency in proposing, nor in the needless task of propitiating your concurrence with the toast with which I am to conclude. Much has been said here and elsewhere respecting the hereditary virtues of the family of Buccleuch; and although I profess myself rather sceptical regarding the doctrine which assigns nobility of soul as an invariable concomitant to nobility of birth, still it must be acknowledged by all that it is both cheering and animating when we are about to dedicate a bumper to the expectant representative of so great and influential a family, that we can dwell with pleasure on the past and present character of that family it would almost appear that the Bard had that family in his eye, when speaking of those

“Who left their sons a name, a fame,  
They, too, would rather die than share.”

(Applause).

Let me, therefore, request you to dedicate this bumper to the Earl of Dalkeith, the roof-tree of the house of Buccleuch, and may the son even surpass the estimable qualities of the father,

The Duke of Buccleuch returned thanks.

A variety of other toasts, particularly relating to agriculture and its promoters, were given, and the meeting broke up at half-past twelve o’clock.

## A DUMFRIESSHIRE FARMER IN THE UNITED STATES.

The rain ceasing about noon, we walked after dinner round the north end of the lake, to visit a farmer from Dumfriesshire, Scotland.

Mr. J——— possesses strong natural parts, and is an instance of what energetic and persevering industry is capable of accomplishing in this country. On his first arrival he was very poor, and often employed himself in carrying wheat for hire. One year he raised by his own labour 900 bushels of wheat, with only the assistance of a small boy in harrowing, while he himself was engaged in sowing. His farm is now his own property; and this season he has sixty acres in wheat, equal to any crop of similar extent I ever examined. His system is to sow clover amongst wheat, which affords good pasture in autumn, and is fed off in the following spring; the land is ploughed in the end of June, and after an imperfect fallowing, sown with wheat in autumn. The Dutch farmers in the neighbourhood also sow clover with the wheat crop, which in spring is ploughed down for manure, without being fed off. This shows how much nature does for the farmer,—one year providing manure, and in the next a wheat crop. Skill might improve the system followed, but the period of introducing advanced agriculture into the United States has not yet arrived. Mr. J——— applies fifty heaped Winchester bushels of lime to an acre, which costs nine cents, or  $4\frac{1}{2}$ d sterling, per bushel. Gypsum costs fifteen cents per bushel, and is only used for clover and Indian corn. This being the season of applying it to the latter, people were carrying it in baskets, and putting a pinch on each hill or cluster of plants. Half a bushel is sufficient for an acre, and imparts an improved appearance to the crop in four days, except on black soft land, where it has little effect.

Mr. J——— feeds labourers on the best of fare, and finds no want of them at any time. His wheat crop is cut with the cradle scythe at \$1 a-day and found, that is boarded—and two binders follow the cradler at  $62\frac{1}{2}$  cents. Wheat is cradled at \$1 $\frac{1}{4}$  per acre, and grass at \$ $\frac{1}{2}$ , labourers finding themselves—and the work well done in both cases. Americans, Dutch, English, Irish, and Scotch, he finds work equally well. All his crop, including hay, is housed, and he considers a dollar per bushel a good price for wheat.

A good many sheep were shown us, a mixture of Saxon and Merino blood, which are not anointed with any kind of liquor or salve, and never stricken with fly. They are kept in courts during winter, fed on hay, and lamb betwixt 20th April and 20th May. Mr. J———’s flock was in better condition than any yet seen, though poor, and the lambs were starvelings, compared with those reared in the cultivated parts of my native district. He says his sheep seldom die, having only lost two out of five hundred in the course of two years, and the mortality amongst lambs was not much greater. The price of his ewes, when the lambs are weaned, is \$3, and that of two-year-old wedders, \$2 and \$2 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Fleeces weigh 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  lb., and his wool at present is worth 60 cents per lb.

We examined a large collection of wool belonging to Mr. R———, which was of fine quality. He



told us one of his yearling widders, weighing 29lb., yielded 2lb. 9oz. of wool; and the small size of this sheep induced him to think an acre of ground would yield as much fine wool as coarse. But the data furnished by this animal are not satisfactory, as its wool and carcass, in all probability, bore a different proportion in the preceding autumn; since which, the latter may have decreased, and the former increased. The carcass of a live widder, weighing 29lb., must have consisted only of bone and sinew, and the weight of wool, compared with that of the sheep, may be held as evidence of wretched condition, and not of superiority of wool-growing.

Mr. J——'s cows were beautiful animals, and very fat. For some days past a great improvement in the condition of cattle had been observed, arising, perhaps, from better pastures, and the advance of the season.—*Shirreff's Tour in North America.*

### THE GENESEE FLATS.

Having heard much of the Genesee flats, I proceeded to call on their owner, on arriving at Genesee. Mr. Wadesworth had gone to a distant part of the country, one of his sons being the only member of the family at home, and who had rode out after breakfast. On calling a second time, the young gentleman pointed out the way to the flats, where he said he would join us in an hour afterwards.

The Genesee flats belonging to Mr. Wadesworth, are rich alluvial soil, ornamented with aged trees, deposited in groups and at intervals; and perhaps no gentleman's park in Britain equals them in fertility and beauty. They differ from the rest of the surface in this part of the country, by having been cleared by nature, and are chiefly in grass, affording the richest pasturage I ever saw, with the exception of some fields in the neighbourhood of Boston, Lincolnshire, England. On examining some parts which had never been subjected to the plough, red and white clovers were particularly abundant, also Timothy grass (*Phleum pratense*), and several kinds of poea. Cocksfoot was less common, and a few spikes of tall oat-like grass (*Holcus avenaceus*). Rye-grass or yellow-flowering clovers were not visible. A field was pointed out which had been mown for hay thirty-five successive years, without top-dressing, and the grasses were still in vigour of growth, interspersed with red clover nearly thirty inches high.

The young gentleman joined us on the flats, and pointed out every thing deserving of notice. The sheep were a mixture of Merino and Saxon breeds, and not fat looking. There was a fine short-horn bull, intended to improve the dairy stock, which I did not see. This contemplated improvement originated from perusing the writings of the Rev. Henry Berry of England; and I took the liberty of advising the cross to be tried on a small scale, believing the short-horns the worst milking breed in Britain. This opinion was new to the gentleman, who said he would keep it in view, and proceed cautiously in intermixing the breeds. The grazing cattle were extremely numerous — four-year-olds, which had been bought in spring, and kept on hay till the arrival of grass, on which they are to be fattened. Mr. Wadesworth intends to cultivate wheat extensively; and one enclosure, as a beginning, was bearing an indifferent crop. I have often observed wheat not succeed well on very rich ground, and that, in Britain, the United States, and Canada, soils which have been long under cultivation, yield the best crops of this grain when properly managed.

There was a variety of implements which brought to recollection those at Holkham, Norfolk, England. Amongst others, a mowing machine was exhibited and descanted on. We were shown a fine oak tree growing on the banks of the river, and said to be twenty-four feet in circumference.—*Shirreff's Tour in North America.*

### SOILING.

With respect to the advantages of soiling horses on green food, in the yard or stable, it seems to be now generally understood that, with proper management, they can be supported with great health and vigour: its economy, however, must depend on the proportion which it bears to the price of dry food, and its convenience to the quantity in which it can be spared for other cattle.

It is a very old, though by no means a universal practice, and the experience of hundreds of farmers proves, that horses maintained in that manner for years have neither lost flesh nor strength sufficient for all farming purposes, although there was no palpable saving of their work, and that, though afterwards placed on dry food during the winter, they continued in perfect health. It is an excellent plan to give some green food along with the corn and chaff, before the usual period of feeding entirely on dry fodder; the change from dry to green, and again from green to dry food, should be gradual. In its commencement, the clover or tares should be cut, and mixed in small portions with straw, and a proportionate quantity of corn should be reduced. The green food is then insensibly increased, until the corn is entirely omitted, and the quantity of green meat is supplied without limitation: it should, however, be cut over-night, and given only in small quantities gradually increased, to guard as much as possible from accidents, which may arise from its succulence by hoving. When horses are soiled, they never should get much at a time, a practice far too prevalent among servants.

The summer feeding of horses was formerly confined to pasturage: but of late years the practice of soiling has become very general. The benefit of grazing consists in its requiring little attendance; and being the most natural, and therefore the most healthful, it is preferable for all young cattle which can be spared from constant labour, and on farms which contain a considerable portion of rough pasture. But for horses at regular work, these advantages are counterbalanced by the time lost in getting them up from the field; the indisposition to labour which they acquire by being at large; and the annoyance which they suffer from heat and flies when turned out in the day-time. The value of their dung and urine is also in a great measure destroyed by being scattered upon the surface of the ground, and exposed to exhalation of the sun and wind; and there is much waste of grass, and injury done to the mellowness of the soil, if it be valuable land, by the treading of all heavy stock, but especially of horses. The utility of soiling consists in a more economical consumption of grass, whether natural or artificial, than by grazing; in the accumulation of manure, and in the quiet and coolness which the cattle enjoy under sheds, or in the stable, during mid-day, as well as in their being always ready when wanted; the only disadvantage is the expense of cutting and carrying home the grass, against which may be fairly set the increase of manure, if expense be really incurred; but as, during summer, there is usually a long interval of rest between the morning and afternoon-work, the carters can then cut the necessary quantity, which

may be drawn to the homestead by one of the team-horses, if there should not be a supernumerary one left for odd jobs.

When, however, the economy of the practice is not the chief consideration, horses on summer work may be *both grazed out and soiled*. They may be put on cut clover in the middle of the day, between yokings, and turned out during the night into a well-sheltered meadow or enclosure. In being kept under cover during the heat of the day, they will be sheltered from flies, and will feed more at ease; and in being pastured out during the night, they will also have an opportunity of selecting those grasses which act as condiments and are most agreeable to their palate. All animals like variety of grasses, selecting always what is most palatable, which they cannot do when soiled, particularly if fed on cut clover and tares. Exposure to the night air is also found to be highly favourable both to their health and appearance.

The economy of soiling, wherever it can be conveniently adopted, is, indeed, too generally admitted to need the support of argument; and particularly on soils on which turnips are entirely consumed on the ground, or on which they cannot be grown, and where consequently there is difficulty in converting the straw into manure during the winter, it cannot be too strongly recommended. But it requires a succession of green crops; and as only the artificial grasses are resorted to in England—though in many parts of the continent the meadows are also mown for that purpose—it is necessary that winter and summer tares should be sown at different periods, so as to afford a constant supply, both before clover comes in, and after the first crop is off. This is a great impediment to the practice in Scotland, and in some of our northern counties, where tares are an uncertain crop; though cattle are certainly soiled with great advantage, both there and in other places, on clover alone. In other situations too, farms, on strong clay, frequently contain a large portion of meadow, and grazing being combined with tillage, the whole of the straw is consumed in the winter; in which case one of the advantages of summer soiling would be lost, as yard dung, without the addition of straw, is of very little value. But even in this instance, or in others where the distance of the fields from the homestead may be opposed to the cartage of the grass, it is better to cut it daily, and give it on the ground in pens, or small enclosures hurdled off, so as to prevent the cattle from injuring the growing crop, than to allow them to range over and trample it. By confining them in this manner to a small space, and moving the hurdles forward as the grass is eaten, the fertilising properties of the dung and urine, which would otherwise be lost, are in a considerable degree preserved; and if the land be immediately ploughed, it will be nearly as much benefited as if it were more regularly manured.

The artificial grasses used for soiling are the same as those already enumerated as hay, but here *tares* take the lead, both because the winter species is earlier ready than any other, except rye-grass, and affords a weightier crop. In most seasons, tares are ready for the scythe towards the middle of May, for if left till they are quite ripe they will become unfit for soiling before the crop can be used; and although there may be some loss in using them so soon, it will be compensated by the saving at the latter end, as well as by commencing the soiling sooner than would be otherwise practicable. Before they are off, clover will be ready; the tares still standing may then be made into hay, and by the time the clover is becom-

ing strawy, and losing its succulence, spring-tares will come in, which, if they have been sown at intervals of about a fortnight each, will last until the second cut of clover; or, if spring-tares be not sown, the growth of part of the clover may be checked by light early feeding. There is also an excellent fashion regarding soiling in Dorsetshire, which consists in saving a portion of rye, alone, to be cut green; then another portion of rye with tares; and afterwards the remainder entirely with tares: the rye comes first into use and assists in raising the earlier tares, while those of later growth do not require any such nursing. Thus horses may be kept upon a succession of green herbage, without touching the meadows, throughout four months of the summer and autumn, and, while thus fed, require very little corn; when stirring the fallows, and during the hurry of harvest, a couple of feeds a-day may be serviceable, but more is unnecessary, and at other times should be wholly omitted.

The mention of *lucerne* has been omitted, although extremely valuable for soiling, because it requires a peculiar quality of land, and is not commonly cultivated. In the Essex Report, it is said, that two horses have been supported during four months upon a quarter of an acre, with scarcely anything given to them besides; and that six horses, at hard work, have been kept on *lucerne*, instead of hay, but with an allowance of oats and chaff for twelve weeks—six from the first cut; four from the second; and two from the third: which, valuing the hay saved at 3s. per horse per week, would amount to 10l. 16s. A paper in the communications to the board of Agriculture also states that, in one year, twenty-three horses have been kept twenty weeks, and in the next, twenty-eight horses during eighteen weeks, upon eleven acres alone; which gives an average of three roods per horse in nineteen weeks. It is also extensively used on the coast of Normandy, and in the neighbouring islands Guernsey and Jersey but it is there said that horses, particularly those used for the saddle, require more precaution from overworking, when first going out of the stable, than when fed on other hay; and, what is singular, that, when soiled on green *lucerne*, there is not the same danger.

In Holland and Flanders, where the feeding of cattle is supposed to be better understood than in most places, the summer soiling of farm-horses is limited to half an acre of meadow grass, cut and carried to the stables, from the middle of May to the middle of June; from which time to the end of August one-sixth of an acre of clover is added, with 2lbs daily of beans; and from thence to November, when the winter feeding commences, the clover is replaced by an equal quantity of carrots. From the number of horses stated, in this instance, to be kept in proportion to the tillage—11 to 150 acres, of alluvial soil—their labour can, however, be only light; though a pair is said to draw a ton and half of manure in the field, and three tons upon pavement.

Accounts have been also published, showing that horses may be regularly worked throughout the summer, in this country, without any corn: thus green crops, consumed by soiling, are said to go four times as far as when grazed; and that, in this manner, one acre of clover is equal to six of meadow pasture. But many of these statements rest only upon opinion, or upon insufficient data, and in all, so much depends upon the state of the crop, the size and health of the animal, and the work performed, of which the account is generally imperfect, that no safe conclusion can be drawn from them: it is therefore unnecessary to refer



to them; nor is the cause which they are meant to promote assisted by being advocated upon any other than its real merits. A medium-sized farm-house, at customary labour, consumes from 84lbs. to one cwt. of green food daily, with an occasional allowance of corn. Now a good acre of tares, or of broad clover, will weigh twelve tons, (that is, presuming the tares to be cut only once, and the clover twice; for although winter tares may be cut again, it is more usual to get them off the land as soon as possible, either in order to sow turnips or to form a bastard fallow;) and, taking that weight as the average of both, and the consumption at the highest rate, half an acre of either would support a horse during four months. This nearly accords with some instances in the county surveys; in others, more have been consumed, and, for the reasons already stated, it is next to impossible that any two accounts should agree; but, upon a rough estimate, it may be affirmed, that about a perch per day will be required for each horse in most seasons, and on most kinds of lands, if soiled, and that double that quantity will be necessary if pastured.

It must, however, be borne in mind that the difference in the degree of succulence contained in various grasses must necessarily have a material influence on the state of the cattle by which they are consumed. Of this farmers are generally pretty well informed, either through their own observation, or by the experience of others; but an accurate acquaintance with the subject was not attained until the experiments made at Woburn, by which Mr. Sinclair has been enabled to ascertain the quantity of soluble nutritive matter afforded by all those grasses which constitute the produce of the richest ancient pastures, as well as those of artificial growth.

The custom of giving corn along with green meat is unprofitable; for the grain thus mixed, passes rapidly off the stomach, and is never perfectly digested. When however, increased exertion demands an addition of more substantial food, and that corn is also allowed, it should be given only in the morning and at night, accompanied with a sufficient quantity of chaff to afford it consistence, and green meat should only be given at mid-day. Farmers very generally omit that precaution, and it is a common custom among them, to allow half the usual quantity of corn, without regard to the effect of the watery juices of grass upon the digestion; but they may be assured that a great portion of the nutriment contained in the grain is thus wasted.

WONDERFUL, IF TRUE!—There is at present in Mr. Archibald Kemp's, spirit-dealer, Charlotte-street, a sheep, whose exploits will make even the Editor of *The Dumfries Courier* turn up his eyes and exclaim with Domine Sampson—"Prodigious!" He goes by the cognomen of "Willy," and if any of the customers in the house cry "Willy, here's a glass for you," he will come forth obedient to the summons, and swill his bumper with the most inveterate toper present. Nor is this all; for Willy sometimes turns his owner's spirit crans and helps himself, when he thinks he is not observed; or purloins a few sweetmeats, or peppermints, from the window. Whisky, ale, porter, &c., come all alike to him; he will open a snuff-box of himself, and speedily empty the contents, and chew a quid of tobacco, and drink a glass of grog, with as much satisfaction as any jolly tar in his Majesty's navy. Willy's feats are innumerable: he is a friend of all, a consumer of all sorts, and one of Mr. Kemp's best customers.—*Scotsman*.

## WILD DUCKS.

The wild duck or mallard is nearly two feet in length, two feet ten inches in extent of wing, and weighs from two and a half to three pounds. The bill is of a greenish yellow colour; the head and upper part of the neck are of a glossy changeable green, terminated in the middle of the neck by a white collar with which it is nearly encircled. The scapulars are white, barred, or rather undulated with minute lines of brown; the back is brown, and the rump black, glossed with green. On the wing coverts two transverse white streaks edged with black enclose a broad stripe of a lucid violet-green colour. The lower part of the neck and breast is of a chestnut colour; the belly is pale grey, crossed with numerous transverse dusky lines. The tail consists of twenty feathers and is pointed in shape; the four middle are of a greenish black colour and curve upward in a remarkable manner; the others as usual of a grey brown, margined with white. Legs orange.

The female is very plain. The bill is shorter and smaller than that of the male; and the ground colour of the plumage is pale reddish brown, speckled with black. The violet-green stripe on the wings is as in those of the male; but none of the tail feathers are curved. The young male birds, previously to their first moult, resemble rather the female than the male parent. In a domestic state some individuals appear in nearly the same plumage as the wild ones; others vary greatly from them, as well as from each other, and are marked with nearly every colour; but all the males or drakes, still retain the curled feathers of the tail. The tame duck is, however, of a more dull and less elegant form and appearance than the wild, domestication having deprived it of its lofty gait, long tapering neck, and sprightly eyes.

Wild ducks inhabit Europe, Asia, and America, in summer frequenting the lakes and marshes of the north, and in autumn migrating southward in large bodies, and spreading themselves over the lakes and marshes of more temperate latitudes. Considerable numbers of them return northward in spring; but many straggling pairs, as well as former colonists, stay in this country to rear their young, which become natives, and remain throughout the year in the marshy tracts of the British isles. Large flocks visit Egypt in November after the inundation of the Nile. In an opposite direction of the globe, the lakes in the Orkneys form one of their great resorts in winter; and when the lakes happen to be frozen, they betake themselves to the shores of the islands. In these districts they may be seen in great multitudes, and on the report of a gun they rise like clouds. They are also known to abound on the lake of Zirknitz in Carniola, where they are often swallowed entire by the huge pikes which frequent that remarkable piece of water. On the approach of a storm they issue from the caverns in the rocks, and fly about the country, where they are soon captured by the peasants; many of them are killed with clubs at the very openings of the cavities, being dazzled by the light of day. In England they abound most in the fens of Lincolnshire, where prodigious numbers are annually taken in the decoys. Particular spots in the fens are let to the fowlers at a rent of from 5*l.* to 30*l.* a-year; and Pennant mentions a season in which 31200 birds were captured in a single season in ten stations near Wainfleet, adding, that "the numbers taken in the decoys make them so cheap on the spot, that the decoy-man would be glad to contract to deliver the ducks at Boston for years, at tenpence the couple."

Wild ducks are naturally very shy birds, and fly at a considerable height in the air, in the form of a wedge or triangle. Before they alight on any spot, they describe several turns round it, as if to reconnoitre it, and then descend with great precaution. They generally keep at a distance from the shore when they swim; and when the greater part of them sleep upon the water, with their heads under their wings, some of the party are always awake to watch over the common safety, and to apprise the sleepers of the approach of danger. The extreme wariness of these birds renders much patience and ingenuity necessary on the part of the fowler. They rise vertically from the water with loud cries; and in the night-time their flight over head may be known by the hissing noise which they make. They are more active by night than by day; indeed those that are seen by day have in general either been roused by a sportsman or by some bird of prey.

Wild ducks breed only once in the year, the pairing-time commencing about the end of February or beginning of March and lasting three weeks, during which period each couple lives apart, concealed among the reeds and bushes during the greater part of the day. The female generally selects a thick tuft of bushes, insulated in a pool or lake, for her breeding station, and binds, cuts, and arranges the bushes in the form of a nest; sometimes she makes her nest on heaths at some distance from the water, scraping together a heap of the nearest vegetables for the purpose; a rick of straw in the fields occasionally serves her purpose. Latham says, that she has even been known to lay her eggs in a high tree, in the deserted nest of a magpie or crow; and he records an instance of one that was found at Etchingham, in Sussex, sitting upon nine eggs, in an oak, at the height of twenty-five feet from the ground, the eggs being supported by some small twigs placed crosswise. The female, during the incubation, usually plucks the down from her breast to line her nest, in which she frequently deposits sixteen eggs, which she generally covers when she leaves the nest for the purpose of feeding. Whenever she returns to it, she alights at some distance, and approaches it by winding paths; but when she has resumed her seat she is not easily induced to quit it. The male keeps watch near the nest, or accompanies and protects his mate in her temporary excursions in quest of food. All the young are hatched in one day, and on the following the mother leads them to the water; or if the nest be high, or at a distance from water, both parents convey them, one by one, in their bills or between their legs, and they are no sooner consigned to the water, than they begin to swim about with the greatest ease, and to feed on insects. The mother-bird is a most attentive and watchful parent until her young progeny are able to fly; this is in about three months after their birth, and in three months more they attain to their full size and plumage.

The flesh of the wild duck is more delicate and juicy, and of a finer flavour, than that of the domestic. It is almost every where in high estimation as an article of food, and hence the ingenuity of man, in all the countries which it frequents, has been employed in devising stratagems for the capture of this most cautious and wily bird. We shall now proceed to furnish our readers with an account of some of the more remarkable of these stratagems. Some of the methods of capturing the wild ducks in America, as described by Wilson in his 'American Ornithology,'

are among the most singular resorted to in any country, and claim to be noticed in this place.

In some ponds frequented by these birds, five or six wooden figures, cut and painted so as to represent ducks, and sunk, by pieces of lead nailed to their bottoms so as to float at the usual depth on the surface, are anchored in a favourable position for being raked from a concealment of brushwood, &c. on shore. The appearance of these decoys usually attracts passing flocks, which alight and are shot down. Sometimes eight or ten of these painted ducks are fixed in a frame in various swimming postures, and secured to the bow of the gunner's skiff, projecting before it in such a manner that the weight of the frame sinks the figures to their proper depth; the skiff is then dressed with sedge or coarse grass, in an artful manner, as low as the water's edge; and, under cover of this, which appears like a covey of ducks swimming by a small island, the gannet floats down sometimes to the very skirts of a whole congregated multitude, and pours in a destructive and repeated fire of shot amongst them. In the winter, when detached pieces of ice are occasionally floating in the river, some of the fowlers on the Delaware paint their whole skiff or canoe white, and laying themselves flat at the bottom, with their hand over the side silently managing a small paddle, direct it imperceptibly into or near a flock, before the ducks have distinguished it from a floating mass of ice, and generally do great execution amongst them. A whole flock has sometimes been thus surprised asleep with their heads under their wings. On land, another stratagem is sometimes practised with great success, a large tight hogshhead is sunk in the flat marsh or mud, near the place where ducks are accustomed to feed at low water, and where, otherwise, there is no shelter. The edges and top are artfully concealed with tufts of long coarse grass and reeds, or sedge. From within this the fowler, unseen and unsuspected, watches the collecting party, and, when a sufficient number offers, sweeps the n down with great effect.

Among the methods resorted to in different countries for the capture of wild ducks, one is so remarkable as to require particular notice. On the river Ganges, in India, at Ceylon, and in China, a man wades into the water up to his chin, and, having his head covered with an empty calabash, approaches the place where the ducks are, and they, not regarding an object so commonly seen upon the water, suffer the man to mingle freely with the flock, when he has nothing to do but pull them under water, by the legs, one by one, until he is satisfied, and then returns to the shore as unsuspected by the remainder as when he first came among them. For this purpose the earthen vessels used by the Gentoos, called kutcharee pots, which are thrown away as defiled after having been once used for cooking rice, are often employed instead of calabashes; and some authors state that hollow wooden vessels, with holes to see through, are sometimes used for the same purpose.

In an account of the various methods employed in capturing wild ducks, we must not overlook the system of "hut-shooting" pursued in France, which is described by Colonel Hawker, from whose book\* the following account of it is derived, as the only method "by which a very bad shot, with a very bad gun may kill ducks while as warm and dry as if by his fire-side."

There are few places where the lover of comfort can

\* Instructions to young Sportsmen in all that relates to Guns and Shooting. Fifth Edition, 1826.



shoot more at his ease than at the lakes of Peronne in Picardy. The water, being part of the Somme, is not quite stagnant, and is, in every part about four or five feet deep, surrounded and intersected by numerous islands and walls of rushes. The waters are here rented by "hutriers" (hut-shooters), who get their livelihood principally by supplying the markets of Paris and other towns with wild fowl, which they shoot, instead of taking them with decoys, as in this country. Though the French in some places are very expert at catching birds, particularly on that vast tract of sand between Crotoi and St. Valery, where the whole mouth of the Somme may be seen spread with nets, and surrounded by lines of horse-hair (nooses), yet shooting from the hut is the favourite and most general method of capturing wild fowl in France. The common way of making a hut is, to cut down a large square in the reeds, about eight feet by four; and after a foundation of wood, stone or brick, has been laid, six piles are driven in on each side, on which are placed hoops precisely like those of a tilted waggon. The sides are then built up with turf, or whatever else is most convenient, and the roof is thatched over. In front there must be three or four port-holes to fire through, and, at the back, a small door at which the fowler enters. This hut being built amidst high reeds, and afterwards strewed over with them, is completely undistinguishable, although as commodious inside as a large covered waggon. Hither the "hutrier" of Peronne repairs regularly every night, wet or dry, and takes a great coat (if he has one), with a piece of brown bread and a sour apple for his supper. In front of his hut are fastened, to piles at each end, three separate ropes about twenty yards long. On the centre rope he ties four drakes, and four ducks to the one on each flank, making in all twelve decoy birds. The birds thus separated will, in general, be calling to each other, and, if so, a wild one will seldom pass without coming down to them. As the decoy birds are (to use a military term) dressed in line, whatever bird the fowler sees out of the ranks he knows must be a wild one; and as the lake in moderate weather is like a mirror, the night is seldom so dark but that he can see to shoot at the very short distance which his miserable gun and powder will allow. The hutriers never permit shooting from a boat, or at birds on the wing, through the fear of disturbing the pond. One of the principal of them informed Colonel Hawker that his plan was to take his night's rest, and leave the birds till a little before daylight, when they would be all collected together, and when a shot would do much less mischief to the decoy than if fired before the birds had fed and slept.

But all the methods we have described, which more or less involve much watching and fatigue, are vastly inferior to the decoys used in England, particularly in the fens of Lincolnshire,—a circumstantial account of which is given by Bewick.

In the lakes to which the wild ducks resort, their most favourite haunts are observed. Then, in the most sequestered part of this haunt, a ditch is cut, which is about four yards across at the entrance, and decreases gradually in width from the entrance to the farther end, which is not more than two feet wide. The ditch is of a circular form, but does not bend much for the first ten yards. The banks of the lake on each side of this ditch (or "pipe," as it is called) are kept clear from reeds, coarse herbage, &c., in order that the fowl may get on them to sit and dress themselves. Along the ditch poles are driven into the ground, close to its edge, on each side, and the tops

are bent over across the ditch and tied together. These poles, thus bent, form at the entrance of the ditch or pipe an arch, the top of which is ten feet distant from the surface of the water. This arch is made to decrease in height as the pipe decreases in width, so that the remote end is not more than eighteen inches in height. The poles are placed about six feet from each other, and connected by poles laid lengthwise across the arch and tied together. Over the whole is thrown a net, which is made fast to a reed fence at the entrance and nine or ten yards up the ditch, and afterwards strongly pegged to the ground. At the end of the pipe farthest from the entrance is fixed a "tunnel-net," as it is called, about four yards in length, of a round form, and kept open by a number of hoops, about eighteen inches in diameter, placed at a small distance from each other to keep it distended. Supposing the circular bend of the pipe to be to the right when one stands with his back to the lake, then on the left-hand side a number of reed fences are constructed, called "shootings," for the purpose of screening the "decoy-man" from observation, and in such a manner that the fowl in the decoy may not be alarmed while he is driving those that are in the pipe. These shootings, which are ten in number, are about four yards in length, and about six feet high. From the end of the last shooting a person cannot see the lake, owing to the bend of the pipes, and there is then no further occasion for shelter. Were it not for these shootings, the fowl that remain about the mouth of the pipe would be alarmed if the person driving the fowl already under the net should be exposed, and would become so shy as entirely to forsake the place. The first thing the decoy-man does when he approaches the pipe is to take a piece of lighted turf, or peat, and hold it near his mouth, to prevent the birds from smelling him. He is attended by a dog, trained for the purpose of rendering him assistance. He walks very silently about half-way up the shootings, where a small piece of wood is thrust through the reed-fence, which makes an aperture just large enough to enable him to see if any fowl are in, if not, he walks forward to see if any are about the entrance of the pipe. If there are, he stops and makes a motion to his dog, and gives him a piece of cheese, or something else, to eat; and, having received this, the animal goes directly to a hole through the reed-fence, and the birds immediately fly off the bank into the water. The dog returns along the bank between the reed-fences, and comes out to his master at another hole. The man then gives him something to reward and encourage him, and the animal repeats his round until the birds are attracted by his motions, and follow him into the mouth of the pipe. This operation is called "working" them. The man now retreats farther back, working the dog at different holes until the ducks are sufficiently under the net. He then commands his dog to lie down behind the fence, and going himself forward to the end of the pipe next the lake, he takes off his hat and gives it a wave between the shooting. All the birds that are under the net can then see him; but none that are in the lake can. The former fly forward, and the man then runs to the next shooting and waves his hat, and so on, driving them along until they come to the tunnel-net, into which they creep. When they are all in, the man gives the net a twist, so as to prevent them from getting back. He then takes the net off from the end of the pipe, and taking out, one by one, the ducks that are in it, dislocates their necks. The net is afterwards hung on again for the repetition of the pro-

cess; and in this manner five or six dozen have sometimes been taken at one drift. When the wind blows directly in or out of the pipes the fowl seldom work well, especially when it blows into the pipe. The reason of this is, that the ducks always prefer swimming against the wind, otherwise the wind blowing from behind catches and ruffles their feathers. If many pipes are made in the same lake, they are so constructed as to suit different winds, and are worked accordingly. The better to entice the fowl into the pipe, hemp-seed is occasionally strewn on the water. The season allowed by Act of Parliament for taking ducks in this way is from the latter end of October until February.

Willughby states that formerly before the young ducks took flight, or while the old ones were in moult and unable to fly, they were driven by men in boats furnished with long poles, with which they splashed the water, between long nets stretched vertically across the pools in the shape of two sides of a triangle, into lesser nets placed at the point, and in this way he says that 4000 were taken at one drive in Deeping Fen; and Latham has recorded an instance in which 2646 were taken in two days near Spalding, in Lincolnshire; but these practices being considered injurious, were prohibited by statute in the reign of George II.

Tame ducks are also used for the purpose of leading the way into the pipe. Hence the term "decoy-ducks." These birds are fed on the pond, and made quite tame, and come to the keeper's whistle, to eat the hempseed which he strews on the pond. They generally lead the way into the pipe when whistled to. As they are used to the sight of the keeper, they do not rush forward with the wild ones into the net, but return back again safe into the pond: or if any of them should be driven forward, they are easily, by their colour, distinguished from the wild ones.

Although our account more particularly relates to the bird in its wild state, it will not be improper to mention that the rearing of ducks is made an object of great importance in China. The greater part of them are hatched by artificial warmth; the eggs being laid in boxes of sand, are placed on a brick hearth, to which a proper degree of heat is given during the time required for hatching. The ducklings are fed with crawfish and crabs, boiled and cut small, and afterwards mixed with boiled rice; and in about a fortnight they are able to shift for themselves. The Chinese then provide them with an old step-mother, who leads them where they are to find provender, being first put on board a "sampan" or boat, which is destined for their habitation, and from which the whole flock, 300 or 400 in number, go out to feed, and return at command. This method is used nine months out of the twelve, for in the colder months it does not succeed; and is so far from a novelty that it may be seen everywhere, more especially about the time of cutting the rice, when the masters of the duck-boats row up and down the rivers, according to the opportunity of procuring food, which during that season is found in plenty, at the ebb of the tide, on the rice plantations, which are overflowed at high water. Is it curious to see how the ducks obey their master; for some thousands belonging to different boats will feed at large on the same spot, and on a signal given, follow the leader to their respective boats, without a stranger being found among them.

Died, at Quarry Hall, Enville, near Bridgnorth, on the 21st of January last, Joseph Smith, aged 71

years; he was 40 years waggoner in a nobleman's family, and in the habit of drinking a gallon of ale per day, independent of small beer; he therefore drank the quantity of 228 hogsheds 63 gallons, in forty years. He also was huntsman to the "Squirrel Hunt" kept up in that part of the country on every Good Friday afternoon for 45 successive years.

#### HINTS TO AGRICULTURAL READERS.

A correspondent of a contemporary journal says—"I have often been much surprised at the tardiness exhibited by the agricultural population in adopting any improvements in their modes of conducting their business, especially when I have compared it with the eagerness and celerity with which the manufacturing districts communicate to each other the most trifling improvements of machinery or mode of carrying on their manufacture, whereas many very useful practices prevail in rural districts which are entirely neglected even in a parish a few miles off; such, for instance, as the scalding of milk, in general practice in Devonshire for more than a century, and attended with the greatest advantages where the dairy is small, or the milk is produced in very small quantities, as is generally the case at this season of the year; for it enables the dairyman to keep his cream sweet for a long time, so that, instead of having butter rancid from being made with stale and often sour cream, the butter is as sweet and fresh as if it were made from one day's cream, as in the summer. The trouble of doing it is trifling; the milk is put into a shallow brass pan, and simmered over a stove, or hot dresser, or over a wood-fire (but the latter is apt to give it a smoky taste,) until a bubble rises, then take it off, and let it stand until cold, and then take off the cream from the top of it, and it will more readily churn into butter than raw cream. This simple process, so advantageous to dairymen at this season of the year, is almost entirely confined to Devonshire. Again, that very useful and advantageous use of unthrashed straw, for covering houses and ricks, commonly called reed, is known only to the three western counties; although every traveller must have observed the superior neatness of thatched buildings in those counties; yet they seem not to have inquired into its merits, or discovered that it is not dearer, and infinitely more durable, than thrashed straw, or surely we should have seen the practice become more general."

MURRAIN AMONG CATTLE. — MORAVIA, January 18th.—The epizootia makes frightful ravages in our country. According to authentic accounts, it has spread southward as far as the Danube, towards the west into Bohemia, and to the north as far as Austria. Some landed proprietors have lost all their cattle. In the space of ten years all the cattle belonging to the Lichtenstein family have perished. The alarming progress of this plague is attributed to the excessive heat last summer, and the consequent want of pasture. The same complaints exist in Galicia. This epizootia has also broken out in the northern mountains of Hungary. —*German Paper.*

Two or three days previous to the late general election, two candidates for a northern county met in a ball-room: "Why do you sit still," inquired a friend of one of them, whilst your opponent is tripping it so assiduously with the electors' wives and daughters?" The aspirant for parliamentary fame replied, "I have no objection to his dancing for the county, if I am allowed to sit for it."



## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "FARMERS' MAGAZINE."

Meltham, near Huddersfield.  
Feb. 3, 1835.

SIR,—By publishing this letter in your very valuable Miscellany, you will doubtless oblige thousands of your correspondents. I here give to the public four infallible processes for preventing the rot in Potatoes, they have all been tried, some two, others four years, without any failures at all arising from the rot.

The first and most simple is:—Plant whole potatoes in the usual way and manner. Second,—Cut the sets, and suffer them to dry in the shade two or three days, mix with these cut sets two measures of sand, or moist earth, to one of the seed, in a bin or corner of the barn; throw a slight covering of sand or earth over the heap, and let them remain until they are wanted to plant. N. B. In opening out the pie examine them carefully, and if any have not budded, or have symptoms of decay on the wounded parts, they must be rejected. Third,—Having cut your sets and suffered them to dry as before, stick a fork into each set, and rub the cut parts on a *red hot iron* until they be slightly charred; or, whilst the set is on the fork, dip the cut parts, first in coal-gas tar, and then in powdered charcoal. Both these last are tedious, but as it may be done by children or women, the cost will not be much.

NOTE.—If whole potatoes are planted in the usual way in March or the beginning of April, when they have all come up, if each root be reared up a little with a three-grained fork, and the potatoe taken away, the crop will be much increased thereby, (Tried in 1833.) Again, if these same sets be planted a second time the same day, or the day after, they will prove as good a crop as at first. If robbed a second time in June or July, the recovered potatoes will feed hogs;—but are capable of being applied to a much more profitable purpose, which I forbear at present to mention.

Thus much I give gratis to the public; what followeth is of much more importance, and demands a very small remuneration.

I have for thirty years back known a sure and certain method of producing, at the least, fifty per cent. more weight of potatoes on a given area, and at no more cost, either in manure or labour, than it is possible to be produced by any other process whatever. The method is simple and easy, and is built on the very nature of things; so very much so, that the natural philosopher will be astonished at his own ignorance, and that he himself was not the discoverer long ago. The process is very little known, and some few to whom I have communicated it, have made fortunes thereby.

I had not meant to give this almost invaluable discovery to the public; but, from circumstances not needful to mention, I am in less affluent circumstances than I have been. I propose the following most liberal terms:—Letters (post paid) directed to JOHN JOHNSON, Land Agent, Meltham near Huddersfield, inclosing half-a-sovereign; such letters, and such alone, will be answered, and the whole process in detail will be given.

## THE OTTER.

In the British Islands we have but one species of otter—the *Lutra vulgaris*. But the members of the genus are very numerous, and spread respectively over every quarter of the globe—nor are all confined to fresh waters; on the contrary, some are fishers on

the sea, and take up their abode, like seals, in the crevices of rocks on the shore. Of these we may instance the *Lutra stelleri*, a native of the polar regions.

The otter is found on the wild shores of the western isles of Scotland. Among the Highlanders it is a favourite sport to hunt this animal with dogs of the terrier breed. Parties will sally out with torches at night-time, when the otter leaves his hole to seek food. During the day he conceals himself under the large bare stones or fragments of rock close to the margin of the sea, forming what is called a "cainn." It is a difficult matter to force him from this retreat. The writer being in one of the Hebrides in the autumn of last year, accompanied a party of gentlemen attended by game-keepers for the purpose of witnessing this sport. It was a fine morning in September. Landing on one of the islands from a boat, the terriers were loosened from the couples and left to their own instinct to find the otters' den. After scrambling a considerable distance over masses of rock and loose pebbles on a remarkably wild and beautiful shore, the dogs, by their eagerness of manner and incessant barking, convinced the party that the game was within scent. The gentlemen, with guns cocked, then arranged themselves in convenient situations for intercepting the passage of the otter, should he attempt to take refuge in the sea; some mounted on the tops of rocks, others stood near the water or in the boat which had accompanied the party from the landing place. The keepers in the mean time assisted the dogs in their efforts to discover the lurking-hole of the prey. One of them, a thick-set Highlander, displayed a very characteristic enthusiasm. Addressing the dogs in Gaelic, he set to work with all the fervour of the animals themselves, tearing away large stones from the mouth of the hole, and half burying himself to enable the dogs to come at their object; they in the meantime ran about, yelping in the greatest excitement, and scratching at every aperture between the stones. While this action was going on at one hole, a large otter poked his head out of another, and looked about with as much astonishment as his countenance was capable of expressing, until catching a glimpse of one of his enemies, he suddenly retreated from the light. This incident having been observed, the attention of the party was transferred to the retreat thus betrayed. A large stone was first uplifted and hurled upon the top of the pile, with the intention of either forcing the inmate out by the shock, or of breaking some of the stones. Then a pole was thrust into the crevice, which was enlarged so as to admit a dog. One of the canine besiegers immediately rushed in, and, after a few seconds spent in grappling with his antagonist, an otter was dragged forth, at whom the whole body of dogs ran a-tilt. His defence was most heroic; many of his assailants exhibiting evidences of the power of his bite. The battle was continued for several minutes; and to those who delight in the display of animal ferocity, the noise of enraged combatants, and the sight of wounds and death, must have afforded high enjoyment. Dogs and otter, involved in one compact group, rolled down a precipitous ledge of crags, at the bottom of which, the power of numbers prevailing, the poor otter yielded up his life, "dying very hard," as it is called. Two more otters were taken directly after at the same cairn; one was shot as he made towards the water, the other was dragged by the tail, by one of the men, from his hole, and bagged alive. This was called a good day's sport. Although the otter, when attacked, is exceed-

ingly courageous, he is considered a harmless animal, living as described above, near the sea, and feeding upon fish. It is said, by the Highlanders, that this animal is somewhat of an epicure, selecting the back of the neck of a conger-eel, and generally preferring the upper parts of fish, leaving the rest to be devoured by the eagle or cormorant. This characteristic trait is confirmed by the written accounts of the river-otter.

Several English sportsmen have expressed surprise at the small dimensions of the dogs used in this kind of hunt in the Highlands. It is nevertheless true, that though some of the dogs are scarcely larger than the otter, their courage is quite equal to any encounter; and from their peculiarity of form they are perfectly adapted to enter the holes between the rocks, which to a larger animal would be impracticable. The writer of this account has seen little terriers of this breed exhibit marks of the severest bites from otters;—one dog had its lower jaw quite bitten away.

**PIGEON SHOOTING.**—The crack shots in the neighbourhood of Taunton had an excellent day's sport at Bishop's Lydeard, on Thursday, Feb. 12th, in a field in the occupation of Mr. Hawkins. The match was for a handsome silver goblet, of large size; and it was contested for by nine shots of well-known celebrity, at five birds each, twenty-one yards from the trap. The wind blew a "stiffer," which made the birds difficult to be got at, but the shooting was altogether of the first-rate description, and the prize was won by Gurnett, the gamekeeper of E. J. Esdaile, Esq., who killed all his birds in admirable style. The contest for the second prize lay between Mr. Bacon, Mr. Hawkins, and Mr. Woodrow, who were ties, the two former of whom killed their birds well, which made another trial between these well-known shots necessary, and again killing both their birds, they at length agreed to divide the prize between them. Mr. Hollier shot very unfortunately, two of his birds having fallen out of bounds by only two or three yards, after he had brought down his first bird very gallantly. Mr. Joseph Davey was the umpire, and gave his decision on the objections submitted to him in a fair and impartial manner. Some private matches at rabbit shooting were subsequently made, which produced some excellent sport, and caused much merriment to a large assemblage of spectators.

**EXTRAORDINARY CHARACTER.**—Mr. John Biss, who rents an estate of, and acts as gamekeeper for, L. St. Albyn, Esq., of Alfoxton, near Stowey, in the county of Somersetshire, although now in the *eightieth* year of his age, has the reputation of being the "best shot" within many miles of his neighbourhood. On the 1st September last, accompanied by Mr. St. Albyn, jun., he brought down eight birds out of nine, and on Friday last, several experienced sportsmen having assembled on a trial of skill, they proceeded with their dogs into the park and adjacent woods, where this ardent old sportsman kept up a brisk and successful fire among the rabbits, to the astonishment of all present. Biss occupies a snug cottage in a sweetly sylvan and sequestered spot, and has no ambition to relinquish it, being much attached to his habitation from the circumstance that his grandfather came to dwell therein when he was eighteen years of age, and married and brought up on the spot a large family, and died at the age of *eighty*. Biss's father also lived in the same dwelling all his life, and died at the age of *ninety*, and Biss himself as above stated, now *eighty*, has never lived in any other place. Biss

is cheerful and hearty, and speaks of his landlord in terms of devoted gratitude, averring that as he could never meet with a more generous master, no consideration whatever should ever tempt him to relinquish his present station. Biss has a son, who has always lived with his father, and who, the old man hopes, when he dies, will succeed him in the employment and protection of his benevolent landlord. The owner of property whose estate exhibits such an attestation to his honour, as that we have above described, enjoys a more estimable heir loom, than any which mere extent of acres can transmit. T. C.

**DOGS.**—The Australian dog never barks; indeed, it is remarked by Mr. Gardiner, in a work entitled "The Music of Nature," that "dogs in a state of nature never bark; they simply whine, howl, and growl: this explosive noise is only found among those which are domesticated." Sonnini speaks of the shepherds' dogs in the wilds of Egypt as not having this faculty, and Columbus found the dogs which he had previously carried to America to have lost their propensity to barking. The barking of a dog is an acquired faculty—an effort to speak, which he derives from his associating with man.—Bennett.

**A SPLENDID RUN WITH MR. G. L. COHAM'S PACK.**—On Tuesday, the 27th January, Hengscott, Devon, was the place of meeting, and ten the hour. Punctual to his time was G. L. Coham, with his "out-and-outers," and whilst drawing Hengscott Marsh Brake, old Rifle was heard by his shrill sounding note in the brake above the great wood, giving notice to the rest of his companions that he had found the varmint. Hark! hark! hark! away my boys! "one and all" soon joined, and for more than ten minutes the whole brake was in a movement; it was now who would give the joyful sound of *Tally-ho!* Gone away at last, woefully discovering what rum customers she (for a vixen she was, and a game one too,) had to deal with, she broke cover, and was tally'd up over the fields with a burning scent, and her pursuers, with heads up and sterns down, close to her brush, to Hengscott great plantation; from thence across the inclosures to Higher Gidcott, into Nott's Wood, on to the extensive woods and brakes of Walland, to Woodford Bridge; where, crossing the great road that leads from Torrington Hols-worthy, she hastened at double quick step for the Woodford Woods, and crossed the bottom to Abbots Bickington. Finding her pipes getting out of order, and her pursuers gaining ground, she changed her course from north-west to north-east, and skirting on her left the parish of West Putford, dashed through the river Torridge to Bulkworthy. (Yes, reader, if you are fond of fox-hunting, it would have made every hair on your head stand an end to have seen the little warblers striving for precedence whilst ploughing the water.) From Bulkworthy, running through the parish of East Putford, she pushed on to Membury; and here, my jolly fox-hunters, I am rather brought up in my narrative, not knowing the names of the numerous moors, brakes, woods, and inclosures through which and over which we galloped, nor had I time to inquire, at such a slapping pace, where we hurried along;—suffice it to say, after leaving Membury, Thornhill Head was on our right, and the towers of Parkham and Buckland Brewer on our left, till we reached the vale and covers which separate the latter parish from Frizlestock; and here from the small circuitous line the gallant varmint made, it was evident she was about to yield. Die she must,



(blood is always sweet, both to the huntsman and bounds,) and die she did, after as fine a run as ever was witnessed. The distance must have been nearly thirty miles, run in two hours and thirty-six minutes, and during the time nothing occurred which deserved the name of a check. The country was both hilly and deep, the fences difficult, the pace throughout very fast. Messrs. G. L. Coham, L. R. Heysett, and J. Sloley, all Nimrods, whose names in the west require no comment, as hunters, being "regular trumps;" the young 'Squire Morris, who gives promise of making an out-and-outer; M. R. Leach, whose heart is always in the cause; and Bob, the whipper-in, were up at the electric sound of "Whoop Whoop!"

**EXTRAORDINARY SCENTED FOX.**—On Tuesday, Feb. 17, the Cottesmore Hounds ran a fine dog fox up to the village of Empingham, and here, being hard pressed, reynard took refuge in a *small house*, into the lower region of which he descended, and became immersed in something more pungent than the otto of roses; he was, however, by some means unhoused, and again made his way across the country, the pack following on a *blazing scent*, and was killed near Tinckencote.

## AGRICULTURAL INTELLIGENCE, FAIRS, &c.

**EXETER FAIR.**—The old English proverb, "*Down corn, down horn*," seems now to be fully verified, since matters in cattle are come to the full as bad a pass as in Wheat. Our fair has been most abundantly supplied, but business has been dull indeed. There have been driven into it fat bullocks, stall fed, and as prime as can be looked upon, which, as regards a marketable price, were worth more in October last than they are now, and have stood throughout this morning without a shilling being offered for them!! Indeed, fat bullocks have fared worse than any thing else; the business done has been at the decidedly unremunerating price of from 7s 6d to 8s per score, but the far greater proportion remained unsold. For plough oxen and steers fit to go to work (of which the show has been remarkably fine), an effort was made for a start upwards, and to some small extent it has succeeded: the number of dealers from the East has been large rather than otherwise, with a disposition to pick these description of articles up. In this way, then, a pair of fine oxen, five years old, from the farm of Mr. John Comer, of Newton St. Cyres, were purchased to be taken into the neighbourhood of the metropolis for 30*l*. And for these generally, with a better share of the business of the day, we must quote from 23*l* to 30*l* the pair. In poor steers the efforts for an advance have not succeeded, the up-country dealers appearing determined to have them only at their own price. Condition, of course, was here the regulator, and with many driven back to their farms, we have to quote from 14*l* to 20*l* per pair. In poor heifers, if possible, things have been worse, since here on the part of the dealer it has been entire dictation; nor, for the business done, can we venture to quote more than 5s per score. There have been a fair show of cows and calves, but with nothing occurring to vary our market quotation.

**COCKERMOUTH FAIR.**—The annual Fair at Cocker-mouth had but a very inferior shew of horses, and the prices offered was so extremely low that many came away unsold,

**FROME MONTHLY MARKET** was well supplied with beasts, sheep, pigs, cheese, &c.: and we have the pleasure of stating that the general opinion was, that a finer exhibition of beasts was never witnessed in any market in the West of England, and the supply far exceeded that of many of the late Frome fairs. The sheep penned were above 500, and about 300 pigs, and amongst which was one belonging to Mr. Charles Hoddinott, butcher, of Frome, only six months old, which was extremely fat, and the admiration of all the fanciers in that department, for its shapeliness and beauty. In consequence of there being such a large supply (of beasts particularly) many were driven off unsold, but considerable sales were effected, and we have every reason to believe there will be many more dealers on the next Monthly Market day, it being now established. The premiums were awarded as follows:—

|                                                                                                                     | £ | s. | d. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----|----|
| For the second best fat cows or heifers, Mr. Joseph Harding, of Broadmead                                           | 2 | 0  | 0  |
| For the third best in-calf heifers, under two years old, Mr. Charles Weaver, Buckland                               | 2 | 0  | 0  |
| For the best bull, of any breed, under three years old, Mr. Taylor, Beckington                                      | 2 | 0  | 0  |
| For the greatest number of neat cattle offered for sale, the property of one person, Mr. James Crees, Witham Friary | 1 | 0  | 0  |
| For a pen of not less than ten fat long wool wethers, Mr. John Edgell, of Foxcote                                   | 1 | 10 | 0  |
| Ditto fat South-Down wethers, Mr. Edmund Moody, of Maiden Bradley                                                   | 1 | 10 | 0  |
| For the four best fat pigs, Mr. John Hoddinott, of Bollow Farm, East Woodlands                                      | 1 | 0  | 0  |
| For ten cwt. of the best cheese, of last year's make, Mr. G. Butler, of Kilmersdon                                  | 2 | 0  | 0  |
| For ten cwt. of the second best cheese, Mr. John Craddock, of Hemington                                             | 1 | 0  | 0  |
| EXTRA.—For the second best fat cows, Mr. Edward Jefferies, of Maiden Bradley                                        | 1 | 0  | 0  |
| For the second best bull, Mr. R. Brittain, Philip's Norton                                                          | 1 | 0  | 0  |

The prices may be quoted as follows: beef, from 8s to 9s per score; cheese, 40s to 48s per cwt, a few lots of superior quality sold considerably higher. Mutton, from 5d to 6d per lb; pigs, from 6s to 6s 6d per score. Of horses there was but a short supply.

At **BATH FAIR** there was a larger supply of cattle than has ever been exhibited on any former similar occasion. Fat beef averaged 9s per score; fat mutton, 5½d per lb; small South Down, 6½d. A large supply of cows and calves, as well as of stock beasts: but all met a very dull sale.

At **LEOMINSTER FAIR**, there was rather a thin show of cattle, but many fine animals amongst them. Fat cattle sold from 5d to 5½d per lb, and there was a tolerable good demand; stores were nearly 10 per cent better in price than at the last fair. There were few sheep, and mostly large ones, which went from 5d to 5½d per lb. Pigs were low in price. There was a good show of agricultural horses, which commanded fair prices.

**DARLINGTON FAIR.**—At our fortnight fair, we had a tolerably good supply of cattle and sheep which were nearly all sold at very little alteration in prices from our last quotation. Beef, 5s 3d to 6s; Mutton, 5s to 7s per stone.—In the corn market the supply of grain was good, sales a little brisk.

**DUMFRIES CANDLEMAS HORSE FAIR.**

The number of horses was considerably less than ordinary, but more generally of every kind of a superior description, and were eagerly bought. Colts ran from 30*l* to 40*l*, and in some few instances to 45*l*; but fillies were from ten to fifteen per cent lower. Good roadsters were from 26*l* to 35*l*, and work horses from 20*l* to 30*l*, but old and inferior, of every description, could scarcely be got off on any terms. Ponies were in much demand, and sold readily at from 12*l* to 18*l*, and even as high as 20*l*. A few hunters were sold at from 50*l* to 60*l*.—There were hardly any black cattle, and the very few exposed were driven away unsold.

**CARLISLE HORSE FAIR.**—There was a superior show of draught horses, but the prices offered were very low. Very little business was done, as intending purchasers would not come near the prices asked. Saddle and harness horses were few and inferior, though much in request.

The **GREAT CATTLE MARKET** at **KELSO** turned out extremely discouraging to the farmer. Many heavy cattle, fed through the winter, fetched from 20*s* to 40*s* only above the price at which they were bought in; whilst parcels of sheep fell short by 4*s* or 5*s* a head of what might have been got for them before being laid on turnips.

**LINCOLN ANNUAL FAT STOCK MARKET.**—The annual fat stock market was much better attended by buyers than by sellers. There was a good show of sheep, which fetched on the average 2*s* a-head advance, but only a short supply of beasts, which caused a considerable rise in the prices. The average sales were from 5*s* 6*d* per stone to 6*s* 6*d*, sinking offal.

**BEVERLY CANDLEMAS FAIR.**—At this fair there was only a small supply of good horses, most of which were sold at fair prices. There were a great number of middling and inferior horses which met with a very tardy sale, and at bad prices. The beast market was well supplied with both fat and lean stock; the former sold at rather lower prices than at most of the late markets, owing, it is supposed, to abundant supply. Some lots were driven out unsold.

**GISBURN CATTLE FAIR.**—There was an extra show of fat and a numerous attendance of buyers. Beef, 3½*d* to 5*d*; Mutton, 4*d* to 6*d*. Lean Cows and Calvers, of which there were abundance, fetched good prices, and were nearly all sold.

At **PAUL'S FAIR** of **TURRIFF** there was a moderate show of stock. Cows at calving, and fat cattle, were in demand, but at reduced prices. Cows sold at from 5*l* to 9*l* 10*s*; fat stock from 38*s* to 40*s* per cwt; stirks and cows of inferior quality 30*s* per cwt. Little doing in lean stock. Few horses, and the quality still worse; of course few of them sold.

**WOOL MARKET IN LINCOLN.**—At the annual dinner held at the Monson's Arms, Lincoln, to commemorate the Fat Stock Market, which was most numerously attended, it was proposed to establish a Wool Market in Lincoln, and the proposition was hailed by the farmers and merchants present with great applause.

At **DORCHESTER CANDLEMAS FAIR** there was a numerous show of cows and calves, which met with a dull sale at from 7*l* to 10*l*. Barreners were in demand at prices from 6*l* to 10*l*. There was a few lots of fat sheep, which found buyers at 6*d* per lb. The Horse Fair exhibited, among the usual worn-out animals, many good useful horses, and several good colts, which met a ready sale at fair prices.

**NORTHAMPTON FAIR** exhibited an indifferent show of good store beasts, but as the jobbers did not offer them at reduced prices, they were quite sufficient to meet the demand. There was very little good beef, and a large number of inferior barren and milking cows, all dull of sale. Mutton was in small supply, the best, with the wool on, did not exceed 3*s* 6*d* per stone. The show of inferior cart horses was large, but the sale was very dull. Good riding and harness horses were much sought after. All the useful ones were readily sold.

**HOPS.**—A prime bargain was made a few days ago in north clay hops, at Retford. Mr. Wheelwright, of Welham, near Retford, sold to Mr. Atkin Ogle, of Ollerton, the produce of his hop ground (eight acres more or less), at 20*l*. per acre for the coming season. The speculation is good on the part of the purchaser.

**ACCIDENTAL DESTRUCTION OF SHEEP.** A farmer residing at Dunmow, having a flock of 130 sheep infected with the tick, he obtained a large quantity of tobacco juice and oil of tar, the latter being, when diluted with tobacco water, the most efficacious remedy; but the servant, owing to an accident, applied only the oil of tar, which being used by itself, caused the death of about fourscore of the suffering animals. The remainder of the flock, by the early application of an antidote, it is expected will recover.

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## REVIEW OF THE CORN TRADE IN MARK LANE DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY.

We last month availed ourselves of the opportunity of giving an impartial review of the wheat trade, and the little prospect which existed of the holder of bonded corn quitting his stock without sacrificing his property at ruinous prices; and, however unpalatable the facts may have been, which we communicated, yet we have just grounds for affirming, that the statement was by no means exaggerated. The prospects, however, for the speculation in foreign barley, as well as oats, are of a brighter character; and though the extent of the anticipated profits may by some be overrated, yet where the articles have been bought with judgment, and at prices not too exorbitant, there is every probability of the transactions repaying the outlay, and in many cases of yielding a fair return. No doubt seems to exist that the crop of both articles in this country are materially deficient, and which the sister kingdom have not means adequately of supplying; consequently, recourse will doubtless be had to the foreign produce, which, as regards barley, has in Holstein and Denmark, the past season, turned out of unusually fine quality, and the cargoes which have already come to hand, have worked so well, as in a great measure to remove the prejudices entertained by maltsters, against any quality of the grain that is not of English growth. The barley from the district of the Saale, and Bohemia, which commanded hitherto a preference in the trade, has this last year, from the unprecedented drought, proved steely and thin, not averaging in weight more than 47 to 48 lbs per bushel,



and only calculated for the local consumption. In Mecklenburg, the growth both as to quantity and quality, is inferior to that of the neighbouring Duchy of Holstein, and though samples may be selected weighing 51 to 52 lbs, yet the later deliveries from the farmers have not averaged more than 48 to 50 lbs, and the quality generally more adapted for distilling than malting. In Pomerania and Silesia, barley is also light and short in produce, and at Stettin, parcels weighing nearly 50 lbs, have realized 16s 6d to 17s. As we proceed up the shores of the Baltic, all the countries contiguous are found to have yielded a deficient crop both of oats and barley. At Königsberg, Liebau, and other principal places, there will be no barley for export, and in some instances hardly enough of either article for seed. In Russia, the deficiency of the crops of summer grain have forced the government to re-open the Baltic ports for the free admission of corn. In Finland, barley has failed to a considerable extent, and the ports of Abo, Nyland, and Wiburg opened for its free import, until the 1st of July. In Sweden also a deficiency is much complained of, and purchases effected at the Danish ports for Swedish account. Under these circumstances the early investment of capital in the Holstein and Danish samples, offers every appearance of rendering a fair return for the speculative risk. The prices however, are keeping more than on a par, with our currencies, and must check for the present further investment. As we fully appreciate the fact, that as regards the grain trade, no conclusions can be drawn, except from existing circumstances, as beyond these, they became purely speculative conjecture; it will be worthy of remark, by way of conclusion, that it is advisable, before entering too deeply into the speculation in foreign barley, to bring into the calculation, that the principal portion of the growth of the English and Scotch article, is of inferior quality; and the Irish imports have with few exceptions, proved only adapted for grinding purposes; and that thus, the low relative prices these descriptions are realizing, compared with the chevalier and malting samples, may act so disadvantageously on the averages as to prevent their advance sufficiently high, to have that effect on the duties, which would make it worth the chance of staking any large amount in the speculation.

During the past month the arrivals of British grain generally have been liberal, but have not differed much in the total amount from the receipts of January.

Dulness has generally pervaded the French markets, and the general average price of wheat throughout the kingdom has not exceeded 34s 1d, which is a trifle less than the previous month. The average of wheat however, taken for the last sixteen years has been 39s 8d. In many parts of the country, the want of water has become a serious inconvenience, as well as the source of much apprehension as to the fate of the forthcoming grain. In Paris the trade has been dull for wheat and barley, as well as rye, but oats coming in limited supply are maintaining a

higher relative value than other grain, and realizing 1s per qr more than barley, the top quotation being 18s 9d. At Rouen, Havre, Nantes, Caen, Bordeaux, and other leading markets, the trade in wheat has ruled heavy, and little demand existing, except for the local necessities; at Rouen, perhaps an exception may be formed, as the millers of the neighbourhood fearing a scarcity of wheat in spring, have been purchasing in Brittany. The cloverseed trade has been also languid, at Paris the article is obtaining 33s to 35s.

In the French markets in the Mediterranean, as well as the Italian ports, little alteration in price has been sustained. At Marseilles some few purchases of secondary qualities of wheat have been making for shipment to Corsica, and the Var, but as the anticipations of an import into Catalonia, had for the present disappeared, the business passing in bonded qualities was very partial; it was reported, purchases were making, in order to be smuggled into Spain, but there seems little foundation for the statement. The stock of free wheat amounted to 143,437 qrs, and 8000 bales of flour, but only 18,000 qrs of foreign bonded qualities. At Genoa, prices were unaltered. At Leghorn, the best samples of red Baltic wheat brought 25s 9d to 26s 9d; and the stocks had increased to 62,500 qrs. At Naples, Barletta wheat of best quality was quoted at 30s 2d to 31s, secondary 28s 2d, and some purchases had been effected. The weather continued very favourable for the growing crops.

The supplies of flour as well as grain in the markets of the United States, had been impeded by the cold weather, and prices remained without alteration, though holders were steady in their demands. At New York barley realized 25s 8d, Oats 16s 10d. The crop of flaxseed is favourably spoken of, and will exceed in produce the growth of the previous season. The cloverseed trade was languid, and the business transpiring almost entirely confined to the local necessities; at New York, prime eastern samples were held at 5½d per lb; southern 4¾d per lb.

#### CURRENCY PER IMPERIAL MEASURE.

|                                        | BRITISH. |    | FEB. 1. |    | MARCH 1. |    |
|----------------------------------------|----------|----|---------|----|----------|----|
|                                        | s.       | d. | s.      | d. | s.       | d. |
| Wheat, red, Essex, Kent, Suffolk, new. | 40       | 44 | 35      | 42 |          |    |
| Old.                                   | 42       | 45 | 40      | 43 |          |    |
| White, new.                            | 42       | 53 | 42      | 52 |          |    |
| Ditto, old.                            | 48       | 54 | 48      | 53 |          |    |
| Norfolk, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire.   | 36       | 41 | 36      | 41 |          |    |
| White, do. do.                         | 42       | 47 | 40      | 43 |          |    |
| West Country Red.                      | 40       | —  | 40      | —  |          |    |
| White, ditto.                          | 46       | 47 | 46      | 47 |          |    |
| Northumberland and Berwickshire Red.   | 35       | 39 | 37      | 40 |          |    |
| White, ditto.                          | 39       | 45 | 37      | 41 |          |    |
| Irish Red.                             | 32       | 36 | 32      | 38 |          |    |
| Ditto White.                           | 35       | 38 | 38      | 40 |          |    |
| Barley, Malting, new.                  | 31       | 36 | 32      | 35 |          |    |
| Chevalier, new.                        | 38       | 43 | 38      | 43 |          |    |
| Distilling.                            | 30       | 33 | 28      | 32 |          |    |
| Grinding.                              | 22       | 28 | 26      | 28 |          |    |
| Malt, Brown.                           | 36       | 43 | 36      | 43 |          |    |
| Ditto Norfolk pale.                    | 50       | 64 | 50      | 64 |          |    |
| Ditto Ware.                            | 60       | 67 | 60      | 67 |          |    |
| Peas, Hog and Grey.                    | 36       | 40 | 36      | 40 |          |    |
| Maple.                                 | 40       | 43 | 38      | 42 |          |    |
| White Boilers.                         | 38       | 42 | 36      | 38 |          |    |

|                         | FEB. 1.          |                  | MARCH 1. |    |
|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|----|
|                         | s.               | s.               | s.       | s. |
| Beans, small.....       | 36               | 40               | 36       | 40 |
| Harrow .....            | 34               | 39               | 36       | 38 |
| Ticks .....             | 32               | 35               | 34       | 36 |
| Mazagan.....            | 30               | 36               | 30       | 36 |
| Oats, ENGLISH feed..... | 24               | 25               | 23       | 25 |
| Short small .....       | 23               | 25               | 23       | 24 |
| Poland.....             | 23               | 26               | 23       | 26 |
| Scotch, Common.....     | 23               | 25               | 24       | 25 |
| Berwick, &c.....        | 25               | 26               | 25       | 26 |
| Potatoes, &c.....       | 25               | 27               | 25       | 27 |
| Irish, Feed .....       | 22s 6d to 23s 0d | 19s 0d to 20s 0d |          |    |
| Ditto Potatoe.....      | 23s 0d 25s 0d    | 22s 0d 24s 0d    |          |    |
| Ditto Black .....       | 19s 0d 22s 0d    | 20s 6d 22s 0d    |          |    |
| Bran .....              | 11s 0d to 12s 6d | per bushel.      |          |    |

## PRICES OF FLOUR,

| Per Sack of 280 lbs.                       | FEB. 1.  |          | MARCH 1. |    |
|--------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----|
|                                            | s.       | s.       | s.       | s. |
| Town-made.....                             | 40 to 42 | 40 to 42 |          |    |
| Norfolk, Suffolk, Kent, and Essex .....    | 29       | 31       | 29       | 31 |
| Sussex and Hampshire .....                 | 30       | 32       | 30       | 32 |
| Superfine .....                            | 33       | —        | 33       | —  |
| Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and Stockton..... | 28       | 30       | 28       | 30 |
| Northumberland, Berwick, and Scotch.....   | 29       | 30       | 29       | 30 |
| Irish .....                                | 29       | 30       | 29       | 30 |
| Extra .....                                | 32       | —        | 32       | —  |

## AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF THE LONDON AVERAGES,

From January 27th to February 17th, inclusive.

| Wheat.....  | qrs.    | £ s. d. | Beans.....        | qrs.  | £ s. d. |
|-------------|---------|---------|-------------------|-------|---------|
| Barley..... | 39,652  | 1 14 8  | Peas .....        | 2,318 | 1 16 9½ |
| Oats.....   | 171,314 | 1 6 1½  | Bere or Bigg..... | 439   | 1 0 ½   |
| Rye.....    | 5       | 1 13 0  |                   |       |         |

## IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

|                                                                                                                                       | Wheat.      | Barley   | Oats    | Rye       | Beans | Peas |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------|---------|-----------|-------|------|
| Weekending                                                                                                                            |             |          |         |           |       |      |
| 9th Jan.,                                                                                                                             | 40 5 31 0   | 22 0 33  | 9 36 2  | 40 9      |       |      |
| 16th „                                                                                                                                | 40 7 31 6   | 21 11 28 | 8 35 11 | 40 5      |       |      |
| 23rd „                                                                                                                                | 41 3 32 2   | 21 9 31  | 9 36 1  | 38 10     |       |      |
| 30th „                                                                                                                                | 41 7 32 7   | 22 0 31  | 1 36 1  | 39 5      |       |      |
| 6th Feb.                                                                                                                              | 41 5 32 9   | 22 0 31  | 7 36 2  | 38 3      |       |      |
| 13th „                                                                                                                                | 40 10 32 11 | 22 3 31  | 6 36 6  | 38 9      |       |      |
| Aggregate average of the six weeks which regulates the duty.....                                                                      | 41 0        | 32 2     | 22 0 31 | 5 36 2    | 39 5  |      |
| Duties payable in London till Wednesday next inclusive, and at the Outports till the arrival of the Mail of that day from London..... | 45 8        | 13 10    | 13 9    | 22 9 15 6 | 11 0  |      |
| Do. on grain from British possessions out of Europe....                                                                               | 5 0         | 2 6      | 2 6     | 3 0 3 0   | 2 0   |      |

An Account of the Quantity of Grain and Flour imported into the United Kingdom during the month ending the 5th Feb. 1835; the Quantity on which the Duty has been paid for Home Consumption, and the quantity remaining in Warehouse.

|                                       | Wheat.  | Barley. | Oats.   | Rye.    |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                       | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    |
| Quantity imported....                 | 4,101   | 6,217   | 1       | ..      |
| Do. entered for home consumption..... | 1,064   | 6,483   | 16      | ..      |
| Do. remaining in warehouse.....       | 664,333 | 164,482 | 327,653 | 5,108   |
|                                       | Peas.   | Beans.  | Brank.  | Flour.  |
|                                       | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | cwts.   |
| Quantity imported....                 | 4,627   | 1,198   | ..      | 1,820   |
| Do. entered for consumption.....      | 12,983  | 5,970   | ..      | 3,300   |
| Do. remaining in warehouse.....       | 1,722   | 34,799  | ..      | 367,560 |

## PRICES OF HOPS IN THE BOROUGH.

|                            | FEB. 1.     |      | MARCH 1.    |      |
|----------------------------|-------------|------|-------------|------|
|                            | £ s.        | £ s. | £ s.        | £ s. |
| East Kent Pockets.....     | 5 15 to 7 7 |      | 6 0 to 7 15 |      |
| Mid-Kent Pockets.....      | 5 5         | 6 4  | 5 5         | 6 2  |
| Weald of Kent Pockets..... | 5 0         | 5 15 | 5 0         | 5 12 |
| Sussex Pockets .....       | 3 10        | 4 18 | 4 4         | 5 5  |
| Yearlings .....            | 1 1         | 2 18 | 1 1         | 3 10 |
| Old Olds .....             |             |      |             |      |

## BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS MARKETS.

| Per ton.                    | FEB. 1.             |      | MARCH 1.     |      |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|------|--------------|------|
|                             | £ s.                | £ s. | £ s.         | £ s. |
| Ware, Scotch reds .....     | 2 10 to 3 10        |      | 2 10 to 3 15 |      |
| York kidneys .....          | 2 15                | 3 15 | 2 15         | 3 10 |
| Marsh Champions.....        | 2 5                 | 3 5  | 2 5          | 3 5  |
| London whites .....         | 2 2                 | 3 3  | 2 2          | 3 3  |
| Shaws .....                 | 2 0                 | 3 0  | 2 0          | 3 0  |
| Middlings, Scotch reds..... | 1 15                | 2 5  | 1 15         | 2 5  |
| York kidneys .....          | 2 2                 | 2 5  | 2 2          | 2 6  |
| Marsh Champions .....       | 1 15                | 2 5  | 1 15         | 2 5  |
| London whites.....          | 1 12                | 2 0  | 1 12         | 2 0  |
| Shaws.....                  | 1 10                | 2 0  | 1 10         | 2 0  |
| Chat Potatoes.....          | 20s to 25s per ton. |      |              |      |

## SMITHFIELD MARKET.

Per stone of 14lbs. to sink the offals.

|                     | FEB. 1.    |       | MARCH 1.   |       |
|---------------------|------------|-------|------------|-------|
|                     | s. d.      | s. d. | s. d.      | s. d. |
| Inferior Beef.....  | 2 0 to 2 2 |       | 2 0 to 2 2 |       |
| Do. Mutton .....    | 2 2        | 2 4   | 2 2        | 2 4   |
| Middling Beef ..... | 2 4        | 2 8   | 2 4        | 2 8   |
| Do. Mutton .....    | 2 8        | 3 0   | 2 8        | 3 0   |
| Prime Beef .....    | 3 6        | 4 0   | 3 6        | 4 0   |
| Do. Mutton .....    | 3 6        | 4 0   | 3 6        | 4 0   |
| Veal .....          | 3 6        | 5 0   | 3 0        | 5 4   |
| Pork .....          | 2 6        | 3 6   | 3 0        | 4 0   |
| Lamb.....           | 0 0        | 0 0   | 0 0        | 0 0   |

## WOOL MARKETS.

## BRITISH.

| Per lb.                 | FEB. 1.    |       | MARCH 1.   |       |
|-------------------------|------------|-------|------------|-------|
|                         | s. d.      | s. d. | s. d.      | s. d. |
| Down Teds.....          | 1 6 to 0 0 |       | 1 6 to 0 0 |       |
| Half-bred Houghets..... | 1 7        | 0 0   | 1 7        | 0 0   |
| Ewes and Wethers .....  | 1 3        | 0 0   | 1 3        | 0 0   |
| Leicester Hogs .....    | 1 6        | 0 0   | 1 6        | 0 0   |
| Do. Wethers .....       | 1 3        | 0 0   | 1 3        | 0 0   |
| Blanket Wool.....       | 0 9        | 0 11½ | 0 9        | 0 11½ |
| Flannel.....            | 1 0        | 1 3   | 1 0        | 1 3   |
| Skin Combing .....      | 1 ½        | 1 1   | 1 1        | 1 2   |

## SCOTCH.

Per Stone of 24 lbs.

|                                       | FEB. 1. |        | MARCH 1.     |        |
|---------------------------------------|---------|--------|--------------|--------|
|                                       | s. d.   | s. d.  | s. d.        | s. d.  |
| Laid Highland Wool, from 11 0 to 11 6 |         |        | 11 0 to 11 6 |        |
| White Do. Do.....                     | 10      | 14 6   | 14           | 0 14 6 |
| Laid Crossed Do.....                  | 14      | 0 14 6 | 14           | 0 14 6 |
| Washed Do. Do.....                    | 16      | 6 17 6 | 16           | 6 17 6 |
| Laid Cheviots.....                    | 16      | 0 18 0 | 16           | 0 18 0 |
| Washed Do.....                        | 19      | 0 22 0 | 19           | 0 22 0 |
| White Do.....                         | 28      | 0 30 0 | 28           | 0 30 0 |

## FOREIGN.

| Per lb.                 | FEB. 1. |       | MARCH 1. |       |
|-------------------------|---------|-------|----------|-------|
|                         | s. d.   | s. d. | s. d.    | s. d. |
| Australian .....        | 2 2     | 3 0   | 2 2      | 3 0   |
| Van Diemen's Land ..... | 1 6     | 2 9   | 1 6      | 2 9   |
| German Electoral .....  | 4 0     | 5 0   | 4 0      | 5 0   |
| Primas.....             | 3 0     | 3 3   | 3 0      | 3 3   |
| Secundas.....           | 2 0     | 2 3   | 2 0      | 2 3   |
| Tertias .....           | 1 6     | 2 0   | 1 6      | 2 0   |
| Pieces.....             | 1 6     | 2 3   | 1 6      | 2 3   |
| Lamb's.....             | 2 0     | 3 9   | 2 0      | 3 9   |
| Spanish Leonoras.....   | 2 0     | 2 9   | 2 0      | 2 9   |
| Segovias .....          | 1 10    | 2 3   | 1 10     | 2 3   |
| Soria's.....            | 1 9     | 2 0   | 1 9      | 2 0   |
| Estramaduras.....       | 1 4     | 2 7   | 1 4      | 2 7   |
| Lamb's.....             | 1 3     | 1 9   | 1 3      | 1 9   |
| Portugal.....           | 1 1     | 1 5   | 1 1      | 1 5   |
| Russia Marinos .....    | 2 3     | 3 9   | 2 3      | 3 9   |
| Crosses.....            | 1 9     | 2 6   | 1 9      | 2 6   |
| Odessa Zigay .....      | 1 1     | 1 3   | 1 1      | 1 3   |
| Donskoy.....            | 0 7     | 0 9   | 0 7      | 0 9   |



# THE POLITICAL COMPANION

TO

## THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

### THE CHURCH COMMISSIONERS.

(From the Courier.)

Among the objects enumerated for the new Church Commissioners to inquire into is, "The state of the several Dioceses of England and Wales, with reference to the amount of their revenues, the more equal distribution of episcopal duties, &c.," and we beg our readers' attention to these objects. It has been contended, by Sir Robert Peel, Lord Stanley, and others that the property of the Church rests upon precisely the same foundations as the property of the landowners. But Sir Robert Peel would never think of issuing a commission to inquire into the amount of the revenues of the owners of land. The Scotch nobles, when the King questioned their titles to their estates, replied by laying their hands on their swords; and if the Government of this day were to institute inquiries into the revenues of the landowners, with any view to alter or to equalize them, it would be replied to in a similar fashion. The Government knows, in fact, the bounds of its duties too well to institute any inquiries into the relative wealth of merchants, bankers, farmers, or the owners of estates. The Tory Government, however, does institute inquiries into the relative revenues of the Bishops and the rest of the Clergy; we praise it for doing so, but we contend that by doing it Sir Robert Peel gives up the principle as to Church property for which he has contended, and clearly establishes that it is not, in his estimation, equally as sacred as private property. We do not now extend our remarks as to the boundaries of this difference, though we may do that when Sir Robert Peel—if he remain long enough in office—shall propose to alter the present appropriation of this property. We only request our readers to remember, that by instituting the inquiry he admits that Church property is functionary property, like the salaries of Generals and Admirals, which the State may deal with. It is not like private property, which the State is bound to defend.

The next point to which we beg attention is, "the more equal distribution of episcopal duties." Chester is one of the sees which is generally stated to be overloaded with duty; the plain cause of which is, the vast increase of population in that district of the kingdom since the Bishopric was formed. By what other criterion can we in fact test a Bishop's duties but by the number of his Clergy, which must be in proportion to the number of congregations? Nobody dreams of building a church where there are no people. The present Minister for the Home Department, indeed, once contended that the number of geographical square miles in a Bishop's diocese was the criterion of his duties, on which absurd principle the See of Calcutta ought to have somewhere about two hundred Bishops, and there should at once be established in Canada more Bishops than ever there were in Ireland. The equal distribution of episcopal duties must, therefore, be made according to the number of congregations, which alone can,

and ought to determine the number of the Clergy. Here, then, we have the Tories embracing as their principle of Church Reform, that very principle of population, against which they protested so vehemently when Mr. Ward proposed to issue a Commission to inquire into the Church of Ireland. If the irregular increase of the population in England—the deficiency of Protestants in Winchester or Durham, and the redundancy in Chester, in relation to the Bishop's labours—make it necessary now to equalize the duties of the Bishops in England, can it be contended that the deficiency of Protestants in the sees of Ireland is not a sufficient ground for making an improved appropriation of the duties and the revenues of the Protestant Clergy of Ireland? Against the principle of taking the number of the congregations into consideration, Lord Stanley spoke with great vehemence. Sir Robert Peel, too, condemned in the strongest terms the introduction of any principles which were equally applicable to England and to Ireland. He said, on the 2d of June—

"If you appoint a commission in Ireland to inquire whether there be not an *excess of church revenue*, to inquire into the relative proportion of *protestants and dissenters*, and the facilities afforded to each respectively of attending divine worship, you recognize a principle which is applicable to England as well as to Ireland."

Upon that ground he resisted Mr. Ward's motion, and he enforced his view by a reference to the Dissenters of England claiming relief from Church Rates in consequence of the measure for relieving the Catholics of Ireland from Vestry Cess. But he now recommends a Church Commission to be issued, which inquires into the amount of the revenues of the dioceses of England, obviously with a view to the numbers of the people and the facilities afforded them of attending divine worship. There may be a difference in phraseology, but, in substance and principle, there is not a shadow of difference between the Commission now issued for the Church of England, and that which the late Ministers issued for the Church of Ireland, and which Sir Robert Peel vehemently condemned. Though he then objected to applying the principle of population to the Church to Ireland, because it told so powerfully against his party, other men, following his present example, will have no such scruple. The Commission to inquire into the revenues of the English Church, with a view to equalizing the Bishops' duties, and to conduce to the efficiency of that Church, consecrate the great principle, that the number of the Clergy and the revenues of the Church ought to be regulated by the number of the people.

### THE CHURCH.

(From the John Bull.)

The Morning Chronicle chuckles very much because we have expressed a determination to exert our

utmost efforts in support of the Church and its rights. We are unquestionably determined so to do; but whatever may be the rumours and reports touching the changes intended to be effected in the ecclesiastical department of the State, we are most certainly not in a position at present to form an opinion of the 'Reform' proposed. We are not singular in our ignorance, for we know that one of the eminent individuals who, according to the 'fashionable intelligence' of the daily press, has been frequently closeted with the Premier on the matter, declares that, although, of course, perfectly aware of what his own suggestions have been, *he has not the slightest notion of the plan eventually to be adopted by Government.*

When the scheme comes before the country, we shall exercise our privilege of discussing it—fearlessly and sincerely; we are conscious of the good opinion and support of the most pious and exemplary clergy in the world—we mean the clergy of the Church of England. *Satisfy us that the new-modelling of the Establishment is considered just and safe by the most eminent ministers of that Church, and we shall cheerfully abide by the decision—but most assuredly not by that of the Ministers of the State.*

We have no reason—knowing no more than our contemporaries—to apprehend innovations of an indefensible character, but we must say in sincerity of heart, that *if the Conservative Ministry is to adapt its measures to the rule of the Destructives, the King has vainly exercised his prerogative.* The country—we mean the sound, enlightened, and intelligent portion of the people of England, were disgusted with the proceedings of the last Ministry—or, we might more justly say, with the proceedings of the last portion of the last Ministry; and we have seen Lord Stanley, Sir James Graham, the Duke of Richmond, and Lord Ripon, at one period quitting it, and finally Lord Grey himself. *If then it be considered important to the existence of the new Administration to adopt measures similar to those from which these individuals, eminent—some in rank and others in talent, thought it essential to their honour and character to withdraw, we repeat most distinctly our opinion that the change of men means nothing; and that so far from congratulating ourselves upon the accession to office of Ministers, from whose firmness and constitutional steadiness we had every thing to hope, we shall deeply regret that the mischief which must accrue from anything like an adherence to the principles of the Abercromby, Ellice, Duncannon, and Russell school of politics, had not been achieved by the real plotters against the happiness of the country, and that the condign punishment which the consummation of their atrocities must have insured them, had not fallen upon their own heads.*

### THE CURRENCY,

(From the Herald.)

We do not attempt to delude the agriculturists by stating that the abolition of the malt tax will afford them the relief they anticipate—the relief will only extend to the labouring population; but to them it will be most important, second only to the bread they consume; but to the tenant or landlord nothing short of an amelioration of Mr. PEEL's iniquitous Bill can either afford them, or the manufacturer any relief. This we repeat for the hundredth time, and this assertion alone will prove that the article alluded to by our Evening Contemporaries, was neither written at the suggestion of, nor by the authority of the present Government. Our great pride is to be enabled to act independently of any Administration for the time being; and although it is quite out of our practice to

boast of the purity and independence of our motives, we nevertheless fearlessly challenge our worst enemies to prove the contrary of this assertion; and we unhesitatingly state that there is no advantage that any Administration could offer us that would compensate for the loss of the public confidence we at present enjoy.

It is this *real, not boasted*, independence that enables us to repeat our strong recommendation of taking off the tax in question, not, as we have before stated, for the relief it will it will afford the agriculturists, but as a boon to the labouring classes throughout the kingdom, who, in fact, ought never to have been taxed with it. Beer is an article peculiarly British; it is as much an article of necessity as meat, and the perpetual toil of the British husbandman and mechanic renders it of more consequence to them than to any other portion of the like population in Europe. A heavy tax upon spirits would more than compensate for any apprehended fear of deficiency in the revenue; but we repeat we have none, the deficiency would not last three years, and therefore would not, as one of our Contemporaries states, be permanent. As to its leading to a breach of faith with the public creditor, it is to ridiculous to answer. But we should like to know what important tax has ever been wrung from any Administration that has not been resisted on the very same ground? The cry of "Wolf, wolf," has ceased to have its effect on the sober-minded people of this country, and it ill becomes any one to urge the plea against this Journal which has ever been first and foremost in defence of the just claims of the public creditor; but we will be no parties to any delusion—to any fraud on the people of England; and whilst we uphold, as we have ever done, the necessity of keeping the national faith inviolate, we seriously ask whether the same inviolate faith is not to be kept with the people? Are they ever to continue the victims of the most gross and iniquitous fraud ever heard of or practised in any age or country? Is not the history of that fraud to be inquired into? Is it possible to imagine that there is no limit to their patience and to their sufferings? Will they continue to pay cent. per cent. for the money they have borrowed, and patiently submit to be insulted, and accused of a wish to violate the national faith into the bargain? Even the greatest advocate of the measure that caused their misery, the late DAVID RICARDO, was so sensible of the mistake he had committed, as to admit, only three years afterwards, that the difference in the change of the currency made 25 per cent. instead of 4 per cent., as he had anticipated; and, if he had the candour to admit this, is it too much to admit that Mr. M. ATTWOOD, Mr. BARING, Mr. WESTERN, the Marquis of TITCHFIELD, Mr. E. ELLICE, Mr. BENNETT, Lord RADNOR, Mr. DENISON, and others, to the number of 27, were not perfectly correct in their assertion and votes that it had made more than 50 per cent. difference? Yet this *mistake*, by which the happiness of 19 millions of people was sacrificed to the interests of less than one million, is not even to be inquired into!

If there is one subject more than another of which this Journal may be justly proud, it is the part, the disinterested part (for we have no party but the country,) we have ever taken on this subject, and we conclude these observations by telling the people of England that in vain do they seek any permanent relief from their difficulties from any other source than an amelioration of the currency. The enemies to this measure, and consequently the people's enemies, have



endeavoured to delude them for the last 15 years, by ascribing their distress to every other cause but the true one; such, for example, as over population, over production, use of machinery, bad harvests, good harvests, and a variety of such trash; all successively thrown out, as "tubs to a whale," to divert the people from an investigation of the real cause of their calamities; but this wickedness cannot last much longer, it has already produced one good measure—the Reform Bill, but if longer neglected it will produce other changes, not so welcome,—perhaps revolution.

SIR R. PEEL.

(*From the Courier.*)

The speech of Sir Robert Peel to his constituents at Tamworth, is, like all the other speeches of the Right Hon. Baronet, dexterous and able. Perhaps he arrogates more credit to himself in respect of Law Reform than he had a good claim to, seeing that most of the reforms he adopted had been chalked out, and their expediency established, by Romilly, Mackintosh, and others. We are ready, however, to admit, that Sir Robert Peel is entitled to credit, for having, in this instance, adopted the principles and carried into effect the plans of his political opponents; and we hope he will be ready on other occasions to avail himself of their suggestions. There is nothing in the speech in question to which any one can object; but then it presents no definite views, no tangible points; and may, in fact, be interpreted to mean anything or nothing. The Right Hon. Baronet, like every one else, professes his readiness to introduce all necessary, safe, and convenient reforms, calculated to remove defects, and to repair and strengthen our institutions; and to oppose all speculative and dangerous innovations. This is all very well; but it is so very loose that, for aught we know, it may be assented to even by Lord Stormont. There have, in fact, been a great deal too many of these unmeaning generalities lately palmed upon the public; and not a few have got credit for being Reformers, by dealing liberally in them, who, we believe, have rather an indifferent claim to that title. We do not, however, mean to insinuate any doubt as to Sir Robert Peel's sincerity. On the contrary, we incline to think that he intends to do a good deal—much more, indeed, than will be agreeable to his ultra-Tory associates, though still decidedly less than the necessities of the times require. Even though Sir Robert Peel should succeed in getting Sir C. M. Sutton again placed in the Chair, and carry the Address, the question of the Irish Church will assuredly upset his government; and it will upset every other that may be framed that has not courage to deal with it on the plain principles of justice and of common sense. Sir Robert Peel says he will reform the Irish Church, by making a better distribution of its revenues, &c.; but that he will not allow one farthing to be taken from it and applied to merely secular purposes, or for the use of any other religious sect. His notions as to the inviolability of Church property are narrow and bigotted in the extreme. The Irish Establishment may be re-modelled and rendered less intolerable than it is; but, in truth and reality, it is at bottom a nuisance. No reform can make it suitable to the wants, or subservient to the religious instruction or moral improvement of the vast majority of the Irish nation. It is, and ever will remain, the Church of the richer classes only; and being alien to, and detested by, nine-tenths of the people, it is

not possible to invest it with the distinguishing and peculiar characteristic of a national establishment. Suppose that by some accident the Roman Catholic were to be made the established religion of England, and that its Priests were to be put in possession of all the estates and revenues now enjoyed by the Protestant Clergy, does any one suppose that any distribution, however unexceptionable, of this wealth, among the Catholic Priests, would make the people of England tolerate such a state of things? Would they permit that wealth, sufficient to provide for the religious instruction of the whole country, should be engrossed by the Clergy of a tenth part of the population? Most certainly not? They would instantly overturn the whole thing; and would either confiscate the revenues of the Church, or apply them to the support of an Establishment suited to the religion and wants of the bulk of the nation. But if such, under the circumstances supposed, would be our conduct, how can any impartial or reasonable man imagine that the people of Ireland are to be reconciled to the existing Church Establishment by any reform of its abuses? What is it to the poor Catholic, who has his own Priest to provide for, whether the 20,000*l.* or 30,000*l.* a year that now goes into the pockets of the Primate and his family, continue to find its way into them, or be distributed among the Hannibals, or any other set of Protestant clergymen? The fact is, that there must be a jetson—that, to preserve the rest, a large portion of the wealth of the Establishment must be thrown overboard. The clergy of the Catholics must be provided for as well as those of the Protestants; and it is the merest possible delusion to expect, unless this be done, that the country will ever be satisfied, or that the Catholic Priests will ever cease to be the enemies of England. We do hope that Mr. Ward, or some other Member, will not be long in bringing the subject of Church Property before the House. General professions will not do. In a matter of such vital importance it is necessary that the country should have a distinct knowledge of what Government mean to do. The Irish Church is, at this moment, the greatest abuse in Europe; and if Sir Robert Peel attempt to bolster it up, he will, as he ought to be, buried in its ruins.

#### THE EXPECTED PRINCE.

(*From the Chronicle.*)

From all that we hear upon a certain subject which has been the town-talk for the last three weeks, we are inclined to think that the Tories are counting their chickens rather too fast. The current story of the bow at the shoulder, we believe to be a merely fanciful explanation, though we by no means pretend to say that a bow at the shoulder may not be connected with such events, according to Court custom. At present, however, we believe the fact to be that the Tories have built their frail baby-house of hopes on very equivocal circumstances. The thing may be, but there is no reason to suppose that it is, and there has been little delicacy, and as little discretion, in bruising about the story so prematurely. The disposition of the public to doubt the possibility of the alleged event, brings to mind the same sort of incredulity in the time of James the Second (the Tories have a knack of reminding us of passages in the reign of the Stuarts). In reading the passage, we have only to substitute Tories and Reformers for Catholics and Protestants; and there being some similarity in the party hopes as to the lineal and the remoter but more popular succession, we may imagine, in the sub-

joined passage, a historical page in anticipation for the summer of 1835, should the event realize the hopes of the Tories; but instead of commencing, "A few days before the acquittal of the Bishops an event happened which, in the King's sentiments, much over-balanced all the mortifications," the historian may have to write it, "A few days after the expulsion of the Bishops," &c.—

"A few days before the acquittal of the bishops, an event happened, which, in the king's sentiments, much overbalanced all the mortifications received on that occasion. The queen was delivered of a son, who was baptized by the name of James. This blessing was impatiently longed for, not only by the king and queen, but by all the zealous Catholics both abroad and at home. They saw, that the king was past middle age; and that on his death the succession must devolve to the Prince and Princess of Orange, two zealous Protestants, who would soon replace every thing on ancient foundations. Vows therefore were offered at every shrine for a male successor: pilgrimages were undertaken, particularly one to Loretto, by the Duchess of Modena; and success was chiefly attributed to that pious journey. But in proportion as this event was agreeable to the Catholics, it increased the disgust of the Protestants, by depriving them of that pleasing, though somewhat distant prospect, in which at present they flattered themselves. Calumny even went so far as to ascribe to the king the design of imposing on the world a supposititious child, who might be educated in his principles, and after his death support the Catholic religion in his dominions. The nation almost universally believed him capable, from bigotry, of committing any crime; as they had seen, that, from like motives, he was guilty of every imprudence; and the affections of nature, they thought, would be easily sacrificed to the superior motive of propagating a Catholic and orthodox faith. The present occasion was not the first, when that calumny had been invented. In the year 1682, the queen, then Duchess of York, had been pregnant; and rumours were spread, that an impostor would, at that time, be obtruded upon the nation: but happily, the infant proved a female, and thereby spared the party all the trouble of supporting their improbable fiction.

#### THE SPEAKER.

(From the Morning Post.)

Our Whig-Radical contemporaries assure their readers that there is no doubt whatever of the election of Mr. Abercromby to the office of Speaker. We are persuaded, however, that they do this in pursuance merely of the established system at all contested elections, where the invariable rule is for each party to be quite certain of success until the final state of the poll determines which of the two had made the more accurate calculation of their strength. We should feel bound to disbelieve the confident statements of the supporters of Mr. Abercromby from respect to the character of the new House of Commons, of which that statement is a direct impeachment, had we no other reason to advance for our incredulity. But we have in addition to this the best direct authority in contradiction to the bold assertions of our contemporaries. From the express declarations of members of parliament as to the course they mean to pursue upon this occasion, it is quite certain that Sir Charles Manners Sutton will be elected Speaker by a decided majority.

The subject of the comparative qualifications for the chair of Sir Charles Manners Sutton and Mr. Abercromby was never a very difficult or complicated one, and it has long been exhausted. To that

subject, therefore, we do not at present mean to revert. But we cannot refrain from directing attention to the letter addressed by Mr. W. Hughes Hughes to an evening contemporary, which we have inserted in another part of our paper. This communication sheds much new and valuable light upon the history and character of the opposition so factiously and absurdly got up to the re-election of the Speaker who presided over the deliberations of the last and several former parliaments with equal honour to himself and advantage to the House of Commons and the country.

This letter informs us by what means the leaders of the opposition contrive to keep up the spirits of their party. Mr. Hughes Hughes had been described by some of the Whig-Radical organs as one of "the most determined foes to Sir Charles Manners Sutton." But no sooner does that gentleman hear of the calumny than he hastens to repel it. How many members of the House of Commons upon whose anticipated support the Abercromby faction found their pretended expectation of success will wait for the division rather than take any intermediate step to repel the slander or dissipate the delusion? A number which will occasion, if we are not greatly mistaken, a very serious and fatal defalcation in the estimated ranks of the faction. But Lord John Russell and the other leaders knew that Mr. Hughes had never given them any reason to expect his support to their factious manœuvre; as a proof of which the gentleman in question very properly adverts to a canvassing circular which was sent to him so recently as Monday last by Lord John. Why were the organs of the faction permitted to remain ignorant of what the leaders knew so well? Why, but to inspire false hopes in the former, and to make them better instruments than they could otherwise be of the temporary deception it is intended to practice upon the public? The circular letter of Lord John Russell, canvassing for votes, will remind the public of a declaration put forth by the party but the other day, to the effect that solicitation had not been employed to promote the election of Mr. Abercromby; and in reminding them of this it will also remind them that the professions and the conduct of the Radicals and low Whigs are never by any accident in accordance with each other.

The fact to which Mr. Hughes adverts, of the clause in the House of Commons' Officers Bill, introduced within a fortnight of the termination of the last session expressly as a testimony to the able and excellent manner in which Sir Charles Manners Sutton had discharged the arduous duties of the Chair, is pregnant with instruction. In this complimentary enactment the House of Commons unanimously concurred. It has the tacit assent of the whole Whig cabinet, and the declared assent of one of their number, Mr. Spring Rice. "What," we ask, in the significant language of Mr. Hughes, "has since occurred to justify a change of sentiment on the part of any gentleman?"

Mr. Hughes refers with great felicity and propriety to the meritorious exertions and sacrifices made by Sir Charles Manners Sutton on the occasion of the late conflagration, speaking upon these subjects with the authority of an eye-witness. But we suppose the Whig-Radical faction regard exertions and sacrifices in the public service as a personal disqualification, unless these exertions and sacrifices have been eminently conducive to their own convenience or advantage. This is the plain inference from their vote at the conclusion of the last session of parliament when contrasted with their present conduct.



## THE POOR LAW BILL.

*(From the Times.)*

We refer our readers to an article which we have copied from a Sunday paper, and which appears in another column under the head "Effects of the New Poor Law Act." It will be seen that persons whose character and reputation place them above suspicion—they are Colonel NAPIER, Admiral TROLLOPE, Captain BURT, and others—appealed to the magistrates of a certain provincial district to relieve some unhappy paupers from the cruel treatment to which they were subjected by an assistant overseer. The magistrates, it seems, found that under the heartless Poor Law Act, they had no power to remedy the shocking evil to which these humane gentlemen had called their attention. That unchristian law—really and in fact more horrible than the romantic obligation of *Shylock's* bond—required that a resident gentry and magistracy should stand by and see their fellow-creatures suffer or perish—the law restraining these natural guardians of the poor from alleviating their pains or saving them from death. All they could do was to apply to the Central Board in London. We need hardly say that they had recourse to this forlorn hope without delay. But what was the reply from the London tribunal, that holds in its hands the life or death of every stricken pauper in the provinces? Why, that "the engagements of their assistant Commissioners were at that time so urgent, to meet the demands of their services in other parts of the country, that *no one* of them could be detached to investigate the case." Thus, we are to have the poor perish from ill-treatment, because our late Ministers and late Parliament would commit to a few persons in London the regulation of every parish in England and Wales! The Commissioners did indeed send papers to the parish-officers—ay, copies of the of the charge that they were killing or suffering their fellow-creatures to die when human aid could save them! Papers on such a subject! And the Commissioners received answers to the papers they sent. What answers? The narrative states that they were "unsatisfactory;" and so at last an Assistant-Commissioner, a Mr. MOTT, was dispatched from the Central Board; but mark, Christian reader, "two of the paupers died shortly before the arrival of the Assistant Commissioner." Coroner's inquests were held upon the bodies of these wretched beings, and here are their verdicts:—Verdict on Harriet Minns—"That she came by her death by natural causes; but we find that there was culpable negligence on the part of the parish-officers in the first part of her illness, during her residence in the workhouse of the parish." Verdict on Thomas Hill the idiot—"By the visitation of God he came to his death; but the jurors are of opinion that if proper nutriment had been supplied to the said Thomas Hill, he might have existed longer; and they therefore pass a censure on the parish-officers."

We will not trust ourselves to comment upon this horrible occurrence. It is true that the Poor Law Act is a part of the law of the land, but there is nothing in morality, nothing in the custom of this country, which requires men to cease from exposing and calling for the repeal of a bad law. And so we deal with this execrable statute. That any but an heathen people should endure it long is utterly impossible, when cases like these occur, and the crime of infanticide, as the journals of each day demonstrate, is so fearfully on the increase. That this act must, in effect,

be repealed, we have no doubt; but at the same time, the fact that such a law did once exist in this Christian and civilized land will for centuries to come be a deep and damning stain both upon the Ministers that proposed and the Parliament that passed it.

## THE DISSENTERS AND THE MINISTERS.

*(From the Herald.)*

The *Edinburgh Review* of the present quarter contains an article on the subject of "*the Universities and the Dissenters*," a question, the discussion of which has given rise to the expression of much angry and acrimonious feeling. In the article alluded to, the reviewer, though he has exhibited considerable ingenuity and power in the mode of conducting his argument, has, to a certain extent, been throwing away his strength in refuting arguments, the grounds of which have long since been abandoned as untenable by all reasonable persons; his main object being to show that as great breaches of trust have been committed by the Universities they are not entitled to avail themselves of the defence set up for them by the Bishop of Exeter, Sir Robert Inglis and others—viz., that, "*as public trustees, they ought not to be superseded without proof of negligence or abuse of their duties.*" The failing to establish such proof we consider to be immaterial; the real point to be considered in such a case should be, whether the Universities, the creatures of civil society, and which exist, like all other institutions, under and subject to the law, are productive to the community of the greatest degree of benefit of which they are capable. The principle cannot, we assume, be doubted that such institutions not only may be, but should be reorganized, or otherwise reformed, whenever their own inefficiency, or the interests of the country at large, renders such a measure expedient.

Assuming, then, that the Legislature has the right (*potestas*), but also is able, in accordance with *quod jus et fas est*, to make regulations for the compulsory admittance of Dissenters into the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, the question is, can such a regulation be carried into effect without injuring the efficiency of the Universities as places of education, but more especially as places for the instruction of those intended to be Ministers of the Established Church?

To any claim (*as a claim of right*) we, in unison with the sentiment expressed by Sir Robert Peel in his Tamworth declaration, are opposed. It is true that the House of Commons carried the question of admission by two large majorities during the last Session; but it is observable while 321 voted for the second, 184 only voted for the third reading of the Bill alluded to, showing somewhat strongly that its supporters did not increase in consequence of the discussion the subject underwent. It is true also that little information or sound argument was introduced into the debate itself, and perhaps a subject less suited for popular debate and the consideration of such a tribunal as the House of Commons cannot well be conceived. After attending to the debates, however, and giving the question a calm and unbiased consideration, we were compelled to come to the conclusion that the admission of the Dissenters into the Universities in the manner proposed would have been detrimental to the Universities; and it appears clear to us that the retaining religious instructions as part of the course of education there pursued is utterly incompatible with a state of things allowing Dissenters the right of being members of the same College or Hall with students of the Church

of England. The inevitable result would be the infliction of a very severe blow upon the power of maintaining the requisite discipline of the Universities, and that acrimonious religious strife, and theological controversies, especially amongst the students, would too often intervene, to the interruption of the peace, as well as the literary pursuits and studies of the University.

Two further plans in order to afford relief to the Dissenters have been proposed—viz., to allow the Dissenters to establish a University, or, more strictly speaking, a chartered college in London for themselves, or that they should be permitted to found new and separate Colleges or Halls in Oxford and Cambridge. To the latter plan there exist difficulties, with which, we confess, it is by no means easy to grapple; but to the former we see not only no objection, but we consider it one which it is most desirable in every point of view should be adopted; and we would here observe, that without meaning to justify to the full extent such expressions as “sectarian bigotry,” “blind intolerance,” and “grasping monopoly,” we think that scarcely any reproach can be too severe upon the conduct of the two Universities in resisting in the manner they did the fair and just claims of the Dissenters to obtain a Chartered University. It is true that the steps which are now taking with respect to the professions both of the Law and Medicine will obviate some of the hardships under which so many conscientious persons now labour; but still we think that, considering the number, wealth, and intelligence of this large body, their having a University for the purpose of conferring degrees and other honours should be no longer denied to them.

COMPLETE LIST OF THE MEMBERS  
OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

STATING HOW EACH VOTED ON THE ELECTION  
OF SPEAKER.

[Those marked *a* were absent.]  
ENGLAND.

| PLACES.      | MEMBERS.                          | ABERCROMBY | SUTTON |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|------------|--------|
| Abingdon     | T. Duffield                       | 0          | 1      |
| Andover      | R. Etwall                         | 1          | 0      |
|              | Sir John Walter Pollen <i>a</i> . | 0          | 0      |
| Anglesey     | Sir R. Bulkeley                   | 0          | 1      |
| Arundel      | Lord Dudley Coutts Stuart         | 0          | 1      |
| Ashburton    | C. Lushington                     | 1          | 0      |
| Ashton       | Charles Hindley                   | 1          | 0      |
| Aylesbury    | William Rickford                  | 0          | 1      |
|              | H. Hanmer                         | 0          | 1      |
| Banbury      | Henry William Tancred             | 1          | 0      |
| Barnstaple   | John Palmer B. Chichester         | 1          | 0      |
|              | St. John Fancourt                 | 0          | 1      |
| Bath         | Charles Palmer                    | 1          | 0      |
|              | John Arthur Roebuck               | 1          | 0      |
| Beaumaris    | Frederick Paget                   | 1          | 0      |
| Bedfordshire | Lord C. J. F. Russell             | 1          | 0      |
|              | Lord Alford                       | 0          | 1      |
| Bedford      | Frederick Polhill                 | 0          | 1      |
|              | Samuel Crawley                    | 1          | 0      |
| Berkshire    | Robert Palmer                     | 0          | 1      |
|              | Philip Pusey                      | 0          | 1      |
|              | John Walter                       | 0          | 1      |
| Berwick      | Sir Rufane Shaw Donkin            | 1          | 0      |
|              | J. Bradshaw                       | 0          | 1      |

| PLACES.         | MEMBERS.                      | A | S |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Beverley        | H. Burton                     | 1 | 0 |
|                 | J. W. Hogg                    | 0 | 1 |
| Bewdley         | Sir Thomas E. Winnington      | 1 | 0 |
| Birmingham      | Thomas Attwood                | 1 | 0 |
|                 | Joshua Scholefield            | 1 | 0 |
| Blackburn       | William Turner                | 0 | 1 |
|                 | William Fielden               | 0 | 1 |
| Bodmin          | C. C. Vivian                  | 1 | 0 |
|                 | Sir S. T. Spry                | 0 | 1 |
| Bolton          | William Bolling               | 0 | 1 |
|                 | P. Ainsworth                  | 0 | 1 |
| Boston          | J. S. Brownrigg               | 0 | 1 |
|                 | John Wilks                    | 1 | 0 |
| Bradford        | E. C. Lister                  | 1 | 0 |
|                 | J. Hardy                      | 0 | 1 |
| Brecknockshire  | Thomas Wood                   | 0 | 1 |
| Brecon          | C. M. R. Morgan               | 0 | 1 |
| Bridgnorth      | T. C. Whitmore                | 0 | 1 |
|                 | R. Pigott                     | 0 | 1 |
| Bridgewater     | C. Kemeys Kemeys Tynte        | 1 | 0 |
|                 | J. Temple Leader              | 1 | 0 |
| Bridport        | Henry Warburton               | 1 | 0 |
|                 | Horace Twiss                  | 0 | 1 |
| Brighton        | Captain Pechell <i>a</i> .    | 0 | 0 |
|                 | Isaac Newton Wigney           | 1 | 0 |
| Bristol         | Sir R. R. Vyvyan              | 0 | 1 |
|                 | P. J. Miles                   | 0 | 1 |
| Buckinghamsh.   | Marquis of Chandos            | 0 | 1 |
|                 | Sir William L. Young          | 0 | 1 |
|                 | J. B. Praed                   | 0 | 1 |
| Buckingham      | Sir T. Freemantle             | 0 | 1 |
|                 | Sir Harry Verney              | 0 | 1 |
| Bury            | Richard Walker                | 1 | 0 |
| Bury St. Edms.  | Earl Jermyn                   | 0 | 1 |
|                 | Lord C. Fitzroy               | 1 | 0 |
| Calne           | Earl of Kerry                 | 1 | 0 |
| Cambridgeshire  | Eliot Thomas Yorke            | 0 | 1 |
|                 | Richard Jefferson Eaton       | 0 | 1 |
|                 | Richard Greaves Townley       | 1 | 0 |
| Cambridge       | Thomas Spring Rice            | 1 | 0 |
|                 | George Pryme                  | 1 | 0 |
| Cambridge Univ. | Sir Chas. Manners Sutton      | 1 | 0 |
|                 | Henry Goulborn                | 0 | 1 |
| Canterbury      | Lord Albert Conyngham         | 1 | 0 |
|                 | Frederick Villiers            | 1 | 0 |
| Cardiff         | John Nicholl                  | 0 | 1 |
| Cardiganshire   | Col. William E. Powell        | 0 | 1 |
| Cardigan        | Pryse Pryse <i>a</i> .        | 0 | 0 |
| Carlisle        | P. H. Howard                  | 1 | 0 |
|                 | William Marshall              | 1 | 0 |
| Carmarthensh.   | Hon. G. Rice Trevor           | 0 | 1 |
|                 | Sir James Williams            | 1 | 0 |
| Carmarthen      | David Lewis                   | 0 | 1 |
| Carnarvonsh     | Thomas Assheton Smith         | 0 | 1 |
| Carnarvon       | L. P. J. Parry                | 1 | 0 |
| Chatham         | Sir J. P. Beresford           | 0 | 1 |
| Cheltenham      | Hon. Craven F. Berkeley       | 1 | 0 |
| Cheshire, N.    | Edward John Stanley           | 1 | 0 |
|                 | William Tatton Egerton        | 0 | 1 |
| Cheshire, S.    | George Wilbraham              | 1 | 0 |
|                 | Sir P. Egerton                | 0 | 1 |
| Chester         | Lord Robert Grosvenor         | 1 | 0 |
|                 | John Jervis                   | 1 | 0 |
| Chichester      | Lord Arthur Lennox <i>a</i> . | 0 | 0 |
|                 | John Abel Smith <i>a</i> .    | 0 | 0 |
| Chippenham      | Joseph Neeld                  | 0 | 1 |
|                 | Henry George Boldero          | 0 | 1 |
| Christchurch    | G. W. Tapps                   | 0 | 1 |
| Cirencester     | Joseph Cripps                 | 0 | 1 |
|                 | Lord R. E. Somerset           | 0 | 1 |
| Clitheroe       | John Fort                     | 1 | 0 |
| Cockermouth     | F. L. Dykes                   | 1 | 0 |
|                 | H. A. Aglionby                | 1 | 0 |



| Places.          | Members.                | A | S | Places.          | Members.                | A | S |
|------------------|-------------------------|---|---|------------------|-------------------------|---|---|
| Colchester       | R. Sanderson            | 0 | 1 | Great Grimsby    | E. Heneage              | 1 | 0 |
|                  | Sir G. H. Symth         | 0 | 1 | Guildford        | James Mangles           | 1 | 0 |
| Cornwall, East   | Sir William Molesworth  | 1 | 0 |                  | Charles Baring Wall     | 0 | 1 |
|                  | Sir W. L. Trelawney     | 1 | 0 | Halifax          | Hon. Js. Stuart Wortley | 0 | 1 |
| Cornwall, West   | Sir Charles Lemon       | 1 | 0 | Hampshire N.     | C. Shaw Lefevre         | 1 | 0 |
|                  | E. W. Pendarves         | 1 | 0 |                  | James Winter Scott      | 1 | 0 |
| Coventry         | William Williams        | 1 | 0 | Hampshire, S.    | John Fleming            | 0 | 1 |
|                  | Edward Ellice a.        | 0 | 0 |                  | H. C. Compton           | 0 | 1 |
| Cricklade        | Robert Gordon           | 1 | 0 | Harwich          | Rt. Hon. J. C. Herries  | 0 | 1 |
|                  | John Neeld              | 0 | 1 |                  | F. R. Bonham            | 0 | 1 |
| Cumberland, E.   | Sir J. Graham           | 0 | 1 | Hastings         | Frederick North         | 1 | 0 |
|                  | William Blamire         | 1 | 0 |                  | Howard Elphinstone      | 1 | 0 |
| Cumberland, W.   | Edward Stanley          | 0 | 1 | Haverfordwest    | W. H. Scourfield        | 0 | 1 |
|                  | Samuel Irton            | 0 | 1 | Helstone         | Lord J. N. B. Townshend | 0 | 1 |
| Dartmouth        | Colonel Seale           | 1 | 0 | Herefordshire    | Kedgwin Hoskins         | 1 | 0 |
| Denbighshire     | Sir W. W. Wynne         | 0 | 1 |                  | E. T. Foley             | 0 | 1 |
|                  | Hon. W. Bagot           | 0 | 1 |                  | Sir Robert Price        | 1 | 0 |
| Denbigh          | Wilson Jones            | 0 | 1 | Hereford         | E. B. Clive             | 1 | 0 |
| Derbyshire, N.   | Hon. G. Cavendish       | 1 | 0 |                  | Robert Biddulph         | 1 | 0 |
|                  | Thomas Gisborne         | 1 | 0 | Hertfordshire    | Viscount Grimston       | 0 | 1 |
| Derbyshire, S.   | Sir Roger Griesley      | 0 | 1 |                  | Abel Smith              | 0 | 1 |
|                  | Sir George Crewe        | 0 | 1 |                  | Rowland Alston          | 1 | 0 |
| Derby            | Edward Strutt           | 1 | 0 | Hertford         | Lord Mahon              | 0 | 1 |
|                  | Hon. J. G. B. Ponsonby  | 1 | 0 |                  | Hon. W. Cowper          | 1 | 0 |
| Devizes          | Wadham Locke            | 1 | 0 | Honiton          | A. Chichester           | 0 | 1 |
|                  | Sir Philip Durham       | 0 | 1 |                  | H. D. Bailey            | 0 | 1 |
| Devonport        | Sir Edward Codrington   | 1 | 0 | Horsham          | R. H. Hurst             | 1 | 0 |
|                  | Sir George Grey         | 1 | 0 | Huddersfield     | John Blackburne         | 1 | 0 |
| Devonshire, N.   | Hon. Newton Fellowes    | 1 | 0 | Hull             | D. Carruthers           | 0 | 1 |
|                  | Lord Ebrington          | 1 | 0 |                  | William Hutt            | 1 | 0 |
| Devonshire, S.   | Lord John Russell       | 1 | 0 | Huntingdonsh.    | Viscount Mandeville     | 0 | 1 |
|                  | Sir J. H. Buller        | 0 | 1 |                  | J. B. Rooper            | 1 | 0 |
| Dorchester       | Hon. H. A. Cooper       | 0 | 1 | Huntingdon       | Colonel Peel            | 0 | 1 |
|                  | R. Williams, jun.       | 0 | 1 |                  | Sir Frederick Pollock   | 0 | 1 |
| Dorsetshire      | Lord Ashley             | 0 | 1 | Hythe            | Stewart Majoribanks     | 1 | 0 |
|                  | Hon. W. Ponsonby a.     | 0 | 0 | Ipswich          | R. A. Dundas            | 0 | 1 |
|                  | H. C. Sturt             | 0 | 1 |                  | Fitzroy Kelly           | 0 | 1 |
| Dover            | Sir John Rae Reid       | 0 | 1 | Kendal           | J. Barham               | 1 | 0 |
|                  | J. M. Fector            | 0 | 1 | Kent, East       | Sir Edward Knatchbull   | 0 | 1 |
| Droitwich        | J. Barneby              | 0 | 1 |                  | J. P. Plumtree          | 0 | 1 |
| Dudley           | Thomas Hawkes           | 0 | 1 | Kent, West       | Sir W. Geary            | 0 | 1 |
| Durham, North    | Sir Hedworth Williamson | 1 | 0 |                  | T. L. Hodges            | 1 | 0 |
|                  | Hedworth Lambton        | 1 | 0 | Kidderminster    | G. R. Phillips          | 1 | 0 |
| Durham South     | Joseph Pease            | 1 | 0 | Knarborough      | Andrew Lawson           | 0 | 1 |
|                  | John Bowes              | 1 | 0 |                  | John Richards           | 0 | 1 |
| Durham           | William Charles Harland | 1 | 0 | Lambeth          | Charles Tennyson        | 1 | 0 |
|                  | Hon. A. Trevor          | 0 | 1 |                  | Benjamin Hawes          | 1 | 0 |
| Essex, North     | Sir J. T. Tyrrell       | 0 | 1 | Lancashire, N.   | Lord Stanley            | 0 | 1 |
|                  | Right Hon. A. Baring    | 0 | 1 |                  | J. W. Patten            | 0 | 1 |
| Essex, South     | R. W. Hall Dare         | 0 | 1 | Lancashire, S.   | Lord Francis Egerton    | 0 | 1 |
|                  | T. W. Bramston          | 0 | 1 |                  | Hon. R. Wilbraham       | 0 | 1 |
| Evesham          | Sir C. Cockerell        | 1 | 0 | Lancaster        | P. M. Stewart           | 1 | 0 |
|                  | P. Borthwick            | 0 | 1 |                  | T. Greene               | 0 | 1 |
| Exeter           | Sir W. Follett          | 0 | 1 | Launceston       | Sir H. Hardinge         | 0 | 1 |
|                  | Edward Divett           | 1 | 0 | Leeds            | Sir John Beckett        | 0 | 1 |
| Eye              | Sir Edward Kerrison     | 0 | 1 |                  | Edward Baines           | 1 | 0 |
| Finsbury         | Thos. Slingsby Duncombe | 1 | 0 | Leicestersh., N. | Lord Robert Manners     | 0 | 1 |
|                  | Thomas Wakley           | 1 | 0 |                  | C. M. Phillips          | 0 | 1 |
| Flintshire       | Hon. E. M. L. Mostyn    | 1 | 0 | Leicestersh., S. | Henry Halford           | 0 | 1 |
| Flint            | Sir Stephen Glynn       | 0 | 0 |                  | T. F. Turner            | 0 | 1 |
| Frome            | Thomas Sheppard         | 0 | 1 | Leicester        | Sergeant Goulburn       | 0 | 1 |
| Gateshead        | Cuthbert Rippon         | 1 | 0 |                  | Thomas Gladstone        | 0 | 1 |
| Glamorgansh.     | C. R. M. Talbot a.      | 0 | 0 | Leominster       | Lord Hotham             | 0 | 1 |
|                  | L. W. Dillwyn a.        | 0 | 0 |                  | Thomas Bish             | 1 | 0 |
| Gloucestersh. E. | Hon. A. Moreton         | 1 | 0 | Lewes            | Sir C. R. Blunt         | 1 | 0 |
|                  | C. Codrington           | 0 | 1 |                  | T. R. Kemp              | 1 | 0 |
| Gloucestersh. W. | Hon. G. Berkeley        | 1 | 0 | Lichfield        | Sir G. Anson            | 1 | 0 |
|                  | Marquis of Worcester    | 0 | 1 |                  | Sir E. D. Scott         | 0 | 1 |
| Gloucester       | Henry Thomas Hope       | 0 | 1 | Lincolnshire     | Hon. C. A. W. Pelham    | 1 | 0 |
|                  | Hon. F. Berkeley        | 1 | 0 | Lindsey          | T. G. Corbett           | 0 | 1 |
| Grantham         | Glynn Earl Welby        | 0 | 1 | Lincolnshire     | Henry Handley           | 0 | 1 |
|                  | Hon. A. G. Talmash      | 0 | 1 | Kesteven         | G. J. Heathcote         | 0 | 1 |
| Greenwich        | E. G. Barnard           | 1 | 0 | Lincoln          | Colonel Sibthorpe       | 0 | 1 |
|                  | J. Angerstein           | 0 | 1 |                  | E. L. Bulwer            | 1 | 0 |

| Places.         | Members.                        | A | S | Places.         | Members.                        | A | S |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|---|---|-----------------|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Liskeard.....   | Charles Buller.....             | 1 | 0 | Oldham.....     | John Fielden <i>a</i> .....     | 0 | 0 |
| Liverpool.....  | Lord Sandon.....                | 0 | 1 | .....           | W. Cobbett <i>a</i> .....       | 0 | 0 |
| .....           | William Ewart.....              | 1 | 0 | Oxfordshire..   | Lord Norreys.....               | 0 | 1 |
| London.....     | Matthew Wood.....               | 1 | 0 | .....           | G. G. Harcourt.....             | 0 | 1 |
| .....           | James Pattison.....             | 1 | 0 | .....           | R. Weyland.....                 | 0 | 1 |
| .....           | William Crawford.....           | 1 | 0 | Oxford.....     | W. Hughes Hughes.....           | 0 | 1 |
| .....           | George Grote.....               | 1 | 0 | .....           | D. Maclean.....                 | 0 | 1 |
| Ludlow.....     | Viscount Clive.....             | 0 | 1 | Oxford Univer-  | T. G. Estcourt.....             | 0 | 1 |
| .....           | E. L. Charlton.....             | 0 | 1 | sity.....       | Sir R. Inglis.....              | 0 | 1 |
| Lyme Regis...   | William Pinney.....             | 1 | 0 | Pembrokeshire   | Sir J. Owen.....                | 0 | 1 |
| Lymington.....  | J. Stewart.....                 | 0 | 1 | Pembroke.....   | H. Owen.....                    | 0 | 1 |
| .....           | W. A. Mackinnon.....            | 0 | 1 | Penryn.....     | J. W. Freshfield.....           | 0 | 1 |
| Lynn Regis...   | Lord G. Bentinck.....           | 0 | 1 | .....           | R. M. Rolfe.....                | 1 | 0 |
| .....           | Sir S. Canning.....             | 0 | 1 | Peterborough..  | Sir R. Heron.....               | 1 | 0 |
| Macclesfield..  | J. Ryle.....                    | 0 | 1 | .....           | J. N. Fazakerley.....           | 1 | 0 |
| .....           | J. Brocklehurst.....            | 0 | 1 | Petersfield...  | C. J. Hector.....               | 1 | 0 |
| Maidstone....   | Wyndham Lewis.....              | 0 | 1 | Plymouth....    | J. Collier.....                 | 1 | 0 |
| .....           | A. W. Roberts.....              | 1 | 0 | .....           | T. Bewes.....                   | 1 | 0 |
| Maldon.....     | Quintin Dick.....               | 0 | 1 | Pontefract...   | John Gully.....                 | 1 | 0 |
| .....           | T. B. Lennard.....              | 1 | 0 | .....           | Lord Pollington <i>a</i> .....  | 0 | 0 |
| Malmesbury...   | Lord Andover.....               | 1 | 0 | Poole.....      | Sir J. Byng.....                | 1 | 0 |
| Malton.....     | Sir C. Pepys.....               | 1 | 0 | .....           | C. A. Tulke.....                | 1 | 0 |
| .....           | J. C. Ramsden.....              | 1 | 0 | Portsmouth...   | J. B. Carter.....               | 1 | 0 |
| Manchester....  | Rt. Hon. C. P. Thomson          | 1 | 0 | .....           | F. T. Baring.....               | 1 | 0 |
| .....           | Mark Philips.....               | 1 | 0 | Preston.....    | Hon. H. T. Stanley.....         | 1 | 0 |
| Marlborough...  | Lord E. Bruce.....              | 0 | 1 | .....           | P. H. Fleetwood.....            | 0 | 1 |
| .....           | Henry B. Baring.....            | 0 | 1 | Radnorshire...  | Walter Wilkins.....             | 1 | 0 |
| Marlow.....     | Sir W. Clayton.....             | 1 | 0 | Radnor.....     | R. Price.....                   | 0 | 1 |
| .....           | T. P. Williams.....             | 0 | 1 | Reading.....    | Sergeant Talfourd.....          | 1 | 0 |
| Marylebone...   | Sir S. Whalley.....             | 1 | 0 | .....           | Charles Russell.....            | 0 | 1 |
| .....           | H. L. Bulwer.....               | 1 | 0 | Reigate.....    | Viscount Eastnor.....           | 0 | 1 |
| Merionethshire  | Sir R. W. Vaughan.....          | 0 | 1 | Retford, East   | G. Harcourt Vernon.....         | 0 | 1 |
| Merthyr Tydvil  | J. J. Guest.....                | 1 | 0 | .....           | Hon. A. Duncombe.....           | 0 | 1 |
| Middlesex....   | George Byng.....                | 1 | 0 | Richmond....    | Hon. T. Dundas.....             | 1 | 0 |
| .....           | Joseph Hume.....                | 1 | 0 | .....           | A. Speirs.....                  | 1 | 0 |
| Midhurst.....   | W. S. Poyntz.....               | 1 | 0 | Ripon.....      | Sir C. Albiac.....              | 0 | 1 |
| Monmouthshire   | Lord G. C. Somerset.....        | 0 | 1 | .....           | T. Pemberton.....               | 0 | 1 |
| .....           | W. A. Williams.....             | 1 | 0 | Rochdale....    | J. Entwistle.....               | 0 | 1 |
| Monmouth.....   | Benjamin Hall.....              | 1 | 0 | Rochester....   | Ralph Bernal.....               | 1 | 0 |
| Montgomerysh    | C. W. W. Wynne.....             | 0 | 1 | .....           | Twisten Hodges.....             | 1 | 0 |
| Montgomery...   | J. Edwardes.....                | 1 | 0 | Rutlandshire..  | Sir G. N. Noel.....             | 0 | 1 |
| Morpeth.....    | Hon. E. Howard.....             | 1 | 0 | .....           | Sir G. Heathcote.....           | 0 | 1 |
| Newark.....     | W. E. Gladstone.....            | 0 | 1 | Rye.....        | E. B. Curteis.....              | 1 | 0 |
| .....           | Sergeant Wilde.....             | 1 | 0 | Salford.....    | Joseph Brotherton.....          | 1 | 0 |
| Newcastle-un-   | W. H. Miller.....               | 0 | 1 | Salisbury.....  | W. B. Brodie.....               | 1 | 0 |
| der-Line.....   | Edmund Peel.....                | 0 | 1 | .....           | Wadham Wyndham.....             | 0 | 1 |
| Newcastle-up-   | W. Ord.....                     | 1 | 0 | Salop North..   | Sir R. Hill.....                | 0 | 1 |
| on-Tyne.....    | Sir M. W. Ridley.....           | 0 | 1 | .....           | W. O. Gore.....                 | 0 | 1 |
| Newport.....    | J. H. Hawkins.....              | 1 | 0 | Salop South..   | Earl of Darlington.....         | 0 | 1 |
| .....           | W. H. Ord.....                  | 1 | 0 | .....           | Hon. R. Clive.....              | 0 | 1 |
| Norfolk, East.  | Hon. E. Wodehouse.....          | 0 | 1 | Sandwich.....   | S. G. Price.....                | 0 | 1 |
| .....           | Lord Walpole <i>a</i> .....     | 0 | 0 | .....           | Sir E. T. Troubridge.....       | 1 | 0 |
| Norfolk, West   | Sir W. J. Foulkes.....          | 1 | 0 | Scarborough..   | Sir F. Trench.....              | 0 | 1 |
| .....           | Sir Jacob Astley.....           | 1 | 0 | .....           | Sir S. Johnstone <i>a</i> ..... | 0 | 0 |
| Northallerton.  | W. B. Wrightson.....            | 1 | 0 | Shaftesbury...  | J. S. Poulter.....              | 1 | 0 |
| Northampton,N   | Lord Milton <i>a</i> .....      | 0 | 0 | Sheffield.....  | J. Parker.....                  | 1 | 0 |
| .....           | Lord Brudenell.....             | 0 | 1 | .....           | J. S. Buckingham.....           | 1 | 0 |
| Northampton,S   | W. Cartwright <i>a</i> .....    | 0 | 0 | Shoreham.....   | Sir C. M. Burrell.....          | 0 | 1 |
| .....           | Sir C. Knightley <i>a</i> ..... | 0 | 0 | .....           | H. D. Goring.....               | 0 | 1 |
| Northampton..   | R. V. Smith.....                | 1 | 0 | Shrewsbury...   | Sir John Hanmer.....            | 0 | 1 |
| .....           | Charles Ross.....               | 0 | 1 | .....           | J. Cressett Pelham.....         | 0 | 1 |
| Northumberland  | Lord Howick.....                | 1 | 0 | Somerset, East  | Colonel Gore Langton..          | 1 | 0 |
| North.....      | Lord Ossulston.....             | 0 | 1 | .....           | W. Miles.....                   | 0 | 1 |
| Northumberland  | Matthew Bell.....               | 0 | 1 | Somerset, West  | E. A. Sanford <i>a</i> .....    | 0 | 0 |
| South.....      | T. Beaumont.....                | 1 | 0 | .....           | C. J. K. Tynte.....             | 1 | 0 |
| Norwich.....    | Lord Stormont.....              | 0 | 1 | Southampton     | J. B. Hoy.....                  | 0 | 1 |
| .....           | Hon. R. C. Scarlett.....        | 0 | 1 | .....           | A. R. Dottin.....               | 0 | 1 |
| Nottinghamshire | Lord Lumley.....                | 1 | 0 | South Shields.  | R. Ingham.....                  | 0 | 1 |
| North.....      | Thomas Houldsworth..            | 0 | 1 | Southwark....   | J. Humphery.....                | 1 | 0 |
| Nottinghamshire | Earl of Lincoln.....            | 0 | 1 | .....           | D. W. Harvey.....               | 1 | 0 |
| South.....      | J. E. Denison.....              | 0 | 1 | Staffordshire.. | Sir Oswald Mosley.....          | 1 | 0 |
| Nottingham....  | Sir R. C. Ferguson.....         | 1 | 0 | North.....      | E. Buller.....                  | 1 | 0 |
| .....           | Sir J. C. Hobhouse....          | 1 | 0 | Staffordshire.. | Sir J. Wrottesley.....          | 1 | 0 |
| .....           | .....                           | 1 | 0 | South.....      | E. J. Littleton.....            | 1 | 0 |



| Places.           | Members.                        | A | S | Places.              | Members.                    | A                       | S |   |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---|---|
| Stafford .....    | F. L. Holyoake Goodricke        | 0 | 1 | Wigan .....          | J. H. Kearsley .....        | 0                       | 1 |   |
|                   | W. F. Chetwynd .....            | 1 | 0 |                      | R. Potter .....             | 1                       | 0 |   |
| St. Alban's ..... | Hon. E. Grimston .....          | 0 | 1 | White, Isle of ..... | Sir R. G. Simeon .....      | 1                       | 0 |   |
|                   | H. G. Ward .....                | 1 | 0 | Wilton .....         | J. H. Penruddock .....      | 0                       | 1 |   |
| Stamford .....    | Thomas Chaplain .....           | 0 | 1 | Wiltshire, N. ....   | Paul Methuen .....          | 1                       | 0 |   |
|                   | George Finch .....              | 0 | 1 |                      | Walter Long .....           | 0                       | 1 |   |
| St. Ives .....    | J. Halse .....                  | 0 | 1 | Wiltshire, S. ....   | John Benett <i>a.</i> ..... | 0                       | 0 |   |
| Stockport .....   | Thomas Marsland .....           | 0 | 1 |                      | Hon. Sydney Herbert ..      | 0                       | 1 |   |
|                   | Henry Marsland .....            | 1 | 0 | Winchester ....      | W. B. Baring .....          | 0                       | 1 |   |
| Stoke-on-Trent .. | R. Heathcote .....              | 1 | 0 |                      | J. B. East .....            | 0                       | 1 |   |
|                   | J. Davenport .....              | 0 | 1 | Windsor .....        | J. Ramsbottom .....         | 1                       | 0 |   |
| Stroud .....      | G. P. Scrope .....              | 1 | 0 |                      | Sir J. E. De Beauvoir ..    | 1                       | 0 |   |
|                   | G. R. Fox .....                 | 1 | 0 | Wolverhampton..      | Thomas Thornley .....       | 1                       | 0 |   |
| Sudbury .....     | J. Bagsbaw .....                | 1 | 0 |                      | C. P. Villiers .....        | 1                       | 0 |   |
|                   | B. Smith .....                  | 1 | 0 | Woodstock ....       | Lord C. Churchill .....     | 0                       | 1 |   |
| Suffolk, East ..  | Lord Henniker .....             | 0 | 1 | Worcestersh.E. ..    | E. Holland .....            | 1                       | 0 |   |
|                   | Sir C. B. Vere .....            | 0 | 1 |                      | T. H. Cookes .....          | 1                       | 0 |   |
| Suffolk, West ..  | B. Rushbrooke .....             | 0 | 1 | Worcestersh.W. ..    | Hon. Colonel H. Lygon..     | 0                       | 1 |   |
|                   | H. Wilson .....                 | 0 | 1 |                      | H. J. Winnington .....      | 1                       | 0 |   |
| Sunderland ....   | W. Thompson .....               | 0 | 1 | Worcester ....       | G. R. Robinson .....        | 0                       | 1 |   |
|                   | D. Barclay .....                | 1 | 0 |                      | J. Bailey .....             | 0                       | 1 |   |
| Surrey, East ..   | R. Alsager .....                | 0 | 1 | Wycombe .....        | R. J. Smith <i>a.</i> ..... | 0                       | 0 |   |
|                   | A. W. Beaucherk .....           | 1 | 0 |                      | Hon. C. Grey .....          | 1                       | 0 |   |
| Surry, West ..    | W. J. Denison .....             | 1 | 0 | Yarmouth ....        | W. M. Praed .....           | 0                       | 1 |   |
|                   | C. Barclay .....                | 0 | 1 |                      | T. Baring .....             | 0                       | 1 |   |
| Sussex, East ..   | Hon. C. C. Cavendish ..         | 1 | 0 | Yorkshire,North..    | Hon. W. Duncombe ....       | 0                       | 1 |   |
|                   | H. B. Curteis .....             | 1 | 0 |                      | Riding .....                | E. S. Cayley .....      | 1 | 0 |
| Sussex, West ..   | Lord J. G. Lennox .....         | 0 | 1 | Yorkshire, East..    | Richard Bethell .....       | 0                       | 1 |   |
|                   | Earl of Surry .....             | 0 | 1 |                      | Riding .....                | P. B. Thompson .....    | 1 | 0 |
| Swansea .....     | J. H. Vivian .....              | 1 | 0 | Yorkshire, West..    | Lord Morpeth .....          | 1                       | 0 |   |
| Tamworth ....     | Sir Robert Peel .....           | 0 | 1 |                      | Riding .....                | Sir G. Strickland ..... | 1 | 0 |
|                   | W. Yates Peel .....             | 0 | 1 | York .....           | Hon. J. C. Dundas ....      | 1                       | 0 |   |
| Tavistock ....    | Lord Russell .....              | 1 | 0 |                      | J. H. Lowther .....         | 0                       | 1 |   |
|                   | J. Rundle .....                 | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Taunton .....     | E. T. Bainbridge .....          | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
|                   | Henry Labouchere .....          | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Tewkesbury ..     | W. Dovesdewell .....            | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
|                   | C. H. Tracey .....              | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Thetford .....    | Earl of Euston .....            | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
|                   | F. Baring .....                 | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Thirsk .....      | Samuel Crompton .....           | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Tiverton .....    | J. Heathcote .....              | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
|                   | J. Kennedy .....                | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Totness .....     | Lord Seymour .....              | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
|                   | J. Parrott .....                | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Tower Hamlets..   | W. Clay .....                   | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
|                   | Dr. Lushington .....            | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Truro .....       | J. E. Vivian .....              | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
|                   | W. Tooke .....                  | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Tynemouth ....    | G. F. Young .....               | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Wakefield ....    | D. Gaskell .....                | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Wallingford ...   | W. S. Blackstone .....          | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Walsall .....     | C. S. Forster .....             | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Wareham .....     | J. H. Calcraft <i>a.</i> .....  | 0 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Warrington ....   | J. I. Blackburne .....          | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Warwickshire,NS   | Sir E. E. Wilmot .....          | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
|                   | D. S. Dugdale .....             | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Warwickshire,S.   | Sir J. Mordaunt .....           | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
|                   | E. R. C. Sheldon .....          | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Warwick .....     | Sir C. J. Greville .....        | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
|                   | E. B. King .....                | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Wells ... ..      | J. L. Lee .....                 | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
|                   | N. Ridley Colborne <i>a.</i> .. | 0 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Wenlock .....     | Hon. G. Forester .....          | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
|                   | J. M. Gaskell .....             | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Westbury .....    | Sir R. Lopez .....              | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Westminster ...   | Sir F. Burdett <i>a.</i> .....  | 0 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
|                   | Colonel Evans .....             | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Westmoreland ..   | Lord Lowther .....              | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
|                   | Hon. H. C. Lowther .....        | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Weymouth ....     | T. F. Buxton .....              | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
|                   | W. W. Burdon .....              | 1 | 0 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Whitby .....      | A. Chapman .....                | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |
| Whitehaven ...    | M. Attwood .....                | 0 | 1 |                      |                             |                         |   |   |

| SCOTLAND.        |                                 |   |   |
|------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Aberdeenshire..  | Hon. William Gordon .....       | 0 | 1 |
| Aberdeen .....   | Alexander Bannerman .....       | 1 | 0 |
| Argyleshire ...  | W. F. Campbell <i>a.</i> .....  | 1 | 0 |
| Ayrshire .....   | R. A. Oswald .....              | 1 | 0 |
| Ayr Burghs ..... | Lord J. Stewart <i>a.</i> ..... | 0 | 0 |
| Banffshire ....  | G. Ferguson .....               | 0 | 1 |
| Berwickshire..   | Sir P. H. Campbell .....        | 0 | 1 |
| Buteshire .....  | Sir William Rae .....           | 0 | 1 |
| Caithnesshire..  | G. Sinclair .....               | 0 | 1 |
| Clackmannan ..   | and Kinross } C. Adam .....     | 1 | 0 |
| Dunbartonsh. .   | A. Dennistoun .....             | 1 | 0 |
| Dumfriesshire..  | J. J. Johnstone .....           | 0 | 1 |
| Dumfries Bs. .   | General Sharpe .....            | 1 | 0 |
| Dundee .....     | Sir Henry Parnell .....         | 1 | 0 |
| Edinburghshire   | Sir George Clerk .....          | 0 | 1 |
| Edinburgh ..     | Hon. James Abercromby ..        | 0 | 1 |
|                  | Sir John Campbell .....         | 1 | 0 |
| Elgin and Nairn  | Colonel F. W. Grant .....       | 0 | 1 |
| Elgin .....      | Colonel Leith Hay .....         | 1 | 0 |
| Falkirk Bs. .    | W. D. Gillon .....              | 1 | 0 |
| Fifehire .....   | J. Wemyss .....                 | 1 | 0 |
| Forfarshire ..   | Hon. D. Hallyburton .....       | 1 | 0 |
| Glasgow .....    | James Oswald .....              | 1 | 0 |
|                  | Colin Dunlop .....              | 1 | 0 |
| Greenock .....   | Robert Wallace .....            | 1 | 0 |
| Haddington ...   | R. Stewart .....                | 1 | 0 |
| Invernesshire..  | C. Grant .....                  | 1 | 0 |
| Inverness .....  | C. L. C. Bruce .....            | 0 | 1 |
| Kilmarnock Bs.   | Dr. Bowring .....               | 1 | 0 |
| Kincairdinesh.   | Hon. H. Arbuthnot .....         | 0 | 1 |
| Kirkcaldy ....   | J. Fergus .....                 | 1 | 0 |
| Kircudbrightsh   | Hon. R. Ferguson .....          | 1 | 0 |
| Lanarkshire ..   | J. Maxwell .....                | 1 | 0 |
| Leith .....      | J. A. Murray .....              | 1 | 0 |
| Linlithgowsh..   | Hon. J. Hope .....              | 0 | 1 |
| Lothian, East.   | Robert Ferguson <i>a.</i> ..... | 0 | 0 |
| Montrose .....   | P. Chalmers .....               | 1 | 0 |
| Orkney .....     | T. Balfour .....                | 0 | 1 |
| Paisley .....    | Captain Speirs .....            | 1 | 0 |
| Peebleshire ..   | Sir John Hay .....              | 0 | 1 |
| Perthshire ....  | Hon. F. Maule .....             | 1 | 0 |

## SCOTLAND.

|                  |                                 |   |   |
|------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Aberdeenshire..  | Hon. William Gordon .....       | 0 | 1 |
| Aberdeen .....   | Alexander Bannerman .....       | 1 | 0 |
| Argyleshire ...  | W. F. Campbell <i>a.</i> .....  | 1 | 0 |
| Ayrshire .....   | R. A. Oswald .....              | 1 | 0 |
| Ayr Burghs ..... | Lord J. Stewart <i>a.</i> ..... | 0 | 0 |
| Banffshire ..... | G. Ferguson .....               | 0 | 1 |
| Berwickshire ..  | Sir P. H. Campbell .....        | 0 | 1 |
| Buteshire .....  | Sir William Rae .....           | 0 | 1 |
| Caithnesshire..  | G. Sinclair .....               | 0 | 1 |
| Clackmannan }    | C. Adam .....                   | 1 | 0 |
| and Kinross }    |                                 |   |   |
| Dunbartonsh. .   | A. Dennistoun .....             | 1 | 0 |
| Dumfriesshire..  | J. J. Johnstone .....           | 0 | 1 |
| Dumfries Bs. .   | General Sharpe .....            | 1 | 0 |
| Dundee .....     | Sir Henry Parnell .....         | 1 | 0 |
| Edinburghshire   | Sir George Clerk .....          | 0 | 1 |
| Edinburgh .....  | Hon. James Abercromby ..        | 0 | 1 |
|                  | Sir John Campbell .....         | 1 | 0 |
| Elgin and Nairn  | Colonel F. W. Grant .....       | 0 | 1 |
| Elgin .....      | Colonel Leith Hay .....         | 1 | 0 |
| Falkirk Bs. .... | W. D. Gillon .....              | 1 | 0 |
| Fifeshire .....  | J. Wemyss .....                 | 1 | 0 |
| Forfarshire ..   | Hon. D. Hallyburton .....       | 1 | 0 |
| Glasgow .....    | James Oswald .....              | 1 | 0 |
|                  | Colin Dunlop .....              | 1 | 0 |
| Greenock .....   | Robert Wallace .....            | 1 | 0 |
| Haddington ...   | R. Stewart .....                | 1 | 0 |
| Invernesshire..  | C. Grant .....                  | 1 | 0 |
| Inverness .....  | C. L. C. Bruce .....            | 0 | 1 |
| Kilmarnock Bs.   | Dr. Bowring .....               | 1 | 0 |
| Kincairdinesh..  | Hon. H. Arbuthnot .....         | 0 | 1 |
| Kirkcaldy .....  | J. Fergus .....                 | 1 | 0 |
| Kircudbrightsh   | Hon. R. Ferguson .....          | 1 | 0 |
| Lanarkshire ..   | J. Maxwell .....                | 1 | 0 |
| Leith .....      | J. A. Murray .....              | 1 | 0 |
| Linlithgowsh. .  | Hon. J. Hope .....              | 0 | 1 |
| Lothian, East. . | Robert Ferguson <i>a.</i> ..... | 0 | 0 |
| Montrose .....   | P. Chalmers .....               | 1 | 0 |
| Orkney .....     | T. Balfour .....                | 0 | 1 |
| Paisley .....    | Captain Speirs .....            | 1 | 0 |
| Peebleshire ..   | Sir John Hay .....              | 0 | 1 |
| Perthshire ....  | Hon. F. Maule .....             | 1 | 0 |

| Places.          | Members.                 | A | S | Places.       | Members.                  | A | S |
|------------------|--------------------------|---|---|---------------|---------------------------|---|---|
| Perth .....      | L. Oliphant .....        | 1 | 0 | Longford .... | Lord Forbes .....         | 0 | 1 |
| Renfrewshire ..  | Sir M. S. Stewart .....  | 1 | 0 | .....         | A. Lefroy .....           | 0 | 1 |
| Rossshire ....   | A. J. S. Mackenzie ..... | 1 | 0 | Louth .....   | Sir P. Bellew .....       | 1 | 0 |
| Roxburghshire    | Lord John Scott .....    | 0 | 1 | .....         | R. M. Bellew .....        | 1 | 0 |
| St. Andrew's ..  | Andrew Johnstone .....   | 1 | 0 | Mallow .....  | C. D. Jephson .....       | 0 | 1 |
| Selkirkshire ..  | A. Pringle .....         | 0 | 1 | Mayo .....    | Sir W. J. Brabazon .....  | 1 | 0 |
| Stirlingshire .. | W. Forbes .....          | 0 | 1 | .....         | Dominick Brown .....      | 1 | 0 |
| Sutherlandsh..   | Roderick Macleod .....   | 1 | 0 | Meath .....   | Henry Grattan .....       | 1 | 0 |
| Wick .....       | James Loch .....         | 1 | 0 | .....         | Morgan O'Connell .....    | 1 | 0 |
| Wigtonshire...   | Sir Andrew Agnew .....   | 0 | 1 | Monaghan...   | E. Lucas .....            | 0 | 1 |
| Wigton Bs....    | J. Mactaggart .....      | 1 | 0 | .....         | Hon. H. R. Westenra ..... | 1 | 0 |

## IRELAND.

|                 |                             |   |   |                 |                         |   |   |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|---|---|-----------------|-------------------------|---|---|
| Antrim .....    | Hon. J. B. R. O'Neil .....  | 0 | 1 | .....           | D. C. Brady .....       | 1 | 0 |
| .....           | Earl of Belfast a.....      | 0 | 0 | Ross .....      | J. H. Talbot .....      | 1 | 0 |
| Armagh County   | W. R. Verner .....          | 0 | 1 | Portarlington   | Dawson Damer .....      | 0 | 1 |
| .....           | Viscount Acheson .....      | 1 | 0 | Queen's Co..    | Sir C. Coote .....      | 0 | 1 |
| .....           | .....                       | 1 | 0 | .....           | Hon. T. Vesey .....     | 0 | 1 |
| Armagh Town.    | Leonard Dobbin .....        | 1 | 0 | Roscommon ..    | F. S. French .....      | 1 | 0 |
| Athlone .....   | Captain Matthew .....       | 0 | 1 | .....           | O'Connor Don .....      | 1 | 0 |
| Bandonbridge..  | J. D. Jackson .....         | 0 | 1 | Sligo County .. | Colonel Perceval .....  | 0 | 1 |
| Belfast .....   | J. E. Tennent .....         | 0 | 1 | .....           | E. J. Cooper .....      | 0 | 1 |
| .....           | J. M'Cance .....            | 1 | 0 | Sligo Town ..   | John Martin .....       | 0 | 1 |
| Carlow County   | Colonel Bruen .....         | 0 | 1 | Tipperary ....  | R. L. Sheil .....       | 1 | 0 |
| .....           | T. Kavanagh .....           | 0 | 1 | .....           | Otway Cave .....        | 1 | 0 |
| Carlow .....    | Francis Bruen .....         | 0 | 1 | Trales .....    | Maurice O'Connell ..... | 1 | 0 |
| Carrickfergus.. | P. Kirke .....              | 0 | 1 | Tyrone .....    | Lord C. Hamilton .....  | 0 | 1 |
| Cashel .....    | L. Perrin .....             | 1 | 0 | .....           | Hon. H. Corry .....     | 0 | 1 |
| Cavan County..  | John Young .....            | 0 | 1 | Waterford Co.   | Sir R. Musgrave .....   | 1 | 0 |
| .....           | Henry Maxwell .....         | 0 | 1 | .....           | R. Power .....          | 1 | 0 |
| Clare .....     | W. N. Macnamara .....       | 1 | 0 | Waterford City  | H. W. Barron .....      | 1 | 0 |
| .....           | C. O'Brien .....            | 1 | 0 | .....           | Thomas Wyse, jun. ....  | 1 | 0 |
| Clonmel .....   | D. Ronayne .....            | 1 | 0 | Westmeath...    | Sir R. Nagle .....      | 1 | 0 |
| Colerain .....  | W. T. Copeland .....        | 0 | 1 | .....           | M. L. Chapman .....     | 1 | 0 |
| Cork County ..  | Fergus O'Connor .....       | 1 | 0 | Wexford Co..    | J. Maher .....          | 1 | 0 |
| .....           | G. S. Barry .....           | 1 | 0 | .....           | P. Power .....          | 1 | 0 |
| Cork City.....  | C. Chatterton .....         | 0 | 1 | Wexford Town.   | C. A. Walker .....      | 1 | 0 |
| .....           | J. Leycester .....          | 0 | 1 | Wicklow.....    | James Grattan .....     | 1 | 0 |
| Donegal .....   | Sir E. Hayes .....          | 0 | 1 | .....           | Ralph Howard a.....     | 0 | 0 |
| .....           | E. M. Conolly .....         | 0 | 1 | Youghal .....   | John O'Connell .....    | 1 | 0 |
| Downshire ....  | Lord Arthur Hill .....      | 0 | 1 |                 |                         |   |   |
| .....           | Viscount Castlereagh .....  | 0 | 1 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Downpatrick ..  | D. Kerr .....               | 0 | 1 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Drogheda .....  | A. C. O'Dwyer .....         | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Dublin County.  | N. Fitzsimon .....          | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| .....           | G. Evans .....              | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Dublin City ..  | Daniel O'Connell .....      | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| .....           | E. S. Ruthven .....         | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Dublin Univer.  | Thomas Lefroy .....         | 0 | 1 |                 |                         |   |   |
| .....           | Frederick Shaw .....        | 0 | 1 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Dundalk .....   | W. S. Crawford .....        | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Dungannon ..    | Hon. J. Knox .....          | 0 | 1 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Dungarvon ..    | M. O'Loughlin .....         | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Ennis .....     | Hewitt Bridgman .....       | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Eoniskillen ..  | Hon. A. H. Cole .....       | 0 | 1 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Fermanagh ...   | M. Archdall, jun. ....      | 0 | 1 |                 |                         |   |   |
| .....           | Viscount Cole .....         | 0 | 1 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Galway C....    | T. Martin .....             | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| .....           | J. J. Bodkin .....          | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Galway T....    | A. H. Lynch .....           | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| .....           | M. J. Blake .....           | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Kerry .....     | Morgan John O'Connell ..... | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| .....           | F. W. Mullins .....         | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Kildare .....   | E. Ruthven, junior .....    | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| .....           | R. More O'Ferrall .....     | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Kilkenny Co..   | Hon. R. Butler .....        | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| .....           | W. F. Finn .....            | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Kilkenny City.  | R. Sullivan .....           | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| King's County.  | Nicholas Fitzsimon .....    | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| .....           | Hon. Col. Westenra .....    | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Kinsale .....   | Colonel Thomas .....        | 0 | 1 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Leitrim .....   | Lord Clements a.....        | 0 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| .....           | Samuel White .....          | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Limerick Co..   | Hon. R. Fitzgibbon .....    | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| .....           | W. S. O'Brien .....         | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Limerick City.  | William Roche .....         | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| .....           | David Roche .....           | 1 | 0 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Lisburn .....   | Henry Meynell .....         | 0 | 1 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Londonderry C.  | Sir R. Bateson .....        | 0 | 1 |                 |                         |   |   |
| .....           | T. Jones .....              | 0 | 1 |                 |                         |   |   |
| Londond.....    | Sir R. Ferguson .....       | 0 | 1 |                 |                         |   |   |

## SUPPOSED REFORMERS WHO WERE ABSENT.

|                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Benett, J., Wiltshire, N. | Milton, Lord, Northamp-  |
| Campbell, W. F. Argyle-   | tonshire, N.             |
| shire                     | Ponsonby, Hon. W., Dor-  |
| Clements, Lord, Leitrim   | setshire                 |
| Ellice, E., Coventry      | Pryse, P., Cardigan      |
| Ferguson, R., Lothian E   | Sanford, E. A., Somers-  |
| Glynn, Sir S., Flintshire | set, W.                  |
| Howard, R., Wicklow       | Smith, R. J., Wycmbe     |
| Johnstone, Sir S., Scar-  | Smith, J. A., Chichester |
| borough                   | Stuart, Lord J., Ayr     |
| Lennox, Lord A. Chiches-  | Talbot, C. R. M. Glam-   |
| ter                       | morganshire              |

## DOUBTFULS WHO WERE ABSENT.

|                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Belfast, Earl of, Antrim | Dilwyn, L. W., Glamor-   |
| Burdett, Sir F. Westmin- | ganshire                 |
| ster                     | Fielden, J., Oldham      |
| Cobbett, W., Oldham      | Pechell, Capt., Brighton |
| Colborne, N. R., Wells   |                          |

## TORIES ABSENT.

|                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Calcraft, J. H., Wareham  | Pollen, Sir J., Andover  |
| Cartwright, W., North-    | Pollington, Lord, Ponte- |
| amptonshire, N.           | fract                    |
| Knightley, Sir C., North- | Walpole, Ld, Norfolk, E  |
| amptonshire, S.           |                          |

## ERRATUM.

At page 153, in the Description of the Plate, for "Metropolitan," read "Neapolitan."

## ENTERED AT STATIONER'S HALL.

Published at 19, Old Boswell Court, Temple Bar.

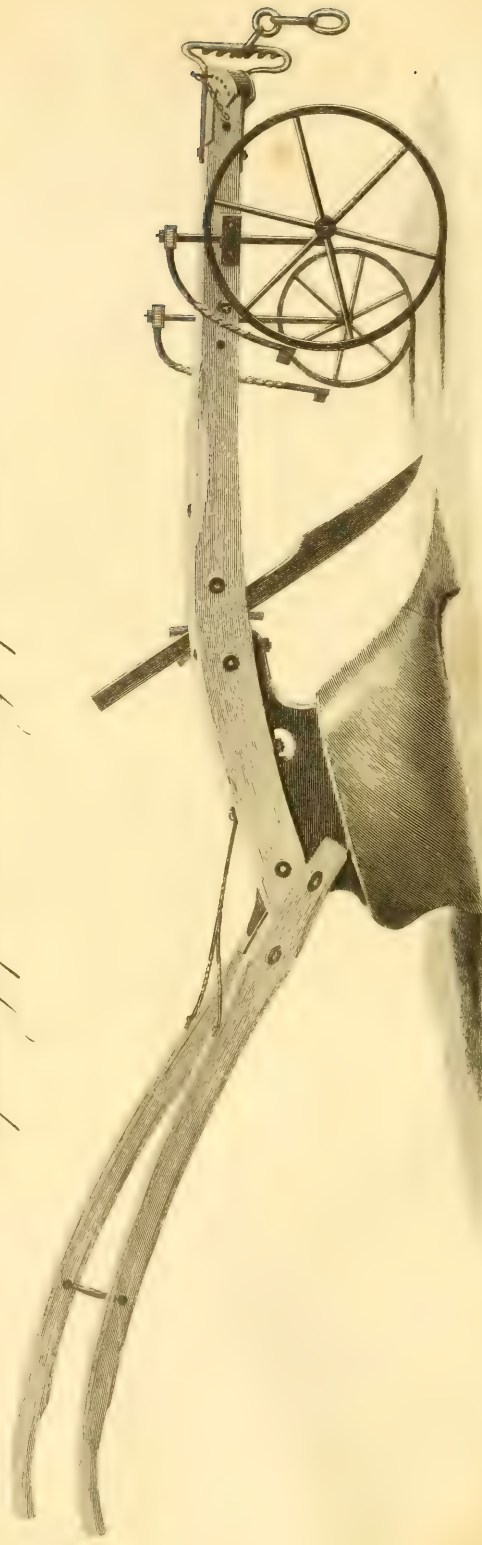
Printed by J. Rogerson, 24, Norfolk-street, Strand, London





# RAYSON'S RUTLAND PLOUGH.

Made at the suggestion of Richard Westbrook Baker, Esq.<sup>r</sup> of 'Cottemore',  
expressly for the County of 'Rutland'.





# THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

APRIL, 1835.

No. 4.]

[Vol. II.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "FARMERS' MAGAZINE."

Cottesmore, near Stamford.

Sir,—I was much pleased in looking over your Magazine for February, to see an engraving of Ransome's ploughs, with the description you have given on the first page. I also observed that you noticed one plough in particular of theirs, in a recent number of "The Mark Lane Express," which was made expressly for the county of Rutland; if you should be inclined to notice it in "The Farmer's Magazine" also, I have no objection to your inserting this letter, should you deem the remarks therein contained of any value to your readers.

As the most important implement used in husbandry, the plough must always be a subject of interest to the agriculturist. It has been my object to excite a lively interest in its use, from the owner of the land, to the tenant, the ploughman, and ploughboy. To effect this object I have, for many years past, given, throughout Rutland, encouragement in competition in ploughs and ploughing, by annual ploughing matches, which have produced an interest from the nobleman to the peasant, and spread its stimulating influence over the minds of those engaged in agricultural pursuits throughout the year.

For the last few years there have been from forty to fifty competitors in ploughing, for prizes at the Cottesmore Annual Ploughing Matches. The participation in the pleasure in these trials of skill has been very considerable. The neighbouring villages have been emptied of the peasantry to witness the scene; whilst ladies and gentry, in their carriages or on horseback, with many hundreds of spectators on foot, have given to these animating scenes a character of lively interest, that those who have not witnessed them can scarcely credit, and I am of opinion that meetings of this kind do an infinite degree of good to a county, when the gentry and farmers will do their part in supporting them with the small pecuniary contributions which are requisite for prizes, and more especially by their personal countenance and encouragement. My anxious wish for some years has been to advance by all means in my power the proper application of this valuable implement in agriculture in this immediate neighbourhood, which, generally speaking, was very much in the rear of good ploughing.

Upon first turning my attention to the subject, I thought it necessary to excite a spirit of emulation, both in master and men, and by degrees destroy the strong rooted prejudice in favour of antiquated ploughs, slowness of movement, horse-power badly applied, &c. &c. Under these impressions an annual meeting was established under the patronage of a few persons of consequence, both in property and discernment, convinced of

what it was possible to do. A pair of horses abreast, without a driver, was introduced, depth of ploughing, the time stated as necessary to perform the work fixed, &c. This to a certain extent did much good, but a difficulty occurred that puzzled me much how to find two ploughs that would do their work alike upon the same land, and it never was in my power to discover a remedy with our country plough-makers. The plough made by Ransome, No XVIII., in the Magazine, called the Bedford wheel-plough, partly served my purpose, and succeeded in ploughing land in dry weather, when all other ploughs refused their work. I became well convinced that I had found out the right sort of ploughmaker, though not the sort of plough that I thought would be of general and essential service in the neighbourhood. I wanted a simple implement, easy to regulate and understand, yet strong, and above all, *light* of draught. My attention has been from time to time, as a matter of necessary consequence, much directed to the construction of ploughs suited to our local purposes, and I think we have now arrived at the conclusion, that in the "Rutland plough, made by Ransome," we have an implement best adapted for our use; this plough has become a general favourite. It is light in draught, simple in its construction, and consequently easy to keep in order, and is economical to the user. I have seen boys not more than fourteen or sixteen years of age, handling it with a dexterity apparently beyond their years, and making such sound work as would not discredit ploughmen of long experience. Thus, by the united assistance, pecuniary and personal support of some good landlords, spirited and enlightened occupiers, industrious and well-behaved labourers and lads, and the combined efforts of a skilful and unequalled implement maker, has the ill-turned furrow and prejudice vanished from the neighbourhood, and with them hundreds of antiquated ploughs and other implements, which are replaced by the now more valuable and approved *Rutland plough*.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,  
RICHARD WESTBROOK BAKER.

## THE OX.—IMPROVEMENT OF BREEDS.

The breed must be adapted to the means, natural or acquired, possessed of supplying food. Art and an improved system of tillage do much in supplying the food of herbivorous animals. By cultivation we can change the nature, and increase the abundance, of the food supplied. But in many cases, tillage is only practicable or expedient to a limited degree, and then the natural pastures of the country must furnish the main supplies of food. In a mountainous country, where the principal food is natural herbage, and where the means do not exist of obtaining artificial food, it

would be vain to attempt the rearing of a large and fine breed of oxen. We must, in such a case, be satisfied to rear a race, of hardy properties, of small size, and capable of subsisting on coarse herbage.

Where, again, art or the natural fertility of a country admits of supplying sufficient food, the study of the breeder should be to select a race of animals, the best that circumstances will allow him to rear.

Having fixed on the kind of breed which is the best suited to the circumstances of the district or farm, the practical question to be determined, is the manner in which a proper breed should be obtained, or the old one improved. There are three methods which may be adopted for this purpose:—

1. The entire change of the existing stock, and the substitution of a different breed, females as well as males.

2. The retaining of the old breed, male and female, and improving them by breeding from the best animals of the same breed.

3. The improving of the breed by crossing with males of a different breed.

When the nature of a farm allows, the most speedy and the best method certainly of attaining the object is to change the stock, and to substitute females of the improved one from which it is proposed to breed. In this manner the object will be attained at once, without the labour or loss of time of improving a defective stock.

The second method is the retaining of the existing stock, and improving it by a selection of the best individuals of the same breed. This is the method which ought to be adopted if the breed already existing is sufficiently suited to the natural circumstances of the farm, and to the method of cultivation which can be pursued upon it.

The third method is that of crossing, that is, the retaining of the females, and the employing of males of a different breed. This method has often led to disappointment, from the nature of the crosses attempted, especially where the crosses have been violent, as between animals of very different characters. The first cross in general will be good, but in breeding from the progeny of this cross, expectation will often be disappointed. Not only do the good qualities of the first cross not always remain in the progeny, but often there are found in it defects which cannot be traced to the parents.

This, however, generally arises from injudicious crossing, and from unacquaintance with the principle on which the crosses of different animals should be conducted. When a cross is made, it should be with a male of a superior breed; and in this case the first cross will be almost always a good animal. To secure the benefits of the cross, however, we should not again resort to the males of the inferior stock, because it might be found, that, while we had injured the original breed, we had not substituted a better in its stead. The rule, therefore, should be, to cover again the first cross with a superior male of the same breed, and so on, until the good character of that breed became permanent in the progeny. This is said to be breeding up to the superior stock.

In crossing, the essential characters of form are imprinted on the offspring by the male; and it is surprising in how great a degree this imprinting of better characters takes place when a male of superior breeding is employed. A first cross between a short-horned bull, for example, fully bred, and a very ordinary cow, produces, not only often, but generally, a fine animal, with an extraordinary aptitude to fatten. Many of

the very fat animals that receive premiums at the cattle-shows in this country, are extreme crosses of this kind. But the benefit may end with the progeny, if we do not again cover with a male of the same superior breed, and so on until the good characters become permanent.

When a breeder, then, is to improve his stock by crossing, he ought to select a male of undoubtedly superior blood. And he should not generally, after the first cross, resort to the males of the defective breed, but to those of the superior one, until he has formed, as it were, a breed for himself. There are, indeed, numerous cases in which a single mixture of better blood will do good, as with those inferior breeds which have no fixed characters. These will be improved by even the slightest intermixture with the blood of a better race; and a farmer who is in a district where this class of animals prevails, may safely avail himself of a good male, in the same manner as a breeder of horses would do, although the stallion were of a different character from the native stock. The cases where crossing of any kind is to be attempted with caution, are when a breed of established good characters, or of characters which fit it for the nature of the country and the state of its agriculture, already exists.

In crossing, then, the rule is, to breed from a male of superior stock; and, fortunately, in this country we have now a breed of such established character, that no mistake can arise in the selection of males. These have been formed to our hands, with all the care that art can bestow in improving the form of feeding animals. There is no need, therefore, for those mistaken attempts at crosses which were sometimes made with males of questionable characters, as between an Ayrshire cow and a Galloway bull, and *vice versa*. We can predicate nothing securely of the progeny of such crosses as these, the effect of which will probably be to destroy the good properties of either breed, as the aptitude to yield milk of the Ayrshire, and the hardy and feeding qualities of the Galloway. But in crossing with a breed so highly cultivated as the short-horned, the breeder has the assurance that he will produce animals of large size and good feeding properties. He is to consider, indeed, whether he has the means at his command of rearing the larger animals; and if this be so, it will be better that he at once form his stock upon the best model, than run the hazard of wasting time and capital on questionable crosses.

And it must be regarded as highly important as a mean of improving the live-stock of Great Britain, that a breed has been actually formed, by long-continued selection and care, which may always be resorted to, to effect the purposes required, in the same manner as recourse is had to horses of known pedigree, to communicate their characters to the progeny. In this manner the labours of those who have improved the short-horned breed, have extended far beyond what the original breeders contemplated. They have not only improved a peculiar breed, but have furnished the most efficient means that can be used of improving the live-stock of the entire country; and it is to be trusted that the breeders of this class of animals will have encouragement to maintain the characters of the breed with as much care as is used in the case of the race-horse, seeing that it is for a far more important object.

But having selected the breed, or having fixed on the means to be employed for forming it, a point to be determined is the manner of maintaining or improving



it, by the selection of good individuals, male and female; for it is to be observed, that it is equally determined, in the case of the ox as of the horse, that the properties of the parents are conveyed to the offspring. The male undoubtedly acts the principal part in impressing his characters on the young. But the form of the female is of the utmost importance; and if we hope to arrive at success in breeding, the form and characters of the female must be no more neglected than those of the male.

Now we might breed either from animals nearly allied to each other in blood, as brothers and sisters, parents and their offspring, technically termed breeding in-and-in, or from animals of different families. By the latter method are produced animals more hardy and less subject to disease; by the former, we are frequently enabled to produce animals of more delicate form, and greater fattening properties, and above all to give a greater permanence to the characters of the parents in the offspring. It is known, that Bakewell and other breeders were enabled, by this system, to give and perpetuate the peculiar characters of their stock. These first improvers, indeed, found the practice to be, to a certain extent, necessary, because they could not resort to the males of other families, without employing inferior animals, and so impairing the properties of their own breed.

It is to be observed, that the breeding and continuing to breed from animals very near of blood, produces animals which have a greater tendency to arrive at maturity, and to become fat. This seems to result from a tendency to premature age in the animal, which thus more quickly arrives at its maturity of bone and muscle, and so begins sooner to secrete fat.

The system, however, of breeding from animals near of blood, has its limits. Nature will not be forced too far for our purposes. It is known that, although this joining of animals closely allied diminishes the size of the bones, and gives a tendency to fatten to the progeny, it renders them also more delicate and subject to diseases. Although, then, this near breeding may be carried to a limited extent between very fine animals, for the purpose of rendering their qualities permanent in the offspring, we do a violence to nature when we carry it too far. The progeny, along with their early maturity and aptitude to fatten, become feeble; the cows cease to secrete milk in sufficient quantity to nourish their young; and the males lose their masculine characters, and become incapable of propagating their race.

When, therefore, the stock of any farmer has become too nearly allied, he ought not to fail to change his males, and procure the best of the same breed. This is essential to preserve the health of the stock for any time. Great losses have been sustained by breeders who have carried the system of close breeding too far, with the design of pushing the improvement of their breed to its limits.

A character of a breed not to be neglected, is size of the individuals. Although large animals consume more food than small animals of the same species, yet they do not consume food in proportion to their greater size; and hence the benefit of rearing the larger animals, if the natural or acquired productiveness of the farm will allow it. But although size be an important element in the character of a breed, there is another property to which that of size is subordinate, namely, that of a disposition to quick fattening and early maturity. This property depends not on size, but on a different class of characters.—*Low's Agriculture.*

## ON THE WAGES OF AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN FRANCE AND THE UNITED KINGDOM, AND THE INFLUENCE OF THE CORN LAWS ON PROFITS AND WAGES.

(From the Times.)

In *The Times* journal of the 7th instant there is an article under the head of "Comparative price of Corn and Labour in Europe and America," and having the signature of "The Pilgrim in Europe,"\* on which we crave leave to make a few observations.

The writer begins by glancing at the quotations of the prices of corn in different parts of Europe, which appear weekly in *The Times*, and then remarks "that it has occurred to him that a well-authenticated account of the comparative price of labour in the same countries might give rise to correct and just views of the various points which bear upon the all-important subject of the corn-laws, and will tend to elucidate the advantages or disadvantages of a free trade in that great staple commodity."

Now, in our judgment, this matter requires no elucidation whatever, and to a common thinker every proposition which really and truly has a bearing on the corn trade must always appear self-evident; or, at any rate, of so easy demonstration that we may arrive at sound conclusions without any very great labour of thought, or long circuit of deduction; for, first, it is certain that the average price of corn in this country is double the average price of the rest of Europe; next, it is equally certain that the price of manufactures in this country are much lower than in the rest of Europe; and, lastly, it is notorious that there is a very large exportation of British manufactures to all parts of the world. And from these premises it follows—

That if we were allowed to import cheap corn in exchange of cheap manufactures, this would greatly increase the demand for our manufactures, by furnishing the foreigner with new and considerable means of barter in a commodity which has hitherto been interdicted.

By increasing the demand for our manufactures there would be a rise in the rate of manufacturing profit, consequent on a greater demand for capital, and there would also be a rise in the wages of the manufacturing labourer, consequent on a greater demand for his labour; and as there would be at the same time a fall in the price of corn, the real virtual profit of the one, and the real virtual wages of the other, would be increased in a still greater proportion; both master and man would gain more money, and every penny of this money would command an increased quantity of the necessaries of life. And therefore, if we suppose the rise in the money wages of manufacturing labour consequent on a free trade in corn to be 10 per cent., and the fall in the price of corn to be 50 per cent.,† and that the labourer expends three-fourths

\* The article alluded to appeared in the last number of the Farmer's Magazine.

† It should certainly seem to be a great mistake to suppose, as some do, that there would be no fall in the price of corn consequent on a repeal of the corn laws, because not only is it clear in reason that the fall would be considerable, but the question is already determined by the fact.

Holland is a mere bog, and grows but a small proportion of the corn which is consumed by its inhabitants.

of his wages in the purchase of food, this would altogether be equal to a rise of  $92\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on the whole of his present wages of labour; and as a reduction of 50 per cent. in the price of a commodity is tantamount to an increase of 100 per cent. in its quantity, so does it follow that with that portion of his wages (be it more or less) which the labourer devotes to the acquisition of food he will be able to purchase double the former quantity.

Now, not one word of all this may be brought into doubt or controversy, for there could be no decline in the price of the raw material of a manufacture consequent on an increased demand for the wrought article, but the reverse; there could be no decline in the price of the wrought article consequent on an increased demand for this article, but the reverse; there could be no decline in the profits of the manufacturer consequent on an increased demand for his commodities, but the reverse; and there could be no decline in the wages of the labourer consequent on an increased demand for his labour, but the reverse; and therefore it is every way manifest that a free trade in corn, by reducing the price of food, would not only virtually increase the income of every member of the community, but that it would also somewhat raise the prices of manufactured products, and increase the profits of the manufacturer and raise the wages of manufacturing labour.

It would in the same manner increase the profits of the farmer, and raise the wages of the agricultural labourer, and for this reason—that with that fall in the price of corn which would be consequent on a free trade in the commodity, the reduction in the rent of land would be not merely proportionate, but to the whole extent of the fall; and then it is as evident as mathematical principles, that this state of things must induce a new relation between the landlord and the tenant, which is greatly to the advantage of the latter; and therefore it is past all doubt that low prices and low rents being greater and surer gains to the farmer than high prices and high rents.\*

bitants; and yet the average price of wheat in Holland for a series of years does not exceed 35s. the quarter, and the present average price does not exceed 26s. the quarter. If Holland then, without mines and minerals, and with but few manufactures, by allowing a free trade in corn, can obtain this commodity at so low a price, what question is there but that England, with her immense resources and advantages in manufactures and various kinds of raw produce, would be able to obtain corn on still lower terms than Holland; and, therefore, it is fair to presume that with a free trade in corn, the average price of wheat in this country would rule from 30s. to 35s. the quarter.

\* This is established by the fact. The average price of corn is low in Belgium, but the land being generally good, and the rent comparatively low, the farmers are all well to pass; every one of them has a purse of gold and silver in his house, and nobody comes to them twice to demand payment of his account. In the two Pomeranias, in Mecklenburgh, and generally on the south-western coast of the Baltic, the average price of wheat for a series of years does not exceed 26s. the quarter, and yet the farmers are wealthy men, and the labourers are in a happy and prosperous condition; a glass of pure corn spirits may be had for a farthing, and a can of beer for an old song, and there is not a single beggar in the whole country.

The same advantages would accrue to the agricultural labourer, and there would be a rise in his real wages commensurate with the fall in the price of corn, and there would probably also be a rise in his money wages, all which rests upon this foundation—that the only regular permanent fund for the payment of wages being profit, it is a clear consequence that the greater the profit on capital, the higher will be the wages of labour; and then in the case under our present consideration, the farmer obtaining the same quantity of corn from a diminished outlay of capital, and of the quantity so obtained a much larger proportion remaining over in consequence of the reduction in the rent of the landlord, it is visible that there is more to be divided between the farmer and his labourers, and therefore the one makes more profit, and the others, as a consequence, get more wages.

There would be another cause of increase in the wages of agricultural labour, and that is, the great fall in the rent of land which would be consequent on the fall in the price of corn; for how would it be possible to get a man to work at low wages, when he might gain a plentiful subsistence by working a plot of cheap ground on his own account? It is the cheapness and abundance of land which occasions the high wages of agricultural labour in America.\*

And now, by what has been said, it is sufficiently manifest that there would be no decline in the price of any other commodity consequent on a decline in the price of corn, and that the profits of both the manufacturer and the farmer would be increased; that the wages of labour, both manufacturing and agricultural, would advance; and that in consequence of the reduction in the price of food, the income of all classes of the community would be virtually increased. In fine, none would lose but the landlords, and what they would lose is very far from equivalent to the loss sustained by the community under the present monopoly. The tax which this monopoly imposes on the community cannot amount to less than 60,000,000*l.* per annum; and of this sum, it is probable that from 20,000,000*l.* to 25,000,000*l.* enters into the pockets of the landlords, and the rest is wasted by unprofitable labour, and in the perversion of a great part of the land of the country from its proper uses, and in growing corn at an immense expenditure of labour and capital on poor hungry soils which nature designed for other purposes.

Now, this sum of 60,000,000*l.* per annum, be it repeated, is a sheer tax, arising solely from that dearness of food which is the consequence of the corn laws: but there is beyond this a great and signal injury, from the circumstance, that by in-

\* There is little doubt that consequent on a repeal of the corn laws land would be very cheap in this country, and this for the following reasons:—To import corn is virtually to import land, and to have the power to import cheap corn is virtually to have the power to rent and cultivate cheap land; and, therefore, if we just reflect on the immense means for the importation of foreign corn which our present exports of manufactures place at our disposal, and if we again consider that these means would regularly increase in consequence of the increased demand for our manufactures, who can doubt that there would be a large and regularly increasing importation of foreign corn? And then land would become cheap and abundant, and the poor Irish peasant, who now pays a rent of 5*l.* and 6*l.* and 8*l.* an acre, would obtain the same land for as many shillings.



terdicting the importation of the most considerable and useful and necessary of all commodities in return for our manufactures, we set limits to our industry, we diminish the demand and consumption in the foreign market of our manufactures, and diminish profits and wages. And therefore, first, our energies are cramped, and our income is reduced, by the interdict on the importation of corn; and next, this income is rendered less efficient by that dearness in the price of food which is the consequence of this interdict. And so we lose and suffer every way by the cause, and by the consequence, which in turn also becomes a cause.

The tax being 60,000,000*l.* per annum, and the number of persons engaged in agriculture being one-third of the population, it is clear that their proportion of the tax is 20,000,000*l.* per annum, and here they suffer and pay in their capacity of consumers in common with and in proportion to the other classes of the community; but with them the matter does not rest here, they suffer also as producers by the diminution of the profits of the farmer and the reduction in the wages of the labourer, and therefore, when considered in their twofold capacity of producers and consumers, the injury inflicted on them by the corn laws cannot fall short of 25,000,000*l.* per annum; and yet the poor creatures are assured, and verily believe, that they have no concern whatever in the matter, and that the question lies solely between the landlords and the other classes of the community; whereas it is plain at first sight, that, as consumers of food, they have precisely the same interest as every other class, and that as producers they have a special, distinct, peculiar interest in the question, which does not attach to any other class of the community, and, therefore, of all men in the world the question is to them of the greatest concernment.

From what has been said it must be evident to every man who will hear reason, that a repeal of the corn laws and a free trade in corn would be highly beneficial to every class of the community, and this without the least reference to the wages of labour on the continent: at the same time, however, it is manifest that the same cause which in the present instance raised the wages of labour in England would also raise the wages of labour on the continent, seeing that if one country produces cheap corn and another cheap manufactures, and that the corn of the one be freely exchanged for the manufactures of the other, it is precisely the same as if each country produced both cheap corn and cheap manufactures; and, therefore, as the real wages of the British labourer would be increased by the reduction in the price of food, so would the real wages of the foreign labourer be increased by the reduction in the price of clothing, and in the same way that an increased demand for British manufactures would occasion an increased demand for British labour, so would an increased demand for foreign corn occasion an increased demand for foreign labour. In a word, the interchange of commodities between two separate independent nations relies on the same principle, and is productive of precisely the same effects, as the interchanges between two individuals of the same nation; for let one man have great skill as a hatter, and let another have the same skill as a shoemaker, and then let the hats of the one be exchanged for the shoes of the other, and there is immediately a mutual transference and communication of skill, and the skill of the one vests and inheres in and becomes the property of the other,

and so that virtually, adequately, and to all real purposes, it is precisely the same thing as if each was both hatter and shoemaker.

We will now examine what the writer says on the subject of wages on the continent of Europe and in America, and which he compares with the wages which obtain in England; and here it should seem that the following preliminary observations are necessary:—

1. That in all questions concerning the wages of labour the efficiency of the labourer, his skill, energy, and perseverance, must be taken into the account—that is, the quality of his work, how much work he can do in a given time, and how long he can work without pause or intermission. Now, in all these respects, and in all the ordinary occupations and employments which require a combination of skill and strength, the labourers of the United Kingdom are, we believe, superior to those of any other nation; they turn out better work, they do more work in any given space of time, and they work longer without rest or intermission: on all these accounts, therefore, they are entitled to more wages than a foreigner for the same number of hours of labour. The precise value of the difference it is perhaps hard to appreciate, but it cannot, we conceive, be less than 15 per cent.

2. That every true comparison being between things of the same kind and in the like circumstances, it is always a mistake to compare the wages of labour in a free and industrious community with those which obtain in a land of slaves and serfs and under a despotic Government, and therefore the wages which obtain in one free and industrious community must be compared with those which obtain in another free and industrious community; and then the comparison lies between the United Kingdom on one side, and France, Holland, Belgium, and America on the other.

3. That as at least three-fourths of the wages of the agricultural labourer are expended in the purchase of food, so is it clear that his real wages must for the most part depend on the price of food, and therefore, in comparing the money wages of labour in different countries, the price of corn in each country respectively must be taken into the reckoning, and then, as corn is more than any other commodity subject to great and continual fluctuations, and that, with a bad harvest, the price of corn, it may be, will be higher in an ordinarily cheap country than it is in an ordinarily dear country, with a good harvest, so must we not take the prices of any one particular year as a standard of comparison, but it must be the average price of a series of years in each country respectively; thus the average price of wheat in England, for instance, during the last year has been between 40*s* and 50*s* the quarter, and the average price in 1822 was 43*s* 3*d* the quarter, but the average price during the 14 years from 1820 to 1833 inclusive was 59*s* 11*d* the quarter, and the average price in France during the same period was 17*l.* 80*c.* the hectolitre, which equals 40*s* 4*d* the quarter, and therefore if, which is the only true method, we take a series of years, the average price of wheat in England is in round numbers 50 per cent. higher than in France.

4. Not only must the price be considered, but the quality of the corn of each country respectively must also be taken into the account. Now, the best bread at Paris and in the large towns in France is better than the best bread in London and the large towns in England; and the best flour at Paris and the large towns in France is better than the

best flour in London and the large towns in England; and therefore the best French wheat is better than the best English wheat, and therefore the average quality of the wheat in France is better than the average quality of the wheat in England; and if we then consider that the Scotch, and particularly the Irish wheat, is greatly inferior to the English, we shall find no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that the average quality of the wheat in France surpasses that of the United Kingdom, at least 10, and probably 15, per cent.

5. Independent of the price and the quality of the corn, the mode of taking the average in each country respectively must also be had in remembrance and consideration. The ancient practice in England and Wales was to make up the averages of corn from the sales made in the maritime districts only, and all Irish and Scotch corn was excluded from the account; but in the new corn law of 1828, the crafty landlords, with a view to reduce and keep down the average, and thereby shut out the importation of foreign corn, contrived to have it enacted, that not only the sales of corn in the inland markets of England and Wales, but that the Irish and Scotch corn should also enter into the averages, and these alterations have the effect of depressing the average prices of wheat, as compared with the period anterior to 1828, at least 5s the quarter, and in proportion for other grain; and therefore when the average price of wheat is now stated to be 41s the quarter, this under the former mode of taking the averages would be at least 46s the quarter, all which must be borne in mind when we compare the average prices of corn subsequent to 1828 with those before that period.

The French averages, on the contrary, for the whole of that large and populous country, are drawn up from the sales made at the very small number of only twenty-six places, and these for the chief part capital towns and cities; and this has important results; for, first, it is certain that the corn consumed in large cities will be much superior to the average quality of the corn of the whole country, and next, it is equally certain that the price, whatever the quality, will be higher than in the places of growth in the interior, because the corn comes loaded from thence with charges of transport.

Wherefore, the mode of taking the averages in England tending to show a low price of corn, and the mode of taking the averages in France tending on the contrary to show a high price, this establishes a great difference in the respective results, and in a sober and impartial view of things it is plainly impossible to estimate the value of the difference at less than 10 per cent.

There being then 10 per cent. difference between the quality of the wheat of the united kingdom and that of France; another 10 per cent. difference as resulting from the different modes of taking the averages; and, finally, the result of the averages of both countries as it now stands, and according to the present mode, establishing the fact, that the average price in England for a series of years is 50 per cent. higher than in France, this makes altogether 70 per cent. that the average price of wheat in England is higher than in France, and indeed, were things to be nicely weighed and computed, the difference would be 80 per cent.

All this being laid down, proceed we now to compare the wages of agricultural labour in England with those of France.

The "Pilgrim in Europe" states the wages of agricultural labour in England to be 10s a-week,

in which, however, he is most assuredly mistaken. The average wages of agricultural labour in England and Wales throughout the year are probably not more than 8s a-week; and this, if we suppose the labourers to be in full constant work; whereas, if we take into the reckoning those who, failing regular work, are employed by the overseers of the poor in road-making and other matters at very low wages, this will of course reduce the average. The average, then, if we even abstract from the beforementioned consideration, we take, as already said, to be 8s; but it certainly does not exceed 9s a-week. The average wages of agricultural labour in Scotland are probably less than 7s, and certainly not more than 8s a-week; and with respect to that miserable landlord-ridden country Ireland, the average wages of agricultural labour are probably under 5s, and most certainly do not exceed 6s a-week. This being laid down, if we now take the population of England and Wales at 7-12ths, that of Scotland at 1-12th, and that of Ireland at 4-12ths of the entire population, this will give 7s 11d a-week for the average wages of agricultural labour throughout the united kingdom.

As to the wages of labour in France, the "Pilgrim in Europe" is equally mistaken. The average wages of field labour in France may very safely be set down at from 10 to 12 francs a-week, and from the circumstance that since 1832, there has been a considerable rise in the money wages of every description of labour in France, and this in face of a great fall during the same period in the price of corn, we are justified perhaps in saying, that according to a prudent and careful estimation of things, this is a low average, but as we wish to keep within bounds, we shall put down 9 francs, which at the par of exchange makes 7s 2d a-week for the average wages of agricultural labour in France.

It therefore appears that the money wages of agricultural labour in the united kingdom are 11 per cent higher than in France, but the price of corn being at the same time 70 per cent. higher, this leaves a balance of 59 per cent., that the real wages of agricultural labour, that is, wages computed in food, are higher in France than in the united kingdom; and then we lay entirely out of view the superior skill and energy and perseverance of the British labourer, and which, for the same kind and the same number of hours of labour, entitle him to higher wages than the Frenchman.

The same comparative disadvantage attends the British labourer in other respects. The taxes in France are heavy as well as in England, but in England so great a proportion of the public revenue derives from taxes on commodities that the rest in comparison is hardly worth the considering; whereas, in France the taxes on commodities are comparatively light, and a great part of the public revenue derives from direct taxation; and, therefore, apart from the greater cheapness of the necessaries of life, the Frenchman is able to command many little comforts and enjoyments which are utterly beyond the reach of the British labourer, and indeed such in this respect is the happy state and condition of things in France, that a man and his wife and four small children may, if they be so minded, get blind drunk for sixpence, and this upon neat genuine liquor. The French, however, are sober to a proverb, and, therefore, the cheapness of strong drink, and the facility with which it may be obtained, are not *per se* the occasion of in-



ebriety, and this vice must have other causes and adjuncts. For the rest, the general appearance of the agricultural labourers in France, as compared with that of the same class in the united kingdom, sufficiently indicates the great superiority of their state and condition.

Thus much concerning the average wages of labour in France as compared with the united kingdom, and if we can find opportunity, we will hereafter make a few observations on the wages of labour in America, and on other matters connected with the subject of wages.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE 'FARMER'S MAGAZINE.'

Sir,—Your correspondent, alluding to an article from a Constant Reader (in your last edition), says, "lest the fallacious arguments, in your last, should bias any one, I will state the case at issue."

I trust I shall be able to shew the fallacy of your correspondent's figures, when he states the amount of malt at 32,000,000 bushels, which he calls 8,000,000 quarters, and having made all his very erroneous calculations therefrom, the whole proofs he brings forward is perfectly untrue. The following statement of the actual charge on malt for the year ending October, 1833, will prove his errors—

| Quarters.      |                                       | £          | s. | d. |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|------------|----|----|
| England..      | 4,242,279 qrs. at 20s.<br>8d per qr.  | 4,383,688  | 6  | 0  |
| Scotland..     | 530,365½ Barley, 20s<br>8d, Beer, 16s | 523,539    | 8  | 6  |
| Ireland ..     | 247,954½ qrs at 20s 8d....            | 246,347    | 4  | 9  |
| 5,020,599½ qrs |                                       | £5,153,574 | 12 | 3  |

It is well known the above sum is what was received into the Exchequer, and the amount of quarters, is the total of malt made which pays duty, this is, therefore, a fact that nothing can controvert, malt made with or without duty would have the same expences in regard to manufacture, delivery, interest, &c., therefore the fallacy of calculating on any saving on that head, as the farmer could no more be his own maltster, than he could his own butcher, baker, and brewer, without creating an expense; again, the monstrous charge alluded to in collecting the malt duties of 8s. per pound sterling, is so truly ludicrous in the mind of any man who have a knowledge of business, it being long known that the malt duty from its amount being actually collected at far less expense than any other tax, since the repeal of the beer duty, yet we are not to suppose that it is now collected so cheaply as when in existence with the beer duty, as the number of officers could not be reduced within the same ratio: how your ingenious correspondent can possibly make out a saving to the country of 9,600,000*l.* from a tax of 5,153,574*l.* 12s 3d collected, I am at a loss to discover, unless he, like the soldier, can spend half a crown out of sixpence a day. Strongly suspecting your correspondent to be a native of the eastern part of the kingdom, he should be careful for the future not to mistake coombs for quarters. Should you be disposed to allow this a place in your valuable columns, you will oblige, Sir, yours, &c.

A CONSTANT READER.

dressing hedges twice and even sometimes thrice in one year; such a practice is very pernicious to hedges, as it weakens the growth and ultimately kills the plants, and consequently renders the hedge a useless and unsightly object, instead of being an ornamental and substantial fence, which a proper mode of management would seldom fail to procure. The proper season for dressing hedges of any kind is from the beginning of September to the first of April. When hedges are young, there should not be more of the young wood cut than what is supposed the frost would destroy during the winter. The same method should be pursued the second year also, excepting some of the tallest shoots which may only be reduced to an average level. By the time a hedge is three years old, it should be dressed on the sides, so as to make it straight or eye-sweet, but nothing more should be taken off the top shoots until such time as the hedge has arrived at its permanent height, which should seldom exceed four or five feet. The proper tool for dressing hedges is the bill or switching hook. Indeed hedge shears are now very properly almost out of use, except in some solitary instances, where old hands still retain their old prejudices.—*Third Report of Drummond's (Stirling) Agricultural Museum.*

## ON PUTRESCENT MANURES.—FARM-YARD DUNG.

Putrescent manure consists of all animal and vegetable substances which can be reduced through decomposition, fermentation, and putrefaction, into such a state as will render them fit to assist the melioration of the land, and to forward the purposes of vegetation. When combined, they form a saponaceous, solid mass of great nutritive power, well known to farmers under the common term of "muck," which, although a seemingly uncouth expression, conveys an idea distinct from that which is meant by dung. Of these, the most generally useful are composed of the excrements of animals; for that which passes through them is not composed alone of the residue of their food, but also of certain secretions of other matter in the intestinal canal, so that the dung even of those which are supported entirely on vegetables, partakes more of an animal than of a vegetable nature. The food on which they are supported, and their state of flesh, also make an essential difference in the quality of the manure. If the stomach of an animal be filled with provision which contains but little nutriment, and which is composed of fibrous matter which it is difficult to decompose—namely, straw alone, without grain—this will pass through the intestines in almost the same state as it was eaten. The dung will contain less of that secretion which belongs to animals whose flesh has not been deprived of its nourishing juices; though even this small quantity serves to give the straw a stimulus to putrefaction. But the excrement of animals which have been supported upon nutritive food—as corn and pulse, or the oleaginous seeds of rape and linseed, though given in the shape of cake—and which are thus maintained in high condition, imbibes muck of that property to which we have alluded, which thereby yields a more fertilizing manure than that furnished by lean stock. This, indeed, is strikingly exemplified by the difference observable in that produced by stall-fed cattle, and those kept in the straw-yard; and there can be no doubt that the fatter the animal the richer will be its dung.

DRESSING THORN HEDGES.—The season for dressing or switching thorn hedges is when the wood is fully ripe. I would on this part of the subject venture to deprecate the practice (which is too frequently followed in gentlemen's policies) of

It has been thought that the dung of ruminant animals—oxen and sheep—when pastured, is preferable to that of horses, also kept at grass, which is supposed to be owing to the greater quantity of animal juices secreted with their food in the act of chewing; but the fact requires to be established by a more minute and critical analysis of its properties. All animal manure, however, partakes in its fertilizing properties of the richness of the food by which it has been created; yet experience proves that its immediate powers are in several instances widely different, thus the ordure of a man and that of a dog, though fed upon the same food, is so wholly distinct in its effects, that the excrement of the latter is used instead of bark in the process of tanning goat-skins for the production of morocco leather. Pigeon's dung, too, is hotter than that of other fowls, though both are fed alike; and it is said that a celebrated foreign chemist—M. Vauquelin—has not only lately discovered a very remarkable difference between the dung of cocks and hens, but that there also exists a sensible distinction between those of hens which lay, and of those which do not produce eggs. However deserving those researches may be of inquiry, and however important they may hereafter prove, if followed up with regard to the larger animals, it would yet be difficult, and perhaps, under all circumstances, unnecessary, to state the differences of the comparative character and value of these and various other putrescible bodies—such as fish, spoiled flesh, and many other substances, which, though all, no doubt, useful to vegetation, when they can be procured on such terms as that the farmer finds they can be profitably applied to his purpose, are yet seldom found in such abundance as to require a separate account of the properties of each.

### AGRICULTURAL MEETING.

On Friday Feb. 27, at one o'clock, a public meeting of the Members of the Agricultural Association of West Kent, comprising most of the largest landowners in Kent, was held at the Rose and Crown Hotel, at Seven Oaks, for the purpose of deciding on the propriety of presenting petitions to Parliament for some speedy and efficient relief being granted to the agriculturists. Col. Austin was unanimously called to the chair.

The Chairman stated that they had been called together for the purpose of taking into consideration the best means of relieving the heavy pressure on the agricultural interests. He then read the following letters from the Members of the Western Division of the County, who had been invited to attend the meeting:—

"Dear Sir,—I have just received a printed letter informing me of the meeting of the Committee of the Central Agricultural Association, held on the 13th of this month, and the resolutions there adopted.

"If not detained by business, I shall have great pleasure in attending on the 27th, and, at all events, shall be glad to take charge of any petition for some speedy and efficient relief to be granted to the agriculturists. —I am, &c. (Signed) "W. R. P. GEARY.

"Feb. 10, 1835."

"House of Commons, Feb. 25, 1835.

"Sir,—If possible I will attend the meeting of the West Kent Agricultural Association next Friday, but should any circumstances prevent me, I beg to say that no man is prepared to act in or out of Par-

liament more zealously than I am, in furtherance of the important but cruelly depressed farming interests. Please to place my letter in Mr. Streatfield's hands, who, I understand, will take the Chair on Friday, as I beg to impress upon the meeting the particular propriety of forwarding petitions for relief generally, and for repealing the malt tax in particular, as early as possible. It is a matter of deep regret and disappointment that the new Ministry offer no relief to that suffering interest—they are altogether as silent on that subject as their predecessors.—I am, &c.

"To Mr. Selby."

"T. L. HODGES.

Mr. WELLS, the late member for Maidstone, moved the adoption of the following petition to be presented to both Houses of Parliament.

The Humble Petition of the Owners and Occupiers of Land of the West Kent Agricultural Association in the county of Kent.

"Showeth,—That your petitioners having long felt, and still continue to experience the great depression of the agricultural interest, and are fully sensible that unless some considerable and extensive relief be forthwith granted by your Hon. House to the occupiers of land, the labours of the plough on ordinary soils must wholly cease.

"That your petitioners hail with satisfaction the acknowledgement of the great depression of the great agricultural interest contained in his Majesty's gracious Speech, together with a recommendation to your Honourable House to devise a method for mitigating the pressure of those local charges which bear heavily on the owners and occupiers of land, and for distributing the burden of them more equally over other description of property.

"Your petitioners humbly trust that the recommendation contained in his Majesty's gracious Speech will not be deemed by your Honourable House inconsistent with a further measure of relief to be simultaneously considered—viz., the total repeal of the malt tax, a tax which your petitioners conceive injurious to the interests of agriculture.

"And your petitioners will ever pray, &c."

Captain RANDOLPH recommended that no time should be lost in presenting the petitions.—(hear.)

Mr. COLGATE seconded the proposition made by Mr. Wells.

After some observations from Mr. BERENS.

The petition was read, and adopted by the meeting amidst much cheering.

Mr. WELLS moved that the petition to the House of Lords should be presented by Lord Amherst, the Chairman of the West Kent Agricultural Association; and that to the House of Commons by their Representatives Sir Wm. Geary and Mr. Hodges.

Captain FOSTER seconded the Resolution, which was carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman was passed unanimously.

Colonel AUSTIN returned thanks in a neat and eloquent speech, and the meeting separated.

FIR TREES.—The finest trees we know of this species (says a critic in the *Gentleman's Magazine*), are in Greenwich-park, at the bottom of the hill. They should be seen on a summer evening, when the sun setting over London, slants his beams through their dark and glowing umbrage, and lights up, as with fire, their rich auburn trunks. They are as grand as cedars, and their ramification is always much superior to that of the pinaster.



## SOME ACCOUNT OF THE FAIRS IN SCOTLAND.

ROXBURGHSHIRE—(CONCLUDED).

V. THE RINK FAIRS.—They are held on the estate of Edgerstoun, seven miles from Jedburgh, and fifteen from Kelso, Yetholm, and Hawick. The first fair is held on the 12th of July, for Cheviot lambs and wool, of which from 7,000 to 8,000 used to be presented; and the second sheep fair, by a recent advertisement of the proprietor of Edgerstoun, is to be held on the day before Pennymoor October Tryst, for Cheviot ewes and wethers, of which from 3,000 to 4,000 used to be shown, all of the purest Cheviot breed; but since the establishment of the Pennymoor markets, the numbers at the Rink have dwindled away very considerably. The same remarks which we have made on the stock at Pennymoor applying to that at Rink, we shall not repeat them. The first fair, if not well attended on the 12th July, will be afterwards altered to suit the wishes of the public.

VI. MELROSE FAIRS.—Melrose is a small town near the Tweed,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles north-west of Jedburgh, 4 miles from St. Boswell's Green, and 14 west of Kelso. It is beautifully situated in a romantic country, and gives name to one of the most beautiful and interesting ruins of an abbey that exists in Scotland.

1. MELROSE FIRST FAIR is held on the Thursday before Easter Day. Very few cattle being shown here, this is a fair of very little importance, and of none to people at a distance.

2. MELROSE JUNE FAIR is held on the first Wednesday of June, when generally from 500 to 600 cattle are shown. The half of these consists of half-fat and lean one and two year old short-horn steers and heifers, which are principally purchased by the English dealers. The other half consists of milch cows, and cows to calve, and farrow cows of the short-horn breed, and Highland cattle. The calving and newly calved aged cows are bought by the Edinburgh cow-dealers; and the young cows and heifers newly calved, and to calve, are purchased for the use of the country. The farrow cows are bought to feed off by those who are in want of such stock. Such of the Highland cattle as are fat, are bought by butchers and dealers to slaughter. Those which are half-fat and lean are chiefly bought by graziers in the neighbourhood. A very poor show of horses at this market.

3. MELROSE LAMMAS FAIR.—This fair is held on the 12th of August, and is entirely a lamb fair, and one of the largest of the south of Scotland, 30,000 being generally shown; and this year the numbers have increased to 50,000. Till within the last ten years the lambs were all of the Cheviot breed; but the spread of the Leicester, and the system of crossing, have now changed the appearance of this market. Nearly one-half of the lambs are now half-bred betwixt the Cheviotewe and the Leicester tup; and a few are pure Leicester. Buyers from a great distance attend this market. Numbers of the top lots of Cheviot lambs are bought by the stock-farmers in the north of Scotland and the Highland districts, who keep them till they are three years old; but the greatest number of the half-breds is cleared off by the farmers and graziers in Berwickshire, East Lothian, Northumberland, and Durham, who give them full feeding for twelve or eighteen months, and then sell them fat to the butcher and grazier as they come forward to maturity, which they do sooner than the

pure Cheviots; and, even in the state of lambs, they are worth 3s or 4s a-head more than them. This market has increased much in numbers within the last ten or twelve years, in consequence of breeders withholding their stock from St. Boswell's lamb fair on the 18th of July, to this on the 12th of August, during which period lambs make great improvement on the hill pastures. Prices vary much at this market, in accordance with the price of fat mutton and wool. The top lots of Cheviot lambs may sometimes fetch 14s a-head, at others only 7s, but 9s or 10s is a remunerating price for Cheviots, and 12s to 13s for half-breds; and these will be pretty near the general average prices. The top Leicester lambs are disposed of at St. Boswell's lamb fair, and the shots are only reserved for this fair. The price of these shots will hardly reach that of the best half-breds.

Most of the half-bred lambs in this district are got by Leicester tups, but some lots may be seen from the Teeswater tups, which, having large coarse bone, and heavy coarse fleeces, give a great size to the lamb. Some farmers in this quarter pursue this system of crossing. There is no doubt that the lambs of this cross stand high in the leg and look well comparatively, in a large market; and in lambs, buyers often look more to height than breadth. This point the flock farmers in Selkirk and Peebleshire think a matter of importance, as they principally depend on the sale of their lambs and wool. There is no doubt, however, that the cross with the pure Leicester tup will come sooner to maturity, and will make up in breadth and quality what the other may have in height and weight. The wool is mostly sold before the period of this market, and very few wool-staplers consequently attend it.

There is a middling show of cattle, fewer than at the lamb fair at St. Boswell's, and the remarks given there will apply here. The show of horses is mostly of the inferior descriptions.

4. MELROSE MARTINMAS FAIR is held on the 22d November, when from 400 to 500 cattle are presented. Fully one-half consists of one and two year old half-fat and lean short-horn steers and heifers, the most of which are bought by farmers and graziers in the neighbourhood and adjoining counties for turnip feeding, and wintering on half straw and turnips. The remainder consists of calving and farrow milch cows, and fat and half-fat Highland cattle. The calving and newly calved cows are bought by the Edinburgh cow-dealers, the farrow cows are bought by persons to feed, or to supply them with milk during the winter. A few of the fat Highland cattle are bought by dealers for the Edinburgh market, but the most of them are purchased by country butchers, and formerly by private people to kill as marts for salting down for use in winter. But now that the butcher markets are well supplied with good beef at all times, this practice is wearing out of the country, and beef is now bought as it is wanted. When small Highland cattle cannot find a market at All-Hallow fair, several lots of them are shown at this market. There is a very indifferent horse-market held here at this time.

VII. JEDBURGH MARKETS AND FAIRS.—Jedburgh is a considerable town, pleasantly situated in a glen by the river Jed. It is a royal burgh, capital of the county, and contains 5647 inhabitants. It is distant ten miles from Kelso, eleven and a half from Melrose, and twenty and a quarter from Lauder. Its gardens and orchards have long been famous for the production of good pears.

1. JEDBURGH MONTHLY MARKETS.—In addition

to the old-established markets at Jedburgh, a few years ago monthly markets were established similar to those at Kelso and Coldstream. They are held on the Saturday week after the second Friday of the month, which are the Kelso market days, and is generally the last Saturday of the month. They commence in November and end in May. They are intended for cattle, though a few lots of sheep may be seen in them. The number of cattle, short-horns, shown is small in November and December, between 200 and 300 mostly fat, with a few half-fat; but in January, February, March, April, and May, the numbers increase to 400 or 500, and sometimes as many as at Kelso in the same months. The cattle are nearly all fat, but their quality is not equal to those shown at Kelso or Coldstream. They are generally bought by the Morpeth and Edinburgh dealers, and in spring the half-fat are taken as far as Yorkshire, &c. The milch cows, calved and to calve, are bought by the Edinburgh cow-dealers.

2. JEDBURGH JUNE FAIR is held on the Tuesday after Whitsun Tuesday. This was at one time a very large fair, but since the establishment of the monthly markets it has fallen very much off in point of number, only 300 or 400 being now shown. The greatest proportion of cattle are one and two year old half-fat and lean short-horn steers and heifers, with a few fat short-horn cattle, and fat Highland cattle, and short-horn milch cows. The young beasts are taken off by the Yorkshire and other English dealers, the fat cattle to the Morpeth and Edinburgh markets, and the milch cows by the Edinburgh cow-dealers. There is a very different show of horses.

3. JEDBURGH SECOND FAIR is held on the second Tuesday of August O. S. The same description of cattle are found at this fair as the one we have just described. Fewer English dealers, however, attend this fair than the preceding one.

4. JEDBURGH ROOD FAIR.—This is held on the 25th September, or on the Tuesday if the 25th falls on Saturday, Sunday, or Monday, and is the largest fair held in Jedburgh. From 700 to 800 cattle are shown, two-thirds of which are one, two, and three years old half-fat and lean short-horn steers and heifers, mostly steers, fit for feeding off or wintering on half straw and turnips. Very few English dealers attend this fair, the cattle being principally bought by the farmers and graziers in Roxburgh and Berwickshire, and East Lothian.

The breed of cattle has much improved in this district. Most of them are good growers and feeders, thrive well on good keep, and attain to heavy weights. The original breed in this district with large open-boned cattle, and having been crossed with pure short-horn bulls, their fattening properties have much improved.

The other third of the number consists of short-horn cows, calved, and to calve, farrow cows, and Highland cattle. The calved cows and to calve are bought by the Edinburgh cow-dealers, the farrow-cows by the farmers to feed, or supply their families with milk in winter. The fat Highlanders are bought by the country butchers, and a few for the Edinburgh market. The half-fat and lean Highland cattle are picked up by the graziers in the surrounding counties. The horse-market is indifferent.

5. JEDBURGH WINTER FAIR.—This is held on the first Tuesday of November O. S., when about 300 or 400 of the same description of cattle are presented as at the former fair, and they are disposed of much in a similar manner.

VIII. HAWICK FAIRS.—Hawick contains 4970 inhabitants, and is employed in the manufacture of woollens, such as carpets, stockings, and narrow cloths. It is said that the first winnowing machine was invented in 1737 by Andrew Roger, a farmer in the parish of Hawick.

1. HAWICK FIRST FAIR is held on the 17th May. As a cattle market, this has almost completely dwindled away; it being now chiefly confined to the hiring of single men and women servants.

2. HAWICK SECOND FAIR is held on the 20th and 21st of September, or the Tuesday after, if the 20th falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Monday. This is principally a sheep market for shot lambs, yield ewes, fat tups, and wethers, mostly Cheviot. From 2000 to 3000 of all these different sorts of stock are shown, and are bought by butchers or dealers, to drive to the English and Morpeth markets. Formerly this market used to constitute the show of tups, which has been transferred to the October Tryst, that month being more suitable for the purchase or hiring of tups.

3. HAWICK TRYST is held on the third Tuesday of October. This is a tup show, and premiums are awarded for the best Cheviot tups. Some years ago a great show of Cheviot tups took place here from all parts of the Border, and upland districts, and very high prices were frequently obtained for some of the best of them. Upwards of 100 have been given for Cheviot tups; but the common price for good young ones is now from 2*l* to 5*l* each. Numbers of them are annually bought here for the northern sheep counties of Sutherland, Ross, and Inverness, particularly to the two latter counties, where the black-faced ewes are put to them, and this cross makes excellent sheep. A few black-faced tups are also shown: and now a considerable number of Leicester tups find merchants at this fair to cross with Cheviot ewes in high districts. This system is now much pursued on the Border, and all the high lands in Roxburgh, Selkirk, and Peebles-shires. Last year from 400 to 500 tups were sold at prices varying from 2*l* to 5*l* each, very few being above the latter price. There are also a few lots of other kinds of sheep shown here; but the tryst being instituted principally for the sale of tups, the other sheep do not deserve particular notice. A number of young horses are shown at this tryst, and a few lots of Highland cattle from the Falkirk October tryst.

4. HAWICK WINTER MARKET is held on the 8th of November, or Tuesday after, if the 8th falls on Saturday, Sunday, or Monday. From 600 to 700 short-horn cattle are shown here, the greatest proportion of which are what are called *stirks*, or young cattle, about eighteen months old; some fat and half-fat small Highland cattle, and short-horn milch-cows, calved and to calve, and a few barren cows. This is a famed market for young cattle; a great many of the farmers in this neighbourhood selling their cattle at that age; and farmers in want of such come from a great distance to supply themselves. This being a good grazing country, many small Highland cattle are fed in it, weighing from 25 stones to 30 stones imperial, and shown at this market, and bought by country butchers, and a few for the Edinburgh market. As this fair happens the week after All-Hallow Fair at Edinburgh, sometimes a few lots of lean Highland cattle are shown at it. Calving and new-calved cows are bought by the Edinburgh cow-dealers, and the barren cows by farmers to feed, and for winter milk. The horses shown at this fair are very middling.

There are no small useless fairs in Roxburghshire.



## ON SHEEP DIPPING.

SIR.—To a paragraph extracted from the Berkshire Agricultural Report, you express a wish that some of your correspondents should forward you the process of sheep-dipping, which has been of such incalculable advantage to the Berkshire farmers. Previous to 1831 and 1832 this was but little known to the farmers of Berkshire, and but little practised; and perhaps many years might have elapsed before it would have been, had it not occurred that an Agricultural Work was introduced into the county from Sussex, published under the superintendence of the most eminent men of the kingdom, and intitled *Baxter's Library of Agricultural and Horticultural Knowledge*. In this work there is an article on sheep, written by the late celebrated John Ellman Esq., which contains the following description of the process:—

“Young sheep are more troubled with insects than older ones: to prevent their attack, the lambs, about the months of August and September, should be dipped in the following mixture:—Put six gallons of water into an iron kettle, and place it over a fire; when it is warm add two pounds of soft soap and one pound of arsenic; the soft soap should remain in the water till dissolved before the arsenic is added, and the whole should be well stirred; when the arsenic is sufficiently incorporated with the water and soap, let twenty-four gallons of cold water be put into a tub, then take the ingredients from the kettle and pour them into the tub, the whole being again well stirred. In using the above there should be two tubs—one for dipping the lambs into, and another to catch the drainings from the wool after being dipped. The process of dipping requires one man to take hold of the hind legs, and another the fore legs, immersing the lamb with its back downwards, taking care that its head is kept from going under the mixture. The lamb need not remain in the tub longer than is sufficient to well wet the wool. It is then lifted out and put on its back on a cradle over the draining tub. The cradle is made with two sticks or cord bats, rather longer than the tub is wide, tied together in five or six places, for the lamb to lie on to drain; and while in this situation the mixture is to be pressed from the wool as much as possible. To prevent the loss of the mixture the tub should be kept pretty close together. Four men are constantly employed in this operation—two to dip, while the other two are at the draining tub.

“Our Correspondent, Mr. Robson, informs us that he dips the whole of his flock at one time, and calculates he gains half a pound of wool upon each fleece, from a flock of two thousand sheep. He also recommends dipping of sheep after shearing, as it may be done with little trouble and comparatively small expense. This method recommended by Mr. Robson, has been much approved by the Wiltshire flock masters, and has been found very advantageous.

“The mixture of the dipping tub should be frequently stirred to keep the arsenic suspended. It will likewise be necessary to keep the dipping tubs nearly full, to prevent the back of the lamb touching the bottom. It will be necessary to point out the poisonous quality of this liquid, and how important it is to keep the vessel locked up, and after the operations are performed to clean it well, or rather never to use it for any other purpose, and to throw the liquid which remains where not the

smallest quantity of it can be drunk by any creature whose life we value. Infusion of tobacco is said to be equally effective but more expensive.”

Knowing as I did that this came from the pen of a practical man, I followed the practice the same year I received the Work: and although this has been of the highest advantage to me, still there are several other subjects of equal importance from which I have derived quite as much advantage, and for which I have been indebted to the Work in question; and in gratitude to the publisher and writers of this practical Work I offer my testimony of its great utility to practical farmers, and others, who, without such a Work, are depriving themselves of a great fund of useful agricultural knowledge.

I remain Sir,

A BERKSHIRE FARMER.

Newbury, Feb., 24, 1835.

PERTHSHIRE FARMING ASSOCIATION.—The Spring Meeting of this Association was held at Perth on Friday, Feb. 27, when the following premiums were awarded:—

| Best Qr. of                                 | lbs. |
|---------------------------------------------|------|
| WHEAT, Mr. Jack, of Westmilm, wt. 65½       |      |
| English BARLEY, — Turnbull, Bellwood, — 54½ |      |
| Chevalier do. — Græme, of Garwood, — 57½    |      |
| Hopeton OATS, — Turnbull, Bellwood, — 43    |      |
| Potatoes do. — do. — 44½                    |      |
| Common do. — Jack of Westmilm, — 42         |      |
| BEANS — do. — 65½                           |      |

A Sweepstake for the best Quarter of Chevalier Barley, gained by Mr. Richardson, of Pitfour, sample weighing 59 ¾ lb. per bushel.

INCREASE OF NATIONAL WEALTH.—A highly valuable and interesting paper was read before the London Statistical Society lately, by its Vice-President, Lieut. Col. Sykes, “on the increase of wealth and expenditure in the various classes of society, as indicated by the returns made to the tax-office, by exports, imports, and savings-banks.” By this paper it appears that the estimate of capital employed in 1832, 1833, and 1834, in articles of luxury—which comprise only saddle and carriage horses, four-wheeled private carriages, male domestic servants, armorial bearings, game certificates, dogs, and race-horses, including keep as well as duty)—is 406,953,000*l.*, being an increased capital of 61,667,000*l.* since 1820. The increased capital in trade Colonel Sykes estimates at 87,837,997*l.*, the total capital thus employed in the three last years being estimated at 330,390,430*l.* He takes the rental of 443,990 houses in Great Britain to be 12,629,980*l.*, and the capital thus invested at 300,000,000*l.*, being an increased rental of 2,368,646*l.*, and capital of 59,200,000*l.* The total capital employed in the articles of luxury above enumerated, in buildings, in trade, viz., in the cotton, wool, silk, linen, iron, trade, 105,128 shopmen, clerks, warehousemen, &c., horses, &c. &c., he estimates at 1,037,343,430*l.*, being an increase of 208,704,977*l.* between the years 1820 and 1832. With such indications of wealth in the condition of the higher classes, observes Colonel Sykes, it becomes an important and interesting inquiry, how far it is shared by that portion of the community of a lower grade in the social scale. In the prosecution of this inquiry, the colonel finds that from November 1831 to November, 1833, the number of depositors in savings' banks in the United Kingdom, had in-

creased 45,755, and that the additional amount of money deposited was 1,403,464. The increase in England, in the above period, amounted to 8 per cent., and in Ireland to 25 per cent. The absolute increased individual pressure of the poor-rates from 1821 to 1831 amounts to 7 per cent. The increase in crime, it is to be regretted, appears to be beyond that either of population or of pauperism. From 1821 to 1825, and from 1825 to 1832, the increase of commitments has been 44.3 per cent. In 1821 the commitments were, in regard to the population, as 1 in 866; in 1831, as 1 in 686 persons.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS."

Sir.—Lest the fallacious arguments of "A Constant Reader," in your last, should bias any one, I will state the case at issue.

The consumption of malt, it appears, is 32 millions of bushels; the duty 2s. 7d. per bushel; but, for facility, I will take whole numbers, and assume convenient average prices to simplify the question.

|                                                                            |             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Eight millions of qrs. of malt, at 64s per qr., is....                     | £25,600,000 |
| Eight do. do. barley, at 32s.                                              |             |
| per qr., is .....                                                          | £12,800,000 |
| Manufacturing, at 4s. per qr.....                                          | 1,600,000   |
| Interest on capital, labour, &c., retailing, 4s. per qr.....               | 1,600,000   |
| Duty, at 20s. per qr.....                                                  | 8,000,000   |
| Extra cost, from restrictions on the trade, licences, &c., 4s. per qr..... | 1,600,000   |
|                                                                            | £25,600,000 |

|                                            |            |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|
| Total amount of duty, at 20s. per qr. .... | £8,000,000 |
| Net revenue obtained, at 12s. per qr.....  | 4,800,000  |

|                                                                 |           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Total amount of expence in collecting, at 8s. per qr. ....      | 3,200,000 |
| Extra cost, from restrictions on the trade, at 4s. per qr. .... | 1,600,000 |

|                                                               |            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Cost above the duty, 12s. per qr., and maltster's charge..... | £4,800,000 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

|                                                                                                |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 125,000 qrs. more malt than as above are consumed, which increase the amount of duty paid..... | £129,629  |
| And 8d. per qr extra gives .....                                                               | 37,500    |
| And duty, as before stated, .....                                                              | 8,000,000 |

|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| The total amount collected is..... | £8,167,129 |
|------------------------------------|------------|

As the above estimate of produce of the malt tax was taken at 20s. per qr. for convenience, and the 8d. per qr. produce, 37,000*l.*, by so much the less the increased cost from the restrictions on the trade, the difference is not material; and the fact, that the cost of collection, and effects of restrictions on the trade should be so near equal to the revenue obtained is singular.

|                                                                  |            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| If half the duty is taken off the revenue obtained would be..... | £2,400,000 |
| The cost of collection the same as before .....                  | 3,200,000  |
| Increase of price from the restrictions on the trade .....       | 1,600,000  |
|                                                                  | £7,200,000 |

|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Net revenue, at one half ... | £2,400,000 |
|------------------------------|------------|

|                                                 |           |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Cost to the consumers three times as much ..... | 7,200,000 |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------|

If the whole duty is taken off, the consumers will save 9,600,000 in the price of malt and beer, and it remains to be duly considered whether the revenue would not be replenished by the expenditure to the amount at least of the revenue, to be obtained by half the present duty. If any estimate is made, founded on the supposition that any

material increase of consumption of malt from the reduction of the duty will take place, it will be found not to be borne out by the result.

### SUMMARY.

|                                                                 | Per     | Per             |                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-----------------|--------------------|
|                                                                 | Bus.    | Qr.             | s. d. s.           |
| Average price of Malt,                                          | 8 0 64  | 8 millions qrs. | Total, £25,600,000 |
| Do. Barley,                                                     | 4 0 32  | do.             | £12,800,000        |
| Do. Malting,                                                    | 0 6. 4  | do.             | 1,600,000          |
| Interest on capital and retailing....                           | 0 6. 4  | do.             | 1,600,000          |
| Duty paid into Exchequer .....                                  | 1 6. 12 | do.             | 4,800,000          |
| Do. paid for collection .....                                   | 1 0. 8  | do.             | 3,200,000          |
| Extra cost, from restriction on the trade, licence, &c. &c..... | 0 6. 4  | do.             | 1,600,000          |
|                                                                 | 8 0 64  |                 | £25,600,000        |

Thus, the cost of malt to farmers having their own barley malted, would be 4s. 6d. per bushel, retail price, 5s. per bushel; but the average price of barley would not be so high by 2s per qr., and inferior barley might be malted to feed farm horses &c. to great advantage.

P.S. I do not expose the grievous effects of the malt tax from any factious motives, but in hopes of shewing that if any possibility exist of repealing it without injury to the revenue that it would give great relief.

RELATIVE PRICES OF WHEAT AND CONSOLS.—In 1804, when the Wheat was 60s. 6d. a quarter, 100*l.* of 3 per cent. consols would purchase 18 quarters; in 1812, the same quantity of Consol stock would only purchase 9 quarters; since then, from the reduction in the price of grain, and the increase in the price of funds, the same 100*l.* would yearly purchase a larger quantity of Wheat; till now, when Wheat is 45s. per quarter and consols are at 92, it will buy 45 quarters !!! A correspondent, therefore, asks how it is possible that a farmer can pay his old rents when he is obliged to give four and a half times as much produce, as he did 24 years ago for the same sum of money?

THE GARDEN SPIDER.—This spider has several amusing facts which she exhibits to those who study her economy. If in issuing from her cave in a morning she finds her web loaded with dew drops, she goes to the centre, and laying hold of the web with all her feet, gives her body three or four convulsive jerks, which instantly shakes off the dew. If a spider of the same or of another species ventures upon her web, she endeavours to entrap or drive off the intruder; and if the stranger runs to the lower edge of the web to escape by suspending itself by a line as usual, the owner follows, and instantly cuts the line by which the stranger swings, who falls to the ground. Sometimes, instead of cutting the fugitive's line, she will endeavour to pull up the culprit, "hand over hand," with great adroitness, but seldom succeeds in this. If the web has been torn by the capture of a fly, the owner tries to repair it; but this is never neatly done, showing that she is a much better maker than mender. If, however, a principal stay of the web be broken, she will quickly replace another.—*The Analyst.*



## TAXATION.

The same "ignorant impatience of taxation" of which the late Lord Castlereagh upbraided the people twenty years ago, sticks by them still, and is as rife as ever, notwithstanding the nominal diminution of the public burthens which has since taken place. We are compelled to call the reductions which have been thus rather nominal than real, because, from the disastrous effect of Peel's Bill, fifty pounds now paid is equal to twice that sum raised upon the community before that fatal measure came into operation. If any one doubts this, let him take the price of wheat alone as a test, and he will readily satisfy himself that it takes the farmer more than double the number of bushels to raise the former sum now, than it did to raise the latter when nominal taxation was twice what it now is. This is the real root of the evil, extending itself far and wide into every artery of the State, except that alone which is fed from the stream of taxation. The people, therefore, from this cause, still impatient of taxation, look as ardently for relief as if none had ever been afforded them; and while the national creditor still looks to the literal fulfilment of his bond, a Finance Minister, naturally enough, finds himself embarrassed how to meet the wishes of the one and the demands of the other. At present, the town and country both, as heretofore, put forward their claims for relief; the one in a repeal of the window tax, the other in that on malt. At the same time it is perfectly clear that there is no practicable saving in the public expenditure, short of a reduction of interest upon one or more portions of the public funds, which could enable any Chancellor of the Exchequer to part, without an equivalent, with so large an amount of annual income as these two heads of taxation amount to. It remains, then, to be seen whether any such equivalent can be found. We think it could, and that by an equalisation of land tax throughout the kingdom. By land tax, we mean probably what some would call a property tax, under a less objectionable name. Though Dr. Johnson on the authority of Locke, defines land tax to be "a tax laid upon land and houses," it is quite notorious even in the present time it has a much more extensive definition and effect, many public salaries, for instance, contributing to it; and there is, we believe, no change in our system of taxation which would give more general satisfaction than transferring the two burdens we have alluded to, as well as some others, to the shoulders of those best able to bear them—the owners of fixed property of all descriptions. We know that it is alleged that there is an insurmountable obstacle to any re-modelling of the land tax, by a pledge in Mr. Pitt's Redemption Act that those who redeem shall be subject to no further assessment. But this objection would be fairly met and obviated by full credit being given in any new impost in the shape of land tax, to that property on which the old tax shall be found to have been redeemed. This is all that in common justice the purchasers of land tax can lay claim to. Beyond this they might as well demand exemption from every other public impost—a claim which they will hardly have the modesty to put forward.—*Herald*.

## "DRUMMOND'S AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM,"

Third Report, from March, 1833, to November, 1834." Longman.

The excellent example set by Messrs. Drummond, in originating an Agricultural Museum, has already been followed in two or three instances, and we are fully persuaded that a perusal of their report will convince those whose attention has not hitherto been directed to the subject, of the vast benefit which would be derived by the Agricultural community, in extending such establishments as widely as possible. Agricultural Societies, when conducted on a sound and liberal principle, and undisturbed by party feeling, have produced much improvement in the breeding of stock, but the subject to which the Messrs. Drummond have directed their attention, has assuredly not received the encouragement it deserves. In an essay upon this subject, which precedes the report, the writer, Mr. A. Gorrie, Annat Gardens, Perthshire, justly observes—

"In the breeding of live stock, much useful progress has been made; and to feeding, attention, amounting to waste, has been paid, while the important capabilities and productions of the soil have been comparatively neglected. While the gardener has a choice of about thirty varieties of pease, the farmer rests contented with three old varieties of gray, partridge, and Hastings. While the gardener can choose from a list of sixteen hundred varieties of apples, nearly a thousand varieties of pears, and other fruits in proportion, the farmer has scarcely half-a-dozen varieties of wheats, oats, and barley, from which to make a selection. While nature has been profuse in presenting to the attention of the farmer and the grazier an ample variety of plants, to improve the meadow and the pasture field, they have hitherto brought but few of them under cultivation. Out of more than two hundred grasses suitable to our climate, and the greater part of which spontaneously clothe our pasture fields and wastes, it may be said that only one genus, the rye-grass, has, as yet received general culture—from amongst sixty species of clover, only three or four species receive general attention. Of the genus, lotus, sixteen species are hardy, and in waste lands two species contribute to enhance the value of the pasture; but in agriculture they are seldom noticed. The species of melilot are as numerous, many of which might vie with our common clover, and form excellent substitutes when land is "clover sick," yet that genus is almost quite neglected. The same may be said of many species of vicia, lathyrus, orobus, medicago, and other diadelphous plants, which point out the apathy and remissness of the farmer; hence it is obvious that agricultural societies, as hitherto conducted, however efficient in other departments, have aided in exciting sufficient attention to the nature of vegetables."

IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.—By the last Returns laid before Parliament on the above subject, it appears, that the number of persons confined for debt in the several prisons of England and Wales, at the close of the year 1833, was not less than 16,661! Add to these, the probable amount of prisoners for debt in Scotland and Ireland, and the total, in the United Kingdom, will not fall short of 24,000.

## COMMON SALT.

We propose to give a brief account of this great necessary of life, salt, without entering into any purely chemical disquisitions upon its nature and properties.

Common salt is found in a solid state as "rock-salt," or is obtained by evaporating sea or salt-spring water. The evaporating process is conducted either by exposing the liquid to the atmosphere, or by boiling it over a fire. In countries where the rays of the sun possess sufficient heat to occasion rapid evaporation, salt of the finest quality is obtained without the assistance of artificial heat. The sea-water is enclosed in salt-pans, or shallow pits lined with clay: as the evaporation advances, and the salt is deposited, the brine is pumped off till a crust of salt about three inches thick remains. When this crust becomes hard it is broken up, and deposited in heaps in a place protected from rain. A fluid called the *bittern*, containing a number of the earthy bitter salts, continues for a long time to drain from the heaps: the salt, indeed, is not considered perfectly good till after three years' draining. The result of this process is the "bay salt," so much in request for preserving animal food. The "bittern" is sometimes preserved for the purpose of obtaining from it the sulphate of magnesia, and other substances containing magnesia. Glauber's salts are made from it.

In countries where the sun's heat is too weak to effect the evaporation with sufficient rapidity, and where, at the same time, fuel is cheap, the other process of boiling the liquor is adopted. The boiling is repeated four or even seven times, the boiler being each time replenished with fresh brine. When the liquor is sufficiently evaporated, the salt is left in crystals at the bottom of the pan. From a pan of 1300 gallons from 15 to 20 bushels of salt are obtained every day. In this process the draining which the salt requires after being removed from the boiler seldom takes more than four days. Not only brine must be subjected to the process of evaporation, but even rock-salt, if impure, must be dissolved in water, and again consolidated by heat.

It is supposed that brine-springs are formed by a stream of water flowing through a stratum of rock-salt. It is stated that charcoal is very generally found in strata above brine-springs. Such springs are very numerous in America, and are extensively used in the manufacture of salt. They appear also to be generally of greater strength than the springs of Europe. Yet some of those in England are remarkably strong. Though the strongest brines can yield little more than one-fourth of their weight in salt, the springs of Cheshire afford 22 per cent., in one remarkable case 25 per cent., and in another even 26 per cent. In Switzerland, from 13 to 14 per cent. is the usual strength of the salt-brine springs, and the average is only 11 per cent. in France.

Dr. Reusselaer conjectures that rock-salt is composed of deposits from salt-lakes, or seas, which have now ceased to exist. Some of the salt strata are considerably above the present level of the ocean. In the Tyrol they are 5000 feet, and in Peru 10,000 feet, above the level of the sea. In England, on the contrary, strata are found 420 feet *below* that level. The Zout pans in Africa are deposits of salt in crystals, which Dr. Reusselaer concludes to have been wafted from the coast, where a great evaporation of the sea-water is produced by the action of the sun;

and this opinion is authorized by that saltiness of the air between the coast and the interior which travellers have remarked.

Salt-rocks and strata are found in all parts of the globe. Dr. Reusselaer states that they extend across America from the Alleghany Mountains to the Pacific, and are found in California. In Mexico the Pennon Blanco are salt-rocks which are worked, and annually produce 1,786,000 bushels of salt. In England the great depositories of rock-salt are in Cheshire, where are also the brine-springs mentioned before. In 1819 six distinct strata of very fine rock-salt were discovered at Vic, in the department of Meurthe, in France; but no use appears to have been made of the discovery. Spain has a singular mountain of salt near Cardona in Catalonia. It is a mass of solid salt, between 400 and 500 feet high, and nearly three miles in circumference. The salt is of various colours, but generally white, transparent as crystal, and remains a considerable time insoluble in water. The inhabitants make it into vases, urns, candlesticks, and other toys and utensils. At La Mancha there is a smaller but similar mass of salt; and near the Ebro is a chain of hills, consisting of salt, sulphate of lime, and limestone. In Germany there are masses of rock-salt in Upper Austria, Styria, Bavaria, Wurtemberg, and the Tyrol. In Hungary and Poland there is an immense deposit of rock-salt on both sides the Carpathian Mountains. It is also found near Ockna in Moldavia, in Transylvania, and in Calabria. In Caramania, in Asiatic Turkey, it is said to be used for building. The Isle of Ormuz, in the Persian Gulf, is a solid mass of fossil salt. In Caubul a road is cut through a mass of rock-salt that rises in a cliff more than 100 feet above the river. In Africa rock-salt is very abundant; on both sides the Atlas Mountains it occurs in great quantities, and is found in Tunis and Algiers. In Abyssinia there is an immense plain of salt, four days' journey in extent.

The uses of salt are very various in manufactures. It enters into the composition of sal-ammoniac,—of glass,—of oxymuriate of lime,—of corrosive sublimate,—of Glauber's and Epsom salts, and of the painter's patent yellow; and it is used in bleaching,—in glazing earthenware,—in assaying metals,—in case-hardening steel, and in rendering iron malleable. But the qualities of salt which render it indispensable to man are its uses as mixed with its food. With every bushel of flour about one pound of salt is used in making bread; thus, it may be presumed that, in bread alone, every adult consumes about two ounces of salt weekly. Salt is *antiseptic* (counteracts putrefaction); and hence meats and fish are preserved by salting. In using salt for this purpose, it should be free from the muriate of magnesia, which attracts moisture. The importance of salt for the support of life is evident, when we consider how much fish and flesh are thus preserved, to be removed from places where they could not be used fresh, to be distributed and consumed gradually through a whole country. In countries where salt is scarce, the want is severely felt. In the states of La Plata, in South America, the sheep and cattle, where they discover a pit of salt-clay, rush together to feed upon it; and, in the struggle, many are trodden to death. In Upper Canada the cattle have plenty of wild pasture to browse on in the woods; but once in a fortnight they return to the farm of their own accord in order to obtain a little salt; and when they have eaten it, mixed with their fodder, they return again to the woods. Salt is now extensively used in England, and in all



Europe, for fattening cattle. In Spain they attribute the fineness of their wool to the quantities of salt given to the sheep. In England, 1,000 sheep consume at the rate of a ton of salt annually. About 1,000,000 tons annually are given to animals in this country. It is also much in use as a manure for the soil. The proportion of half-a-peck of salt to an area of soil equal to forty yards long by one broad has been found to succeed. About twenty years since, Lord R. Manners applied salt in solution to the irrigation of herbage: one ounce of salt to a gallon of water was used with success: a stronger solution,—of two ounces to a gallon of water,—was found to destroy the blades of grass; but in the next season an abundant crop of herbage came up. Dr. Holland recommends from eight to sixteen bushels of salt per acre. A mixture of salt and soot is a good manure; it is, indeed, the best compound, as manure, into which salt enters as an ingredient. Corn is steeped in salt to prevent smut: in orchards irrigation with a salt solution is recommended; and, spread on the surface of the soil, it destroys slugs and snails in gardens; but it will also destroy vegetation if dropped on the leaves of young growing plants. The use of salt as a manure is not confined to Europe; all the land on the coast is regularly treated with sea-water in China and Hindostan. It is to ferruginous sandy soils that salt is understood to be particularly adapted as a manure.

#### REPORT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY MARKET.

March 2, 1835.

In consequence of recent bounties,  
A large supply from all the countries;  
Quality various; some *in bond*;  
Dealers inclining to despond.  
The market noisy, this its vice is  
No wonder there's so many *Prices*.  
Much smut and tares among the wheat;  
With here and there a sample neat;  
Some only such as we should send hence;  
But great demand for *Independence*;  
Some lots are dull, not worth a risk;  
Others are looking up, and brisk;  
In short, although so much is sent,  
At present there's but little vent,  
And we our readers should advise,  
To wait until the *new supplies*  
Are asked for, when we think the nation,  
Will see a wondrous alteration.  
*Tories* were last week quoted low;  
*They're infinitely lower now*;  
And people's taste has grown so nice,  
They'll have them not at any price.  
*Reformers* are a famous sample,  
And no doubt would meet prices ample,  
But, and it is a pleasant thought,  
We find *they are not to be bought*.

J. M. L.

DEVIL'S TREE. — There is a tree which they call the Devil's Tree growing in America; its fruit, in a state of maturity, is elastic, and when dried by the heat of the sun, noisily splits and bursts forth its grains. To this sport of nature the tree owes its name, for at the moment of bursting the effect of a piece of artillery is produced, the noise of which succeeds rapidly, and is heard tolerably far off. If its fruit be transplanted before it is ripe, to a dry place, or exposed on a chimney-piece to a gentle heat, it will have the same effect, and produce the same phenomenon.

#### COURSE OF THE SAP IN PLANTS.

In this phenomenon we find an object of intense interest. Physiologists have been much perplexed to discover the sap-vessels, and the cause of the impulse of the fluid; and in the various works upon vegetable structure, we meet with recitals of a multitude of experiments, which have been instituted to unravel the mysteries in which they are involved. A perusal of the "System of Physiological Botany," by the Rev. P. Keith, will afford much instruction to the inquiring reader, while it gives abundant proof of the contradictory opinions that have been derived from the investigations of men of the greatest ability; from all that has been written and undertaken, from the closest examination of recorded facts, and from actual experiments, we are led to the inevitable conclusion that there are difficulties which embarrass the inquiry, of a nature so formidable as to leave little hope that the offices of the vegetable structure will ever be distinctly revealed. It is not our object then to elucidate that which is far beyond our ken, but to point out a source of error, and by a recital of a few well-ascertained facts, to caution those who attempt investigation against the conclusions which we are but too apt to draw from partially-observed phenomena.

Every plant living and growing is provided with organs of ascent and general supply. These organs are usually either cells or tubes, and it has been the object of physiologists to ascertain in what way the fluids which abound in these organs, particularly in the cells, have been taken up from the soil about the radical processes, and conveyed to the utmost summit of the vegetable. Cuttings of the stems of the lateral shoots, of the foot-stalks of the leaves, &c., have been immersed in coloured infusions, and after a certain time, have been dissected in every possible direction. Colouring matter has been detected in some parts of the structure, but not a trace of it has been found in others. Those wherein it has been found to pursue a regular course, for a considerable extent, have naturally been viewed as the vessels of ascent and supply; and on these or similar grounds, a hypothesis has been formed, which other facts have tended to subvert. We cannot enter into minute particulars, but such are the general facts. One point has, however, been overlooked: the growing plant is endowed with the *vital principle*; and whether it be in the open ground or in a pot, it is, if in health, in a perfectly natural situation, wherein all its functions are under the stimulus of the great natural agents, light, air, water, and excited heat. But the cutting, be it what it will, and however skillfully managed, if immersed in chemical or coloured fluids, is a mutilation—a member cut off from a living being—a portion severed from its source of life, and subjected to *un-natural* action. Can any unerring conclusions be drawn from observations of facts so entirely delusive? Let the reader answer the question, by performing an experiment of the following description:—

The garden balsam (*balsamina hortensis*) possesses a transparency of stem which peculiarly adapts it to experiment. Let three or four plants be raised from seeds, or by cuttings of the small lateral shoots of a large plant, stuck in water and transferred to very small pots containing a simple soil, such as plain unmanured loam, or heath mould. Prepare two liquids, one an infusion of rasped Brazil wood in boiling rain water; the other, a solution of one drachm of the green sulphate of iron, oxygenated with a few drops of nitrous acid

in eight ounces of the same fluid. Strain these separately through white blotting paper, and then add to the red infusion two or three drops of the solution of potassa, which will change the tint to a full and beautiful claret. When the young plants (by being placed in a gentle heat, and watered with pure rain water) have recovered their full vigour, select three, and mark them distinctively. Moisten one plant with water only, a second with the crimson infusion, and the third with the solution of iron. If the two latter become dry and flag through heat a little water will recover them without impeding the processes. Persist for a week or more till it be certain that the roots must have been in contact with the impregnated soil for some days. Then dissect the three stems, cutting them longitudinally and transversely; in fact, in every way that the fancy can suggest. Examine each portion with the microscope; compare the two medicated plants with that fed by pure water only, and finally test the slices with re-agents; that from the infusion of Brazil wood with solution of sulphate of iron, which, if any of the vessels have attracted the infusion, will produce a black tinge thereon; and the other grown in a like solution, with liquid prussiat of potassa, which will afford a blue tint. Apply the same tests to the water-grown balsam. If the test indicate the results described, some idea will be formed of the position of the conducting vessels, or, at least, it will be proved that growing plants can absorb chemical fluids. Critical investigations, rigidly and extensively pursued, may lead to very gratifying results. But, not to stop here, let one or two healthy balsams be raised in water only, by cuttings, and transfer one to an infusion, and a solution of exactly the same quality and strength as those which were made use of in the first experiment. A negative evidence, at least, against the theory of absorption will hereby be afforded; for, if our most careful experiments have not deceived us, the balsam placed in the red infusion will languish from its first immersion, while that placed in the solution of iron will be killed almost instantaneously. We are constrained to quit the subject for the present, having passed our limits, but may resume it in another form before long.

Antiquarians seem to strangely disagree on the origin of the custom of "wearing the leek" on St. David's-day. A rare little volume, preserved in the British Museum, entitled "Royal Apophthegms," says "The Welshmen, in commemoration of the great fight by the Black Prince of Wales, do weare leekes as their chosen ensign." The "Festa-Anglo Romane" states that it was "in memorie of a notable famous victory obtained over the Saxons, they, during the battle, having leeks in their hats for their military colours and distinction of themselves." Blount, in his "Antiquarie Brit.," says, "That an ancient record in the Tower of London relates that they were fighting under King Cadwallo, near a field that was replenished with leekes." See edit. 1671. In "Henry V." Pistol is upbraided for mocking "at ancient tradition, begun upon an honourable respect, and worn as a memorable trophy of pre-deceased valour." On St. David's-day, last year, the Right Hon. C. W. Wynn wore a remarkably large real vegetable leek in his hat, without any addition; and in the evening he entered the House of Commons with that emblem of the "ancient Britons" erect on his hat.

## MAJOR BOWER'S SALE, AT WELHAM, NEAR MALTON.

On Wednesday, the 25th day of February, and the two following days.—FIRST DAY'S SALE.

|                                                                                                              | COWS. | Gs. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|
| Rosette, 9 yrs old, by Navigator, dam Ruth, by Windor, bulled by Ambo Dexter, sold to Mr. Edge, for .....    |       | 21  |
| Fable, 9 yrs, by Tickle Toby, out of Faculty, by Marshal Beresford, bulled by Tullochgorum, Mr. Edge .....   |       | 18  |
| Vicissitude, 8 yrs, by Navigator, out of Vice, by Candour, bulled by Belshazzar, Mr. Edge ..                 |       | 21  |
| Vicia, 8 yrs, by Navigator, out of Violence, by Marshall Beresford, bulled by Ambo Dexter, Mr. Dayrell ..... |       | 12  |
| Theresa, 7 yrs, by Navigator, out of Tranquil, by Defender, bulled by Ambo Dexter, Mr. Edge .....            |       | 22  |
| Volumnia, 7 yrs, by Navigator, out of Vanity, by Candour, bulled by Belshazzar, Mr. Edge ..                  |       | 26  |
| Rosalia, 6 yrs, by Navigator, out of Rose, by Jasper, bulled by Ambo Dexter, Mr. Edge ..                     |       | 30  |
| Pastime, 6 yrs old, by Navigator, out of Fride, by The Dandy, bulled by Ambo Dexter, Mr. Edge .....          |       | 2   |
| Vermeil, 6 yrs, by Vachamour, out of Vail, by Navigator: grandam, Vanity, by Candour, Mr. Allen .....        |       | 13½ |
| Twinkle, 5 yrs, by Vachamour, out of Twilight, by Navigator; grandam, Torch, by Candour, Mr. Allen .....     |       | 11  |
| Valentine, 5 yrs, by Navigator; out of Virtue, by Candour, bulled by Ambo Dexter, Major Thompson .....       |       | 14  |
| Vestal, 4 yrs, by Vachamour, out of Virtue, by Candour, bulled by Ambo Dexter, Mr. R. Rawson .....           |       | 9½  |
| Vauxhall, 4 yrs, by Vachamour, out of Vicissitude, by Navigator, bulled by Ambo Dexter, Mr. Dawson .....     |       | 21  |
| Violetta, 4 yrs, by Vachamour, out of Valuation, by Pioneer, bulled by Belshazzar, Mr. Dawson .....          |       | 15  |
| Aquamarine, 4 yrs, by Cassius, out of Amethyst, by Pioneer, bulled by Belshazzar, Mr. Dawson .....           |       | 29  |
| Victoria, 4 yrs, by Pioneer, out of Virtue, by Candour, bulled by Ambo Dexter, Mr. G. Swann .....            |       | 10½ |
| Token, 4 yrs, by Pioneer, out of Toilet, by Prince, bulled by Ambo Dexter, Rev. C. Reed .....                |       | 25  |
| Fabulous, 3 yrs, by Vachamour, out of Fable, by Tickle Toby, bulled by Ambo Dexter, Mr. Edge .....           |       | 30  |
| Truelove, 3 yrs, by Vachamour, out of Theresa, by Navigator, bulled by Ambo Dexter, Mr. G. Swann .....       |       | 15  |
| Imogene, 3 yrs, by Argus, out of an own sister to Tancred, bulled by Belshazzar, Mr. Henderson .....         |       | 40  |
| HEIFERS IN CALF.                                                                                             |       |     |
| Vagrant, by Vachamour, out of Valentine, by Navigator, bulled by Colton, Mr. Martin Staplyton .....          |       | 27  |
| Cowslip, by Davenport, out of Carmine, by Navigator, bulled by Belshazzar, Captain Shaw ..                   |       | 40  |
| Violet, by Coxcomb, out of Vicia, by Navigator, bulled by Belshazzar, Mr. Harrison, Gambling .....           |       | 13  |
| Vestris, by Coxcomb, out of Volumnia, by Na-                                                                 |       |     |



|                                                                                                       |    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| vigator, bulled by Belshazzar, Mr. Godfrey Gs. Wentworth .....                                        | 31 |
| Coy, by Navigator, out of Comfort, by Pioneer, Mr. Horaby .....                                       | 17 |
| Mary, by Elemore, out of Marian, by Vachamour, bulled by Belshazzar, Capt. Spencer ..                 | 30 |
| Cressida, by Navigator, out of Comfort, by Pioneer, Rev. C. Reed .....                                | 13 |
| Viola, by Elemore, out of Vice, by Candour; grandam, Virtue, by Marshal Beresford, Rev. C. Reed ..... | 12 |
| Timandra, by Coxcomb, out of Twinkle, by Vachamour, bulled by Belshazzar, Sir Tatton Sykes .....      | 30 |
| Fancy, by Elemore, out of Fable, Mr. G. Swann                                                         | 10 |

## HEIFER CALVES, 1834.

|                                                                                                              |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Trifle, by Colton, out of Twinkle, Mr. G. Swann Carradori, by Colton, out of Comfort, Mr. G. Swann .....     | 13  |
| Varnish, by Colton, out of Vagrant, Mr. Wentworth .....                                                      | 30  |
| Victory, by Colton, out of Victoria, by Pioneer; grandam, Virtue, by Candour, Mr. Harrison, Lastingham ..... | 13  |
| Vesta, by Colton, out of Virtue, by Vachamour; grandam, Virtue, by Candour, Mr. Harrison, Lastingham .....   | 11½ |
| Violence, by Colton, out of Vicia, Mr. Wentworth .....                                                       | 12½ |
| Zillah, by Ambo Dexter, Sir Tatton Sykes ..                                                                  | 12½ |
| Truffle, by Colton, out of Truelove, Mr. Frank Calf, out of Fable, by Tickle Toby, Mr. Frank                 | 10½ |
|                                                                                                              | 6   |

## BULLS.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                             |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Amor, alias Vachamour, 8 yrs old, by Prince, out of Amelia, by Defender; grandam, Altisidora, by Comet; great grandam, Marcella, Mr. Dickinson .....                                                        | 11  |
| Ambo Dexter, 5 yrs old, purchased at the sale of Mr. R. Booth, Studley, near Ripon, Capt. Shaw .....                                                                                                        | 20½ |
| Ainsty, alias Colton, 3 yrs old, by Colton, out of Flirt, by Chance; grandam, Fancy, by Duke Humphrey, bred by W. Morritt, Esq., of Colton, near Tadcaster, Sir W. B. Cooke                                 | 30  |
| Tullochgorum, 2 yrs, by Red Rover, out of Twinkle, by Vachamour; grandam, Twilight, by Navigator; great grandam, Torch, by Candour; great great grandam, Topaz, by Wynyard, Mr. Watson, near Carlisle ..... | 20  |

## YEARLING BULL CALVES.

|                                                                                                                                 |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Pastor, by Coxcomb, out of Pastime, by Navigator; grandam, Pride, by The Dandy, Mr. Dickinson .....                             | 26 |
| Roseius, by Colton, out of Rosette, by Navigator; grandam, Ruth, by Windsor, Sir Tatton Sykes .....                             | 50 |
| Vulcan, by Colton, out of Vauxhall, by Vachamour; grandam, Vicissitude, by Navigator; grandam, Vice, by Candour, Lord Feversham | 43 |

## BULL CALVES, 1834.

|                                                                                                                                                            |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Blast, by Margrave, out of Blow, by Navigator; grandam, Blossom, by Comet; great grandam, Belinda, by a grandson of Favourite, Mr. Jordon, Sprignton ..... | 20 |
| Falstaff, by Colton, out of Fabulous, by Vachamour, grandam, Fable, by Tickle Toby, Mr. Wentworth .....                                                    | 18 |
| Tommy, by Colton, out of Theresa, by Navigator; grandam, Tranquil, by Defender; great grandam, Trap, by Candour, Mr. Robinson ..                           | 30 |

Plenipo, by Colton, out of Pastime, by Navigator; grandam, Pride, by The Dandy; great grandam, Prime, by Candour, Mr. Teasdale, for Major Bower .....

(For further particulars of pedigrees, &c. see Coates's Herd Book.)

## THE PEA.

Of the cultivated Pea there seems to be one species, comprehending our various cultivated kinds, whether grown in the garden or the field, namely—

## Pisum sativum—Cultivated Pea.

But botanists of high authority make two species, *Pisum arvense*, the Grey pea, and *Pisum sativum*, the cultivated pea of the gardens.

The changes produced on this plant by the effects of climate, soil, and culture, are very great. Whether regarded as one or two species, peas, with respect to their uses, may be divided into two classes; the first, the field peas of different colours, and the second, the white or garden peas. The coloured kinds are those which generally form the objects of cultivation in the fields; the white kinds are those which are grown in the garden, though several of the white kinds are also cultivated in the fields, and though some of the garden kinds are coloured.

The garden peas are distinguished by their periods of ripening and other properties. New kinds of them are raised every year, and generally receive names from the persons who have first cultivated them, or the places where they have been grown. Their characters, however, are not permanent, and they degenerate unless cultivated and selected with care.

The field kinds are distinguished by their habits of ripening. The early-ripening kinds admit of being sown late; the late-ripening kinds must be sown early. The common early-sown peas of this country are small and dark in their colour. The most hardy of these is generally termed the early grey pea. It is chiefly cultivated for the food of horses.

The later sown kinds of field peas are larger in their size and approach more in their characters to the garden peas. The seeds are of various colours, blue, speckled, grey, and dun; and they have purple flowers, whereas the true garden kinds have generally white flowers.

The white kinds usually cultivated in the fields in this country are the Pearl, the Early Charlton or Golden Hotspur, and the common White or Suffolk. Of these the early Charlton has been long esteemed as an early-ripening kind.

The peas of this class are largely cultivated in the north of Germany, in Poland, and all over the central and southern parts of Europe. In England they are raised to a considerable extent in Middlesex, Kent, Suffolk, and some other counties. But the principal cultivation of peas in this country is of the grey or field kinds.

Sometimes peas are cultivated to be used in their green state. There is no species of cultivation more profitable than this, where it can be adopted; for the peas being ready for use in the month of June, time is allowed for taking another crop, generally of turnips, in the same season. The practice, however, of gathering peas in their green state must necessarily be limited to the vicinity of great markets; and in most parts of the country it is the province of the gardener rather than of the agriculturist.

The general purpose in cultivating the pea is for its ripened seeds. When these are intended for boiling the white kinds are used; when for the food of horses and other animals, the grey kinds are preferred. The method of cultivating either kind is the same. The circumstance to be chiefly attended to is the habit of ripening, which should determine the period of sowing.

The later-ripening kinds are sown in February or March; the earlier-ripening kinds in April, and sometimes so late as the beginning of May. But the more early all kinds of peas are sown the better.

The pea will grow on stiff soils as well as the bean; but it is more peculiarly adapted to the lighter class of soils, and in an especial degree to the calcareous.

The pea, like the bean, may succeed to any of the corn-crops; and, if properly tilled, it may, like the bean, be regarded as a cleaning crop, and be succeeded by another corn-crop.

In many parts of England the pea is made to succeed to a crop of grass and clover, and it will grow well under such circumstances; but it has been before observed that a corn-crop may then be taken with benefit. It is generally better, then, that a crop of oats be taken, to which may succeed a crop of peas. This at least is the rule of practice, while the deviation from it which particular circumstances require may be regarded as the exception.

In the case of sowing peas on land broken up from grass, it is common in some parts of England to plant them by means of the dibble; and the most approved method of doing so is to put a row of holes upon each sod, so that the rows shall be at the distance from each other of about nine inches. To allow of this the furrow-slices are laid very flat.

When the pea, however, is to follow a corn-crop, which is its proper place in the rotation, the land is ploughed before winter as for beans, though there is not the same necessity for giving a very deep ploughing as in the case of the bean, the root of the pea being more fibrous and not striking down in the same degree into the soil.

When the land is ready to be worked in spring, it is to be cross-ploughed and well-harrowed; and the peas are to be sown in rows, at the distance from each other of about 27 inches. Several methods of sowing may be adopted:—

1. The land, after being pulverized by the cross-ploughing and harrowing, may be sown with the same kind of drill sowing-machine as is employed for the common grains.

2. The land may be formed into drills, as in the case of the bean; and the hand-sowing-machine, pushed along the bottom of each drill. The land is next to be harrowed across, and thus the seeds are covered. It is not necessary to split the drills by the plough, as in the case of the bean. The harrow does the work equally well, covering the seeds of the pea to the depth of two inches, which is sufficient.

3. The seeds are sometimes covered by the plough, in which case they are sown in every third furrow. But the more frequent practice is to sow in every furrow, in which case the rows are only nine or ten inches asunder. This is a species of drilling certainly, but the great advantages of the drilling-system are lost when the intervals are thus narrow.

Of these methods of sowing the peas, the best, it is conceived, is that of sowing them on a flat surface by the common corn drill-machine, the orifices being adapted to the larger of the seeds.

When either system of culture is practised, the quantity of seeds may be three bushels to the acre, or less.

When the plants are a few inches above ground, the horse-hoe with lateral coulters, is to pass along the intervals, the coulters being set to go as near the rows of plants as possible without injuring them.

Soon after, the hand-hoes, with the hoe follow, and hoe up any weeds that are amongst the rows of plants, or that may have escaped the action of the horse-hoe in the intervals.

Then, before the plants come into flower, the hand-hoes are again to pass along the rows and hoe up all weeds as before. This completes the culture of the pea, which will now grow with great rapidity, and soon cover the intervals. Sometimes this growth is so considerable, that only one hoeing can be given; but in every case one horse-hoeing in the early stage of the plant, and one hand-hoeing, must be given.

When the intervals, however, are very narrow, as eight or nine inches, the common horse-hoe cannot be applied, and the hand-hoe alone is used. In some cases, indeed, particular kinds of horse-hoes with flat triangular shares are employed.

Early hoeing in the case of this plant should never be neglected. The effect is not only to repress the growth of weeds until the plant shall have acquired sufficient strength, but, as in all cases of tilling the ground about the stems, increased vigour is given to the growth of the plants. From the manner of growth of the pea, and from its stems quickly stretching over the intervals of the rows, the process of hoeing should be begun early, and assiduously prosecuted. After the first crop of weeds are destroyed, the plants themselves will grow up and stifle all that may spring up during the subsequent period of their growth.

This is the system under which the pea may be beneficially cultivated. The land will thus be cleaned in an efficient manner, and prepared for any crops of grain that are to follow.

With the early-sown varieties of peas, it is common to sow a proportion of beans. This is a good practice, the tall and erect stems of the bean affording a support to the other, in the same manner as branches do in a garden. The proportion of beans may be equal to one-fourth part.

When manure is applied to the pea-crop, it should be laid on the ground and covered by the plough before winter rather than in spring, fresh manure tending to cause this plant to run too much to straw. Lime is extremely beneficial in the case of this crop.

The ordinary method of harvest-management for the pea differs from that of the other kinds of grain mentioned. In some parts there is employed a tool called a peas-make, which is merely the half of an old scythe fixed in a handle. With this the peas are cut and rolled up into what are called wads or wisps, in which they are left to dry. In other cases, old blunt hooks are employed, by pulling which towards the reaper the plant is torn and broken at the surface rather than cut. The binders move in advance of the reapers, twisting the ropes for binding, and laying them down. The reapers, as they advance, throw the ropes behind them, and lay upon them the reaped peas in moderate bunches, their heads all in one direction. In this state they lie for a few days to wither, and are then tied in sheaves, but they are not set up in shocks. They are left upon the ground to dry until they are ready to be carried home and stacked, and in the mean time they are to be turned once a



day, which is easily done by boys and girls passing along the rows with hooks in their hands, and hooking over the bunches.

The produce of the pea is very uncertain. Perhaps none of our cultivated crops present such frequent failures. This arises partly from the diseases to which the plant is subject, and partly from the effects of late ripening and unfavourable weather. Thirty bushels per acre are held to be a good crop in most districts of this country. Perhaps the average of the kingdom should not be stated as exceeding 20 bushels per acre.

Peas are much employed in this country as the food of horses, and for this purpose they are generally mixed with oats. They form a very nutritious food, and should be given when dry, and in all cases bruised. They are also employed for the feeding of hogs in the same manner as beans are, and they form a nutritive and fattening food. In this respect they are held to be superior to beans, which feeders imagine give a hardness to the pork. The meal, too, as well as that of beans, is made into a thick gruel, which, given with milk, forms an exceeding good food for calves, after they have been fed for some time on milk.

But the pea is also used extensively for human food. In some cases it is ground into meal, and made into bread; which, however, though nutritious, is coarse and unpalatable. But the meal of the pea may be mixed to a considerable extent with the flour of wheat, without sensibly impairing the qualities of the latter. It is made also into bread with the flour and meal of barley.

But the most common application of the produce of the pea is for soups, puddings, and other articles of domestic economy. In this way there is a great consumption of the pea in England, partly the produce of the country and partly derived from the Continent. And a distinction is made between the different kinds of peas, derived from the difficulty or facility of boiling them. Those that moulder down are technically termed boilers, and this property seems to arise less from the particular variety, than from the nature of the soil in which they are produced. Calcareous matter, so favourable to the growth of the plant, tends, it is said, to give the quality of hardness to the seed. To fit the pea for its culinary preparations, the seeds are subjected to a species of grinding, by which the external covering is rubbed off.

The straw of this plant is greatly esteemed for fodder. It is not regarded as much inferior to hay, and it is given in place of hay to the working cattle of the farm. Sheep too are fond of it, and it may be given to them in the cases where hay would otherwise be given.

The pea, like the bean, is subject to various diseases. It suffers like the bean from rust, and is rather more subject to injury from insects at the root. It is liable too, like the bean, to the ravages of aphides. At a late period of its growth, great injury is sometimes sustained by a small beetle, *Bruchus granarius*, which deposits its eggs in the pods, and the grubs of which destroy the seeds. Other species of beetles, in different countries, prove fatal to the pea; and in some countries to so great an extent has this taken place, as to put a stop to the cultivation of the plant. Assiduous tillage, and the avoiding of two frequent repetition of the crop, are the best preservatives against these evils.

MR. EDITOR,—A few days since a letter was pointed out to me, in a paper of the 27th of December last, signed A. B. purporting to be an answer to

a letter from Mr. Wm. Chapple, of Gornhay, near Tiverton, published in the same paper a few weeks previous, on the advantages of the Exeter Agricultural Association, and advising the formation of District Societies, in which I fully agree; and with your permission, Mr. Editor, will state my reasons:—A. B. presumes Mr. Chapple to farm his own estate, but on the contrary he is a renter; I am also a renter, —consequently A. B. and myself meet on equal ground, and have the same common interest.

It is to be lamented that the progress of convincing the Agricultural Classes of any errors in their management is so slow, that they are prone to travel on in the beaten path of ancient custom, and from the retirement of their situations are inaccessible to information by ordinary means; to them discoveries (of whatever importance), would be imparted in vain through the press; it would be regarded as one of the many inventions of the Printer, or a mere Theorist, and the reader would congratulate himself on not being gulled by such devices. On such impressions as the foregoing, Societies have been formed, for the purpose of drawing together the best breeds of cattle; of assembling large bodies of practical farmers, to discuss agricultural matters; to elicit from other districts and from each other, the best rural information; to draw the tie of friendship closer between landlord and tenant, and between the tenant and his labourers; to encourage the labourer by offering bounties to the industrious and the deserving; and to convince each class how much they depend on each other's prosperity. I am confident that the intercourse of farmers at annual meetings would not only be the means of improving stock generally, and promoting more correct views of rural economy; but that it would subdue those prejudices, which are entertained by many against everything new, or what they are unacquainted with; while perhaps at the same time they are loud reformers, thinking everything wants reform but their own practices. It is a frequent and well-founded observation, that while those engaged in arts and manufactures are prompt to avail themselves of every invention that will facilitate their labours; the cultivators of the soil are too apt to be jealous of innovations upon old practices, and are remarkable for the slowness with which they adopt improvements. Many consider every improvement suggested to them as an inroad on their happiness;—this is unquestionably owing to their retired habits, and to a want of that intercourse with each other, which Agricultural Meetings are so well calculated to promote. At home, a breeder forms erroneous ideas of the perfection of his stock: he goes abroad, and is set right; he sees the perfection of all animals is to produce the greatest quantity of food for man, having consumed the least quantity of food themselves. At such meetings, men of science would have an opportunity of imparting their ideas; for I cannot but believe that the pursuits of agriculture would be much advanced by the acquisition of general knowledge and scientific attainments. The investigation of the chemist and naturalist are denounced by some as speculations, idle theory, and book-farming: it is curious to observe what a bugbear theory is with many, who plume themselves on being sagacious practical farmers. I admit that theory without practice is but learned ignorance; and, on the other hand, practice without theory is but groping in the dark. Science brings to the assistance of agriculture a knowledge of mineralogy, chemistry, botany, and zoology,—a knowledge very essential in order to carry the soil to the highest pitch of improvement which it is capable of bearing; and judging the improvements which have been effected within the last

few years, to proceed in a great measure from the attention that men of liberal education have paid to rural affairs, and from the better education of the rising generation, a new era seems now to be dawning: the narrow-minded and prejudicial objection to such societies, as opening the eyes of their landlords to the produce of their farms, and thus entailing upon themselves a rise in rent. But it is the competition among a *numerous and increasing tenantry*, that causes high rents, and not any knowledge that the landlord possesses, or any information which *agricultural societies can give him*. Supposing he has a farm to dispose of, he publishes it to be let by tender, or by auction; and he will find a numerous list of competitors, and frequently lets it for less than is offered; and he has a right to let it to the person who will introduce the finest breeds of cattle, and follow the most approved system of tillage,—knowing that the best manager can afford to pay the highest rent, and that the prejudiced and the sloven are frequently full of complaints. I will go farther, and say it is the landlord's duty to improve the property committed to his care; for he is not only a steward for his own family, but also for the public, whose annual vast increasing numbers have a right to expect the utmost improvement the land is capable of bearing, particularly the manufacturers, who labour hard to produce cheap wares, and therefore have a right to expect in return the utmost improvement of the soil; and the heart of the true patriot must glow with delight at the prospect of his country attaining its utmost perfection, which agricultural societies will much promote; and I am glad to find they are warmly supported by such men as a Bedford, Lansdowne, Coke, Stanley, Althorp, and Fortescue.

That rents are high is generally admitted, and must always be the case, (whatever price the produce may bear,) from the competition among tenants. A. B. says he finds the price of Wheat 14s 6d per bag from 1789 to 1798 inclusive; and being under that price at the present time, means to infer, I suppose, that it ought to regulate the amount of tithes and rent now: but it seems to me that, from the alteration in the produce of farms, wheat is not a fair criterion to settle their amount by. He admits that rents are doubled since that period, but would tie down tithes to their amount in 1798; that I am anxious for their settlement, the best proof I can give is by pointing to a letter bearing my signature in your Gazette of 31st Jan. last. Passing over A. B.'s eulogy on Earl Grey, and his allusion to Dissenting Chapels, it having nothing to do with my present purpose, I come to the burdens on the land, which I own to be heavy, but have not room to particularize them, and should be among the foremost to promote their diminution. Now I have my pen in hand, I will address a class of people who, on hearing a farmer complain of the low prices of corn, say that the landlord ought to reduce the rent, thinking, no doubt, that the landlord, whatever be the price of grain, can sufficiently reduce his rent so as meet all other outgoings; but they seem ignorant of the fact, that when the four-pound loaf of bread sells at 9½d, were the entire rent of tillage land given up, it would only reduce it to 8d, plainly showing how small a portion the *charge* of rent has to do with the price of bread, and how many interests share its amount.

I now come to the last part of A. B.'s letter, wherein he says an association has been formed at Kingsbridge, and hopes its days may be numbered. Now had he not dragged the Kingsbridge Society into view, I should have remained silent; but being one of its original promoters, I feel called on to vindicate the intentions of myself and those who have

acted with me, and I hope to do it in the best spirit. With regard to its days being numbered, I can tell A. B. for his consolation, that its prospects are brightening every hour, and that we are enabled this year to offer a long list of premiums, particularly for the encouragement of Agricultural Labourers. That we have landed proprietors, and perhaps a solitary tithe-owner among its members, is true. With the motives of other people I have nothing to do;—that landowners expect to acquire *unfair* information from this society I do not believe; and perhaps the best answer I can give to that assertion is, that they have been unaccountably lukewarm in promoting its establishment, it having been chiefly accomplished by a few *renting farmers*, who cannot be suspected of doing any thing to injure their own interest. For myself, I know my intentions to be honest, and envy not the man his feelings who doubts it; my line of conduct is fixed, and I hope to promote the prosperity of the society by every means in my power, through evil report and through good report, knowing that I am promoting the best interests of my country, and resting assured that the day will soon arrive when a discerning public will fully appreciate my honest endeavours, which is the only reward I covet. Having an idea that anonymous writers sometimes cherish ill feelings, or, in espousing a bad cause, shun the public eye, I subscribe myself

Your obedient humble servant,

JOHN ELLIOTT.

Charleton, near Kingsbridge.

## CHURCH PROPERTY.

(From the Sun.)

Various estimates of the value of Church property have been made, but it is evident that the best can be only an approximation to the truth. We copy the following from a very able pamphlet on Tithes, by "Biblicus," published by Dennis, Paternoster-row, which we strongly recommend to all who wish to understand the extent and evils of the English Tithe System:—

|                                                    |            |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Value of tithes from land in tillage . . .         | £8,973,325 |
| Do. of parishes become part of towns, &c. . .      | 200,000    |
| Do. of coal, iron, tin, and copper mines. . .      | 500,000    |
| 1040 perpetual curacies, at 100 <i>l.</i> each . . | 104,000    |
| 100 benefices not parochial, 75 <i>l.</i> each . . | 75,000     |
| 9,000 glebes, at 40 <i>l.</i> each . . . . .       | 360,000    |
| Fees of 10,870 livings, at 20 <i>l.</i> each . . . | 217,440    |
| Incomes of Bishops . . . . .                       | 220,000    |
| Ditto of Deans and Chapters. . . . .               | 325,600    |

£10,974,765

Deduct annual value of lay impropriations . . . . . 3,117,434

£7,857,331

|                                            |         |
|--------------------------------------------|---------|
| To which must be added—Church-rates . . .  | 800,000 |
| Additions to Queen Anne's Bounty . . .     | 100,000 |
| College and school foundations. . . . .    | 682,150 |
| Parliamentary grants for building churches | 100,000 |

£9,539,481

If the above statement be anything near the truth (and it falls short of some estimates by a million), there can be but one opinion as to the amplitude of the provision made for the support of our spiritual guides. Indeed, if the spiritual benefit received were in proportion to the temporal, or, as we may say, carnal benefit returned, the English would be the most religious people on



the face of the earth. The following table, which we copy from the pamphlet before mentioned, sets this matter in a strong light:—

| Name of Nation.                | Number of Hearers. | Expense of Clergy per Million of Hearers. | Total Expenditure. |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------|
|                                |                    | £                                         | £                  |
| France .....                   | 30,000,000         | 35,000                                    | 1,050,000          |
| United States of America ..... | 9,600,000          | 60,000                                    | 576,000            |
| Spain .....                    | 11,000,000         | 100,000                                   | 1,100,000          |
| Hungary—Catholics .....        | 4,000,000          | 80,000                                    | 320,000            |
| Calvanists .....               | 1,000,000          | 60,000                                    | 63,000             |
| Lutherans .....                | 650,000            | 40,000                                    | 26,000             |
| Italy .....                    | 19,391,000         | 40,000                                    | 776,000            |
| Austria .....                  | 18,918,000         | 50,000                                    | 950,000            |
| Switzerland .....              | 1,720,000          | 50,000                                    | 87,000             |
| Prussia .....                  | 10,536,000         | 50,000                                    | 527,000            |
| German States .....            | 12,763,000         | 60,000                                    | 765,000            |
| Holland .....                  | 2,000,000          | 80,000                                    | 160,000            |
| Netherlands .....              | 3,000,000          | 35,000                                    | 105,000            |
| Denmark .....                  | 1,700,000          | 70,000                                    | 119,000            |
| Sweden .....                   | 3,400,000          | 70,000                                    | 238,000            |
| Russia—Greek Ch. .....         | 34,000,000         | 15,000                                    | 510,000            |
| Cath and Luth .....            | 8,000,000          | 50,000                                    | 409,000            |
| South America ....             | 15,000,000         | 30,000                                    | 450,000            |
| Dispersed christians .....     | 3,000,000          | 50,000                                    | 180,000            |
| Christians in Turkey .....     | 6,000,000          | 30,000                                    | 180,000            |
| England, Church of .....       | 6,000,000          | 1,266,000                                 | 7,596,000          |
| Ireland, Church of .....       | 400,000            | 3,250,000                                 | 1,300,000          |

Thus the Clergy of 195,678,000 hearers abroad, receive 8,591,000*l*. While the Clergy of 6,400,000 hearers at home receive 8,896,000*l*., if not a much great sum.

According to this calculation, we ought to be about thirty-five times as religious as the French, and seventy times as religious as the Russians!

### ON ACUTE DYSENTERY IN SHEEP, AND ON INFLAMMATION OF THE ABOMASUM OR TRUE STOMACH IN CATTLE.

BY MR. WILLIAM DICK, VETERINARY SURGEON,  
EDINBURGH.

(From the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture.)

Lately, one of my old pupils Mr. Chalmers, now in practice in the village of Tarves, Aberdeenshire, wrote me, requesting my opinion regarding a disease which had made its appearance in a flock of sheep belonging to a farmer in his neighbourhood; and as I am persuaded the case is not a solitary one, it occurs to me that his letter, from the correct manner in which the disease is described, and the account given of the *post mortem* appearances, may prove interesting and useful to the readers of this Journal. At the same time, I shall take the liberty to offer a few remarks on the disease described, and its treatment. Mr. Chalmers writes thus:—

"You will confer upon me a very great favour, if you will furnish me with your opinion upon a complaint among sheep, which has fallen under my observation within the last week or fortnight (11th August, 1834). I am not aware that there is any good account of it in the works which treat of the diseases of cattle and sheep. The disease, of which I am about to attempt a description, broke out upon a large farm within the range of my practice; the number of sheep at pasture on the farm I suppose to be between 700 and 800, consisting partly of En-

glish, but the greater part Highland or black-faced sheep. Within the last week fifteen of them have died, the whole of which were of the black-faced kind. I have not yet observed a single instance of the complaint among the English sheep. It may be necessary to mention that a few of the sheep have died annually of *water in the head*, and a good many more are affected with the *rot*. A small proportion of the pasture grows upon a mossy or marshy bottom, the greater part of it, however, is quite dry. The sheep brought down from the Highlands do not become affected with the *rot*, until they have been pastured about a year and half. The symptoms which present themselves in the present complaint are nearly as follows:—

"When a sheep becomes affected, it is observed to be dull and heavy, to separate itself from the flock, and to fall behind the rest, when they are moving in search of pasture. There is a raising up of the back by which an individual can be detected, though surrounded by a mass. Soon after these precursory symptoms the sheep is observed purging; the first discharges are black and thin; afterwards they are more of a greenish hue; in the last stage, the stools are mixed with blood. The sheep is remarked often to make ineffectual efforts to empty the intestines, as if it were suffering from tenesmus. The animal dies within sixteen or twenty hours after it is first seen to be ill; some linger out a few days, and if they survive this period they generally get well. I have made several *post-mortem* examinations. The following are the most prominent appearances:—The paunch and the rest of the apparatus for receiving the food (with the exception of the proper stomach), are in a natural condition; the stomach is extensively diseased; the inner or mucous coat is thickened, soft and pulpy; the farther, or pyloric extremity of the stomach is more diseased and thickened than usual; over the whole inner surface, but principally in the end next the small intestines, there are reddish or reddish purple spots, and fine arborifications of small bloodvessels. The arborifications are in the upper and the purple spots in the lower end of the stomach, where the disorganization is more complete. The small intestines are loose in texture, easily torn, and might almost be said to be rotten; the vessels running in the folds of the mesentery are larger and more numerous than usual, and filled with purple-coloured blood; the contents in the small intestines resemble in every way the matter discharged by the rectum; the substance of the liver is soft; the edges of the lobes are of a dark purple hue; the gall-bladder is enlarged; in one instance it was more than twice the natural size; it is always full of bile, the colour and consistence of which I can compare to nothing which so well expresses it, as black beer; the spleen is also soft and enlarged, and, when broken with the fingers, resembles very much a mass of grumous blood, surrounded with a firm membranous capsule. I have not carried my examinations much further. In the last case inspected, the bladder was contracted to about the size of a hen's egg, and the brain presented nothing unusual. By whatever name we distinguish the disease, whether we call it looseness, dysentery, or any other name, the mucous membrane of the stomach and small intestines seem to be its principal seat, and its character seems to be inflammatory, or a compound of the congestive and inflammatory. I think the two may exist together, and I cannot conceive how any thing but inflammation can produce such extensive derangement of the structure. Does the disease arise from a common cause? Is it epizootic? Is it contagious? Or may it not be a production of all three?

—I have lately heard of other sheep being affected in the same manner."

In the observations I am about to offer, I would first remark, that several authors seem to be well aware of this disease, though they have met with it apparently in a less virulent form.

The disease may be epizootic or endemic, but there is no proof of its being contagious; and I am of opinion that it arises from some local cause, and think that a careful perusal of this letter leads to this supposition. The black-faced or *mountain* sheep are those alone, he says, which are liable to this disease. This appears at first somewhat surprising; but there may be some cause producing the predisposition in *their* system, which our unacquaintance of *all* the facts regarding it, involves in mystery, or the circumstance of the disease may be purely accidental. But there is one natural cause which may operate, which is, that should the marshy part of the pasture send up a rank aftermath, it may stimulate and excite the mucous coat of the bowels too much. The probability of this being the true cause of the disease in this particular case, is strengthened from the nature of the weather during the last summer, and immediately preceding the date of Mr. Chalmer's letter. In May and June the drought was so severe in many parts of the country, that the pasture was withered up, particularly in dry situations; but in marshy or boggy situations, the heat produced an extraordinary degree of vegetation. And, I believe it is found, that sheep coming from a poor walk, to a rich pasture, which is the usual course of management of black-faced sheep when removed directly from the hills, will be more liable to the disease than sheep which have always been accustomed to such pasture; and after such a sudden change of food, there is no part of the animal economy so likely to be affected as the bowels. In the present instance, I firmly believe the marshy pasture to be the immediate cause of the disease. The sheep ought therefore to be allowed to browse but sparingly on such pasture.

The treatment I would recommend in such a disease, is to remove the irritating matter from the bowels by some mild laxative, and combine it with an opiate, to allay the pain in the bowels. For this purpose, from one to two ounces of castor or linseed oil, or one or two ounces of Epsom salts may be given with from thirty to fifty drops of laudanum; and if these do not allay the pain and stop the purging, half a dram more of laudanum, with two drams of chalk, may be administered in a little milk, or starch or oatmeal gruel, and repeated till an effect is produced; but frequently sweet-milk alone, or that mixed with a little chalk, will prove sufficient. The Epsom salts, however, are more to be depended upon, especially in cases which run their course rapidly. It will also be advisable to house the affected sheep for a day or two, and feed them upon hay if they will eat it, if not, to give them oatmeal or starch gruel. When the sheep suffer much pain, fomentations of hot water should be frequently applied to the belly.

In the particular case mentioned, the progress of the disease seems to have been more rapid than is usually noticed. The principal chance of curing it will therefore depend upon its discovery at an early stage. If this is done, little other treatment than a dose of salts will be necessary; but in ordinary cases of dysentery, the disease lingers about the animal for several days, and even weeks, when a different treatment may be required;—a continuation of astringent medicines must then be persisted in before the disease may be subdued.

The preceding case shows the injurious effects of

certain kinds of food, or rather perhaps the injurious effects of food grown under particular circumstances. Many sheep-farmers can too dearly testify, even in the present season, to the truth of this remark, by the loss which has been sustained by sickness of from four to six in the score in a short period. Sickness is a disease which there is every reason for believing arises from the strong after-growth which springs up from rain after dry weather, in autumn, producing sudden derangement of the stomach and bowels. Although sickness is not characterized by all the symptoms in the preceding case, it is still an affection of the bowels, differing only from the other in some of its symptoms, perhaps from the rapidity of its progress, or the particular part of the stomach or intestines which is affected by the inducing cause.

That a sudden change in the *condition of the food*, or in the food itself, has an effect upon animals which feed upon it, is a fact which none will deny, but which the following cases appear to me strongly to corroborate and illustrate. Last year, 1833, Mr. Hardie, Balbegie, about three miles north from Kirkcaldy, in Fifeshire, turned out fifteen cattle, mostly of the Fifeshire breed, about the beginning of May, to graze in a field which had been laid down in the preceding year with rye-grass and clover, and which yielded a good rank crop of grass. On the third day after the cattle had been put out, a heavy rain fell, the weather having been previously very dry for a considerable time. There was no water in the field except in a small pond and some ditches, and it was extremely disagreeable and brackish to the taste. The land was poor, and had been lately taken into tillage. On the evening of the third day, one of the cattle was taken ill, and on the following day five more were similarly affected, and the day after that other two. The remainder were immediately removed to another field, where they all thrived well, being unafflicted with the disease. Those which were taken ill were bled as soon as observed, to the extent of about a Scotch pint from each; and a large dose of castor oil given, but which did not operate. Blisters were also applied to the head, but in the course of four or five days they all died in a state of delirium.

About the same period this year, Mr. Hardie turned out into the same field, and the one adjoining, which had come into pasture, twenty-six cattle, one and two-year olds, of the same breed. For the first fortnight they were housed in the straw-yard at night, but were afterwards allowed to remain constantly in the field, and they continued to thrive and were quite healthy until the night of the 10th June. For a considerable time previous to this, the weather had been very dry, and the grass almost withered up, or at least it contained much less succulence than is usual at that season of the year. During that night a considerable quantity of rain fell, but the weather was mild, and continued so for some days afterwards. On the morning of the 11th, one of the stots was found dead, and many of the rest unwell. The latter seemed dull and somewhat stupid, their eyes having a fixed appearance, and glassy. All the cattle were immediately removed from that field; those which were well were put into another field, where several of them in succession became similarly affected. The sick ones were taken into the house and bled, about two Scotch pints of blood being taken from each, and a quantity of molasses and salts given as a purge, but which did not operate. The eight which had been first afflicted and thus treated, died.

I was then sent for, and found that the disease arose from inflammation of the true stomach, producing a degree of affection in the brain similar to stomach staggers in the horse. Those which were



still affected, seven in number, had the pulse varying from 30 to 100, and small, and they had a strong inclination to press forward with the head against any thing that came in their way, but especially in a corner. Others were at times in a state of high delirium, scrambling upon the walls with their fore-feet, their respiration rather hurried, appetite gone, bowels inactive. I recommended repetitions of the bleeding even to faintness, and large doses of purgative medicine to be given in large quantities of gruel, and cold water applied frequently to the head, and these all recovered.

But the object of my being sent for was as much with a view to ascertain the cause of the disease, as to cure those already affected, as it was generally believed that they had been poisoned. Those which had died had been examined, and in all the four, the stomach had been found in a state of inflammation, and the villous coat much thickened. I was unable to learn any farther particulars as to the post-mortem appearances, as I had not an opportunity of examining them myself. I could not, however, see how or why they should have been poisoned, and therefore went and took a survey of the field. I first examined how it was supplied with water; this was done by means of a small pond, which collected the surface water from one or two drains or ditches, by the hedge side. The heat of the season had dried up all the drains and ditches, and there was no water anywhere, except in the small pond, although there had been several showers between the time the cattle had been taken ill, and when I visited them. The water which is in the pond, was certainly the worst I ever tasted, having the flavour of being exposed to the smoke of coals, and very brackish. Indeed, so disagreeable was it, that I am sure that the cattle must have been perishing for thirst, before they could have drunk it, and the drinking of it would have produced a contrary effect to allaying thirst. The cattle had not been thriving for some time, which was attributed to the failing of the grass by the heat; but this did not appear to me to be the cause, for although the soil was poor, and the grass thin, it neither appeared to have been eaten too bare, nor overstocked.

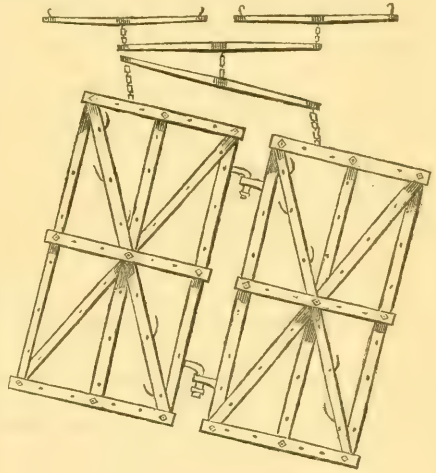
From the circumstances which I have stated, it appears to me that the disease had arisen from a sudden change in the condition of the grass. The agreeableness of moist food to a palate parched with thirst, I need not stop to describe; and if the cattle were circumstanced as I have described, and of which there cannot be a doubt, is there any effect so likely to be produced on them, as the injury from the food being in the condition in which I have stated? That moist grass will produce derangement of the stomach and bowels, I need not tell any agriculturist, dear-bought experience having feelingly demonstrated to him how readily bloat is produced in cattle by wet clover, and how speedily inflammation of the stomach and bowels will take place in horses from the same cause. But the case of Mr. Hardie's cattle is of itself sufficient, to my mind, to illustrate this point, for as soon as rain fell after dry and hot weather, the disease attacked the cattle both this year and the last. To this view of the case, some may say that although the disease may have depended upon the change of weather, it did not necessarily depend upon the change produced by the weather upon the food, but in all probability upon an immediate effect on the bodies of the animals. To this I would reply, that I have seen other examples of this disease having been produced by a sudden change of food. Five years ago, about 200 head of Highland cattle were bought to feed at a distillery in this neighbourhood, and when tied to the stake, were immediately put

upon draff and dreg, with a small allowance of straw for food. In a few days a considerable number were attacked by the same disease as that which seized Mr. Hardie's cattle. Three died at the onset of the disease, and the rest recovered, by effecting a gradual change from their former food to the dreg, upon which they afterwards fattened as well as cattle usually do on that kind of food. Sudden changes of food, or in the condition of food, is attended with considerable danger, and we ought therefore to look rather to those circumstances, and endeavour to rectify them, than to harbour suspicions which the peculiar appearance of such diseases might excite.

### IMPROVED HARROW.

The thanks of the Society of Arts have been voted to Mr. T. JOHNSTON, 137, George-street, Glasgow, for his Break-Harrow.

This harrow has been tried on a small scale with full success.



It is composed of two equal and similar frames, joined together as shewn in the figure, the two chains of the splinter-bar being attached to the front piece of each frame, so far to the left of its middle as to give a general oblique position to the harrow when in use. Each frame consists of three longitudinal iron bars, above which, and resting upon them, are two diagonal bars, and above all three cross bars. These are all kept in their places by nine quadrangular bolts, with screw-nuts above, so that the frame may be taken to pieces and put together again in a few minutes. The diagonal bars have six tines on each, directed obliquely and alternately to the right and left; the other twenty tines (eighteen on the three longitudinal, and twelve on the three cross-bars) are perpendicular as usual.

The chief novelty consists in the oblique tines placed on the diagonal bars, which thus peculiarly fit the instrument for advantageous use on coarse land, and in laying the cross-bars above the others, by which less obstruction is given to the progress of the harrow, and it is less liable to jump.

THE POTATOE.—Mr. Hickey has communicated to the *Irish Farmer's Journal* a very singular and successful experiment, tried upon the potatoe in the county of Dublin. A gentleman who holds a farm of

150 acres, planted in the usual manner 34 acres under potatoes in 1832; the result was, a complete failure of the crop. This induced him to try many experiments upon the root, all of which failed except the following:—He took six potatoes and divided them into twenty cuts—he then got a large basin of water, into which he put a cupful of salt and a piece of blue stone about the size of a walnut. He put ten of the cuts into the basin, and let them remain there one entire night. On the following day he procured a very strong microscope, through which he examined the entire twenty cuts. On the ten cuts which were not immersed in the basin he could distinctly perceive many small white particlees like eggs; and those cuts which were immersed presented no such appearance whatsoever. This discovery urged him to follow up the examination attentively, and every day, for a short period, he continued to watch the appearance of the aforesaid matter. The result was, that those white globular particles were animalculæ, for in a few days they became quite visible to the naked eye in the form of worms or maggots. The cuts that had been steeped never showed the slightest appearance of any such thing, and they retained their solidity and firmness when the other ten cuts were completely decayed and rotted. Still unwilling to believe without further proof, he tried the experiment five or six times, and planted them, distinctly marking a division between those cuts which were steeped and those that were not. The consequence was, the almost total failure of the one kind and the complete success of the other placed the question beyond the possibility of a doubt. He considers that the air has a powerful effect upon the potatoe, and may sometimes impregnate it with this destructive matter.

#### TO THE EDITOR OF THE "FARMER'S MAGAZINE."

Sir,—Will you do me the favour to insert in your next Magazine the following corrections of mistakes which your printer has made in my letter, which appeared in your last number, under the head of "Malt Tax and Beer-Shops?"

I assure you I do not impute blame to your printer on this score; it would be unreasonable of me to do so; because I have often great difficulty, after having written a letter, to read it *correctly* before I seal it; and if I cannot read my own writing, I think it would be very unfair in me to blame others for not being able to do so. I think this explanation will serve my purpose, both for the past, and on future occasions; and, in the course of my correspondence, wherever your readers meet with a word or sentence which is on the face of it incorrect, I beg they will remember the confession that I have just made—that it proceeds from the pen of a man who cannot always read his own writing, and exert a little of their own ingenuity to eke out the sentence. The first mistake which occurs, and of which I beg your correction, is in the second sentence of the letter to which I have called your attention. I wrote, or intended to write, "my eye inadvertently glanced down the two columns—and not to two columns." The next mistake is in the same sentence; for *Beer and Hops*, read "*Beer-shops*." Having done more injury to *moral society*, read "*rural society*." For *brew both a better and cheaper beverage*, read "*to brew*," &c., &c. In the fifth paragraph, there is a full stop at Ireland; but the sentence ought

to have been carried on to the next full stop. In the same sentence for *sowing of clover*, read "*mowing of clover*." Again—*All this is hard work, indeed, employed in these matters*. Now, after the last word "*matters*," there is a full stop; but the sentence ought to have been carried on. For *senseless individuals* in the sixth paragraph, read "*numberless individuals*;" and, in the next paragraph, for *the gin-shops*, read "*these gin-shops*." For *unseasonable abuse*, read "*unreasonable abuse*;" for *head of the parish*, read "*heads of the parish*." In the tenth paragraph, for *few of the number*, read "*fear of the number*;" and, in the next, and last paragraph, for *lighter in respect*, &c., read "*higher in respect*, &c."

I do not for a moment apprehend that it is necessary for me to correct these errors in order to support the principle which that letter advocates, namely—the destruction of the *Beer-shops* to be effected by the repeal of the MALT TAX; because, I think, nine-tenths of your readers, or, indeed, nine-tenths of the community, concur in that principle; indeed, I never recollect any subject on which men appeared to me to be so nearly unanimous as they are on this. It is true one may find a few maltsters and brewers to declare that such a step would be alike unjust and futile; in fact, that it would do mischief, and cause us to be a community of drunkards; but how or why this is to be, they do not explain—I should, perhaps, say, they cannot explain; for I sincerely believe that never, under *any* circumstances, would it be possible to invent *any* system so destructive to the morals of the lower orders as the present system of Beer-shops.

Sir Edward Knatchbull's "Beer Amendment Bill" of last Session has, in no degree, answered the object it was intended to effect. It is true it puts the power of licensing the houses into the hands of that portion of society rated at not less than ten pounds a-year. Now it does not require a very extended knowledge of human nature to perceive that this power, invested in such a class of persons, would be made subservient to the worst of passions. I could exemplify this to be the case in many instances that have occurred in my own immediate neighbourhood; but I must refrain from so doing, in order to avoid calling down on myself any portion of those highly-excited party feelings which have been engendered entirely by this well-meant, but short-sighted act, of the Legislature. It would be only candid, possibly, to admit, that in the parish in which I reside, we have been enabled to get rid of the only beer-shop it contained, by the above provision, of a certificate signed by six persons rated at ten pounds each: then this is of but little service, because, in the immediate adjoining parishes, where property is held under different circumstances, every beer-shop that was licensed before the passing of the Act of last Session, still remains so, and many others have been added to the "motley group." Probably, before this appears in your next number, some decided steps will have been taken by the House of Commons on the subject of the Malt Tax; to repeal which, I hope the Government, if not inclined to render to the wishes of, by far the greater part of the community, may be



obliged to yield to an overwhelming majority of the House of Commons.

But, although the repeal of the Malt Tax would be an immense boon granted to the agricultural interest, let it not be supposed for a moment that the beneficial effects would be confined to this interest only; neither let it be thought, that it would be any *direct* relief, either to the owner or occupier of the soil. The squire and farmer, it is true, would then be enabled to buy Malt cheaper, and to this extent, would, of course, be *directly* relieved; but it is the labourer whose circumstances would be immediately improved by being able to *brew beer at home*, instead of being driven to the necessity of procuring it at the beer-shops; and *this is the great object to be gained*, the acquisition of which would ensure an indirect benefit to the landlord and tenant, by improving the moral condition of their labourers. I have often heard it stated by persons, who are, in fact, opposed to the present system of Corn Laws, (but to whom it would be *inconvenient* to make an unreserved declaration of this nature), that it would be unjust to disturb those laws so long as the Malt Tax existed; but, immediately on the repeal of that tax, they would be prepared to set about a repeal of the Corn Laws. I cannot refrain from having a few words with reasoners of this description. If, by the repeal of the Malt Tax, I am to understand that the "National Debt" is paid off, and, consequently, the Government has no longer occasion for raising the amount of revenue necessary to pay the interest of that debt, then I know no reason why the Corn Laws should not be also immediately repealed; because, I have always thought that it was necessary to protect the English farmer in the price of his corn, in order that he might be enabled to pay high taxes, for the purpose of those taxes being applied to pay the interest of this debt.

But, if the "National Debt" be not paid off, and the repeal of the Malt Tax, means only the raising of so much revenue from some other source, but still to be applied to the same purpose, namely—the paying the interest of the debt; then, it appears to me, the *necessity* of protecting the farmer in the price of his corn, in order to enable him to continue to pay his share of the interest of the debt is, in no degree, lessened. This opinion, I am aware, may be disputed. I wish to be understood, that I advance it entirely under the conviction, that the farmer would only be relieved by the repeal of the Malt Tax in the manner I have stated above, and the consequence of selling his wheat at four pounds per load less than he has done on the average of the last seven years, (and which, if the Corn Laws should be repealed, he would assuredly be obliged to do), would not be less likely to ruin him, because the Malt Tax was repealed.—I am, Sir, your obedient and very humble servant,

AGRICULTUR.

Sussex, March 11, 1835.

### ANALYSIS OF MARL.

The value of marl, as a manure, must of course be referable to the nature of the different kinds employed. It is, indeed, evident that, being in-

tended to correct or improve the soil, its constituent parts should be known, and their qualities explained, before any use can be rationally made of it; and, therefore, the more accurately its properties are ascertained, the more confident may the propriety of its application be determined. Farmers, indeed, cannot be expected to be sufficiently acquainted with chemistry to be able to analyse it, though the most calcareous sorts may be known by means of acids, as applied to lime: or, the common earthy kind, when put into water, will fall to pieces, allowing a considerable portion of sand to fall to the bottom of the vessel: by which simple tests, they might often derive considerable advantage. Its qualities are, however, more generally taken, by mere practical men, more upon trust derived from the experience of their neighbours than from any actual knowledge of its properties; but although, when thus guided, they cannot go far wrong, yet they may be misled by circumstances of slight apparent difference, and, in cases of new pits being opened, no certain estimate of its effect can be formed until a complete analysis has been made. This should, indeed, be done in all such instances; for it costs but a trifle, is easily performed, and without having recourse for the purpose to a regular scientific chemist, the object may be attained by application to any intelligent apothecary, by furnishing him with the following account of the modes of procedure:—

The ingredient of marls, on which their fitness for agricultural purposes depends, is the carbonate of lime. It is owing to the presence of this earth that marls effervesce on the addition of acids, which is one of their distinguishing characters: to ascertain which—

"Let the marls be put into a glass, partly filled with water, which will expel a portion of acid contained mechanically in the marl, and thus obviate one source of fallacy. When the marl is thoroughly penetrated by the water, add a little muriatic acid or spirit of salt. If a discharge of air should ensue, the marly nature of the earth will be sufficiently established."

Then, to find their composition—

"Pour a few ounces of diluted muriatic acid into a Florence flask, place them in a scale and let them be balanced. Then reduce a few ounces of dried marl into powder, and let this powder be carefully and gradually thrown into the flask, until, after repeated additions, no further effervescence is perceived. Let the remainder of the powdered marl be weighed, by which the quantity projected will be known. Let the balance be then restored. The difference of weight between the quantity projected, and that requisite to restore the balance, will show the weight of the air lost during the effervescence, and will stand thus,—

"If the loss amount to 13 *per cent.* of the quantity of marl projected, or from 13 to 32 *per cent.*, the marl assayed is calcareous marl, or rich calcareous earth.

"Clayey marls, or those in which the agillaceous ingredient prevails, lose only 8 or 10 *per cent.* of their weight by this treatment; and sandy marls about the same proportion. The presence of much agillaceous earth may be judged by digging the marl, after being washed with spirit of salt, when it will harden, and form a brick.

## CURIOUS BEQUESTS.

EXTRACTED FROM THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS ON CHARITIES.

**ALMS-COW.**—In the parish of Waddesdon, Bucks, there is a statement that the benefit of *two* cows was distributed yearly amongst twenty-two people of that parish, by the Duke of Marlborough.

The milk of *one* cow kept for that purpose by a tenant of the Duke, occupying Lodge Hill Farm, is now received daily by twenty-two parishioners, in rotation, one in the morning and another in the evening. The distribution of the milk of the second cow was discontinued in 1825, the tenant of the farm refusing at that time to keep two cows for the poor, as the allowance mentioned below had become insufficient to defray the expense. The cow is called "the alms-cow," and when she dies or grows barren, another is provided by the tenant. The poor made no complaint when the second cow was discontinued. Mr. Raine informed the Commissioners by letter that since he had been receiver of the Duke's estates, he had allowed 10*l* for the keep of one cow, and his predecessors had done so before him.

**GANG MONDAY LAND.**—There is about an acre of land in the parish of Edgcott, so called, in respect of which Robert Marcham, Esq. pays the overseers about 3*l*. yearly. This was formerly distributed in cakes and beer to the tenants: two cakes each, and as much beer as they chose to drink at the time, the residue being given to all poor persons who came for it, whether parishioners or not. Since the inclosure, about thirty years ago, this sum has been distributed at Christmas in coals. Before the inclosure, the poor had a right to get fuel on the common; since the inclosure, Mr. Marcham has paid about 3*l*. more in respect of this right, and it is distributed also yearly at Christmas in coals,—each person's share amounting to about four hundred pounds weight.

**THE STEPHENAGE MONEY.**—There was formerly a custom in the parish of Drayton Beauchamp, called "Stephening." All the inhabitants of the parish used to go on St. Stephen's day to the rectory, and eat as much bread and cheese, and drink as much ale, as they chose, at the expense of the rector. The usage occasioned so much rioting, that the late rector discontinued it, and distributed an annual sum of money instead, in proportion to the number of claimants; but they increased so considerably in 1827, that he withheld the annual payments. A similar custom existed in the parish of Great Harwood until about seventeen years ago: the rector gave each poor person a quatern loaf and two ounces of cheese—this was called "Stephening."

**WHEAT.**—Forty-nine bushels of wheat are yearly sent by Lady Bridgewater to the mill to be ground, and the flour to be made into four pound loaves, at her expense, and distributed to the poor of Edlesborough. This charity is said to have originated in a donor named Randall, about 1597.

**STREWING.**—At Wingrave, there is piece of land left for the purpose of furnishing rushes for the parish church on the feast Sunday. It consists of about three roods, let at a guinea a-year, which is received by the parish clerk, who provides grass to strew the church on the village feast day, which is the first Sunday after St. Peter's day.

**DOLE OF HERRINGS.**—Richard Stokes, parson of Loughton, in 1546, left lands in that parish subjecting the holder thereof, annually for ever, to distribute to the dwellers and inhabitants of every house in Loughton, ten white herrings and ten red herrings. It ap-

pears that this gift has been discontinued; but the old people of the parish remember it, and James Walter, a man about sixty, recollects having carried herrings to the church for distribution.

**MALTHUSIAN AND ANTI-MALTHUSIAN CHARITIES.**—John Bowsher of Chepstow, by will, in 1818, gave to ten poor bachelors of that parish, of sixty years and upwards, 2,000*l*., or so much as would pay four shillings per week to each; in default of bachelors, then to poor men of Chepstow.

At Griadon Underwood, there is a yearly sum arising out of charitable donations for apprenticing illegitimate boys or girls. The premiums given are 12*l*. with girls, and 30*l*. with boys.

**BIBLES.**—John Cory left forty shillings a-year to the senior alderman of Fybridge Ward, Norwich, to buy as many bibles as the same would extend to, and to give them to eleven poor children, one in each parish. The Commissioners observe that in May, 1833, there were three years' rent charge due; and it was represented to them that although the receiver had taken pains to give this charity publicity, yet it was extraordinary that there should not be sufficient applications annually to exhaust so small a sum. P.Q.

## ON THE PRESENT AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHAMPTON MERCURY.

Sir,—It has been requested of those engaged in farming in this county, to search out the causes of the present agricultural distress, and also to state by what means its progress can be arrested. There is not, I conceive, much difficulty attached to the first request, but a great deal to the second. The cause of the distress is, that wheat, which is the farmer's chief dependence to pay his rent, is sold at a lower price than he can afford it for. The cause of the lowness of price is that the supply to the markets is greater than the demand, the reasons for which in my opinion are these. From the last two or three autumnal seasons being remarkably favourable for wheat seeding, much more than the usual quantity has been sown, and the crops have proved full average ones. From the same favourable seasons also, and from effective draining, vast quantities of wheat have been grown in the fens, where wheat never grew before, and the crops there have proved most abundant. To which may be added, the great quantities of wheat imported from Ireland, and the inability of the great portion of the farmers to hold their wheat till it might fetch a better price; and in some parts of the kingdom the few farmers that could keep it, not liking in these times to have crowded stack-yards, and not feeling confident that there might be no alteration in the corn laws.

Some assert that the progress of this distress would be effectually arrested by the circulation of one-pound notes. Corn would then no doubt nominally bear a higher price; but let me remind the farmers who are for again having one-pound notes, that in such a case the present scale of duties on the importation of foreign corn would not be high enough. There may be some doubt as to the policy of the change that was made in the currency, but it appears to me to be quite out of the question now to think of reverting to a depreciated paper currency. Government loans to farmers have been mentioned. A loan to one engaged in a profitable concern may be of great use to him, but to one in a losing concern it can, at best, but defer the day when he appears before the world a ruined man. Most of those persons who are unac-



quainted with farming, fancy that the farmer's present distress might at once be relieved by a reduction of rents; this is a most mistaken notion, as I trust I shall be able to prove. Rents at all times have been, and must continue to be, estimated by the expected price of wheat. That price of late years, I believe to have been 7s per bushel. Now if the average price continues to be only 5s per bushel, and other grain in proportion, although one-half of the rents of good land, and two-thirds of the rent of poor land, were abated, in neither case would the occupiers of such lands be relieved from distress.

Statement of the effect of an abatement of two-thirds of the rent of an arable clay land farm of 200 acres, at 25s per acre, with the prices of wheat reduced from 56s per qr to 40s (as it must be if wheat continues at such a price); barley, from 30s to 22s, and oats from 23s to 18s. Presuming a succession of crops in something like the following order:—

|                                                  | per qr. | £    | s. | d. |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------|------|----|----|
| 30 acres wheat, 90 qrs. less in value, 16s.      | 72      | 15   | 0  |    |
| 30 .. barley, 120 .....                          | 8s.     | 48   | 0  | 0  |
| 30 .. oats, 150 .....                            | 5s.     | 37   | 10 | 0  |
| (If beans were grown there would be equal loss.) |         |      |    |    |
| 60 .. clover—sheep make less by .....            | 60      | 0    | 0  |    |
| 20 .. pasture—beasts less by .....               | 25      | 0    | 0  |    |
| 30 .. fallow—pigs less by .....                  | 18      | 0    | 0  |    |
| 200                                              |         | £261 | 5  | 0  |

## RELIEVED.

|                                                                     | £    | s. | d. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----|----|
| By an abatement of rent .....                                       | 166  | 13 | 4  |
| Saving by seed corn .....                                           | 20   | 0  | 0  |
| Six labourers paid 2s per week less, and harvest expense less ..... | 36   | 0  | 0  |
| Poor-rates, perhaps less .....                                      | 5    | 0  | 0  |
| Blacksmiths', wheelwrights', &c. bills, say less .....              | 3    | 11 | 8  |
|                                                                     | £231 | 5  | 0  |

|                                                                          |      |   |   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|---|---|
| Loss to the occupier with the abatement of two-thirds of his rents ..... | 30   | 0 | 0 |
|                                                                          | £261 | 5 | 0 |

|                                                                                    | £    | s.  | d. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-----|----|
| 200 acres of good turnip land, at 35s per acre, rent estimated, wheat 7s per bush. |      |     |    |
| Loss.                                                                              | Qr.  | Qr. |    |
| 30 acres wheat .. 3½ .. 105 less by 16s                                            | 84   | 0   | 0  |
| 30 .. barley .. 5 .. 150 .....                                                     | 8s   | 60  | 0  |
| 80 .. oats .. 6 .. 180 .....                                                       | 5s   | 45  | 0  |
| 60 .. clover } sheep make less by ..                                               | 100  | 0   | 0  |
| 20 .. turnips }                                                                    |      |     |    |
| 30 .. meadow or pasture—beasts do.                                                 | 25   | 0   | 0  |
| ..... pigs do.                                                                     | 20   | 0   | 0  |
|                                                                                    | £334 | 0   | 0  |

## RELIEF.

|                                         | £    | s. | d. |
|-----------------------------------------|------|----|----|
| One-half of rent .....                  | 175  | 0  | 0  |
| Saving in the price of seed corn .....  | 20   | 0  | 0  |
| Six labourers at 2s per week less ..... | 36   | 0  | 0  |
| Poor-rates, perhaps less .....          | 5    | 0  | 0  |
| Blacksmiths, wheelwrights, &c. less ..  | 3    | 0  | 0  |
|                                         | £239 | 0  | 0  |
| Loss by low prices and reduced rents .. | 95   | 0  | 0  |
|                                         | £334 | 0  | 0  |

Some imagine that relief from poor-rates would

much lessen the distress. The poor-rates are always considered in the rents; many farmers are distressed who have scarcely any poor-rates to pay. In populous parishes, where the rates are high, great savings might be made, if the occupiers of the land were always unanimous as to the employment and the good management of the poor. About twenty years ago, I proposed in the Farmer's Journal, a plan for making, to a certain extent, the maintenance of the poor a national concern. I have from reflection been since convinced that such great abuses would creep into any arrangements consequent upon that plan, that the idea ought to be abandoned. County rates ought to be more equalised, and reduced to what they were in old times. The statute duty which the occupiers of the land are called upon to perform, ought to be paid for out of the turnpike trust funds. I do not know how far it would be practicable, with our commercial arrangements, but if the duties on foreign butter, cheese, and tallow, were increased, it would benefit many English and Irish occupiers of land. The fairest way of making up any deficiency in the revenue by taking off the malt tax would be by a small property tax, and thus bring in to pay taxes those who now escape—the misers and absentees. Some farmers are of opinion that taking off the tax on malt would benefit them so little as not to justify a step which would involve the financial arrangements of the country in difficulties. Most assuredly it would not, if on full investigation it should appear likely to give but very trifling relief to the agriculturist. I am, however, of opinion that there is no one act within the power of government that would be likely to afford greater relief. The annual amount derived from this tax is said to be four millions and a half; there need not, however, be so great a loss to the revenue to give to the working classes untaxed beer; for a great portion of the malt is used in the distilleries, and of course such an additional duty would be laid on distillation as would keep spirits at their present prices, or perhaps increase them, and thus decrease the loss of revenue from the repeal of the tax. All taxation should be so levied, that every person may contribute to the expenditure of the state in proportion to his means; therefore, luxuries, not necessities, should be taxed. Beer is a necessary for the working classes. But although it may be the general wish to have beer cheap, it cannot be to have spirits so; in fact, those who have witnessed the sad, disgusting excess to which gin has been drunk by the lower orders of late years in large towns, must wish, in mercy to them, that it were dearer. It is said that if the distillers were not obliged to use malt, they would use barley, that one bushel of the latter would answer the purpose of two of the former. Now if this is a fact, as the exciseman must always be in attendance where distillation is going on, if spirits are obtained at a cheaper rate from barley than from malt, of course the government must increase the duty accordingly. The tax on malt falls heavier on those occupied in farming, than on others who are engaged in trade. A farmer who sells produce during the year to the amount of one thousand pounds, and who must employ labourers, and find them beer, to raise that produce, pays more than double by the tax on malt, than the shopkeeper, who in the year sells goods to the amount of five thousand pounds; or persons living in towns with incomes of a thousand a year.

An able writer in the British Farmers' Magazine on agriculture and the general statistics of

the country, says the present depression in the price of wheat may very easily be rectified by the farmers withholding their corn from market. This would be most salutary advice, if it were possible to act upon it, but unfortunately it is not, for all farmers must during the winter thresh out their usual quantity of corn, for the straw to be made into manure by their cattle for their spring crops; and besides, most of the farmers who have capital sufficient to keep their corn when threshed, cannot do so from the want of convenience to keep it in a good state, free from injury by rats and mice.

If the tax were taken off, more beer would be drunk; more malt necessarily made; besides which, if it were not taxed, more would be used in the public breweries, where it is evident, from the taste of some of the beer brewed there, compared with home-brewed, substitutes for malt, such as sugar, molasses, &c. must have been made use of. By thus increasing the demand for barley, a greater quantity would be sown, and a less quantity of wheat, and probably thus prevent the wheat market from being so overstocked as it has of late been.

As to what has been said about the necessity of having cheap corn, in order that our manufacturers may supply the whole world with cheap goods, it is all a fallacy; for goods have been sent since the present agricultural protection has been in existence to all parts where they have been wanted, and will continue to be so sent, so long as this country possesses these combined advantages which no other does, viz.—its inexhaustible coal and metal mines, its superior machinery, and the certain continuation of the power of working it; the greater skill and larger capital of its manufacturers, the immense capital of its merchants, its innumerable shipping, and the facility with which goods from any part of the kingdom can be shipped for their destination.

To such an extent is machinery now in use in all our manufactories, and to such perfection is it brought, that quantities of cotton, the produce of China, have of late been brought into this country, have been manufactured into goods suited to China, and sent out there; and notwithstanding the great expenses of freight and insurance on the importation of the raw material, and on the exportation of the manufactured goods, the manufacturers' and the merchants' profits, such goods are enabled to be sold in the Chinese market at a less price than the same description of goods manufactured in China can be sold for, although the wages of the operative manufacturers do not there exceed one penny a-day.

The price that wheat is sold for in any country does not prove whether it is there cheap or dear. Where the price is low, and the wages of the working classes are so low that they cannot obtain wheaten bread, and therefore live on a coarser kind, made of rye and the tail of wheat (as is now the case in many parts of the continent,) in such countries it cannot be called cheap; nor where it is nominally high, with corresponding wages, can it be called dear. It has been said, during the late election, "that the time of taking off the malt tax should be considered the exact time to do away with the corn laws"—just as if farmers only would be benefited by the abolition of the tax. This is mere electioneering talk to please borough electors. Notwithstanding all that the advocates of free trade can say, I have no idea that a majority will be found in the House of Commons for the abolition of all corn laws, or in fact to agree to any

alteration of the present protection to farmers, who by the law of the land, are heavily burdened with the maintenance of the poor, and therefore have a just right to be protected from an influx of foreign corn, when the price of the corn of the country is not higher than it ought to be. I cannot say what may be the feelings of the generality of the fundholders, but for my own part I feel certain that it would be impossible long to continue paying the present interest of the national debt with a free trade in corn: for on the price of wheat depends the capability of those on whom it falls to pay a very great portion of the taxes of the country.

It is the opinion of some farmers, and some landlords also, that a fixed duty on the importation of corn would be of more benefit to farmers than the graduated scale of duties has been. The objections to a fixed duty are too numerous to be entered into in this paper. I shall only observe, that it must be desirable for the majority of farmers to have a steady price for their corn, which in my opinion they are more likely to have with a graduated scale than with a fixed duty, though just the present time may appear to afford an evidence to the contrary. Few farmers have been much benefited by a sudden rise in the price of corn, for it has generally occurred at a time when the greater part of them had little or none to sell.

Most of the London newspapers are unfriendly to the farming interest. The writers in those papers want cheap corn, regardless of all the ruinous effect it may have on the British farmers. They may perhaps be deceived by persons interested in the foreign corn trade, but they are continually inserting in their papers incorrect statements of the prices of corn, which create, among their readers engaged in trade, prejudices against the farmers. In a widely circulated Evening Paper of February 3, it is stated, under the head of Foreign Corn, that the average price of wheat at Hamburg was, on the latest accounts received from there, 26s 8d per quarter; and at the same time it was, in Mark-lane, 51s per quarter—wheat, they say, is, therefore, 91½ per cent. dearer in London than in Hamburg. Now the fact is, the average price of wheat in Mark-lane was only 41s per quarter.

Every one must acknowledge that the manufactories of this country are of very great importance to it, by enriching it, and giving employment to a great portion of its population. Agriculture (Dr. Johnson says) "not only gives riches to a nation, but the only riches she can call her own;" and, as it employs a very great portion of the population, there can be no pretence whatever for sacrificing the agriculture of the country, by an unlimited importation of foreign corn, to benefit for a time (and for a short time only) the manufactories. This nation is in an artificial state of prosperity, which can only be retained by artificial means. It would be a kind of national suicide to throw down those barriers by which this prosperity may be retained, to enrich other nations, but to impoverish this. In former times the wealth of this country was supposed to be in the land. The land, therefore, was justly burdened with the maintenance of the poor. If it can now be proved (as the advocates of free trade assert) that the real wealth of this country is its manufactures, the manufacturers ought to bear their share of the burden of the poor.

From what I have witnessed, and from all the accounts I could collect, it appears that the manufactories of this country have scarcely ever been



going on more prosperously than they have during the past year, with the present agricultural protection; why, therefore, should this question be so continually agitated to paralyse the exertions of all occupiers of land? but more particularly those who occupy the cold clay land of the country, where the greatest possible exertions are needed, but where they would be entirely fruitless, with a free trade in corn; for such land, in that case, must be thrown out of cultivation, and the labourers that were employed on it thrown on the parish funds, as long as any such parish shall retain any funds.

Great distress has not yet reached the turnip-land farmers, but it appears to me to be very evident that it soon will; for if nothing is done to assist the farming interest, the prices of barley and oats, after the next harvest, will correspond with the low price of wheat; and as the greater part of the agricultural labourers are accommodated with small portions of land, they are now enabled to feed pigs for their consumption; the demand, therefore, for mutton, is so decreased that the butchers will not much longer be able to give more than 4d per lb. for the best fat sheep, instead of rather more than 6d, which they have been giving for some time past. I am informed, that a baker in a village near me said that, of thirty-three labourers' dinners which he baked on Sunday se'nnight, 31 of them were of pig-meat.

I am one (and I trust a majority of those now engaged in farming are the same) who never wished, or ever shall wish, to see the price of wheat so high that the labouring classes cannot obtain from their earnings as much good bread as they can consume, with a fair portion of good meat, and good wholesome beer, and all the reasonable comforts that a labouring man can desire. The labourers in agriculture know very well, that if corn continues, for any length of time, to be sold at a less price than their employers can afford it, their constant employment is less certain, their wages must be reduced, and consequently their comforts lessened; and I am inclined to believe that a great portion of those who are employed in trades are now quite aware, that if the agriculture of this country falls into decay, the trade of the country must shortly after do the same.

I have never yet heard, nor do I think I am likely to hear, any satisfactory arguments to prove that the general prosperity of this country has been injured, or kept from increasing, since the year 1828—the date of the present protection of British agriculture. I therefore cannot imagine what possible plea there can be for abolishing it, and thus weakening the power of this great country, by making it dependant upon other countries for a portion of the first necessities of life.

The writer of this letter has been practically engaged in farming for more than thirty years, and has written much under different signatures during that period in various agricultural publications, both on agriculture and on subjects connected with it; but having now attained to nearly threescore years and ten, he had determined to turn his mind to more important things. Having, however, been called upon, in common with other agriculturists, to search out the cause of the present distress, and to give an opinion in what way its progress can be arrested, he does not hesitate to answer to that call, though, from the difficulty of the subject, he has felt himself incompetent to the task.

A SMALL OWNER AND OCCUPIER OF LAND  
IN NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

Th———ds, February 10th, 1835.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—As you have occasionally favoured me by inserting letters of mine in your extensively read paper, I again request of you to publish the following, addressed to the Marquis of Chandos.

My Lord,—I am fully convinced that no one has more zealously and sincerely laboured to benefit the agricultural interest than your Lordship; and though I differ from your Lordship as to the measures by which such benefit would be obtained in one important particular, I trust you will give me credit for an equally sincere desire, which be assured I feel, to relieve and raise that important interest. I pursue the same object, though by different means. I perceive by the public newspapers that you have given notice of your intention to move, on Wednesday next, for the repeal of the duty upon malt. Your Lordship will therefore pardon me if I point out the reasons which have led me to the conclusion that the removal of that duty will not be beneficial either to the agricultural interest or the labouring population, in a degree at all proportionate to the sacrifice it will require.

I will state at once what I think your Lordship will concur in, that the remission of a part of the duty would by no means be expedient, as there would be the same expence of collection, and the same restrictions upon the manufacture. I will therefore hasten to consider the effect of its total repeal.

1. It is argued that the repeal of the malt duty will benefit the cultivators of the soil by producing an increase in the consumption of barley: let us assume the calculation adopted in the act of the 1st. of William IV., that four barrels of beer are made from one quarter of malt. Now, as the duty upon a quarter of malt is 1*l.* 0*s.* 8*d.*, and as there are 576 quarts in 4 barrels, the duty does not amount to a halfpenny a-quart, and even if by a more favourable calculation it did amount to a halfpenny a-quart, I put it to your Lordship to consider whether a reduction to that extent would materially increase the consumption. The only advantage, then, which could accrue to the agriculturist from the repeal of this duty would be one which he would share with all the rest of the kingdom—the diminished charge upon the malt which he himself consumes.

Now in this country on an average (and I have taken some pains to ascertain the fact) not more than 6 quarters of malt are brewed by an occupier of 200 acres of land, so that in my opinion 6*l.* 4*s.* per annum is all the benefit which such an occupier would derive from the repeal of this duty, even supposing that he is not at all affected by the substituted tax which must be proposed.

2. It has been urged that the repeal of the malt duty would enable the labourer to have a cask of beer in his cellar, and to brew his own beer; and this, it has been said, will not only increase the consumption, but have a beneficial effect upon the morals of the poor: but allow me to ask what reason can be assigned why the labourer did not brew his own beer before the 16th of July, 1830 (the date of the act for repealing the beer duty,) when he would thereby have avoided a duty of 10*s.* per barrel, which was only paid by those who brewed for sale? That charge was twice as heavy as the present malt duty. The reason I think is obvious—it was, because he could purchase it cheaper. For the same reason he does not make his own shoes, or his own coat.

Then, as to the temptation of company at the pub-

lic-house or the beer-shop, would it not exist in precisely the same degree if the labourer had a cask of beer in his cellar brewed by himself, as if he had a cask purchased of the public brewer? If there were a disposition to avoid that temptation, and to drink his beer at home with his wife and family, what now prevents the labourer from purchasing a cask of beer and so consuming it? Nothing that would not equally apply to his purchasing malt and brewing his own beer. And if he had a cask, what security is there that his wife or children would not consume the greater part of it while he was absent at his daily labour? And would not he himself be likely to fall into the temptation of consuming it most improvidently either alone or with his companions? I urge these reasons in addition to the indisputable fact, that the same proportionate quantity and strength of beer cannot be extracted from one or two bushels of malt as from 100 bushels—I urge them in addition to the want of skill, the ignorance of the laws and principles of fermentation, and the want of suitable utensils, all which must prevent the poor man from brewing his own beer at a rate at all approaching in cheapness the rate at which he can purchase it.

Having stated these reasons to show that the consumption of barley would not be materially increased, nor the labouring population materially benefited, allow me to urge some of the evils which would attend the repeal of the malt duty, both to the agriculturist and to the kingdom at large.

According to the present mode of collecting the duty, the Excise allow six months' credit upon receiving security. The maltster who has no capital of his own is thereby enabled to carry on his business with the public money, for he can with the greatest facility convert his barley into malt and his malt into money in much less than six months, and the duty which he has received some months before he is called upon to pay it, becomes his capital, and enables him to pay the farmer for his barley on the first market day after the delivery. But for this arrangement maltsters without capital, and that is by far the greater portion of them, would be unable to carry on their business at all, unless the farmers would give them credit for their barley, and thus subject themselves to the risk of bad debts, which it is not likely that they would be willing, or perhaps able, to do. Another class of persons then possessing large capitals, and fewer in number, would embark in the business of malting, the competition would be destroyed, a larger profit would be exacted, and the price being thereby materially raised, a check would at once be given to any benefit expected to arise from increased consumption. The parties therefore who would be the most profited by the removal of the duty are the opulent maltster and the public brewer.

So, as regards the exportation of ale and porter, it would produce rather an injury than good; for a drawback or rather payment of 5s. per barrel, which is equal to the malt duty, is now allowed on exportation. By as much, therefore, as the price of malt (exclusive of duty) will be increased by the repeal of that duty, by so much will the exportation of ale and porter be checked and discouraged; and the quantities now exported to the British colonies are very considerable, and must have no slight effect upon the price of barley in the markets of Great Britain.

Lastly.—A tax amounting to upwards of 5,000,000l cannot be suddenly withdrawn without great inconvenience to the public service. And surely that inconvenience ought not to be incurred but on the most

conclusive grounds, and with the certainty of attaining objects commensurate with the sacrifice. That the agricultural interest is terribly depressed no one can deny, and it is in my mind equally certain that the repeal of the malt duty would afford no adequate relief. But there is, in my humble opinion, a mode of giving effectual relief which has not yet been publicly adverted to, and which is too intricate to be discussed within the limits of this letter, but which I should rejoice to see under the advocacy of your admired talents and influence and zeal.

I have the honour to be, my Lord,

Your very obedient humble servant,

Bury St. Edmund's, BENJAMIN GREENE,  
March 2.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE HEREFORD TIMES.

Downton.

SIR—In my letter, which appeared in your last number, "*inadvertently*" is printed for "*indirectly*" and I, in consequence, appear to consider myself to have given an opinion, inadvertently, which I subsequently thought erroneous: and I therefore trouble you with another letter.

The advice which I gave to my tenants in this vicinity, and which I thought they had followed with advantage, was, that they should sow less breadth of wheat, and of other corn, and upon ground capable from its condition to afford large crops, and upon such only, my conviction having been, and still being, that at least one-fourth part of the tillage of Herefordshire, and of some other counties, taking the average value of its produce during the last eighteen years, has been tilled during that period with positive loss to the cultivators.

When the price of any article, which is the produce of the country in which it is expended, sinks below its natural value, that is, below the cost of its production, it ceases to be produced; and the consequence generally is, that such article rises in price above its natural value, for a time. The capital which was employed in causing the production of such article is partially, or wholly, withdrawn, and otherwise employed. The effects of an excessively high price operate in every respect in diametrical opposition to this. The very able author of the "*Wealth of Nations*" has compared the variations of price in the market to the oscillations of the pendulum, and has justly observed, that, whatever disturbing cause occasions the pendulum to pass its proper bounds in one direction, will occasion it to pass its proper bounds in the opposite direction. As the pendulum is attracted to the position which places at right angles to the centre of gravity, so the capital manufacturer and farmer is attracted to that kind of occupation where they conceive it can be employed with most advantage. But the price of corn in this country is governed much more by the cost of the production of it in other countries than in this, and therefore, a depression of price, which may ruin the farmer, is without its ordinary corrective. The Corn Bill, which was passed to protect and benefit the farmer, has, in my opinion, been productive of diametrically opposite effects, by having led him, through successive years, to raise an article which has not repaid the cost of its production. To the consumer generally, and to the manufacturer (exclusive, perhaps, of those who work for a foreign market wholly,) the Corn Bill has, I am confident, had the effect of greatly reducing the price of bread,



with a benefit to them; though they have viewed it with very hostile feelings. The panic amongst farmers in the year previous to the passing of the first Corn Bill was so great, at the prospect of being exposed to compete with the untaxed cultivators of the Continent, that I felt strong apprehensions that the decreased quantity of British corn grown would greatly exceed all that of the Continent of Europe and other countries could supply; and at the table of Mr. Dickenson, the then member for Somersetshire, I (who who had never had a bet of two-and-twenty shillings in my life) offered to a gentleman, who differed from me in opinion, to deposit a hundred guineas as a wager, that if a Corn Bill, protective of the British farmer, did not pass within two years, wheat would be sold, within three years, at twenty shillings the bushel. My opponent at first seemed very much disposed to accede to my proposition; but upon hearing the grounds upon which my opinion rested, he declined it.

Our legislators appear to me to have been exceedingly unfortunate in the measures which they have adopted for the benefit of the different classes of society. The Corn Bill, I am quite confident, has been injurious to the agriculturist; and no person will now, I think, have the hardihood to deny, that the Beer-Shops have been injurious alike to the comforts and morals of the labouring classes generally; and, respecting the altered Game Laws, there can scarcely exist two opinions. Respecting this last mentioned, I believe, that many of its clauses were introduced by a party, who were anxious to make it as bad as possible, with the hope of causing it to be rejected; and if such was their motive, I cannot accuse them either of ignorance of the subject, or want of abilities to do mischief. I am not without apprehension of seeing similar evidence of ability in the forthcoming Tithe Commutation Bill. In my last, I contended that, under existing circumstances, the farmer ought to be exonerated from all expenses of repairing roads; but perhaps an exemption from all expenses relative to turnpike-roads is as much as can with convenience and propriety be conceded to him.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

T. A KNIGHT.

## TO THE FARMERS OF FIFE.—THE NEW GRAIN MEASURES.

Gentlemen,—By the late Act of Parliament, it is now made imperative on you to use the *Standard Measures* only, and this under the usual pains and penalties. It is therefore quite evident, that grain measured strictly by the standard in the farmer's barn-floor, will not, after being carted and driven to distance, measure out again. For this there must be a remedy. Either the farmer must allow something in addition to the standard, to make his grain remeasure when delivered,—or the merchant, knowing the weight, must lay his account with a certain sure deficiency of measure, in dealing by the legal standard measures. It remains, therefore, with you to say which is to be the rule. It has been too long the practice among farmers to give something considerably more than the standard,—and it is quite notorious that every farmer is known by his measure, and the merchant proportions his price to it. In this way the *fars* have been very materially affected, and in this lies one of the strongest and most just complaints against the existing mode of striking the *fars*.

The opportunity now occurs of remedying this evil. You have only to comply with the strict letter of the law—to sell only by the standard legal measure, with a reference to weight, and let the merchant run the risk of any deficiency of measure that may arise by cartage, and shape his price accordingly. The price per quarter will by this means be lessened, so will your rents, and you will besides have a greater number of quarters to dispose of. By an irregular course, you raise the *fars* and your own rents, and thereby do gross injustice to yourselves, and to all those who make payments of grain by the *fars*.

A FARMER.

## INSTINCT OF A LIONESS.

A seaman, belonging to a wood-party of a ship upon the coast of Africa, had straggled with his companions, and was using his axe freely in the woods, when a large lioness approached him, face to face. The man, for the first moments, gave himself up for lost; but very soon afterward he began to perceive that the manner and expression of countenance of the lioness was mild, and even mournful, and that he had no danger to apprehend from her. She looked at him, and then behind her, and upward into the trees, and went a few steps from him upon the path by which she came; and then returned, and then went again, and acted, in short, much as a dog would act that wished you to follow him. The seaman yielded to her obvious desire, and she led him some little distance, till, near the foot of a tall tree, she stopped, and looked up, with plaintive cries, into its branches. The seaman, directed by her eyes and gestures, looked upward also, and soon discovered, at a considerable height, an ape, dandling and playing with a cub lion, which he had carried thither for his amusement. The wants and wishes of the lioness were now easily understood. The lion species, though usually reckoned among the species of cat, differ absolutely from it in this, as in many other particulars, that it cannot ascend a tree; a distinction, by the way, which ought to satisfy us at once of the error of those who talk to us of lions in America, where in reality there is no lion, and where the puma and jaguar, which they call lions, so readily ascend a tree. But equally in vain would it have been for the sailor to climb after the cub; for the ape, at the best, would have enjoyed the frolic of leaping with his plaything from branch to branch, or from tree to tree as he approached. The only chance, therefore, was to fell the tree before the ape, seated near its top, should have the sagacity to provide against the effect of the strokes of the axe at its bottom. To work, therefore, he went—the lioness, which had seen other trees fallen by the axe of the stranger, standing by, and impatiently waiting the event. The ape kept his seat till the tree fell, and then fell with it; and the lioness, the moment the robber reached the ground, sprang upon him with the swiftness and sureness of a cat springing upon a mouse, killed him, and then, taking her cub in her mouth, walked contentedly away from the benefactor to whose skill and friendly assistance she had made her sorrowful appeal!

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORWICH MERCURY.

Sir,—A great deal has been said about the importation of Foreign Corn into England through our Channel Islands. My present object is not to defend this, or any other species of smuggling, but only to show that the effects of such importations have been greatly exaggerated. In the last session of Parliament Mr. Heathcote moved for certain returns connected with this subject, and the result is as follows—

The united imports from Guernsey, Jersey, and the Isle of Man, were, of Wheat—

|               | QRS.   |
|---------------|--------|
| In 1831 ..... | 13,895 |
| 1832 .....    | 17,323 |
| 1833 .....    | 25,065 |

Total 56,283

Annual average, 18,761 quarters.

Now, supposing this to be all foreign wheat, will it justify the assertion made by some, and actually believed by many, that the quantity so obtained has been sufficient to produce the present stagnation of prices? 18,000 quarters, (some of which may be of foreign growth,) thus to affect a consumption of 16 millions of quarters! Sir, Tenterden Steeple being the cause of Goodwin Sands, is a fool to it. But the Whigs, we are told, connived at the practice! This is a serious offence to be sure, *if true*; but if *they* are bad, are not the Tories still worse? What were the imports from the same quarter during the three years preceding those I have mentioned—the Tories, observe, being then in power?

|            | QRS.   |
|------------|--------|
| 1828 ..... | 40,929 |
| 1829 ..... | 22,098 |
| 1830 ..... | 32,840 |

Total 95,867

Annual average, 31,955 quarters.

The Tory Ministers, then, it appears, were nearly twice as extensive smugglers as their opponents, and yet not a word is said of their delinquencies; but the moment it *serves a purpose* to raise a cry, either against the late ministry or their supporters, what a torrent of virtuous indignation is forthwith poured against the aiders and abettors of such transactions!

I have said, the cry was raised to *serve a purpose*—I speak advisedly. That purpose has been to get votes in favour of Tory candidates. In some places it has succeeded. To the credit of the West Norfolk farmers it has utterly failed.

Your's, &c.

S. TAYLOR.

Stoke Ferry, March 2, 1835.

Mr. Editor,—As our own county members, and many others, go to Parliament deeply pledged to support the interests of the farmer, and some of them have distinctly promised to vote for the repeal of the Malt Tax, I take the liberty of addressing the follow observations on that subject. In the first place the advocates for the repeal of the Malt Tax expect that in consequence, barley will be permanently advanced at least 10s per qr.; that this is a false notion I will now prove; I ask by what reasoning, and on what grounds, they have come to this conclusion; have they taken into consideration the price at which the Danes, Prussians, and Germans can grow barley (and of as good quality and weight too as we can)? I fear not. I will now state the present prices of

their barley—the very best that can be purchased at their outports, at 14s a quarter, weighing 15 stone 6 lbs neat; freight to the Eastern Coast of England and other expenses not exceeding 4s 6d to 5s per qr., making say 19s, which added to the duty of 13s 10d will be 32s 10d. Now if the German boors can afford to sell their barley in London at 32s 10d, and they can supply any quantity, is it probable that an advance of even 2s to 3s per qr. can take place, the present average for the country being 32s. You must bear in mind that by the corn law, as it now stands, an advance of 1s a quarter is a reduction of 1s 6d in the duty on foreign barley, an advantage of 50 per cent. in favour of the foreign grower. Why not at once advocate an alteration in the corn law, viz. for barley to work up in the same scale of duties as wheat; this, on a repeal of the Malt Tax, would be a certain and great relief to the farmer; the whole of the five millions that the tax raises would then go into the pockets of our own farmers, whereas, without a prior alteration in the corn law scale of duties, the foreign grower would get at least four-fifths of the amount; the advocating the repeal of the Malt Tax *before* an alteration in the corn law, is putting the cart before the horse; it may be said that barley growers would be the *only parties* benefited, I deny that, a great breadth of barley would be sown, and consequently less wheat, which would bring about an advance in that article, as there would be less wheat grown to be pressed upon the markets. It is also urged that an advance in price is not the only benefit to the farmer that would follow from the repeal of the Malt Tax; the farmer would make his own malt, and the labourer would brew eight or ten gallons of ale in his own cottage copper; I don't believe either would be the case; in the first place, it would not be worth the farmer's while to manufacture, even if he possessed a drying kiln, the little malt he would use as he could buy it cheaper; and I would ask, how is it possible for a labourer existing on the low pittance of 9s a week in winter, and 12s in summer, to save enough to purchase the hops and malt to brew with? If a bushel of malt cost 8s now, and only 5s then, would a labourer with only three-pence to spend, and that is as much, and sometimes more, than they have to spare in the week, be able to buy it? Suppose he could get the malt and hops, two-thirds of them would not work until the ale was finished. It is also well known to practical farmers and all who have paid any attention to the present condition of agricultural labourers, that those men who drink the least beer are decidedly the best servants. The reason is this,—the farmer is so situated that he can't afford more wages to his labourer than will suffice to buy him meat, (letting alone drink) to keep body and soul together,—and those who spend their small earnings in drink apply to the parish for bread and beef, and so become drunken paupers and bad servants; but notwithstanding, I should like to see the time when every able bodied man could buy his quart of ale a day. The greatest consumption of malt takes place in towns, and not in agricultural districts; there are hundreds of farming labourers in this country who don't taste malt liquor from one week's end to another, and it matters little to them whether ale is 2d or 4d a quart if they cannot procure it. As parliament are now meeting, I would particularly urge upon all agricultural associations to petition for an alteration in the corn laws (to the effect that barley should work upon the same scale of duties as wheat,) as well as for the repeal of the Malt Tax. I am quite sure that the repeal of the malt duties *alone* will be of no benefit to the *English* farmer.

I remain, Sir, Your's &c.

Horncastle.

A MERCHANT.



## ON THE USE OF THE STIRRUP IN RIDING.

On this subject (the stirrup) the riding-master preaches the absurd doctrine, or rather the monstrous paradox, that the stirrup adds no safety to the seat—that, in fact, it is a useless appendage, and yet he is never without it! But, adds he, if we are to use the stirrup, let it be as long as possible, and merely the toe or ball of the foot placed in it. Now in direct contradiction, we say, let the stirrup be sufficiently short that you can rise in it so as to clear the pommel of the saddle fairly, and the foot placed in it home—that is, quite up to the instep, or as far as possible—by which, when seated in the saddle, the knee will be considerably bent, and thus that strong lateral pressure or adhesion to the side of the horse, and consequently safety, are acquired, which cannot be accomplished by any other means. If, according to the directions of the professed but unreflecting riding-master, we are to extend our lower extremities to almost a perpendicular position by means of the long stirrup, as the muscles of the thigh and the leg are extended also, and the otherwise powerful knee joint deprived of its compressive strength, we are rendered incapable of effective lateral pressure, and very liable to rupture, from the lowest and weakest part of the body being thus brought to press an unnatural weight upon the saddle; to say nothing of the looseness of such a position, and the consequent insecurity of the seat.

An officer who had served many years in a dragoon regiment in India informed us that the native horsemen of the enemy rode with much shorter stirrups than our cavalry, and, in consequence, although they were smaller and weaker men, they could reach much farther, and cut much more powerfully with their swords. In the use of the lance or spear, they derived a similar superiority, from the same cause. It will be asked by the unreflecting, perhaps, how it happened, then, that the cavalry in question were uniformly vanquished? Because in the approved art of war, these Eastern soldiers are universally inferior to their European opponents: their knowledge of engineering is very imperfect, nor can they act in bodies with a prospect of success against their white antagonists; in desultory warfare they are formidable, and in single combat the Indian cavalry is superior to our dragoons.

Again, if we look at the hunter, we find he uses the stirrup; for how else could he restrain the impetuosity of his fiery steed when the fox goes away? how hold him together, and prevent him labouring through mirey lanes, heavy ground, and green fallows? how put him at awkward jumps, and steady himself and his horse over them? how lift and support him when distressed? Who will be hardy enough to say that these observations will not apply strongly to military equitation? Even in riding a journey, should chafing occur (which generally arises from the stirrup being too long), if the stirrup be shortened the horseman will derive the greatest relief.

Our cavalry are taught to leap; and it might be asked, how the men contrive to avoid a tumble if their seat be so loose? In the first place, it must be recollected, that a leap in a riding school is something like a mechanical operation; and so long as the horse takes the bar fairly the balance is sufficient to keep the rider in his seat; but should the animal refuse, swerve, or take the leap awkwardly, the inefficacy of the long stirrup becomes apparent; the rider looses one or both stirrups, and is unseated, if not thrown.

The English horse is acknowledged to be the finest

animal of his tribe in the world; our cavalry are mounted upon horses immeasurably superior to those of any other country; our horses are handsomer, larger, much more powerful, and much fleetier than those of our continental neighbours. We are of opinion that similar remarks will apply to our men; yet these overwhelming advantages have never become so decidedly and so conspicuously manifest, as might have been very reasonably expected; and for no other reason than that they have been neutralized by the position in which the military horseman has been compelled to ride.—*United Service Journal*.

## AGRICULTURE.

Previously to the year 1806, when all restrictions on the corn trade between Ireland and Great Britain were abolished, the imports of corn from the former to the latter did not exceed 400,000 qrs. (Parnell on Finance, p. 66.) The imports of grain and meal, reduced to quarters, from the same country, in 1832 amounted to no less than 3,100,000 qrs.; while the yearly increasing number of horses, oxen, cows, swine—and the immense quantity of butter, barrelled beef, bacon, hams, &c., &c. give an aggregate of agricultural produce brought hither from a section of the empire almost entirely free from direct taxation, and unrated to the poor, which would alone account for the great and progressive depreciation in England of similar productions grown here. The average price of wheat in Dec. 1830, was 66s 6d; in Dec. 1831, 55s 2d; in 1833, 48s 5d; in 1834, 41s 1d: this rapid depreciation has taken place in the face of an increasing population and an absence (or nearly so) of foreign and colonial grain; for though there have been importations from Canada, and to a small extent, a fraudulent introduction of foreign corn through the Isle of Man, these are really little more than as a drop of water in the bucket, compared with the regular weekly inundations of agricultural produce from Ireland. Accordingly, we have long entertained the opinion that British farmers are not sufficiently alive to the great injury perpetrated upon them by the non-introduction of poor-laws into that country; they have petitioned with great unanimity and perseverance for the continuance of the corn-laws—for the abolition of the malt-tax—and for a commutation of tithes; while the absence of poor-laws in Ireland, a country containing at once the richest soil and the most wretched population in the world, is a subject which they seem to think or care little or nothing about; and yet it is a subject perhaps of greater importance to them than any single one of the others, great as that single one may be. There is a laboured article against Irish poor-laws in the *Edinburgh Review* of April, 1834, which we read the other day for the purpose of seeing what the ingenuity of some subtle casuist could devise to say against them; and here we must acknowledge our disappointment at seeing but the old arguments of Mr. O'Connell, which Dr. Doyle had long since triumphantly refuted, brought up afresh, and with as much confidence as if the refutation had been unwritten or unremembered. Mr. O'Connell had the audacity to avow that *his object* was to create mischief, misery, and discontent in England by driving over vast hordes of his squalid half-starved countrymen to jostle against our native labourers and work against them for under-wages. This, though a base and selfish, is at least an intelligible principle. The *Edinburgh Reviewer* objects to the introduction of poor-laws into Ireland, having pre-

viously formed for himself a revolting and fantastic theory that the establishment of any legalized provision on which the poor may rely in case of infirmity, old age, or inability to find employment, is morally and politically injurious, because it tends, they say, to dry up the sources of private benevolence among the wealthy, to sever the ties of domestic attachment among the poor, and to lead them to idleness and improvidence. The state of society in England is a standing proof of the fallacy of these allegations:—

1. Private benevolence with us is always flowing through a thousand unseen channels, fed from a thousand never-failing springs.
2. The privations which our poor are daily undergoing to prevent a separation of the members of their families is evidence of the strength of their domestic attachments.
3. Here, where poor-laws do exist, numberless societies of the working classes, formed for the support of their respective members in times of sickness, age, and distress, are also found, while in Ireland, where there is no system of poor-laws to "encourage idleness and improvidence," there is not a single society of the sort in existence! The Edinburgh Reviewer aims to be witty: "from the same lips we hear a bitter condemnation of the poor-laws in England, and an eager advocacy of their introduction into Ireland."

"Numberless have been the preparations made to alter the principle or correct the administration of poor-laws in South Britain. *Bills* have been presented to Parliament in as great abundance as by *tradesmen at Christmas*—chairmen have reported—the very short-hand writers have been run out of breath—Pitt, Whitbread, Sturges Bourne, Scarlett, and many others, have toiled for years, and find none," &c. &c. Thus, putting his principle in abeyance for a moment, in order to sport a very ill-timed pun, an inference is endeavoured to be forced upon us that, because able and wise men may not have agreed in any one entire system of poor-laws, therefore no system can be good. This comes with an exceedingly bad grace from the *Edinburgh Review*: it is nothing more than the old argument hashed up again, or rather the old taunt of the Tories which that journal has exposed a hundred times over, against Parliamentary Reform—"You, gentlemen Reformers, cannot agree upon any plan among yourselves, and where are we to find a stronger proof that it is impossible to devise one which shall not merit the contempt of all wise men?" And yet the impossibility has been overcome, and if the adopted measure of reform is not perfect, yet it has raised our national character and is daily diffusing national benefits. The administration of the old system of poor-laws in England, we all know was very bad; and the new system is not yet in full operation, but the Reviewer has wilfully violated an old and excellent maxim, "*ab abusa ad usum non valet consequentia*," and he might as well have argued against Christianity itself from the corruptions with which different sects and churches have polluted its pure, its holy, and its heavenly spirit, as against a legalized provision for the poor of Ireland in all cases of absolute and proved necessity, from the abuses which may have prevailed in the administration of such a legalized provision here. That strong part of the argument which advocates the *right* of the poor of every country to derive a maintenance by the sweat of their brow from the soil which gave them birth, as it does not strictly come within the province of this article to notice, we must reluctantly, and for the sake of brevity, forego, and confine ourselves to what more immediately belongs to it. At the same time we

do not hesitate to affirm, as an abstract principle, as a fundamental position anterior to all human law and superior to it, that the earth, being a gift from God to man, is therefore as much the common property of mankind as the atmosphere which surrounds it, and consequently that every human being born upon it has as much right to a share of its fruits, when earned by his toil, as the first-born man had to the whole of them. "If it be proved," says Dr. Doyle, "and I contend that it has been proved, that from the attributes of God, the nature of man, and the admitted principles upon which all society is founded—if it be proved from these that the poor in every civilized state should be rescued from the pressure of extreme want, it is an error against reason, it is a crime against morality, and an impiety against God to leave them to perish or to withhold from them the necessaries of life." Now, the Irish poor are thus left to perish in the land of their nativity, and in very mockery of their condition, they have often been left to perish in the midst of plenty raised by their own hands; and it is the absence, as Mr. Poulett Scrope truly says in his "Letter to the Agriculturists of the West of England," of any law compelling the landholders to keep their peasantry from starving, which enables them to exact from the latter every atom of the produce of their labour upon the soil, except the dry potatoes on which they support a miserable existence. It may be added, a very precarious existence too, for they are overtaken by a famine every three or four years from the failure of the potato crop, when sea-weed drifted from the shore, the bark of trees, nettle leaves, and every sort of garbage become the substitute for human food, and are greedily swallowed to allay the pangs of hunger. But it is untrue that "from the same lips we hear a bitter condemnation of the poor laws in England and an eager advocacy of *their introduction into Ireland*." No one ever recommended the introduction of the unamended system of English poor laws into Ireland, which is disingenuously implied in the assertion. It is a system which we demand; some system or other better adapted probably to the genius, feelings, and manners of that country, than our own amended but yet untried code would be; but a system which should remove the muzzle from the ox that treadeth out the corn, and which should make the Irish landlords relax their gripe upon their poor tenants. What has kept up the rate of agricultural wages in England to double the rate of wages in Ireland, except our poor laws, bad as they may be? The free communication and transit of labourers between these two sections of the empire, now infinitely facilitated by steam carriage, has an inevitable tendency to bring the wages of both to a level. The condition of the Irish labourer, therefore, must either be raised to a level with that of the English, or the English labourer must be lowered to the level of the Irish. In the worst of times our labourer gets his eighteen-pence a-day while the Irishman gets from 4d to 10d and the landlord pockets the difference. We pay from 6s to 9s an acre poor's-rate, while the Irish farmer pays no rate at all! That we are beaten in our own markets is the natural result, and the nation is not benefited by it. We have corn cheaper it is true; but in the long run, a nation cannot be benefited by the operation of unequal laws and by the partial exemption of one section of it from what ought to be a common burden upon the whole. If otherwise, justice is an idle and unmeaning name, no longer a virtue, but a cheat, and assuming its semblance for the purpose of betraying. Indirectly, the British farmer and the British tradesman do ac.



tually pay a poor's-rate for the Irish landlord. The hordes of hungry poor which cross the channel and land upon our shores are employed to the exclusion of our own poor, who receive parochial relief in idleness. And is this from the inability of Irish landlords to find employment for them at home? What says Dr. Doyle, who sketched a plan for the legalized relief of his countrymen when in extreme distress? "I propose to exclude from relief, except in times of extraordinary distress, those who are able to work, because I know the improvements which can instantly be commenced on the soil and navigation of Ireland would give employment to all her industrious people." We say at once, then, to our brother farmers, petition the legislature from all parts of the country for the introduction of poor-laws into Ireland, for the absence of them is an act of gross injustice to you, and has pressed more heavily upon your interests than any other single grievance whatever. It must not be admitted as an objection that agriculture has flourished in England notwithstanding the absence of poor-laws in Ireland, and therefore the want of them cannot be the cause of its depression now. The imports from Ireland have increased upon us of late years almost in a geometric ratio, and they will continue to do so while capital can be so much more advantageously invested in Irish than in English agriculture, in consequence of the exemption from that heavy rate which oppresses us, and that unequal law which shifts the Irishman's burden upon the Englishman's shoulders. But we are exceeding our due limits, and must pause.

There is no improvement in the prices of wheat and barley: the malt-trade is almost paralyzed by uncertainty as to the repeal of the duty, and brewers keep themselves aloof from the market. The month of February has been mild, with very frequent and heavy gales of wind, and a fall of more rain than we have had for many months before. Indeed the operations of ploughing and carting have been occasionally suspended by it on heavy soils; but the earth will be much better fitted to receive spring-seed than if the drought had continued without relief. We know an entire parish near us, (Hingham, Norfolk) where a week ago there was not a single well from which a pail of water could be drawn; the inhabitants were fortunate in being able to supply themselves with water from their mere. At this season of the year we may expect the markets to be scantily supplied with grain, as every farmer will be busily employed during the next two months: a slight rise in prices, as old Moore the almanac maker, would say, may therefore be expected *about this time*, rather *more or less*, according to the conjunction or opposition of the planets.

## PHRENITIS IN CATTLE.

(From the Veterinarian.)

The Frenzy or Sough in cattle is too well known to the farmer and the practitioner. There are generally at first much oppression and heaviness; the animal can scarcely be induced to move; the eyes protrude and are red; the respiration is hurried, and delirium more or less intense rapidly succeeds. The beast rushes at every thing in its way—it mischievously selects its objects—it is in incessant action, galloping about with its tail arched—staggering—falling—bellowing hideously—its skin sticking to its ribs, and the sensibility of the spine exceedingly increased. There is, even in health, a peculiar formation of the eye, or a sensibility of the retina to cer-

tain colours, which makes the beast dislike a brilliant red: under this disease it excites him to the highest pitch of fury.

If, however, the previous oppression and stupidity are much less in the ox than in the horse, so is the succeeding violence increased; not even a rabid ox is a more fearful animal; and it is somewhat difficult to distinguish between the two diseases. There will probably be some history of a previous bite belonging to the rabid ox; and in the early stage, although there may be lowness or oppression, there is nothing like apoplexy or want of consciousness. Besides, with greater fury there is more method in the madness of the rabid than the phrenitic ox. The latter will run at every thing which presents itself, but it is a sudden impulse. The former will, like the horse, plot mischief; he will endeavour to lure his victims within his reach. A much greater quantity of foam will be discharged from the mouth of the rabid than the phrenitic ox.

The causes are much the same as those of apoplexy—too stimulating food and too great redundancy of blood, to which may be added some immediately exciting cause, as hard and rapid work in sultry weather, over-driving, &c. In the neighbourhood of London too many instances of phrenitis occur from the latter cause. It once used to be the sport of brutes in human shape to excite it by selecting a beast from the herd, and driving it furiously from street to street.

The post-mortem appearances in the ox are always characteristic of the disease. The vessels of the cerebrum, the cerebellum, and the spinal chord, are highly injected—the membranes of the three are also loaded with blood. The lateral ventricles are distended with a serous fluid. The fourth stomach and the small intestines usually exhibit the most decided traces of inflammatory action. To a certain extent, however, and sometimes to a degree almost inconceivable, the whole venous system is gorged with black blood. The ox has, comparatively, more blood in him than the horse.

As to the treatment of phrenitis in cattle, there is some difficulty. Is any treatment practicable? Is human life to be hazarded? Cases will occur in which the bullet will be the best remedy; but then the flesh may be in such a congested state that it cannot be sold. If the beast can be managed or approached during a momentary remission of the symptoms, bleeding should be attempted; and if a vein can be opened, it should be suffered to bleed on as long as it will. Physic, if it can be given, will be indicated. Sometimes the beast labours under an insatiable thirst; and as his taste is not very exquisite now, he may be cheated with water in which Epsom salts have been dissolved. If there is time to get down a hornful of drink, a scruple or half a drachm of the farina of the croton nut may be administered, mixed with a little gruel. All other medicines are completely out of the question. If bleeding and physic will not save the ox, nothing will. Use should also be made of any temporary respite to confine the animal; or, if possible, to get him into some place where he cannot do much harm to himself or to any one else. Some persons have recommended setons of the black hellebore root inserted into the dewlap, and when these begin to act, they do generally act most tremendously; but the animal will have recovered, or he will be dead before the seton can have any influence. The frenzy being subdued, the next consideration is, what is to be done with the beast. No more dependance can be placed on him than on one that had recovered from a fit of apoplexy. The purging system should be continued to a mode-

rate degree; and the fever medicine given to abate the quickness of the circulation; and then, when the congested blood is got pretty well out of the system, and the vessels have got rid of their superfluous blood, and the flesh looks well, the sooner the beast is disposed of the better.

## COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

CHITTENDEN v. RICHARDS.

Mr. Serjeant SPANKIE stated the case to the Jury.—The plaintiff, Mr. Jeremiah Chittenden, is a hop-merchant, residing in the borough of Southwark, and the defendant was Mr. John Richards, the Member for Knaresborough, who is also engaged in the hop trade. In the month of June, 1834, the parties had entered into a contract, by which Richards, in consideration of the sum of one hundred guineas to be by him paid to the plaintiff, engaged to purchase from him 120 bags of hops, at the rate of 8*l.* per cwt.; defendant, however, reserving to himself the right of declining the bargain, by giving notice to that effect on or before the 12th of July. These species of contracts, it appeared, were not uncommon among hop-merchants. On defendant being applied to after the 12th of July, he had refused to purchase the hops according to his agreement, and this action was brought to recover damages for the breach of contract.

John Chittenden examined by Mr. KELLY: Was the son of the plaintiff; his father had a quantity of hops in June, 1834; the price of hops then was from 7*l.* 7*s.* to 8*l.* per cwt.; the hops were not in his father's warehouse, they were at Mr. Collett's, in the Borough.

John Collett examined: Was a hop-merchant; knew the plaintiff, who had applied to him (witness) for a loan of some money in the month of March, 1834; he advanced plaintiff 1,222*l.* 12*s.*, plaintiff leaving with him 120 bags of hops as a security; the money was to be repaid in six instalments; he had advanced about four guineas per cwt. upon them.

Cross-examined by Mr. Serjeant WILDE: It was not a bought and sold transaction, it was a loan; he was aware of the contract between Chittenden and Richards; he saw the agreement between them two days after it was dated; it was left in his (witness's) possession; the hops continued in his warehouses till the present time; no application for them was ever made by Mr. Richards; he of course expected that the money he had advanced on the hops should be repaid him before he delivered them up; could not say that he was interested in the result of this trial; of course he wanted his money.

George Denman examined: Was clerk to the preceding witness; saw Mr. Richards on the 19th of July, in consequence of instructions he had received from Mr. Collett; Chittenden did not accompany him that time; his instructions from his master were, that if Mr. Richards would sign a paper, binding himself to take the hops at four months credit, and give five per cent. discount, he was to have them. Mr. Richards refused to do so.

Cross-examined by Mr. Serjeant WILDE: Did not remember that he had told Mr. Richards that the hops were the property of his master; thought they were his master's property; would not swear that he had not told defendant so; had a faint recollection of something of the sort having been said.

Several witnesses were then examined to prove

that the price of hops had fallen considerably after the 12th of July.

Mr. Serjeant WILDE addressed the Jury for the defence. He said, the truth was, plaintiff never was in a condition to deliver the hops; they were not in his possession, he had no control over them, as they were the bona fide property of Mr. Collett, as long as the money advanced upon them remained unpaid. Defendant had no right to be forced to enter into two contracts; he had made one with the plaintiff, and by that he abided, and did not see any reason why he should be compelled to enter into a second with Mr. Collett.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE summed up. The only points for the Jury to consider, were very short and very simple; they were, first, whether plaintiff had ever actually had the means of delivering up the hops to the defendant; and, second, whether such tender of them had ever been made. A person who had entered into a contract with A, could not be held to be obliged to enter into a fresh contract with B, to render the former one available.

The Jury, after a deliberation of upwards of an hour and a half, returned a verdict for the defendant.

## MIDDLESEX SESSIONS, MARCH 5.

### APPEALS.—IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.

Samuel Welch, a farmer, of Walthamstow, appealed against a conviction of Thomas Halls, Esq., for passing through a turnpike-gate at Clapton, without paying toll.

Mr. BODKIN, for the respondents, who are the contractors for the roads, said the only question the Court had to determine was the construction of the 32 sect. c. 126, of the Act 3 George IV., commonly called the General Turnpike Act. The short facts of the case were, the appellant, a farmer, claimed exemption from toll for hay, the produce of his own land, not intended for sale; this was admitted, but he also claimed a right to return toll-free with his cart loaded with manure. The words of the act, after naming a variety of articles exempt from toll, were "only once in the same day." He, therefore, contended that as the appellant's cart had carried one of the articles exempt in the morning, on its return loaded with another article it was liable to toll.

The CHAIRMAN—But both articles are exempted from toll under the act.

Mr. BODKIN—Yes, but the difference is that they were both carried in one cart on the same day, which was contrary to the terms of the act.

Mr. CLARKSON, for the appellant, argued that if a man sent out two carts on the same day, one empty and the other loaded, the empty one might return loaded, and the loaded one empty, and both would be exempt from toll. It would be an injustice so to construe the act as to prevent the poor man who had but one cart, from the exercise of the same privilege with his richer neighbour. The act was intended for the benefit of the agriculturist, but this would be a gross perversion of its meaning.

After a lengthened discussion the Court divided, when there appeared for confirming the conviction three, and against it two. Conviction confirmed.

### THE DECISION REVERSED.

RAPHEAL, APPELLANT—HALLS, RESPONDENT.

This was an appeal by Lewis Raphael, the bro-



ther of the Sheriff of London, against a conviction in a case where the question was precisely the same as last.

Several other magistrates having entered the Court, the Counsel on both sides agreed to leave the question to be stated by the Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN, after stating the facts to his brother magistrates, said he regretted that a difference of opinion existed between that Court on a former occasion, and the magistrates below, Mr. Halls, of Bow-street, having continued to convict after the Court had decided the question by quashing a conviction of precisely the same nature; the Court, however, had just come to a different conclusion on the second appeal, a third was now before them, and the question was still open for discussion.

Mr. LAURIE said, that having read the clause in question, he was of opinion that the Court were bound to construe it in its most liberal meaning for the benefit of the agriculturist. (*Hear, hear.*)

After some further discussion the Court again divided, when there appeared for the appellant nine votes, and for the respondent three; and the conviction was ACCORDINGLY QUASHED.

Mr. Welch, the former appellant, then applied to the Court, and said that he thought himself hardly dealt with; he was a poor man, and the penalty would defray the toll for twenty years.

Mr. BODKIN, on the part of the respondents, consented to abandon their half of the penalty and costs.

### MALT DUTY.

#### A RETURN OF THE NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS UNDER THE MALT LAWS IN EACH OF THE THREE KINGDOMS, IN EACH OF THE LAST FOUR YEARS.

| NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS UNDER THE MALT LAWS IN |        | ENGLAND. SCOTLAND. IRELAND. |        | Total number of Prosecutions United Kingdom. |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|--------|----------------------------------------------|
| Years ended                                   | Total. | Total.                      | Total. |                                              |
| 5th Jan.                                      |        |                             |        |                                              |
| 1832                                          | 216    | 344                         | 56     | 610                                          |
| 1833                                          | 219    | 403                         | 36     | 658                                          |
| 1834                                          | 207    | 425                         | 58     | 690                                          |
| 1835                                          | 238    | 355                         | 61     | 653                                          |

G. A. COTTRELL, First General Accountant.

Excise Office, London, March 7, 1835.

#### A RETURN OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF MALTSTERS IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, AND IRELAND, RESPECTIVELY.

|          |        |
|----------|--------|
| England  | 12,503 |
| Scotland | 1,139  |
| Ireland  | 383    |

The United Kingdom.... 14,025

G. A. COTTRELL, First General Accountant.

Excise Office, London, March 7, 1835.

#### A RETURN OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF, AND EXPENSES OF THE OFFICERS EMPLOYED IN THE COLLECTION OF THE MALT DUTY, AND OF THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF SAVING WHICH COULD BE EFFECTED IN THE EVENT OF THE REPEAL OF THAT DUTY.

No separate return of the number and expenses of the officers employed in the collection of the malt duty can be given, as the surveys are so arranged as to comprehend the charging of duty under several heads; and with regard to the possible saving to be effected in the event of the repeal of the malt duty, no estimate on this subject can be relied on as altogether correct.

In order, however, to comply with the terms of the order as closely as possible, an estimate has been attempted; and supposing that the survey on brewers (which is continued as a protection to the malt duty) were at the same time wholly abandoned, the repeal of the malt duty *might possibly* admit of the discontinuance of

107 Supervisors, at £200...£ 21,400

1,250 Officers, at £100..... 125,000

—£146,400

by enlarging the remaining districts and rides, making a saving in salaries of 146,000*l* per annum; but as the increased size of the remaining districts, &c., would necessarily very largely increase the expenses of the supervisors, some corresponding extra allowance would be called for, which would go to diminish the amount of saving obtained from the discontinuance of salaries.

It is to be observed, that the immediate saving would not amount to the above sum, as an allowance of half-pay to the officers dropped must be granted to them until they could be absorbed into the other branches of the service, as vacancies occur.

The half-pay would amount to..... £73,200

G. A. COTTRELL, First Gen. Acct.  
Excise Office, March 7, 1835.

CONSUMPTION. — A young lady in the last stages of consumption was lately restored to her health by the following extraordinary and accidental remedy:—She had long been attended by the faculty, but derived no benefit from their prescriptions, and considered herself verging to the end of her existence, when she retired during the summer to a vale in the country, with the intention to wait in solitude the hour of her approaching dissolution. While in that situation, it was her custom to rise as early as her malady would permit, and contemplate the beauties of nature and the wonderful works of God from her chamber window, from which she observed a dog belonging to the house, with scarcely any flesh on his bones, constantly go and lick the dew off a camomile bed in the garden; in doing which the animal was noticed to alter in appearance, to recover strength and, finally, to look plump and well. The singularity of the circumstance was impressed strongly on the lady's mind, and induced her to try what effect might be produced from following the dog's example. She accordingly procured the dew from the same bed of camomile, drank a small quantity each morning, and after continuing it some time experienced some relief; her appetite became regular, and she found a return of spirits, and in the end was completely cured.

DAYS OF GRACE.—Different customs prevail in different countries with regard to the grace allowed on notes. In the United States three days are allowed; in London, three days; Turin, five; Amsterdam, six; Copenhagen, eight; Paris, ten; Hamburg, twelve; Madrid, fourteen; and Geneva, thirty; while in St. Petersburg, Leghorn, Lyons, Leipsic, and some other cities, no days of grace are allowed.

NEW POOR LAW BILL.—The advantages of the poor law amendment act have been strongly exemplified at Brighton, where a very considerable saving has been effected in the expenditure of the parish funds, while the poor are also in a better state. The sum collected for the relief of the poor in 1832 was 28,323*l* 13*s*; in 1834 it amounted to no more than 15,829*l* 9*s* 8*d*, leaving a saving of 12,494*l* 3*s* 4*d* per annum.

## RETROSPECT OF THE WOOLLEN TRADE.

The activity which our markets began to experience shortly after the commencement of the new year has suffered but little fluctuation since, but continues to prevail at the present moment with every prospect of permanency. The character of this activity is not less gratifying than its degree, since it appears to spring from a demand not for purposes of speculation, but real and effective, having the supply for actual consumption as its immediate object. Hence we do not find that goods accumulate at any point of their transition, but that they move forward from hand to hand with a readiness which causes the like animation to be felt along the entire line of operations connecting manufacturer with consumer. The accounts from London represent that woollens are almost the only branch of manufactures in a state of briskness there, and the stocks of wool in that market are said to have been reduced more than half within the last month. This state of things indicates the rapid progress which has been made towards the restoration of confidence since prices became moderate and steady, but as it is one which offers no inducement for speculative adventure, we must be prepared for the uneasiness of individuals who find their occupation gone, and are therefore anxious to promote another change which may enable them to resume it: we need not be surprised if a stray lamentation should here and there be vented that amidst all this seeming prosperity there is yet "no improvement in prices." Of the sort of improvement sought we need not doubt. Advance is meant. Nor need we look far back for an example of its effect. We improved wonderfully in the last six months of 1833, and we were at the point of perfection just twelve months ago, when our trade, unfortunately, came to a complete stand-still. It was very perverse of the trade so to do. Dr. Sangrado's patients were equally perverse when they chose to die just at the critical moment when the drinking of another gallon of water and the loss of another pint of blood would have cured them—Our "improvement in price" Doctors practice the bleeding system also, and sometimes, it must be admitted, with tolerable advantage—to themselves—but as to the water-drinking part of the process, they leave it to Mr. Livesey—of Preston.

As little need we be surprised at the questionable shape in which these lamentations will sometimes insinuate themselves upon our attention. A person who has an interested purpose to serve at all risks will not be very scrupulous in his employment of means. Let one of this class but get himself placed "squat, like a toad," at the ear of some well-chosen purveyor of public information, and it is odds, as Lord Brougham would say, that he finds him ready moulded to suit his purposes upon public credulity. Such persons there are in existence to whom the support of a theory is the "vindication of a principle," and who recognise in a state of advancing prices a state of perfect optimism under which all is for the best. In what shape the squatter might start up if we could have him "touched lightly" with the spear of another Ithuriel—whether in that of a manufacturer or a wool dealer, is more than we will venture to speculate upon. We will say, however, that if ever there was a time when the trade of this district was in a sound and healthy state, that time is the present. The clothiers sell their goods as fast as they produce them, and obtain satisfactory remunera-

tion for their outlay and labour; but what is all this to the high price optimist? He turns his face to the wall, and will not be comforted; how should he, since there is "no improvement in prices?"

From official accounts which have just been published of comparative imports and exports in the years 1833 and 1834, we extract the following view:—

|                                                                 | Years ending 5th Jan.         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|                                                                 | 1834. 1835.                   |
| Quantity of foreign wool imported into the United Kingdom . . . | lbs. 88,046,087 .. 46,455,422 |
| Do. retained for home consumption                               | lbs. 39,153,463 .. 41,113,448 |
| Duty paid on foreign wool . . .                                 | £ 138,280 .. 131,685          |
| Foreign and Colonial wool exported,                             | lbs. 442,696 .. 807,362       |
| English wool exported, declared value . . .                     | £ 332,504 .. 191,979          |
| Woollen goods exported, ditto . . .                             | £ 6,540,636 .. 5,975,657      |

It will be seen from this statement that the imports of foreign wool last year exceeded those of the preceding year by nearly eight and a half millions of pounds weight, and it will be recollected, at the same time, that the quantity imported was more by one-half in 1833 than in 1832, so that, comparing the latter year with 1834, we have an augmented import, in two years, of about twenty millions of pounds upon about twenty-six millions! Let those who like to speculate on a scarcity of foreign wool for the supply of our manufacturers take this fact along with them.

We cannot exactly account for the apparent discrepancy between the quantity of wool imported and the amount of duty paid thereon last year. The prices of wool for the greater part of last year were too high to allow us to suppose that a larger proportion than usual would come in at the  $\frac{3}{4}$ d per lb. duty; and at the 1d. per lb duty the 6,595*l.* diminution of amount, would represent a quantity of 1,582,800 lbs.; so that if we take the rate of duty to have been proportionately the same in the two years, this quantity must be added to the excess of import in 1834 to find the quantity warehoused in bond on the 5th January last, and the total stock so warehoused must in such case have been about ten millions of pounds weight. We cannot imagine this to be the proper way of explaining the difference, and are yet unable to account for it otherwise, unless, indeed, we assume that the importations from our colonies, duty free, have been so much augmented as not only to account for the general excess, but also to compensate for a deficiency from other parts; and, after all, this may be the true solution. It will, however, be seen that the quantity retained for home consumption in 1834 exceeded that of 1833 by about two million pounds only, so that the excess of import being eight millions and a half, we have, at all events, about six and a half millions of that excess unappropriated, and this part of the statement being lbs. against lbs., we apprehend there can be no mistake. The quantity of foreign and colonial wool exported is too unimportant to affect the comparison materially.

The next point which claims our notice in this statement, is the comparative value of English wool exported in the year 1834, which appears to have been little more than half of that of 1833.

The trade in English wool is an enigma somewhat difficult of solution. Whilst foreign wools, in the course of the last nine months, have fallen so considerably, and accommodated themselves so completely to the general state of trade in manufactured goods, English wools have remained, and still remain, at most extravagant prices. Foreign wools at 3*s.* per lb. have fallen to 2*s.*,



whilst English wools at 2s. have scarcely fallen at all, and it has been usual to ascribe this effect mainly to the demand which exists for foreign supply. Now, we have often stated, and we do not hesitate to repeat what we have stated, that of the produce of the last clip, not more than one-half the usual proportion has been worked up in this country up to the present period. It appears also that little more than one-half the usual quantity has been exported during the past year. What, then, has become of the surplus? In the emphatic language of penny-a-lineism, we pause for a reply. In the meantime we may express an opinion, which we believe is becoming very rife amongst the consumers of English wools, that some great and sudden depression in the article is inevitable. Foreign wools are now employed extensively to purposes for which English wools used formerly to enjoy a monopoly. Considerable stocks must be in existence somewhere, and the longer they are allowed to accumulate, the greater must be their ultimate pressure upon the market. We should not be at all surprised if, in the course of the next three years, the prices of English wools fall to little more than one-half what they are at this present moment.

Let it not be supposed that we speak of a contingency which has never before been realised. In 1825, the famous, or the infamous bubble year, a certain sort of English wool, which three years before had stood at 10*l.* per pack, reached 18*l.* and ruined most of the purchasers at such price. In 1829 it fell again to about its former level. That same sort, however, during the past year rose to 26*l.* per pack, and 18*l.* are yet asked for it at this moment. Are we then unreasonable in surmising that, under existing circumstances, it may again fall to 10*l.*? That state of excitement which is intermittent with the mercantile community, each successive fitful change occupying but a short interval, becomes a chronic disorder when it once attacks the English wool-grower; he hears from afar, in his rural retreat, that an advance in prices has taken place, but he is unacquainted with the evanescent nature of the circumstances which have produced that advance, and probably by the very time that he acquires his knowledge those circumstances have ceased to operate. The opening of foreign markets, consequent upon the peace in 1814, brought in a mass of competition against him, but still he remained obstinate, and in the years 1832 and 1833 wools were brought to market the accumulated produce of fifteen to twenty years, half of it rotten and almost valueless. Such is the consequence of inattention to the signs of the times, and such result we must expect again, unless the English wool-growers open their eyes to what is passing about them.

We leave one item in the official account without remark for the present. It connects itself with the subject of our foreign trade upon which we have already promised to offer our views, but we are again constrained to postpone them to a future opportunity.

Upon looking more minutely into the public accounts of imports and exports for the last two years, we discover no evidence of a more positive nature as to the proportion which the actual consumption of foreign wools, during the past year, has borne to the supply of it. At the same time further points of comparison offer themselves which may assist us in forming an approximate opinion.

In the first place, however, we find that the exact decrease in the quantity of foreign wool upon which duty was paid last year, was 2,628,101 lbs. as compared with 1833. As to the quantity stated to have been entered for home consumption, we have no longer any doubt that it means the quantity of foreign wool upon which duty has been paid, added to the total import of Colonial wool which pays no duty, and the increase upon both together being 1,959,985 lbs., whilst the decrease upon the former alone is 2,628,101 lbs., it follows that the increase of Colonial wools admitted in 1834 is equal to the sum of these two quantities, namely 4,588,086 lbs. The account of foreign wool imported, we find, embraces the quantity upon which duty has been paid, the quantity bonded, and the whole import of Colonial wool duty free: hence the general increase in 1834 being 8,409,335 lbs., if we deduct from that quantity the increase upon Colonial wool alone, as above, we shall find the increase of foreign wool, subject to duty, to be 3,821,249 lbs. What portion of this extra supply may have been actually consumed we have no means of determining; nor can we judge of it in any other way than by reference to the general state of our manufacturing operations in 1834, on comparison with that of 1833. Such comparison would lead us to conclude that the general consumption must have fallen off, but it must be borne in mind that Colonial wools have been substituted for English wools, by the worsted spinners, to an extent which may have taken off a portion of this augmented supply. Yet this, after all, is mere matter of conjecture.

The stock of foreign wool bonded in London, for payment of duty, is stated to have been, on the 5th January last, 4,623,689 lbs. What stocks may have existed in bond at the out ports we are not informed, and the private stocks upon which duty has been paid, of course appear in the public accounts in augmentation of the quantity entered for consumption. The excess of import over apparent consumption is no guide, or limit, to the quantity in bond, because the bonded stocks held the year previously are not included in that excess, but have been accounted for in the importations of 1833.

APPLE TREES IN COTTAGE GARDENS.—It often happens that one or more trees can be trained against a cottage wall or roof, or against some wall appertaining to a cottage; in these cases the proper sorts are the Ribston pippin, the old Nonpareil, and, if a large kitchen apple be required, the Bedfordshire Foundling. In situations liable to spring frosts, which so often kill the blossoms of the generality of apples, the Court pendu plat is recommendable, as its blossoms expand very late in the season. Under less favourable circumstances, where the Ribston pippin may not succeed, the Bedfordshire Foundling will be a harder substitute, or the King of the pippins, which is still harder; the Northern Greening may be planted for late kitchen use. For an autumn kitchen apple, perhaps none, in this case, is more to be recommended than the Keswick Codling. The Hawthornden comes into an abundant bearing state at an early age; and, were it not liable to die off in some soils, it might be preferred to the preceding. A wet soil, and a cold bleak situation, are what the cottager has the greatest difficulty in contending with, a poor soil he can enrich. In some instances it may be possible for him to remedy a wet soil by drainage; but in other cases he may find this beyond his means. He should, how-

ever, take care to plant the tree very shallow, or even place it entirely on the dug surface, and then cover the roots with the best mould he can collect. This he should afterwards keep mulched if the weather becomes very dry; but otherwise he should only keep the soil slightly stirred occasionally by a fork; or if this cannot be done without injuring the roots merely hoeing it will be better. In short, every thing should be attended to that will encourage the roots to run near the surface; the latter should, therefore, be trod upon as little as possible. Rotten manure should be applied; even leaves could be collected and applied in a state approaching to vegetable mould.—*Gardener's Mag.* January.

## THE MALT TAX.

FROM THE SUSSEX ADVERTISER.

SIR,—Mr. Blackman in his letter to you, inserted in your last Journal, has totally refrained from touching on the subject of the *main benefit* which the English Farmer will receive by the total abolition of this tax;—let him consider that—

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| A farm of 200 acres (rent 100 <i>l</i> per annum) requires, or has imposed on it, with the farmer, about four men per day all the year round, (365 days in a year, 52 Sundays) 333 days, which at one quart of beer per day per man, (at 6 <i>d</i> . per quart, the beer-shop price,) gives per annum..... | £33 6 0 |
| For the harvest month, an addition of ten men will give, at one gallon each....                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 28 0 0  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | £61 6 0 |

There were farms thus situated in this kingdom, and though the statement as applicable to the whole kingdom is an over charge, perhaps doubly charged—be it so—there will be then left full £15 per cent. on the rental by the removal of this odious tax as a benefit to the English farmer, besides the £3 per cent. increase by the increased demand for barley.

The English farmer now produces wheat for the public at 1½*d*. per lb., and yet has to pay 6*d*. for a quart of beer; this is far from honest towards

AGRICOLA.

DEVILS PREFERRED TO SANITS. — (From an old M S.)—A farmer rented a grange haunted by fairies for a great rent, which hee paid every haife yeare. One asking him how he durst be so bold to live in that place, and whether hee saw none? “Noe,” saith the farmer, “there bee two saints in heaven trouble me more than all the divells in hell, namely, St. Mary and St. Michael, which bee my rent days.”

There is scarcely a profession, trade, or occupation of any kind, in which the intense use of the eye does not produce an early weakening of that most important organ. To all, the failure of sight is a lamentable deprivation—to some, utter ruin. Every one who holds prevention to be better than cure, and who, from his peculiar avocations, is under the necessity of pressing upon the eyesight, should use Grimstone's Eye Snuff. There never has yet been discovered a remedy so uniformly efficacious in affections of the eyes.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE “MARK LANE EXPRESS.”

Sir,—I observe in your Paper of the 2nd. Instant a letter respecting the duty on Malt, commencing as follows—

“Lest the fallacious arguments of “A Constant Reader” in your last, should bias any one, I will state the case at issue.” Your correspondent then goes on to state that the consumption of Malt is 32 millions of bushels, and the duty 2*s* 7*d* per bushel, and concludes by asserting that by the repeal of the Malt duty, the Public would save 9,600,000*l* in the price of Malt and Beer!!!

Without farther preface, I will proceed to show the gross ignorance displayed by your correspondent, and how little reliance the public can place upon such statements.

In the first place then, your correspondent does not seem to know how many bushels form a quarter; he assumes four, now no one need be told that a quarter consists of 8 bushels. He next proceeds to show the expense of manufacturing at 4*s* per quarter, interest on capital, labour, &c., and retailing 4*s* per quarter, and lastly, extra cost from restrictions on the trade, licences &c. 4*s* per quarter, all of which are much exaggerated, and sums up with stating the expense of collecting the duty at 8*s* per quarter, being nearly two-fifths of the whole duty.

A very few remarks on your correspondent's calculations, will in the present instance be sufficient to show that the public only pay for their malt and beer, the amount of the malt tax, more, than they would do, provided the duty was repealed.

Assuming then, that if thirty-two millions of bushels of malt consumed is correct, the amount of duty at 2*s* 7*d* per bushel can only be 4,133,000*l* odd; not 8,000,000*l* as your correspondent has it. In the next place he sets down 1,600,000*l* as the expense of manufacturing, being at the rate of 4*s* per quarter, or 6*d* per bushel. Now observe this should be exactly one-half, or 800,000*l*. He falls into the same error with his charge for “Interest on capital, labour, (what labour?) and in retailing,” another 800,000*l* over-stated. And lastly he says “extra cost from restrictions on trade, licences &c.” 4*s* per quarter; now this really is the best joke of the whole; what branch of the Excise department can restrictions impose an increase of cost above the duty of 20 per cent? Not malt—and for 4*l* 10*s* of licence duty, which is the highest rate, you may make thousands and thousands of quarters. I now come to the cost of collection, which your correspondent states at 6*d* per bushel, or 4*s* per quarter, a very formidable sum, 3,200,000*l*. and more than the whole expense of collecting the gross Revenue of the United Kingdom. I here state, and I do so without fear of contradiction, that the malt tax is the easiest and the least expensive item of the Revenue, in its survey and collection, and cannot possibly exceed 1*d* per bushel. Therefore how it is possible for the public to save above nine millions, by the repeal of four millions, is more than I can comprehend. But it will not be difficult to show, that the public cannot receive any benefit at all from the repeal of this tax.

Suppose that Government should repeal the malt tax, either with a view towards the relief of the agricultural interest, or to benefit the public, they will do so from necessity not choice; because they see plainly that the demand for barley at present is very great, and that foreign barley can, and is now imported, and brought into consumption at the present



rate of duty with advantage; and unless that rate of duty was raised, any increased demand can do our agriculturists no good. On the other hand they have very strong and powerful reasons, for resisting the repeal of the malt tax; and not the least is the immorality consequent upon placing an intoxicating liquor, so much in the power of the lower orders. But even allowing no bad consequences should arise from this, would not the increased demand for barley, cause a larger quantity of land to be put under that crop? and this of course to the exclusion of other kinds of grain, perhaps Wheat?—and would not this system have the effect of raising the value of the latter? And where would be the advantage to the labourer if he got his pot of beer a farthing cheaper, (not more) and paid a penny more for his loaf? This certainly would be supporting the agriculturist with a vengeance. Is the public aware that this is the true cause of exactions making for the repeal of the malt tax? and is it not at their expense, that relief is sought by the agriculturists? It is. A cheap loaf is far preferable to cheap beer any day.

Let Government stand firmly to the continuance of the malt duty. It is perhaps from the ease and certainty with which it is collected, the fittest subject of taxation in existence. It presses hard on no one, and no substitute can possibly be found less objectionable.

I am, Sir,

Your most Obedient,  
ANTI-CHANDOS.

### SALE OF CORN BY WEIGHT.

Limerick Chamber of Commerce,  
10th February, 1835.

At a General Meeting of the Body held, to take into consideration the necessity of applying to Parliament for an alteration in the present mode of selling Grain by measure in London.

“Resolved:—That an alteration in the mode of selling Grain of all kinds in the London market, from the system of measure, to weight, is absolutely necessary for the safety and security of the trade—exposed, as it is at present, to mistakes or fraud in shipments, to embezzlement on the voyage, or to fraud or inefficacy in the metage in London; and that this Body take such steps, through their Directory, by petition and correspondence as may tend to a Legislative Enactment for the above-named system.”

### PETITION.

To the Right Hon. and Hon. the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled,

The Petition of the Chamber of Commerce of Limerick,

Most respectfully sheweth:

That your Petitioners beg leave to address your Honourable House, and to represent the great injury which they, in common with the Corn Trade of Ireland in general, sustain, in consequence of the system established in the London markets, of selling all species of Grain, and discharging all such cargoes by measure instead of weight, which latter mode is now adopted in all the great Ports of England and Scotland.

That this system exposes your Petitioners to the liability of constant frauds on the part of Masters of Vessels, who, receiving their cargoes by weight, and delivering them by measure, are thus rendered wholly irresponsible for the quantity discharged.

They have thus the opportunity, if so disposed, of abstracting, without detection, from the cargo during the voyage, and the shippers are thus deprived of all remedy for the recovery of the deficiency. This system also renders your Petitioners wholly dependent on the skillfulness or negligence of the parties who may be employed to discharge the cargoes—thus proving that the system of measuring Corn is a most fallacious and indefinite standard of quantity.

That your Petitioners beg to state, that it is not their wish to interfere in any way with the Revenues of the Corporation or Meters: on the contrary, they are willing to pay for weighing, a charge equivalent to that now enacted for measure: their sole object being to change a system which exposes them to constant frauds, and deprives them of all check in the disposal of their property.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray, that your Honourable House will be pleased to institute such inquiry into the subject as may lead to some alteration in a system so injurious to the Corn Trade of Ireland in general.

Your Petitioners will pray, &c.

### PHRENTIS IN SHEEP.

(From the Veterinarian.)

In the sheep the symptoms are the same—the eyes bright and prominent—the flanks heaving—the animal in constant motion; he cocks his tail and gallops about the field, and attacks his companions, or the shepherd, or even a post or tree that may chance to attract his attention.

LAMBS.—In lambs the symptoms are sometimes very curious—they leap and jump about, and exhibit the most ridiculous antics. Mr. John Lawrence says that “on the borders of Suffolk several scores of lambs were seized with an uncommon malady, leaping and jumping about the fold-yard in a strange manner; and a dunghill being raised to a level with the eaves of a low-tiled barn, a number of the lambs ran skipping up to the top of the roof, as though they had been possessed by more devils than Mary Magdalene, or even the nuns of London. The whole parish wisely concluded that they were bewitched, and a wretched and aged pauper became the object of their suspicion and deadly hatred. The senseless and infernal supposed prevention of witchcraft was resorted to, namely, burning one of the poor animals alive.”

CAUSES AND TREATMENT.—These bear so close an analogy to what I have described in cattle, that I will not detain you by a repetition of them.

The dog is comparatively exempt from phrenitis. I never saw a case of what I could satisfy myself was pure phrenitis in this animal. These exemptions are singular; and, as veterinary science progresses, will be a subject of interesting inquiry.

AUTHORITY OF THE SPEAKER.—There is an instance on record of the exercise of authority by a Speaker of the House of Commons, which we should suppose without a parallel:—It is related of Sir Edward Seymour, when he was Speaker in 1672, that his coach breaking down at Charing Cross, he ordered the beadle to stop the next gentleman's they met, and bring it to him. The gentleman in it was much surprised to be turned out of his own coach, but Sir Edward told him it was more proper for him to walk in the streets than the Speaker of the House of Commons, and left him to do so without further apology.

## REMARKS ON THE RECENT FAILURE OF THE POTATO CROP.

(From the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture.)

As a corroborative proof of what our correspondent A. A. stated as a cause of failure in the potato crop, arising from the action of the dung on the cut sets, he informs us that a piece of ground had been planted with a variety of white potato, and another piece with a variety of purple potato. Both pieces of ground were dunged for the crop, and both kinds of potatoes were cut into sets, and planted on the dung, without regard to whether the skinny or cut aside was placed next the dung. The white variety sprung very well, but the purple proved very defective. Some purple cut sets were planted on a piece of ground *without any dung*; these all sprung very well. Without the occurrence of this latter circumstance, the difference in the springing of the white and purple kinds might be reasonably ascribed to a difference in the state of the sets, the purple kind might have been injured whilst the white was not; but when we see the former springing quite well without dung, it is obvious no previous injury had been sustained by the sets, and that it was the dung which had proved injurious to their vegetation. Again, those purple sets which had sprung were found to be placed with the skinny side next the dung, and those which had not sprung, with the cut side next the dung; whereas, the purple sets which had been planted without dung all sprung, whether their skinny or cut faces were placed uppermost or downmost. These circumstances again press upon our attention the injurious agency of the dung.

In what manner the action of the dung affects the vegetation of the sets is not very evident, for if the dung had undergone any fermentation in the earth, which it probably did, and that fermentation had destroyed the vegetation of the purple sets whose cut faces were placed near the dung, it ought, in like manner, to have destroyed the vegetation of the white sets which were placed with the cut faces next the dung; and yet they all escaped unscathed. The failure of the purple sets on the dung would at first countenance the conclusion, that the exposure of the internal substance of the potato to the dung, renders it susceptible of being injured by the dung; while, on the other hand, the success of the white sets tends as much to prove that no injury had arisen from the dung. These are conflicting testimonies. In this dilemma, conjecture even cannot supply us with a satisfactory reason; for, were we to suppose that the act of cutting the two varieties of potatoes into sets might have injured the one kind and not the other, the supposition would not be in accordance with fact, for the purple sets sprung without dung as well as the white sets with dung. Still, we have this alternative left upon which to hazard a conjecture:—the two varieties of the potato might differ in their constitutional condition; the white kind might be in a more vigorous state of health than the purple, and therefore more capable of resisting outward affections. We have seen that the white withstood the excitement of dung when the purple did not, for that it was that excitement which had destroyed the vegetative powers of the purple sets, by being placed in a certain position,

there can be no doubt, because part of them sprung very well without dung.

That some varieties of the potato may be in a state of constitutional decay, is not improbable. It is scarcely possible for the multifarious varieties of potatoes which exist to escape injury in the very various soils and situations in which they are cultivated throughout the country, regardless of their nature, although it is evident that some soils and situations must be more congenial to their nature than others. The following instance, related by Mr. B. H. Hickey in the Irish Farmer's and Gardener's Magazine for January 1835, shows one among the many ways in which the potato may be affected, and all such affections are probably superinduced by constitutional weakness. "A gentleman who holds a farm of 150 acres, planted in the usual manner 34 acres under potatoes, in the year 1832; the result was a complete failure and total loss of the crop. This induced him to try many experiments upon the root, all of which failed except the following, which exceeded his most sanguine expectations:—He took six potatoes, and divided them into twenty cuts, he then got a large basin of water, into which he put a cupful of salt water and a piece of bluestone about the size of a walnut. He put ten of the cuts into the basin, and let them remain there one entire night. On the ten cuts which were not immersed in the basin he could distinctly perceive, by a very strong microscope, many small white particles like eggs; and those cuts which were immersed presented no such appearance whatsoever. This discovery urged him to follow up the examination attentively, and every day, for a short period, he continued to watch the appearance of the aforesaid matter. The result was, that those white globular particles were animalcule, for in a few days they became quite visible to the naked eye in the form of little worms or maggots. The cuts that had been steeped never showed the slightest appearance of any such thing, and they retained their solidity and firmness when the other ten cuts were completely decayed and rotted. Still unwilling to believe, without further proof, he tried the experiment five or six times, and planted them, distinctly marking a division between those cuts which were steeped and those that were not. The consequence was, the almost total failure of the one kind and the complete success of the other, placed the question beyond the possibility of a doubt."

The curl is, we conceive, another disease probably arising from constitutional derangement; and there may be many others to which the attention of the cultivator has not yet been directed. There is apparently no other way of explaining the certain partial failure of the ash-leaved kidney potato when cut into sets and planted for years in the same garden. A change of seed will not insure success, but planting whole potatoes always will.

Of late we have had favourable opportunities of becoming acquainted with the opinions of many cultivators and experimenters on the cause or causes of the recent failures in the potato crop. The general tendency of the whole of these opinions is to ascribe the failure to some injury which the sets or tubers had received. No doubt the want of plants originate from a lifeless state of the cut sets. But this fact is apparent to every body, it requires no ghost to tell us that the non-appearance of the plants above the ground is a consequence of a *bad* state of the sets; but how did the sets become bad? "['There's the rub.'"] Some say the injury to them arises from heating the crop in the pits after having been taken up in

\* In the Autumn of 1833, 200 ewes were fed on these meadows, and when killed were all found to be quite sound.



autumn; from heating the sets after having been cut; from planting the crop during dry warm weather; from using unfermented dung; from over-ripening the seed; from not allowing the seed to ripen enough; from planting the crop too late; and from taking up the crop too early. This enumeration of opposite causes of failure shows on what questionable grounds some of the opinions on the subject are founded. Heated sets will no doubt not spring, but how they can become heated under the same process of storing and cutting, which has prevailed for years past before failures were even suspected, it is not easy to see. If lateness of planting and earliness of taking up be causes, how happens it that failures such as the present did not exist in Ireland before these few years, where potatoes are planting and taking up all the year round? Bad crops of potatoes have frequently occurred in Ireland as well as in this country, but they have occurred from a destruction of the crop after it had appeared above the ground, as in many parts of the west coast, from rain and high winds. In some places in Ireland potatoes are planted as late, and take up as early, as August, and in others they are taken up during winter as they are required. If over-ripening the potato be a fault, there is always a remedy in every potato end, and the best end too for seed, which is never over-ripe. There is one circumstance in which all experimenters are agreed, that potatoes planted whole never fail to spring. This is one important fact. It proves that the astringent principle of the skin of the potato can resist injuries, whatever be their origin, much better than the internal pulp.

Now, it may be asked, after all this argumentation, what does it end in? We answer, nothing; literally nothing. We pretend not to explain the various phenomena connected with the failures of the potato-crop. But we are anxious to state it as our opinion, that the culture of the potato is as good and judicious now as it ever was when no failure occurred. If it is necessary to change that culture, it must be from a change in the nature of the potato. It is not improbable that *it has* changed. It is not improbable that successive cultivation from tubers may have altered the constitution of the potato, especially when we consider that the plant can also be cultivated from the seed. We should like to know, whether, in the same district of the country, failures have been observed most in those kinds of potatoes which have been longest in cultivation. We should like to know whether the new varieties which have been cultivated in fields have always grown. We know that several new varieties have sprung without failure in experiments on a small scale. Should the results of these inquiries prove, that only the old varieties have failed, and that new varieties have always succeeded, we may naturally conclude in that case, that the old varieties have degenerated, and either that nothing but the substitution of new varieties, or a total change in cultivation, can in future ensure full crops of the potato.

**LARGE CYPRESS TREE.**—Mr. Exter, in 1827, measured a cypress-tree in the churchyard of Santa Maria de Tesla, two leagues and half west of Oaxaca, whose trunk was 127 English feet in circumference, and 120 feet in height. It appeared in the prime of its growth, and had not a single dead branch.

All plants, whether in the garden, field, or forest, if in rows, should be placed in the direction of north and south, in order to admit the sun's rays every day equally to both sides of the row.—*Gardeners' Mag.*

## THE MALT TAX.

Sir,—Being one amongst the many thousands who believe that the repeal of the malt tax would afford more relief to the distress of agriculture than any other measure that can now be proposed, I confess myself amongst the number of those who (upon reading the debate which has recently taken place in the House of Commons) felt the greatest disappointment, mortification, and disgust.

No honest man can be otherwise than disgusted at that total want of principle which so many members exhibited, who had made their way into Parliament (some entirely, and others in a very great degree) by their advocacy of the repeal of this most unequal and oppressive tax, but who, upon the very first opportunity, instead of supporting the repeal, are found voting its continuance, thereby insulting their suffering constituents, and violating the most solemn promises, made, as it now appears, only to be broken upon the very first opportunity. Surely confidence in public men never received before such a deadly blow as this: and unless these men have sold themselves to the advocates of annual parliaments, I am at a loss to know upon what ground their justification can be placed;—it cannot be upon the speech of Sir R. Peel, masterly as it was, for although he exhausted every argument that could be brought against the repeal, he stated no single fact that was not as well known at the time of the elections, when those promises were made, as at the present moment. But, Sir, I will now leave these impostors to their constituents and their own consciences.

Although I am ready to admit the ability with which the Chancellor of the Exchequer treated the subject, I am decidedly of opinion he is either misinformed, or has misrepresented the most material point on which the strongest part of his argument rested—viz. the quantity of barley brought into charge from the 10th October, 1834, to 19th February, 1835, which he stated to exceed, by 846,000 bushels, the quantity charged in the corresponding months of the preceding year; and upon this supposed fact, he founds an assertion that the barley crop of 1834 could not be a deficient one; this appeared to every one acquainted with the real state of the crop to be impossible, unless a larger quantity of foreign barley than the return shewed had found its way into the market. But, admitting the quantity of malt stated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to be correct, is he a stranger to the fact, that wheat has entered largely and generally into the maltster's cisterns this year, *not singly* by itself, but mixed with barley, so as to render it impossible for the excisemen to tell the proportion, the duty being the same, the quantity alone concerned him, and the trade alone can say what quantity has been used. I have the authority of some of the most practical men in this county for stating it at one-fifth, and for saying in that proportion it has been used by them to great advantage. Believing this practice to have been general, and knowing it has been used by some in larger quantities, what becomes of Sir Robert Peel's argument, founded on the quantity of malt made as a proof of the quantity of barley grown last year?

Equally fallacious is he when quoting the highest price of malting barley in Mark-lane, and taking that price as a test for the average price realized by the grower; every one knows it cannot hold a comparison, and that in the last season in many situations not half the average quantity was grown, and also when the falling off was the greatest the quality was the worst.

Equally fallacious is he also when he asserts that the *tastes* of the labouring classes are changed, so as to induce them to prefer tea to beer. Is it possible any man in his senses can believe this? Let any practical man say if the contrary is not invariably the case, and that the use of tea is forced upon him from his inability to obtain beer. Is it not a lamentable fact that many a poor man is out all day with only a piece of bread, and, instead of carrying with him the little stone bottle of home-brewed beer, which I am old enough to remember in use, his only means now of moistening that meal which his crust affords is a draught of water, and that perhaps drawn from a ditch. Surely, then, it is no wonder that at night, when he returns to his family, he substitutes a little of what is called tea, but what is in reality little else than warm water, and which then to him is certainly preferable to cold. This you may depend upon it is the reason why, in cold weather it is taken by the labouring man, as I have often heard it refused by him in summer, when he would jocularly describe it as water got damaged. I do not wish to say anything to inflame the passions of that unfortunate class of whom I am speaking, and will therefore suppress a description which I could easily give, but content myself with asking if enough of that quiet, industrious, and peaceable conduct which formerly so much distinguished the agricultural labourer, still remains, sufficient to keep him by his own hearth, sharing the beverage called tea with his wife and family, and in silence, although not contentment, brooding over his altered circumstances, witnessing at the same time his former employer, and the employer perhaps of his father and grandfather, reduced to a level with himself. I ask, in such a case as this, would it not be worth while to restore such men, if it can be done, to the use of their long lost beverage, home-brewed beer? Surely the amount of the malt tax ought not to stand in the way of such an object.

Equally ill-timed and cruel was it for Sir Robert to tell the growers of barley that, from the low price of wheat, the clay soils equally needed relief—who denies it? or who doubts but the alteration of the currency, and the operation of his own bill, are the causes of their distress in common with our own? What else have brought wheat to 4s 6d per bushel? What else has it been which has annihilated so large a proportion of the agricultural capital, and reduced thousands of honest, industrious, and deserving men, with their wives and families, to ruin and beggary?

Are we now to be told that the present race of occupiers are required, and expected, to take example by their predecessors, and silently submit to the sacrifice of the remaining part of their capital at the "*shrine of public credit*," and that as long as the produce of the land can be made to obtain as much of the present currency as will pay the public creditor the sum previous administrations had agreed to pay him, in one of a different description, so long we must continue to cultivate the soil, and, like slaves and vassals, hand over as it were our produce, further to enrich the only class in this country who have not already sustained their share of the loss which the holding either of land or merchandize necessarily entailed upon every one who was exposed to the operation of Mr. Peel's bill. What property, whether real or personal, but has been depreciated from thirty-five to fifty per cent. except the fundholder's? His property forms the exception, and up to this moment has been wonderfully improved. I envy

not his good fortune, and have not the most distant wish to do him an injury: and I have good reason for knowing that many fundholders consider that gross injustice has been done the landed interest, and that a continuation of that injustice is more likely than any thing else to endanger the stability of the public securities of this country, which danger must always be proportionate to the ruin and distress which are brought upon the rural districts.

I will here also forbear to describe what I am thoroughly convinced must be the finish of the large nominal wealth of this country, if some timely concession is not made to that which always has been considered the true basis of a nation's wealth, agriculture.

I sincerely wish I could flatter myself that even-handed justice might soon be expected by us; no one would more sincerely rejoice at this than myself—and as no one will now deny the distressed state of the agriculturist, whether on clay soils or light barley lands, so no one, I assure you, can be more convinced of the danger of longer delaying the application of a remedy of some sort to our present situation, than I am that the repeal of the malt tax would prove of all other measures the most effectual.

I remain, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

ROBERT LEAMON.

Whitwell, 17th March, 1835.

**LARGE HORNS.**—The horns of cattle, of the Cape in general, are very large, being equal in size to those of the Abyssinian ox. I have frequently seen them a yard in length, and six or seven inches in diameter at the base: they are said to be capable of holding four or five gallons of water, and even to contain a bushel of corn, but I never tried the experiment. At all events, they might well be considered there as the veritable cornucopia.

But the horns of the cattle at the Cape are by no means so extraordinary as the tails of the sheep. Every one has heard of the immense tails of the Cape sheep, but the formation of them is not so well known. They consist of a mass of very nice, sweet fat, which is exceedingly useful for domestic purposes, and consequently is much prized by the Dutch. This mass varies in its weight from eight to even twenty-five pounds, but the average is about ten. The sheep are the *laticauda*, or broad-tailed kind.—*Voyage of the Chanticleer.*

**ANECDOTE OF A PARISIAN GIRL.**—AN HISTORICAL FACT.—In 1813, voluntary subscriptions were raised for the support of Napoleon's army. The poor of France subscribed their mite, and have been known to part with any property they might possess to contribute; indeed, so great was their attachment, that a poor girl (who could not afford a trifle out of the produce of her industry) gave vent to her patriotic feelings, by parting with a most luxuriant head of hair. The barber, who gave two dollars for the hair, told her he had some of ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL, and like other patriots, presented her with a bottle; which restored her hair so rapidly, that in a few months she was enabled to sell it again, to subscribe to the second levy. The tale reached the ear of Napoleon, who gave her a pension of 500 francs a year, and an inclosure of 10 dollars, to purchase some more of Rowland's Macassar Oil.—Curiosity induced the Monarch to try the Oil himself; and he often told the anecdote when confined at St. Helena.



## A LETTER TO SIR ROBERT PEEL.

(FROM COBBETT'S REGISTER.)

You first began by stating the amount of the tax, the gross proceeds of which, for 1834, you stated at five millions one hundred and fifty thousand pounds; and the net payments into the Exchequer at four millions six hundred and seventy thousand pounds. Here then the cost of collecting this tax is four hundred and eighty thousand pounds a-year; and yet you twisted the thing about, one way and the other way, till you came to an assertion, unsupported by any fact, that the collection of the tax costs only a hundred and fifty thousand pounds a-year. An honest Committee of the House of Commons would bring proof upon the table, that the malt tax costs five-sixths of the expenses of the whole of the excise.

Your next assertion was, that if the malt tax were taken off it would cause the price of beer to be only a half-penny a pot cheaper than it now is. This monstrous assertion you copied from the *Times* Newspaper. It is as clear as figures can make it that malt would be at the same price that barley would be, bushel for bushel, even if made by a maltster for sale; because eight bushels of barley make nine bushels of malt, and the increase of bulk amply pays for the expenses of the malting. Now then, when barley is from twenty-five to thirty shillings a quarter, but fix it at thirty, malt to the domestic consumer is nine shillings a bushel. So that, supposing that the repeal of the malt tax would leave all the malt to be made by maltsters for sale, a quarter of malt would cost me thirty shillings instead of the seventy-two shillings that it must now cost me; and yet you tell us that it would reduce my beer in price only a halfpenny a pot. You seem to think that all beer is to be made for sale, even after the repeal of the malt tax; but did you make the "pledge-breakers" believe, that even the public brewers (who we will suppose now to sell beer on an average at four-pence per pot) would take off only an eighth part of the price, when the malt should cost less than half the sum that it costs now? This would hardly be believed by "pledge-breakers," and certainly not be pretended to be believed by any other of God's creatures.

You said, sir, that you did not think that malt could be made cheaper than maltsters now make it. You really appear not to have been able to understand any part of this subject. You talk of a competition between the poor man and the maltster in the making of malt. Why, sir, neither the poor man nor the farmer would make malt to sell. They would make it to use; and it would cost them more to go five or six miles to a malthouse to fetch malt enough for their use, than it would to make the malt at home. In towns it would be made by maltsters, as it formerly was; but, as it formerly was, it would be made without any other charge than the increase of the bulk. You seem to imagine, that farmers and labourers would not make their own malt if they were permitted to do it. All the farmers, and more than half the country labourers, would make their own malt; and every one of them can do it if he will. Every one of my labourers in Hampshire who lived in my houses (they were all situated in, or near to woods) made his own malt and brewed his own beer. I saw them drinking water, and I told them that no water-drinker should live under a roof of mine. They remonstrated a little, talked of the high price of malt (then I believe thirty-six shil-

lings a quarter duty;) I answered, there is the barley which you grow yourselves; get it when you like, at so much a bushel; and the short and the long of the matter is, if I come to your house on such a day and do not find you with a good barrel of beer, out of that house you go as soon as you can make it convenient. They all had barrels of beer in a very short time; and I never asked one of them what were the means he made use of to make his malt; but make it they did, and good jovial lives they led. I hope that great numbers of them make their malt now, especially in the woody parts of Hampshire and Sussex. It is, therefore, ridiculous to talk of men in the country still going to a malthouse.

The same error you adopt with regard to the brewing. You seem to think that all the beer that is brewed is to be sold; and you say that a poor man cannot compete (as you call it) with the great brewer, who makes such quantities, and who has so much capital. Poor fellow, he does not want to compete with him (if it must be compete). To "compete" with the big brewer he must have a druggist's shop in his house. He wants nothing but the strength of the malt, worked into water, fermented, and put into his barrel. He does not want to know any thing about "Corythris Indicus," "essence of tobacco," "salt," "devil's dung," and all the other infernal ingredients, that have been proved to have been put into the horrible stuff called beer and porter. He wants simply the malt soaked in water, of a heat which he very well understands, then the liquor boiled in his kettle, and then the liquor put into his tub; and when it has seen a Sunday he is very sure that it will not poison him. You have the notion, borrowed from your predecessor, that so much strength cannot be got out of a bushel of malt, as can be got out of each bushel of a thousand bushels, if brewed all in a mass; and that therefore the farmer or labourer cannot "compete" (as you call it) with the big brewer. This argument, "if carried out," as they say of the Reform Bill, would send all the victuals of a parish to be cooked in one pot. Sir, your way of life, the places where you have been all your life-time, your taste, your great acquirements of a totally different kind, have absolutely disqualified you for treating on a subject like this. A bushel of malt contains a certain quantity of sugar, or sweet matter, which, being drawn out into water, and afterwards fermented, becomes beer. Now the whole of this saccharine matter can be got out of a bushel of malt, or of a gallon of malt, as completely as it can be got out of a hundred bushels, when put together for the purpose. In short it can all be got out; and no one can have more than all out; and I have drunk as good beer as I ever wished to drink when the brewing has been of a peck of malt; and as to the expense of brewing, the rule always was, that the grains paid for the fuel and the labour. But in a labouring man's house there is, in fact, no cost at all. The wife is the brewer, and there is this great additional advantage that good and fresh yeast (an absolute necessary of life) used always to be had in plenty in every neighbourhood. Whereas now, even the baking work has to stand still till the hawker of yeast comes round from the big brewery.

You had my Lord Althorpe's argument, that the habits of the people had changed; that they now like the East and West India slops better than beer. Those slops are the ruin of their wives and families in great part; but if they have lost their love of beer, how comes it that they so crowd to

the beer-shops? I have often reminded even the House of Commons, of the memorable evidence of Mr. Ellman, who told a committee of the House of Commons, in 1821, that, forty-five years before that, when he became a farmer, every labourer in the parish of Glynde, where he lived, brewed his own beer, and drank it by his own fire-side; and that then, in the year 1821, not a man in the parish brewed his own beer, except two, to whom he gave the malt. Forty-five years back would have brought him to 1776. Now, sir, I beg to observe, and I beg my Lord Althorp, and those who cheered you, to observe, that at that time, there was no malt tax, if made by persons for their own consumption. The tax on malt made for sale was not above ninepence or a shilling a bushel; but on malt made by the parties for their own consumption, there was no tax at all. Of course, every man in the country made his own malt; and that was the reason why they all brewed their own beer in Mr. Ellman's parish, as it was in every other parish in England. In the year 1783, this permission ceased (seven years after Mr. Ellman began to be a farmer;) from that time to this, the tea-slops, the potatoe food, the rags, the feebleness, the beggary and misery, and recklessness of character have been coming on; till at last, they have made it certain, that either the system must be changed, or this whole frame of government be destroyed.

It is not that the taste and the habits of the people have changed; it is that they have been compelled, by acts of the parliament, to abandon their good habits: it is not that they ever preferred nasty troublesome expensive tea-slops, and the washy roots, that give the body half the smell of a corpse: it is not that they have ever preferred this, but that they have been driven to it by acts of the parliament. The wretched, half-naked creatures get trust for a quarter of an ounce of tea, and two ounces of sugar, not having the means of getting the malt, and very seldom of getting meat; and you contend, that the parliament had not only a right to reduce them to this state, but to keep them in this state. Give them, at least, the liberty that their fathers had, forty years ago; give them leave to make malt for their own consumption, and not to sell or barter; give the poor man, or the farmer, leave to make his drink out of his own little plot, or out of his field of barley, the produce of his own toil. You talk, often enough, of ancient liberties, and laws, usages, and constitution, all of which your party express themselves devoted to conserve. Permit us to go back, then, to the laws of fifty-two years ago. Permit us to be as free as our fathers were, and we will not complain; but, unless you will do this, talk to us not of Conservatives, and especially of Conservatives who break their pledges to prevent us from going back that fifty-two years.

Mr. Handley having spoken of the advantages of spearing barley and then drying it in order to fat cattle, and having said that two bushels of speared barley were equal, in fattening cattle, to three bushels not speared, you expressed your great doubts as to the fact; and you should not have done this without knowing anything at all of the matter. Perhaps there is nothing more surprising than the great change produced in the fattening powers of barley, by the process of malting, by which process it becomes quite another thing than what it was before. You will, however, have no doubt of the greatness of this change, when you know that beer cannot be made of barley. Take a bushel of barley, pour water upon it as if

it were malt, crack it first, as you do malt; then brew with it, as if it were malt; treat it exactly as you treat malt; and you will find come from your barrel, flat, tasteless, nasty, shiny stuff, that you will not endure in your mouth for a moment. Take the same, or a similar bushel of barley; make from it seven gallons of beer; a quart of that beer will set you to sleep, if not lay you under the table; and, if kept two years, would burn in the fire like brandy. There is, then, a very surprising effect produced by the process of malting. The late Mr. Baverstock, of Alton, to the knowledge of many persons who knew him, and who are now living, extracted forty-five pounds of sugar from a bushel of malt. Mr. Timothy Brown, who was also a brewer and a maltster, breakfasted with him along with me, when he sweetened our coffee with this extract, which was of about the sweetness of coarse moist West India sugar. Brown, who had made similar experiments himself many times, told us that he had never got more than forty-two pounds from a bushel of malt. Thousands upon thousands of persons can, I dare say, bear testimony to the extracting of quantities of sugar, in somewhat a similar proportion. Now, sir, take a bushel of barley and grind it into flour or meal, give it to a hog, horse, or ox; and you will find that even three bushels will not lay on the quantity of flesh that will be laid on by these forty pounds of sugar; and I would venture my life upon the issue, that a bushel of malt ground into meal, will lay twice as much flesh upon any animal as a bushel of barley ground into meal. I was not back from the North soon enough to try this experiment upon two hogs; and I have no means of weighing the hogs alive; but if I live till next fall, I will try the experiment fairly; at any rate, the effect of malting is prodigious, as to the capacity of barley for creating meat. And, sir, this tax is a positive prohibition to our availing ourselves of this immense source of national wealth. The case is simply this: here is my field of barley, restrained as I am by the malt tax, it will fat only ten hogs of a certain size; take away the tax, and it will fat twenty hogs of the same size. If this be the fact, is not this the most horrible law that ever was heard of in the world?

With regard to the mode of using barley, as mentioned by Mr. Handley, it is this: you steep the barley as if for malting; and then you lay it upon the floor in greater or less thickness, according to the weather; you turn it now and then until the roots come out, and until it is in that state in which it ought to go upon the kiln to be dried. In this state you give it to the cattle without kiln-drying; and Mr. Handley said, that in this state two bushels were equal to those of unspeared barley, which I can readily believe, because I have known many farmers do it, in order to bring up their horses when they have been low in flesh. But the excise has been so severe; the terror so great; the ruin so terrible, that men have been afraid even to do this; and if to have the barley in his granary; to know how he might use it so as to revive his horses; and not to dare so to use it lest he should be ruined, and die in a jail: if this be not slavery—real infamous slavery—let a broken-pledged "Conservative," or the devil himself, come and tell us what slavery is.

After all, however, your statements in contradiction to me were of no effect. They all sunk out of sight when you came to your closing argument, which was this: that, if the malt tax were repealed, there must be a property tax; that is to say, that if the tax were taken off the industrious



classes, it must be paid by the landholders and the fundowners ! This was your great pledge-cracking argument. Mr. Hume showed that there need be no property-tax ; that to make the stamp taxes fair and impartial ; to make the aristocracy pay on their estates what the tradesman and the farmer and the artizan are compelled to pay ; that this alone would yield a revenue equal to the amount of the malt tax. Ah ! but this was worse and worse ; for here was the aristocracy to pay again ; and the Duke of Sutherland was to pay upon his estate in proportion to what farmers, tradesmen, and artizans, pay on their property ! This was the devil all over ; this was the very thing to be avoided. Mr. Hume pointed out the pension-list, and the salary-list. Still worse, if possible ! Monstrous, to take away the pensions of gentlemen and ladies ! "What, destroy the monarchy !"

Sir, the discussion and decision on the malt tax, including the Conservative pledge-breaking, and the most cordial support that you got from the Whigs ; these have done prodigious good. Better in the end that the Marquis of Chandos should have failed. Had you yielded you would have swamped the Whigs ; but you must have kept on yielding ; and the two factions would not have been exposed as they now are ; they are now coupled together in their hatred of the people, who enjoy the sport of seeing them worry and tear each other to pieces.

#### SOME ACCOUNT OF THE MODE OF FATTENING CALVES IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF LONDON.—

By Mr. MAIN, Chelsea.

(From the *Quarterly Journal of Agriculture*.)

The paper written by Mr. Aiton of Hamilton, on the fattening of calves in Strathaven, published in Vol. V. p. 249, of this Journal, like every thing else which falls from that gentleman's pen, is calculated to do much good, especially in the north of England and Scotland, where that branch of rural economy is but little practised, and but little understood. As fattening calves forms a distinct and profitable part of the farmer's business in the neighbourhood of London, it has occurred to me that a statement of the English practice might not be unacceptable to some readers, who may have opportunities of engaging in this very natural and ancient practice of fattening calves.

Mr. Aiton has said very truly, that local circumstances must determine the grazier or farmer whether he shall turn the milk of his cows into butter or cheese, into pork, bacon, or veal. For the last mentioned purpose he must be near a good market, where there is a constant demand for butcher-meat of this description. If at too great a distance, the expense of carriage (because fat calves cannot, at least should not be driven) deducts too much from the profit, and is often otherwise inconvenient. So much does the circumstance of distance from market govern the trade, that the whole country round London is divided into *zones*, in each of which the different businesses of milking, calf and house-lamb fattening, butter making, cheese and pork fattening, are carried on. Milking, for the supply of the metropolis, is carried on within a circuit of six or eight miles from the city, either by cowkeepers in the vicinity, who have establishments similar, though on a smaller scale, to that of the late Mr. Harley of Glasgow, or by far-

mers, who send the milk in large upright tin cans by spring-vans to the retailers in town. Beyond, and surrounding this circle, lies the veal and lamb suckling country, extending from ten to thirty miles. Still farther off is the fresh butter district, extending to the distance of seventy or fourscore miles from London, numerous heavy broad-wheeled waggons being employed to bring up the butter and other provisions weekly, and load back with goods of all descriptions.

Every farmer in the suckling district, keeping from six to a dozen cows, or more, makes veal of all his milk. By proper management of his cows, and by selling off barreners, and buying in incalvers, he always contrives to have a flow of milk, to the quantity of which the number of calves are apportioned. The byres or cow-houses are single or double ; if the former, the building is wide enough to admit a rank of calf-pens being fitted up behind the cows. If it be a double cow-house, the pens occupy the centre from end to end between the stalls or standings for the cows.

The calf-pens are boarded inclosures, but no larger than will just allow the calf to turn within ; the sides and partitions are four feet high, the floor boarded and pierced with holes, and raised at least one foot above the earthen floor of the inclosure, for the purpose of keeping the pen dry and clean, as much depends on cleanliness, and frequent changes of clean wheat straw for the calf to lie on. There is a little box or manger in every pen, in which is kept a lump, or some pounded chalk for the calf to lick. This is supposed to counteract the tendency to inward fever, which suckled calves are often subject to.

Every cow is made to suckle her own calf three times a-day, for the first three or four days after calving, and afterwards constantly twice a-day. If she has a very full stock of milk, another calf about the same age is also put to her, in order that her udder may be perfectly emptied at each milking. Her own calf must, however, always have its full, and not be robbed by the other. If a calf goes on thriving and well, it will be what is esteemed in England *prime veal* in about ten weeks, and will, at the end of that time, weigh from seventeen to twenty stones of 8lb. each, and will fetch at Smithfield market from 4s 6d to 5s 6d per stone, according as veal is more or less plentiful.

It is not the largest or heaviest calves that fetch the most money ; one of fourteen or fifteen stones, if of the proper age, and as complete as to fatness as possible, will sell for a shilling or two per stone more than a calf weighing between twenty and thirty stones. Notwithstanding this well known fact, some farmers are of opinion, that as a calf grows and fattens faster after it is ten weeks old than before, and also requires less milk to keep it improving, there is really more clear profit made from a calf of twenty-five stones, than from two of fifteen stones each. There is only the prime cost of one, say they, and one commission for selling ; whereas there is in the other case two first costs and two commissions to be deducted from the gross amount. This is a question not yet settled even in suckling districts, for there we see men of equal penetration and experience following different practices.

Farmers living at the distance of from fifteen to thirty miles from London send their fatted calves to market by a salesman, who keeps horses and covered spring-vans for the purpose. Each salesman has a track of country which he frequents, and where he is well known. His van calls twice a-week at the farm-houses on his route to market,

to take up the fatted stock. This is sold in London early on the morning of the next day. In the evening he repasses homeward, leaving the amount of sales at each of his employers, enclosed in a printed market-bill, with the name of the purchaser, and the amount as stated by the clerk of the market, to whom the money is in the first place paid. The salesman's commission for carrying and selling a calf from a distance of twenty miles is 5s, and one shilling additional for every pound sterling above 5l the calf may fetch.

The veal sucklers are supplied with calves by another class of men called calf-dealers, who travel in carts built for the purpose into the dairying counties, and buy up all the young calves to be disposed of. These are brought up by hundreds every week into the suckling districts, and sell at prices varying from 20s to 35s per head, according to their age, size, or breed. The London cowkeepers also sell all their calves as soon as dropped; these are carried to Smithfield, and bought by another class of calf-dealers, who carry and dispose of them in the country.

The whiteness as well as the firmness of veal constitute its principal value when dressed. Some breeds have whiter fleshed calves than others, and they are most valued by butchers, who judge of the colour of the flesh by looking at the inside of the mouth and white of the eyes. The butchers also bleed the calves repeatedly before they are slaughtered.

The profit of fattening calves may be judged of by an example in figures, which I have often experienced. A calf is suckled for ten weeks, and weighs from eighteen to twenty stones, sinking the offal, as it is called about London. The calf fetches 5l at market, from which, deducting 30s, which it might have been sold for when a week old, and 5s salesman's commission, leaves a profit of 3l 5s, or 6s 6d per week for the cow's milk. Now, deducting 2s 6d per week for the keep of the cow, the bare profit left is only 4s per week. But it must be remembered, that a good cow will fatten off two calves, while she is in milk; some I have had, two and a half; but this can be but rarely accounted on. Still, taking one cow with another kept for the purpose of suckling, her annual returns will be nearly what it is commonly estimated at, namely, 12l.

To ensure this, or any other sum as clear profit, depends entirely on the attention bestowed on the cows and calves. Some cows are odd-tempered, letting down their milk only to their own calves, and withholding it from those they are made to foster. This, if not corrected, will injure both cow and calf; the one will be starved, and the other will soon become dry.

One of the greatest rarities about a calf-fattening farmer's house is a drop of cream, or even milk for the owner's tea! The cow-man is constantly enjoined to forward the calves as fast as possible; and though it be his duty to strip every teat after the calves are satisfied, still but very little comes to the tea-table, if the number of calves be duly proportioned to the stock of milk.

The remedies for ailing calves are nearly the same in England as Mr. Aiton advises to be administered in Scotland.

The reporter of the county of Middlesex was nearly right in saying, that the farmers' wives and daughters know nothing of dairying; the fact is, they have no dairying to look to; but, had the same reporter been lucky enough to have witnessed the frugality and constant toil of a farmer's wife in the dairy countries, in the Vale of Aylesbury for

instance, he would have seen examples of incessant care and thrift in dairy management, as may be equalled, but certainly not surpassed, by any housewives on the face of the earth.

### "THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY'S ASSISTANT."

By the REV. HENRY LINDSEY POPPEWELL.

*Bennett, London.*

This work displays great diligence in the author, and alike does credit to his talents and his heart. It has reached a fifth edition, which alone would suffice to prove that it has experienced no small portion of public favour. Independent of its inestimable value to those whose habits are such as to incline them, and whose avocations are such as to permit the adoption of family prayer daily, great advantage will be derived from an attentive perusal of those parts in which reference is made to the ordinary duties of life. The following is an extract from a chapter upon the duties of masters and servants:—

"We have no right to expect every virtue from our servants. Those who seek perfection, should themselves exhibit it; this is the least that can be required of men enjoying all the advantages of truth and education, if it is to be demanded of those who unfortunately want both the one and the other. Our expectations ought to be brought within a reasonable limit; and we should make allowance for foibles, of which we are not ourselves unconscious. To be a good master, a man should be well acquainted with human nature, as well as with religious principles, that he may know what to expect and what to forgive."

### FOR THE SUSSEX ADVERTISER.

Sir,—On the hustings at the County election I ventured to give an opinion that the repeal of the whole of the Malt Tax would not operate as a general relief to agriculture. Before I proceed to submit to you the reasons for that opinion, permit me to lay aside, for the present, a few of the important questions connected with this subject, so as to avoid embarrassing the main question of relief. First, then, I pass over the question of half the duty. I should think very meanly of any ministers who could propose such a measure, except as some relief of taxation generally, and in that case there are other taxes to be taken in preference. 2ndly, I pass over the question of a substitute for the tax. If I were arguing it financially, I must see my way a great deal clearer than I now do, before I would consent to part with this tax, or any part of it. 3rdly, I pass over the moral effect of the repeal on the habits of the poor. I wish as well to them as any man, but so far as the question of relief goes, it applies only to its effect on their wages. Lastly, I pass over the general interest of the consumer in the repeal of any tax which applies to us all, though not to all equally, and the destructive effect which it appears to me the repeal of this whole tax would have on the particular property of the maltsters and brewers, to say nothing of its effects on the revenue derived from tea. And now having cleared the ground of these collateral questions I come to the question of general relief to agriculture. By the word agriculture, I mean a present and general relief to all descriptions of the actual farmers of the land. The interest of the farmer appears to me to be the primary and essential interest to be considered at this moment. The interests of the landlord and



of the labourer seem to me to be only secondary and derivative interests. There can be no principle of British policy sounder nor more important, than to preserve a race of cultivators who furnish their own capital, and to take care that that capital shall not be improperly drawn upon either by the State, the Church, the Parish, the Landlord, or the Labourer. Well then, how is the repeal of the Malt Tax to relieve the farmer? It is, say the repealers, by creating a greater demand for barley, which will increase the growth and price of barley, and thereby indirectly increase the price of hops, wheat, oats, beans, peas, beef, mutton, and Irish pork, and the difference of price between what those articles produce now, and what they will produce after the repeal, will pass into the pocket of the farmers. To be sure there is not much faith to be placed in political arithmetic, for a man may always choose his own figures, but I will endeavour to deal with them as sincerely as I can. Then let us suppose that the price of Malt is 64s. per quarter, or 8s. per bushel, of which 34s. is the price of the barley, 20s. 8d. is the duty, and 9s. 4d. the maltster's profit. If the duty be repealed, the 20s. 8d. and nearly half the maltsters' profit must be deducted from the price of the malt, and the price of the malt would then consist merely of the price of the barley, and the maltster's profit. Now the quantity malted in the United Kingdom in the year ending 10th of October, 1833, was 5,029,599 quarters of barley, including, I presume, the distilleries: but of the quantity not malted, and which was cracked or ground as food for man, bullocks, pigs, and poultry, of course we have no account. But one of the great complaints of the repealers is, that even in this very year serious injury has arisen, not only to this county, but the whole kingdom, in consequence of the excise regulations not permitting inferior barley to be malted. Now it would be well for those gentlemen who are so fond of the word protection, to ask themselves whether these excise regulations do not operate as a protection on the higher qualities of barley, and, of course, increase their price, and whether a free trade in the inferior sorts of barley for malting, although it might raise the price of such qualities, might not *pro tanto* reduce the price of the superior qualities, and whether, if the whole quantity should not be considerably increased by the new demand, the price of the whole, instead of being raised, might not be eventually reduced? At any rate it is pretty clear that the relief to the barley grower, would only come out of the difference of the profit between the price of the inferior barley consumed as food for cattle, and the price to be paid for malting, and the relief to the general agriculturist, from the additional quantity of food required as a substitute for the inferior barley. Now if the pigs of England are deprived of their inferior barley, the pigs of Ireland may rise in price, or the inferior but improving barley of Ireland may be sent to supersede the lower English barley, and the repeal of the Malt Tax may tend to raise the rents of an Irish landlord, instead of the profits of an English tenant. The excise regulations now operate to prevent the importation of Irish barley for malting, and it does not seem very easy to see how the growers of 51, 52 and 53lb. barley are to be relieved by the exhibition of 47, 48, and 49 barley, in the malt market. But let us suppose that the consumption of malt should be increased a fifth, or 20 per cent. in the whole United Kingdom, or in other words, that a million of quarters of barley more must be found, requiring, perhaps, 250,000 acres of land in the three

kingdoms, about equal to a quarter of Sussex, to supply the place of the inferior barley, or other food now used for cattle, the question still remains, to what extent, if any, the price of barley would be raised, and whether the difference of price would go into the pockets of the farmer? It is pretty certain that the price of malt would fall about 24s. per quarter, viz. the duty, and about half the maltster's profit. Is it equally certain that the average price of barley, allowing for the effect of inferior qualities being malted, would rise 3s. per quarter. If it rose at all, would it be felt as a relief even to the barley grower, at the end of three years? and who will undertake to put a value on the amount of relief to be derived by other classes of farmers? Can I believe that the repeal of a 20s. 8d. duty, which operates now as a protection to superior barleys, would leave 25 per cent. of its amount, equal to 5s. 3d. per quarter as an increased price on all barleys, and that such increased price would find its way to the farmer's pocket? If then my supposition be at all correct, that the average price of barley would not be affected above 3s per quarter, I can, at any rate, calculate my own relief as a farmer. I grow about 50 quarters of barley, on about 10 acres of land, making a relief of 7l. 10s, and if I grow 20 loads of wheat, valued when the rent was set at 14l. per load, and I sell my wheat at the present price of 10l. per load, I lose 80l., and get 7l. 10s. This appears to me about the value of the repeal of the Malt Tax. Will it on a Down Farm of 500l. per annum, give a relief in its best view, equal to a reduction of 10 per cent. on the rent? I sincerely think not; and even if a million or more quarters should be wanted, I can see no reason at all why the relief should not pass, if it passes at all, which to me appears very disputable, to Irish oats, and Irish pigs, and Irish landlords, rather than to the English farmer.

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Lewes,

HENRY BLACKMAN.

**CATTLE AND SHEEP IN GREAT BRITAIN.**—It is proved, by the returns of 1831, that the agricultural labour performed by oxen and horses in England and Ireland is equal to 22,500,000 effective men! The number of sheep is estimated at about 32,000,000. The value of this immense stock amounts to a very large sum, and the accidents to which they are subject are very numerous. In the Spring, neat cattle and sheep are extremely liable to become hoven from eating too greedily of clover or other green food, and unless relief be speedily afforded, death takes place. Mr. Read has, with a degree of industry which claims the gratitude of the farmer, devoted his attention to this subject, and perfected an instrument, by the early use of which, instantaneous relief is given. Upon the testimony of many eminent practical agriculturists, we with perfect confidence recommend it to those who may not be acquainted with its efficacy.

**IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.**—By the return to the House of Commons, in 1833, of persons imprisoned for debt in England and Wales in 1832, it appears that

|                                    |        |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| The gross number was.....          | 16,470 |
| Of whom maintained themselves .... | 4,093  |

12,377

So that three-fourths of the whole were too poor to provide themselves with bread!—By the 4th report of the Common Law Commissioners, dated March 1, 1832, it appears that of persons in execution for debt in 1831, more than 25 per cent. of that number were for debts under 20l., and more than 45 per cent. were under 30l.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE LINCOLN-SHIRE CHRONICLE.

Sir,—As Parliament is about to meet, and the state of agriculture must very shortly become the subject of its deliberations, every man interested in the result ought to use some effort in promoting measures for ameliorating the condition of the farmer.

Much may and must be done by landlords, but encumbered as many estates are with mortgages, settlements, &c., it is impossible for the farmer to receive adequate relief unless assisted by the government. British agriculture is ruined, unless some legislative enactment be made for its benefit. Two measures appear obviously calculated for this end: the establishment of poor laws in Ireland, and the repeal of the malt tax. The first will benefit us by enabling the poor of Ireland to consume a greater proportion of their produce at home, which now glut the English market, and is the main cause of our present ruinously low prices; in this object, I fear, we must expect no assistance from our new Conservative member for Lindsey. I was concerned to hear the honourable gentleman declare on the day of his nomination at Lincoln, that he could not support a proposition of this kind, because, he thought, poor laws could not be administered in Ireland by reason of the absence of a middle order of society there, which was necessary for their proper administration. I have a better opinion of the honourable gentleman than to suppose him capable of viewing with complacency the horrid state of destitution and misery in which the lower orders of Ireland are involved; producing as a natural consequence, feelings, which would show themselves in open rebellion against the government which neglects to provide a remedy, unless those feelings were repressed by the presence of British soldiers. Let there be a law to enforce a provision for the aged and infirm by a charge on the owners of property, not on the miserable tenant, who is often removed in a very trifling degree from the wretched pauper, under the iron sway of absentee proprietors; let the tenant be authorised to claim the amount paid by him for poor-rates as a deduction from his rent; let a paid officer be appointed in each parish, or in a small district of parishes, to execute the office of overseer. No minister has ever proposed such a measure as this, because it would decrease the incomes of absentee landlords, and they are almost unanimously opposed to it; the government, therefore, in proposing such a scheme, must be prepared to encounter the united opposition of the Irish members in parliament. Mr. O'Connell's opposition to poor laws in Ireland speaks to my mind much in their favour; the trade of agitator, to him so profitable, would in a great measure cease; the immense military force might be reduced; the national expenses decreased, and taxation diminished. This leads me to the next head—repeal of the malt tax. The apathy of the farmers, who were not unanimous in petitioning for redress of grievances, was the cause of nothing being done for them during the last session of the last parliament. Lord Althorp acknowledged that he was induced to propose the repeal of the house tax, because the tax was shown to be generally unpopular by the numerous petitions from towns, particularly from London against it. Here we see the importance of unanimity and zeal in petitioning: a tax, which pressed heavily on none, not effecting even indirectly the only interest in the country which was declared in the

King's speech a few weeks before to be suffering, is remitted, and that suffering interest is left entirely without redress. The remission of the malt tax would be beneficial to all classes. The repeal of this tax would advance the price of barley less than it would reduce the price of malt—both effects would follow: thus, every working man in agriculture, manufactures, or commerce, could obtain a wholesome and proper beverage at a cheaper rate. Beer would supersede the use of spirits, and would become the universal beverage of the poor; a new impulse would be given to agriculture; land, which is now cultivated for wheat, would be sown with barley, and we might hope to see, not war prices (we do not desire them) but fair remunerating prices, agricultural labourers in full employment, and a spirit of contentment, loyalty, and attachment to the laws amongst our rural population.

Yours, &c.

A NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE FARMER.

Feb. 16, 1835.

The trade in eggs, the value of which for export, according to Mr. Williams, now (1832) amounts to 500*l* a-day, paid by England to Ireland, is carried on with considerable vivacity at Lanesborough (county of Roscommon), and also at Tarmonbarry. The eggs are collected from the cottages for several miles around by runners, commonly boys from nine years old and upwards, each of whom has a regular beat, which he goes over daily, bearing back the produce of his toil carefully stowed in a small hand basket. I have frequently met these boys on their rounds; and the caution necessary for bringing in their brittle ware with safety seemed to have communicated an air of business and steadiness to their manner, quite unusual to the ordinary volatile habits of children in Ireland. I recollect one little barefooted fellow explaining that he travelled daily about 12 miles Irish; his allowance, or rather his gain, was 1*s* upon every six score of eggs brought in, the risk of purchase and carriage resting entirely upon himself. The prices vary from time to time at different periods of the year; but they are never changed without previous notice to the runners. In the height of the season, the prices at Lanesborough were from 2*s* 6*d* to 4*s* per 120; but towards the winter they rise to 5*s*. The eggs are packed in layers with straw, in such crates as are commonly used for the conveyance of earthenware. Each crate will hold about 8,400 of six score, that is, 1,080, the first cost being from 10*l* 10*s* to 16*l* 16*s* per crate. These are sent forward on speculation to Dublin, or occasionally at once to the English market, and a profit of 4*l* or 5*l* per crate is considered a fair remuneration. Sometimes it is more and sometimes less; and there is a risk in the trade. From Lanesborough the crates are sent overland to Killashee, the nearest place on the line of the Royal Canal, and forwarded by the fly-trading boats to Dublin. At Tarmonbarry, I saw several cars coming in laden with crates of eggs from the neighbouring districts on each side of the river. The dealers in Lanesborough, with whom I conversed whilst in the act of packing their crates, seemed quite surprised at my question, whether they ever used any artificial means of preserving the eggs, and could scarcely credit the account I gave them of the possibility of preserving their freshness for a considerable time by simply anointing them with any unctuous substance, such as butter or lard. But in this process the whole of the egg must be carefully covered, and it should be done soon after they are laid.—*Weld's survey of the County of Roscommon.*



## AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES.

We have been much interested by an intelligent communication from a correspondent in one of the French commercial papers, who, after cursorily mentioning the different counties in which agriculture is more or less attended to, and pointing out the consequent benefits resulting to the peasantry, as the means of improving their comforts, and diminishing their poverty, strenuously recommends the formation of agricultural societies in France, praising, at the same time, in the strongest terms, the system of agriculture adopted in Great Britain, and the high and deserving patronage with which it is favoured. He then arrives at the point of argument, which, we acknowledge, struck us as well deserving deep attention, the benefits likely to accrue to France from the establishment of Agricultural Colleges for the practical education of young men destined to become agriculturists, on the same principle as that founded by the Empress Catherine at St. Petersburg, where the students are both practically and theoretically made acquainted with the art of agriculture, having a portion of ground allotted for the experimental part of their study, provided with ploughs and other agricultural implements. They also receive lectures on geology and chemistry, and are instructed in the manures most beneficial for particular soils, to which it might be suggested that a branch of the tuition should consist of the management of cattle, and improvement in their breed. At Moscow, a College has been also established, by the Emperor Alexander, for the instruction in the same science. In Prussia agriculture meets the direct patronage of Royalty; and the Royal Academy of Agriculture, near Frankfort-on-Oder, superintended by one of the most practical, as well as scientific men in Europe, Mr. Thäer, proprietor of the well-known estate, called Moglin, is too celebrated to need any eulogism. From parity of reasoning we would infer, that the institution of such colleges in the United Kingdom might be highly beneficial to the rising generation of British farmers; rendering the sons of the larger landed proprietors, from their practical knowledge, competent to undertake the management of their own estates, or, at all events, would qualify them to ascertain, that their bailiffs adopted the best mode of cultivation, to ensure improvement of the soil, and consequently, an increase of produce. Thus all the drudgery and labour of following the plough in the field or going through the detail at a more advanced age, would be avoided, and the young agriculturist would leave his college practically, as well as theoretically informed, as to the treatment and tillage of the land.

As to the benefit likely to arise from the establishment of Agricultural Colleges, little doubt exists, that by a scientific arrangement, an experimental emulation would be created on the part of students leaving college, and by attempting various theories on their own or fathers' farms, the fertility of Great Britain might be considerably improved, and a decided as well as general impetus given to a cultivation throughout the country; until the operations of the animal, vegetable, and

mineral kingdoms are more thoroughly explored by farmers, there is little chance of any extensive augmentation in the produce of the country. Investigating the nature of the soils, and using various manures to create, or destroy, component parts, that may be beneficial or detrimental in forwarding vegetation, is an essential knowledge and study on the part of a farmer. In many counties, certain manures and systems are adopted from ancient prejudice or ignorance; the fact of the seed germinating, and yielding a return, being thought sufficient proof of the efficacy of the favoured mode of tillage, and it would be quite unavailing to attempt any alteration or experiment deviating from the antiquated system. Whereas, by a more judicious treatment of the land, and an improved method of agriculture, the farmer applying studiously to ascertain the manures most conducive to different soils, the earth might be forced to increase its produce several fold. The principle is at present, however, we fear for the most part theoretical; for, allowing the embryo power of extra fertility in the land, yet the number of agriculturists in England will be found extremely limited, who would be inclined to enter into an experimental system of cultivation. Instances, of course, can be adduced, of education surmounting prejudice; but the present race of small farmers, whose fathers have reared their crops by specified plans of agriculture, are scrupulously followed by their sons, and until, by a different mode of education, you can convince the cultivator of the efficacy of a new system, the reasoning faculties must be more enlarged and enlightened than can be expected in the present generation, though the institution of "*Agricultural Colleges*" would afford the readiest and most effectual means of promoting so desirable a result. What, it may be asked, has caused the Scotch farmer to become an experimentalist, and to make the advancements and improvements in agriculture that he has, but the general diffusion of an improved education?

### PROFITABLE MODE OF FEEDING PIGS.

The following plan for feeding pigs, and which has proved profitable, even in the present extremely low priced times, was communicated by R. Jolliffe, Esq.,<sup>1</sup> of Long Ashton, near Bristol, at the meeting of the Bristol Agricultural Society, on the 28th Feb. last.

Commence with a dam that has fourteen *perfect* dales.\* *Very rarely buy food; never over stock.* When you take them to market, sell to the best bidder; but sell even at a *very* low price, rather than buy food. Two litters may be obtained annually, one *early* in March, the other in October. To obtain that, *wean* the pigs of a Sunday morning, before the sun rises; any other day may do (*that I have never known to fail*). The dam will take

\* Teat.

the male before the week is out. The young pigs require warmth, a dry house, and clean straw often. I exhibited my whole stock,—the dam, one fat pig, and three stores.

one pigs, fourteen of which are doing well and very fine; of the other seven, some were dead. My shepherd has one of last September litter (taken away one day old), a very fine pig about three score.

AGRICULTURE.

RAVAGES OF INSECTS UPON BARLEY AND TURNIPS.

[The following observations on the ravages of insects upon barley and turnips, from the pen of Mr. Farmer, have been forwarded to J. O. Westwood, Esq. F. L. S., &c. and have appeared in the "Magazine of Natural History."]

"The insects accompanying Mr. Farmer's communication consist of one of the small Ichneumonidae, one of the Cynipidae, and specimens of a chrysalis, which he has considered to be that of the latter insect. The first of these is a small and slender Ichneumon, belonging to the aberrant section Adsciti, and the sub-family, Alsyiides. It is of a black colour; the wings are stained dark brown; the tips of the basal joints of the antennae, the thighs and shanks of the fore legs, and the knees of the four hind legs pitchy red: the hind part of the thorax, and the basal joint of the abdomen, are rugose; the antennae are long and multi-articulate, and the abdomen is compressed at the extremity. The wings have one marginal and two sub-marginal cells, the first of which is the smallest, and separated from the discoidal cell by a nerve which runs to the extremity of the wing. In the form of the body, direction of the nerves of the wings, and the structure of the antennae, this insect evidently belongs to the genus Chænon of Curtis; but in the only mutilated specimen sent by Mr. Farmer, the jaws did not seem to me to be extended laterally, as they are in that genus; perhaps, indeed, they might have been broken off. In another specimen, as it appears to me, of the same species, of which I captured many individuals in a corn field near Cambridge and elsewhere, the jaws were extended, the maxillary palpi 6-jointed, and the labial ones 4-jointed; thus establishing the identity of the genus, which has been considered by Mr. Haliday, as synonymous with Cœlinius of Esenbeck; which latter, from having 5-jointed maxillary palpi, and 3-jointed labial ones, belongs to a distinct sub-family, Bracônides.

"Mr. Farmer has not given any account of the larva of this insect; indeed, he merely says, of its preparatory state, that it mostly appeared in the form of pupa, which invariably produced the same ichneumon; whence it would seem that he supposes that this ichneumon, instead of being a parasite, is the real cause of the mischief which he describes, and was, consequently, in the larva state, a feeder on the vegetable. This circumstance would be so completely at variance with every recorded instance relative to the habits of these cuckoo-flies, that analogy would most strongly induce us to reject it, if we could not find, what, I think, I shall be able to show, a more satisfactory mode of explanation. This, it appears to me, will be obtained from an examination of the "chrysalis" which Mr. Farmer has supplied, and had considered as that of the insect which commits the ravages upon the turnips. This chrysalis is of an oblong-oval form, not quite a quarter of an inch long, nearly resembling the smooth cocoon of a small moth, and exhibiting no traces of future limbs; but it is of a hard texture; of a

|                                                                                    |       |     |    |                                    |                                                       |       |     |    |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|----|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|----|----|
| 1831, Dec. 2, I bought the sow (then about two months old) of Farmer Hazle at..... | £7    | 4   | 6  | as stores,                         | .....                                                 | £     | 10  | 6  | d. |
| 1832, July 21, she farrowed 9 pigs; by Nov. 1, 9 were sold at £7                   | 9     | 0   | 0  | do.                                | .....                                                 | 0     | 10  | 0  |    |
| 1833, April 1, do. 12 do.; by June 27, 12 do.                                      | 12    | 0   | 0  | do.                                | .....                                                 | 1     | 10  | 0  |    |
| Sept. 28, do. 15 do.; by Nov. 9, 15 do.                                            | 15    | 0   | 0  | Roasters, averaging 12 lb. at 6d., | .....                                                 | 1     | 15  | 0  |    |
| 1834, March 8, do. 16 do.; by Sept. 10, 12 do.                                     | 16    | 0   | 0  | Part of those were porked,         | .....                                                 | 5     | 10  | 0  |    |
| Sept. 20, do. 19 do.; by Nov. 1, 13 do.                                            | 19    | 0   | 0  | Roasters, averaging 15 lb. at 6d., | .....                                                 | 1     | 5   | 0  |    |
| Five litters 71 pigs.                                                              |       |     |    |                                    |                                                       |       |     |    |    |
| No. 1. The fat pig now exhibited, 18 score at 4d per lb.                           | ..... | 6   | 0  | 0                                  | Farrowed 28th of Sept., 1833,                         | ..... | 2   | 0  | 0  |
| No. 2. Two store pigs do.                                                          | ..... | 3   | 6  | 0                                  | do. 8th of March, 1834,                               | ..... | 0   | 15 | 0  |
| No. 3. One small do. do.                                                           | ..... | 0   | 15 | 0                                  | do. 20th of Sept., 1834,                              | ..... | 0   | 5  | 0  |
| No. 4. The dam to farrow the 10th of March, value.....                             | ..... | 2   | 16 | 6                                  | { Admit for grains, and a few potatoes purchased..... | ..... | 7   | 9  | 6  |
| Amount of sale and value in stock.....                                             | ..... | £52 | 0  | 0                                  |                                                       | ..... | £22 | 0  | 0  |
| Net profit.....                                                                    | ..... | £30 | 0  | 0                                  |                                                       |       |     |    |    |

\* The above fat pig was killed on the 4th March, weighed 19 score 8 lb.

N. B. At between two and three weeks old the pigs will eat a little potato squeezed into some skim milk luke warm. At from four to five weeks old they will be fit for roasters, which is a preferable market to keeping the autumnal litter longer, except one or two of the best as stores, or bacon for the family. The pigs mentioned above got the range over four acres of land (constantly fed with horses), the refuse from the garden, weeds, &c.

The sow farrowed on the 10th March, twenty-



dark reddish brown colour, with thirteen rather indistinct rings, and with the extremities furnished with several minute hard points. Now, from analogy, we are enabled to state, that this chrysalis is not the pupa state of Mr. Farmer's turnip insect, because the latter belongs to a family which, in that state, is destitute of any covering, lying in its cell or gall, with all its future limbs perfectly distinct. Until I had more minutely examined this chrysalis, I thought that it might be the cocoon of the ichneumon, as some of that family do spin silken cocoons, and that Mr. Farmer had confounded the two insects; but on magnifying it, I found that it does not belong to either of them; that it was the immature state of a dipterous insect, being the covering of the real pupa, formed of the indurated skin of the larva, that the insect was consequently undergoing the coarctate kind of metamorphosis. Moreover, from its general structure, it appears to belong to one of the fly tribe. *Múscidæ*. This cannot be the chrysalis of the turnip insect, neither can it be that of the ichneumon of the barley. Analogy teaches us that the gall-like protuberances upon the turnips are the results of the attacks of a cynipidous insect, and that the insect inhabiting this chrysalis cannot be the cause of it. What, then, is this dipterous insect? In the absence of direct information, I conceive that Mr. Farmer must have fallen into a mistake; that the chrysalis, instead of being that of the turnip insect, was found within the sheath of the barley; that the injury sustained by the latter plant was inflicted by the larva of this dipterous insect; and that the larva of the ichneumon, instead of being the "anguis in herba" [the snake in the grass], was parasitic upon the real enemy. We know, indeed, that some of the *Múscidæ* (*Tephritis*, &c.) form galls upon plants; but here we have a real gall-fly caught in the act, while I am not aware that any of the gall-flies (*Cynipidæ*) form cocoons; nor that any of the *Ichneumonidæ* are herbivorous. In fact, this is not the first mistake which has occurred of a similar nature, among those who have not paid much minute attention to the ways of nature. How often has the ladybird been regarded as the cause of mischief to plants, when it has only abounded in order to keep in check the myriads of plant lice (*Aphides*) upon which its larva feed! How often has the tomitit been charged with the ravages of our gardens, when it has been busied only in thinning the swarms of noxious caterpillars or other insects; but there are other causes which induce me to fear that this chrysalis is the real cause of the injury to barley, since two species of *Múscidæ* have been ascertained to attack it: *Múscá hórdei* Bierkander, and *Múscá frít* Linneus; which latter insect, although stated by Messrs. Kirby and Spence not to be an inhabitant of Britain, is so similar, in its habits of getting into the ear, to Mr. Farmer's account of his insect, that I should conceive that the latter must be identical with it; and, according to Linneus, the *Múscá frít* annually destroys a tenth part of the produce of this grain in Sweden. The gelatinous larva of a *Tenthredo* (most probably a *Céphus*) has also been ascertained to feed upon the upper surface of the leaves of barley, so as to occasion them to wither.

"According to Mr. Farmer's account, the diseases termed the anbury, and fingers and toes, appear to be synonymous; but, from the observations of Messrs. Kirby and Spence, such does not appear to be the case. These authors, after giving a formidable list of the insects which attack the

leaves of the turnip, mention that the small knob or tubercle, often observable on the roots, is inhabited by a grub, which they consider nearly allied to *Curculio contractus*. They state, however, that it is not known to them whether the disease to which turnips are subject, in some parts of the kingdom, called fingers and toes, be occasioned by insects or not; although, in a subsequent page, they state that they have reared *Curculio pleurostigma* of Marsham from the knob-like grubs on turnips, called, in some places, the anbury. On this subject, the editor, in a note to me, observes, that 'fingers and toes, in turnips, are monstrous fucations of the base of the turnips into forms resembling fingers and toes. When the matter of the turnip has become applied to the formation of these, it does not form a tuber of any considerable dimension; usually, I believe, none at all.'

"From the observations of Mr. Farmer, it is evident, that at least, two very distinct species of insects are the cause of the gall-like excrescences on turnips; but as yet we are unacquainted with the details of their respective proceedings; which, from the totally distinct structure, must be very different. If, even among the obnoxious insects of our own country, so much remains unknown, how great must be our ignorance of those myriads of species which injure us not; what extensive and unrodden fields of pure delight remain, in which the observer of nature may wander from day to day."

## AGRICULTURAL REPORTS.

### SUFFOLK.

Since last report we have had cold, raw, ungenial weather; rain, wind, and frosty nights, &c., and every species of farm-work has been at a stand. The corn previously put in has made no progress; vegetation is backward, and plants are languid and weak.

The growing wheats have improved of late, but much is still unpromising. On light lands and weak clays, the layers fail seriously, and every means have been resorted to to secure some substitute.

Wheat is still ruinously low in price,—lower than for a number of years, reckoning the increased measure and good quality. All other grain crops were very short produce, and the farmer's loss is as much on one species as another. The graziers have at length felt the depression of the times, and the breeders will next have their share. The number of unemployed labourers increase, and women and children have no employment.

We were surprised to find that an opinion prevailed in the House of Commons, that "Barley is not grown on heavy lands, nor wheat upon light lands," that the repeal of the malt-tax would not benefit the heavy land farmers, who wanted relief most." Now, sir, we poor simpletons did suppose that the repeal of the malt-tax would give much greater relief to the heavy land farmers, and to the heavy land districts we may say, than to others; an equal portion of land is appropriated to the growth of Barley on heavy land as on light, over many counties, and the heavy land barley being of inferior quality commonly, and the duty being the same on thin barley as on the best chevalier, the best only are malted, and the lower qualities are used in feeding hogs and cattle in the shape of meal, the low price of pork and bacon occasioned by the import from Ireland, depreciate the value of barley used in feeding, viz. the return is less, and thus the heavy land farmers suffer severely from not being allowed to malt their barleys, and the Marquis of Chandos is

borne out in his calculation, as to the loss sustained. Barley costs as much (in toll and money) to grind as to have it malted, and taking its value for brewing and feeding combined, the value of the crop would be increased to more than one third. It is not merely as to the increased value in fattening stock (which is great) but to give to mares, cows and ewes, after parturition, and to every species of stock, after illness or poverty from bad keep, or inclement weather, and this, added to the increased value of spirits drawn from malt, as compared to that drawn from raw grain, (2s. per gallon, as stated by Mr. Handley) shows a serious loss to the community, probably equal to the amount of revenue obtained from the tax. Double the number of labourers are required to cultivate heavy land compared to light land, for draining, ditching, &c., and their work is much more laborious, requires heavier tools, and spoil more, and require more beer to support them. Thus, altogether, we think, taking off the malt-tax would give relief "where most wanted." We do not admit that the maltsters have the loan of three millions of public money in hand; we consider that this money is so much drawn from individuals—consumers of malt; and that if there were no duty, that such consumers could purchase more malt—that the public have to pay the interest on the capital employed by the brewer and distiller, and that, although the maltsters have money in hand during the winter months, that when the malting season is over they have to pay up the duty, and thus have to advance as much more on risk of the duty as they have previously had less—that they risk bad debts, and require interest for capital in the increased cost of the malt from the duty, we, (the advocates for the repeal) admit that, as the revenue obtained from the duty is great, that it requires serious consideration before its repeal, least public credit be injured; we have given it that consideration, and I think it would not, and claim a right to be heard. We think that, whenever the subject is brought forward, that it is disposed of in too much haste; that it ought to be treated as other subjects are; that all members inclined to give their opinion should be heard; that the debate should be adjourned, to give time for reflection; that we suspect that (and are told) that the "talent is against us;" that the malt-tax might have been repealed without "endangering public credit;" "without embarrassing ministers;" without injury to any class," we are convinced and prepared to prove. If the malt-tax had been repealed in lieu of the beer-tax, the towns population would have been supplied with better beer at the same price as at present, and the country population would have partook of the benefit, and we should not have been pestered with beer-shops, to ruin the morals of the labouring classes, and the common shopkeepers might have sold beer across the counter, the same as other articles. We have pursued the same course during several ministries, in petitioning for the repeal of the malt duty, which shows, that it is from no political bias or factious motives; in fact, we can have none; it arises from perfect conviction that the malt-duty is the most grievous, impolitic tax existing, a very curse. An Hon. Member asserted that, we were relieved from the poor's-rate, were to be relieved from the burthen of tithes and county rates, and that there would then remain no peculiar burthens on land but the malt-tax;" "that no longer ago than yesterday, a modest petition was presented, asking for the total repeal of the malt-tax, and increase of the protecting duties." "He would ask, with what propriety we could oppose a free trade in corn, if all our peculiar burthens were taken off?" We are not afraid that a free trade without duty will be adopted; this would reduce the revenue more in one year than the

repeal of the malt-tax would reduce it in twenty years. The land is not "mortgaged to the public creditor," but the labour and capital employed in cultivating it. Neither our Colonies, nor the United States could compete with the slave-holding States of Northern Europe. Brother Jonathan would hitch up his tariff, and our over crafty manufacturers would have only slaves abroad and paupers at home, to supply with goods. Our lands would be laid down, but would afford some rent, as the expense of cultivation, tithes, and tradesmen's bills would be got rid of, March 25th.

#### CUMBERLAND.

We had a continuance of the same sort of weather that we had throughout the previous winter months, i.e. mild and fresh, without frost, till about the beginning of the past month, when we had about ten days of severe frost, since then it has been extremely boisterous, with a continuance of strong S.W. winds attended with much rain, hail, snow, thunder, and lightning; during the last two or three days the weather assumes a more settled appearance, and if it should continue a very few days, the sowing of oats will commence. The wheats continued to flourish till the frost, which, with the late rough weather, has taken away their verdure. Fodder is plentiful, both hay and straw. Fat cattle are paying the feeder badly; many farmers gave more money for cattle when lean in the autumn, than they can now obtain when fat, and several lots of bullocks that were purchased during the autumn, will not, at present, bring prime cost by 2l per head. Good horses have been in demand at tolerable prices, but inferior ones are dull at low prices. Our corn markets continue very low, wheat is selling at from 4s 9d to 5s 9d. Barley, 2s 8d to 3s 3d, and oats 2s 6d to 3s per imp. bushel. Pork has also been a very unprofitable article, the very finest carcasses will not bring more than 4s per stone. March 17th.

#### AGRICULTURAL INTELLIGENCE, FAIRS, &c.

**AGRICULTURAL STOCK.**—At the sale of Mr. John Harrison, of Wansford, near Driffield, the following stock (all by that celebrated cart-horse stallion, Bank of England, belonging to Mr. John Stephenson, of North Frodingham) were sold for the prices below:—

|                                  | £. | s. |
|----------------------------------|----|----|
| Black Filly, 2 years old, .....  | 28 | 0  |
| Ditto, ditto, 2 years old, ..... | 22 | 0  |
| Black Colt, 2 years old, .....   | 20 | 10 |
| Grey Filly, 1 year old, .....    | 17 | 0  |
| Brown ditto, 1 year old, .....   | 15 | 0  |
| Foal, .....                      | 9  | 10 |
| Ditto, .....                     | 7  | 10 |

**NORTHAMPTON FAIR**, exhibited a tolerably large show of store beasts, a great part of which were disposed of at low prices. Of beef there was a poor show, and dull of sale. The show of fat sheep was indifferent. The best wether sheep, bare shorn, sold under 3s. per stone.

At **OSWESTRY FAIR**, the show of stock was considerable. Fat beasts and store bullocks found buyers, but without any advance in prices. The horse fair was thronged, but few were sold. Small pigs were rather higher in price, large stores were not. Butter in tubs, 7d. to 7½d. per lb. Skim cheese, 2½s. to 3½s. per cwt. Bacon, 5d. to 5½d. per lb.

At **CAMELFORD FAIR**, the show of Cattle, &c. was good, but the demand was very slack, and not many sales were effected,



**CUPAR MARCH MARKET** was considered rather dull, fat cattle bringing only from 6s to 6s 3d per Dutch stone. There were several milch cows in market, for which there was little demand, and prices low. There was no business transacted in the Horse market worth noticing.

**THE LAWTON HYBRID, a NEW TURNIP.**—We have to introduce to the notice of agriculturists another new and valuable turnip for field culture. This variety is a hybrid between the “green-topped Swede” and the “green-topped white Globe” raised by James Wright, Esq., of Lawton, Strathmore, Perthshire. Hence the name. From trials which have been made in various parts of the country during the last season, this variety seems deserving of cultivation. It is a white turnip with a green head, and possesses the advantages of being hardier and yielding a greater crop than any other of the white turnips at present cultivated in the fields, qualities which render it well worth the attention of farmers.—*Quarterly Journal of Agriculture.*

**THE ANNAT BARLEY, a NEW VARIETY OF BARLEY.**—This new and seemingly very superior variety is the produce of three ears which were picked by Mr. Gorrie, Annat Gardens, in a field on the farm of Flawcraig, Carse of Gowrie, Perthshire, in the harvest of 1830; since which period it has been grown at Annat Gardens. Hence its name. Last season it was sown on a ridge in the middle of a field, with Common Barley on the one side, and Chevalier on the other. In bulk of straw it seemed to have the advantage of both these kinds; it was 5 days earlier ripe than the former, and about a fortnight before the latter; and it was also 2½lb per bushel heavier than the Chevalier. From the Annat barley being of so recent introduction, it will be two years at least before a sufficient quantity of seed can be produced to render it the subject of extensive cultivation.—*Ibid.*

**WONDERFUL INSTANCE OF FECUNDITY.**—Mr. Hawker, a most respectable butcher in the parish of Buckereil, has been fortunate enough to possess seven ewes, which have just produced nineteen lambs, of which sixteen are now living, viz:—two ewes, four lambs each; one ewe, three lambs; the four ewes, doubles.

A few days ago a fine young hog pig, about eight months old, was slaughtered by Mr. N. Proctor, innkeeper, of Pool, near Otley, weighing the enormous weight of 64 stones, 14 pound to the stone; the weight of the leaf was 6 stone 2 pounds.

The commencement of the periodical Fat Stock Meetings at Peterborough, was on Wednesday the 11th inst., and both buyers and sellers encourage the hope that they will be permanently established. The supply of beasts was satisfactorily large, and that of sheep unexpectedly numerous. Many butchers, especially from Oundle and the neighbourhood, attended, and sales were freely effected. At the next meeting, to be held on the 25th inst., prizes will be awarded to owners who may sell the best of each description of cattle—which shows that great zeal exists for the success of the meetings. A very large and respectable company sat down on the 11th to an excellent dinner at the Greyhound Inn at one o'clock, Mr. Bark of Alwalton in the chair. The subject of a Wool Meeting annually, the first to be held on the second Petermas fair day (on the 11th of July next), was discussed, and it being the unanimous opinion that a yearly meeting at Peterborough would be highly beneficial to the growers and buyers of wool in the neighbourhood, suitable resolutions were adopted and subscribed; those present pledging themselves to give their support, and it was sug-

gested that the Duke of Bedford, the Marquis of Exeter, Earls Fitzwilliam, Westmoreland, and Aboyne, Viscount Milton, and other noblemen and gentlemen, be requested to give their sanction and assistance to establish such annual wool meetings.

## REVIEW OF THE CORN TRADE IN MARK LANE DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH.

The aggregate average prices of wheat throughout the kingdom do not at present exceed 39s 9d; and though the demand for malting, distilling, and feeding has increased the consumption of the article to an unusual extent, a natural concomitant attendant on a currency, depreciated below its proportionate value; yet it appears, that the stocks in the hands of the growers are much larger at this period of the year, than has been experienced since the passing of the present corn bill. Not that the past harvest has proved so superabundant, but the circumstance has originated, from the fact, that for some years, every other description of agricultural produce has been bearing a relatively better price; and farmers, in many instances, have been induced to reserve their wheats in preference to other corn, anticipating a more favourable conjuncture for its disposal. At the next principal market of the kingdom to our own, Liverpool, the aggregate supplies of British wheat for the last six months, have been upwards of 75,000 qrs less than those of the corresponding period of 1834, at which time a diminution in the imports were noted of about 57,000 qrs, as compared with the forgoing year, making the receipts this season, as little more than half the amount of those for the six months preceding the crop of 1832; notwithstanding which, this falling off in the arrivals has been more than counterpoised by the extent of the supplies from the English farmers, causing the stocks of free wheat in warehouse, inclusive of the colonial imports, to amount to 150,000 qrs, being nearly as large a quantity as has been on hand for many years. In the event of a protracted spring, farmers may feel inclined partially to withhold their stocks; and the low prices, and the quality of the corn, may draw forth from its present torpidity the attention of capitalists as an article offering more than the usual chances of yielding an advantageous return. If, however, genial weather should continue to hold forth a prospect of bringing to maturity the present favourable appearances, little hope exists of an advance of prices, from any decrease of the supplies, the only chance for speculators resting on the probability of the unfavourable result of the forthcoming crops.

During the month from the 23d of February to the 21st of March, the following quantity of Grain has arrived in the port of London.

|               | Wheat.<br>Qrs. | Barley.<br>Qrs. | Oats,<br>Qrs. |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| English . . . | 30,148         | 16,595          | 11,689        |
| Scotch . . .  | 1,422          | 8,359           | 31,940        |
| Irish . . . . | —              | 1,200           | 16,569        |
| Foreign . . . | 858            | 825             | —             |

|              | Beans. | Peas. | Flour. |
|--------------|--------|-------|--------|
|              | Qrs.   | Qrs.  | Sacks. |
| English .... | 3,135  | 2,231 | 34,253 |
| Scotch] .... | 784    | 879   | 210    |
| Irish .....  | —      | —     | 1,77   |
| Foreign .... | 111    | 3,158 | 2,928  |

The wheat trade throughout March has been languid and depressed; at the commencement of the month the damp state of the atmosphere considerably affected the condition of the samples, and only fine dry parcels were saleable at the previous currency, other descriptions being almost nominal in value; towards the close, the extensive supplies of wheat and flour, principally the accumulation of several weeks' shipments, that had been prevented arriving by the tempestuous weather, had the effect of forcing prices still lower,—the finer descriptions both of white and red wheat, having receded 1s per qr, and other qualities 1s to 2s, with a heavy sale. In bonded wheat nothing has transpired, and prices are quite nominal.

Flour has been extremely dull, and the large arrival of ship qualities has depressed the trade still lower, good country marks having been lately sold as low as 28s, exhibiting a decline of 1s to 2s from the commencement of the month. Town made qualities remain at 35s to 40s.

The duties have advanced 1s per qr on wheat, making the impost 46s 8d, and 3s per qr on peas. Other articles remain the same as at the commencement of the month.

In the early part of the month the barley trade was almost stagnant, owing to the uncertainty on the subject of the malt duty, and, excepting the very finest and low grinding qualities, sales were only to be effected by submitting to a decline in prices. Good middling qualities of malting and distilling, which a few weeks previous had realised 34s to 35s, could only be forced off at 30s to 32s. On the rejection of the repeal of the malt duty, by a large majority of the House of Commons, Barley became firmer, and more inquiry existing. The better qualities advanced 1s per qr, grinding and distilling sorts remaining unaltered; at the termination of the month, however, the trade again receded, and, with the exception of the finest Chevalier, was 1s lower. Little foreign barley has been imported; the few parcels of Holstein and Danish which have come to hand have proved of good quality, and obtained from 36s to 38s.

The malt, like the barley trade, has been affected by the chances attending the Marquis of Chandos's motion, and business was extremely dull, as the question was whether any allowance would be made on the stocks on hand. It is well, perhaps, to mention, that, as the duty is now collected, the maltsters obtain a large credit from the excise, which constitutes a considerable portion of their capital, as they have facilities for realising the article at the price, including the duty, previous to the same being paid; and the amount of capital thus placed in their hands

may be computed at from two to three millions, which is employed in the purchase of barley. On the result of the division on the malt tax being known, the trade rallied, and the article was rendered more saleable, without sustaining any improvement in value; it has, however, again become dull; best common malt remaining at 95s.

The large arrival of Scotch oats has partially depressed the market, but the supplies of English and Irish having been moderate, the latter from the boisterous state of the weather, has prevented much alteration in the currency. As additional imports from the Sister Isle have been weekly expected, purchasers have only bought for their immediate wants, and confined the business to a limited extent. The prices of Irish oats are firm at 12s 3d to 13s per barrel, free on board, according to quality and rate of freight. Nothing doing in loco in foreign qualities, though purchases have been making in Sweden, Denmark, and Holstein, at 11s 6d to 13s per qr for English account.

Beans, at the beginning of the month, met with rather more attention, and fine old qualities were held on rather better terms; a cargo of Egyptian in bond sold at 20s; latterly, however, the supplies having increased, prices have receded fully 1s per qr, especially of new qualities.

Boiling peas have continued heavy sale; but the duty having advanced to 14s, and precluding the admission of any foreign qualities, prices have not receded more than 2s per qr. Hog samples have been extremely dull, and are fully 2s cheaper. The demand for maple descriptions for seed having subsided, the quotations are 2s per qr lower. The large arrivals of foreign peas must all go into bond and await a more favourable opportunity of being brought upon the market.

The price of tares has suffered a considerable depreciation, owing to the large influx of Scotch qualities, and large quantities must be noted 2s 6d per bushel cheaper, the top quotations of large being 6s 9d to 7s, and good do., 6s 6d.

In France the prices of Wheat are improving, and fine qualities coming sparingly to hand. In some of the more southern departments the continued rains were causing the young wheats to turn off yellow, though the result of the forthcoming crop was still anticipated as likely to be favourable. The mills being now supplied with water, are in full operation, and flour, in consequence, cheaper. At Paris the supplies were limited, and purchasers had submitted to an advance of 1s 2d to 1s 9d. Roye samples were worth 39s 6d; Bray ditto, 37s 9d; Burgundy ditto, 38s 2d; farmers' wheat realizing from 34s to 39s; white qualities obtain from 41s 10d to 43s 5d. The prices of Oats during the past month have continued to advance; fine heavy qualities being scarce, as the stocks generally are short, quotations vary from 19s to 21s 4d per qr. At Marseille the disease of the cholera was mitigating its virulence, and it was hoped that business would soon regain its wonted



activity. Some Pomeranian wheat had obtained 27s. Cloverseed at Paris was limited in demand, but prices steady at 33s to 35s per cwt. At Rouen, Brittany quality was held at 40s to 42s; country samples, 35s to 38s.

In Italy the markets are dull, and prices declining, with the exception of hard wheat, which from its scarcity obtains a higher relative price. At Genoa no hard wheat was offering, and Black Sea soft qualities obtained from 30s to 37s 6d; at Leghorn, white Tuscan realized 45s 4d; red ditto, 35s to 39s 8d; linseed, 49s 7d to 62s 1d. At Naples Barletta wheat might in all probability be purchased at 24s; the stocks in the kingdom were large, and the appearance of the new crop very promising. At Trieste soft Italian wheat 32s, Taganrog hard, 49s 8d; linseed, 58s 7d to 61s 6d.

At St. Petersburg, little alteration had taken place in grain; wheat remained at 21 to 22 roubles per chetwert; barley, 13½ to 14 do., and oats, 12 to 13 do. The sudden changes of the weather, which had been experienced during the winter, exposing the seed sown last autumn, to the destructive alternations of frosts and thaws, had led to the belief that it may have been rotted in the ground, and which is the supposed reason, that has induced the Government to extend the privilege of the free importation of grain during the present year. Some contracts have been entered into at the Lower Baltic ports, for the delivery of rye meal; but while the Government purchase largely, and at different intervals open their stores, retailing grain or meal at lower rates than the market value, it is impossible for the market to remain steady, as mercantile confidence is partially destroyed, being incapable to cope with the power and influence of so despotic a Government. The contracts for linseed had increased to upwards 120,000 chetwerts, mostly Morschanky and similar descriptions. At Riga, the mild weather which have been experienced, had rendered the ice on the Dwina impassable, and had it continued, the water would have become open, but a slight frost having returned, has for the present, prevented the opening of the navigation. Courland wheat remained at 24s to 28s 3d; oats 14s 1d; barley, 18s 11d; Linseed continued in demand, and good crushing qualities were held at 41s 3d. Hempseed was to be obtained at 28s 6d. At Konigsberg the prices of wheat had been kept steady by some speculative purchases at from 27s to 29s 6d; tares were in request, and prices had advanced to 28s. At Danzig the river navigation towards the middle of the month of March, had become quite free, and little chance existed at that advanced period of the season of frost again returning; shipments of wheat were therefore looked for from the interior, and a few supplies had already come to hand; fine new high mixed qualities were noted at 28s to 29s, inferior descriptions had been selling at 22s to 23s, principally for Jersey and Russian account; rye and barley were proved as being a failure in some districts, even of Prussia, and barley had been purchased in order to be sent up the river,

into the interior.—At Stettin, prices remained high in proportion to other ports; and business confined to the consumptive demand. At Rostock and Wismar, wheat was steady in price, and though the supplies were liberal, yet they were much less than would have been received had the roads been in a better state. Barley was in request, principally for the local wants, 15s had been paid by the native maltsters for quality of 52 lbs. Oats were held at 11s 6d to 12s. In Holstein and Denmark good qualities of wheat would be purchased at 20s 6d; fine, weighing 63 to 64 lbs, at 21s. Malting Barley has suffered little depreciation in value; heavy Holstein of 53 to 54 lbs, is held at 16s 6d to 16s 9d, lighter weights 15s 6d to 16s; Danish samples of 53 to 54 lbs, 15s to 15s 3d, 52 lbs, 14s 6d; and there appears little chance of prices going much lower, as there will not be much grain disposable after the seed corn is taken. The small farmers, particularly in Holstein, whose grain this season has been the best, have sold all their stocks; and those proprietors, who have really fine quality, are speculating on an improvement in the currency, when corn is required for seed, and the Russian inquiry commences. A large proportion of the barley now left on hand is very deficient in weight, many samples not exceeding 49 lbs. Oats remain nearly unaltered, as the stocks are decidedly short; the article varies in price from 11s to 12s for quality of 35 to 38 lbs; to 40 lbs, 12s 6d; 41 to 42 lbs, 11s to 12s. Few tares to be obtained. Peas dull at 20s to 21s. At Hamburg some sales of wheat had been made for export to England; and about 70 lasts of old quality for shipment to the Mediterranean. The supplies from the upland continuing small, prices have remained firm; and in some instances fine qualities have realized an advance of 4d to 8d per qr. Some Saale barley had arrived, but the quality was not fine, and which was held at 21s 3d, but not more than 20s 2d was offered by the brewers. Oats unaltered in value. Tares had rapidly receded in price; large quality were selling at 30s; and small might be bought at 27s to 27s 6d. Rapeseed had sold at 27l per last. Cloverseed dull, and both white and red 2s to 3s per cwt. cheaper.

#### CURRENCY PER IMPERIAL MEASURE.

|                                        | BRITISH. |       | MARCH 1. |       | APRIL 1. |    |
|----------------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|----|
|                                        | s.       | d.    | s.       | d.    | s.       | d. |
| Wheat, red, Essex, Kent, Suffolk, new. | 38       | to 42 | 36       | to 41 |          |    |
| Old.                                   | 40       | 43    | 38       | 42    |          |    |
| White, new.                            | 42       | 52    | 46       | 51    |          |    |
| Ditto, old.                            | 48       | 53    | 47       | 52    |          |    |
| Norfolk, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire.   | 36       | 40    | 34       | 38    |          |    |
| White, do. do.                         | 40       | 45    | 38       | 44    |          |    |
| West Country Red.                      | 34       | 40    | 33       | 38    |          |    |
| White, ditto.                          | 40       | 44    | 34       | 42    |          |    |
| Northumberland and Berwickshire Red    | 36       | 39    | 33       | 37    |          |    |
| White, ditto.                          | 37       | 41    | 35       | 40    |          |    |
| Irish Red.                             | 32       | 36    | 31       | 33    |          |    |
| Ditto White.                           | 35       | 38    | 32       | 35    |          |    |
| Barley, Malting, new.                  | 32       | 35    | 31       | 35    |          |    |
| Chevalier, new.                        | 38       | 42    | 38       | 41    |          |    |
| Distilling.                            | 28       | 32    | 30       | 31    |          |    |
| Grinding.                              | 28       | 28    | 26       | 28    |          |    |
| Malt, Brown.                           | 36       | 43    | 36       | 41    |          |    |
| Ditto Norfolk pale.                    | 50       | 62    | 48       | 62    |          |    |
| Ditto Ware.                            | 60       | 65    | 60       | 65    |          |    |
| Peas, Hog and Grey.                    | 34       | 39    | 32       | 37    |          |    |
| Maple.                                 | 38       | 42    | 38       | 40    |          |    |
| White Boilers.                         | 36       | 38    | 33       | 36    |          |    |

|                         | MARCH 1.         |             | APRIL 1.         |        |
|-------------------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|--------|
|                         | s.               | s.          | s.               | s.     |
| Beans, small.....       | 36               | 42          | 36               | 41     |
| Harrow .....            | 35               | 40          | 35               | 39     |
| Ticks .....             | 34               | 37          | 32               | 36     |
| Mazagan .....           | 30               | 36          | 30               | 35     |
| Oats, English feed..... | 22s 6d           | 24          | 23s 6d           | 24     |
| Short small .....       | 22s 6d           | 24          | 22s 6d           | 24     |
| Poland .....            | 22               | 25          | 22               | 25     |
| Scotch, Common .....    | 23               | 24          | 23               | 24     |
| Berwick, &c. ....       | 24               | 25          | 24               | 25     |
| Potatoes, &c. ....      | 25               | 27          | 25               | 27     |
| Irish, Feed .....       | 19s 0d to 21s 0d |             | 19s 0d to 21s 0d |        |
| Ditto Potatoes .....    | 22s 0d           | 24s 0d      | 22s 0d           | 24s 0d |
| Ditto Black .....       | 19s 6d           | 21s 0d      | 19s 6d           | 21s 0d |
| Bran .....              | 11s 0d to 12s 6d | per bushel. |                  |        |

PRICES OF FLOUR,

| Per Sack of 280 lbs.                          | MARCH 1. |    | APRIL 1. |    |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------|----|----------|----|
|                                               | s.       | s. | s.       | s. |
| Town-made .....                               | 40       | 42 | 35       | 40 |
| Norfolk, Suffolk, Kent, and Essex .....       | 29       | 31 | 28       | 30 |
| Sussex and Hampshire .....                    | 30       | 32 | 28       | 30 |
| Superfine .....                               | 33       | —  | 32       | —  |
| Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and St. Ickton ..... | 28       | 30 | 28       | 30 |
| Northumberland, Berwick, and Scotch .....     | 29       | 30 | 28       | 30 |
| Irish .....                                   | 29       | 50 | 28       | 30 |
| Extra .....                                   | 32       | —  | 31       | —  |

AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF THE LONDON AVERAGES,

From February 24th to March 21st, inclusive.

|             | qrs.   | £ s. d. |                   | qrs.  | £ s. d. |
|-------------|--------|---------|-------------------|-------|---------|
| Wheat.....  | 26,719 | 2 3 0   | Beans .....       | 5,466 | 1 16 10 |
| Barley..... | 27,769 | 1 13 10 | Peas.....         | 1,552 | 1 17 9  |
| Oats .....  | 99,047 | 1 3 6   | Bere or Bigg..... | 539   | 1 5 10  |
| Rye.....    | 315    | 1 11 1  |                   |       |         |

IMPERIAL AVERAGES.

|                                                                                                                                        | Wheat. | Barley. | Oats. | Rye.  | Beans. | Peas. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| Weekending                                                                                                                             |        |         |       |       |        |       |
| 6th Feb.                                                                                                                               | 41 5   | 32 9    | 22 0  | 31 7  | 36 2   | 33 3  |
| 13th ..                                                                                                                                | 40 10  | 32 11   | 22 3  | 31 6  | 36 6   | 38 9  |
| 20th ..                                                                                                                                | 40 4   | 32 8    | 22 6  | 30 5  | 35 10  | 38 3  |
| 27th ..                                                                                                                                | 40 4   | 32 3    | 22 7  | 29 11 | 36 2   | 37 11 |
| 6th March                                                                                                                              | 39 10  | 32 1    | 22 5  | 30 4  | 36 1   | 36 9  |
| 13th ..                                                                                                                                | 39 8   | 32 2    | 22 2  | 29 3  | 36 2   | 37 5  |
| Aggregate Average of the six weeks which regulates the duty .....                                                                      | 40 5   | 32 6    | 22 4  | 30 6  | 36 2   | 37 10 |
| Duties payable in London till Wednesday next inclusive, and at the Outports till the arrival of the Mail of that day from London ..... | 46 8   | 13 10   | 13 9  | 24 3  | 15 6   | 14 0  |
| Do, on grain from British possessions out of Europe .....                                                                              | 5 0    | 2 6     | 2 6   | 3 0   | 3 0    | 3 0   |

An Account of the Quantity of Grain and Flour imported into the United Kingdom during the month ending the 5th March 1835; the Quantity on which the Duty has been paid for Home Consumption, and the quantity remaining in Warehouse.

|                                       | Wheat.  | Barley. | Oats.   | Rye.    |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                       | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    |
| Quantity imported ....                | 2,795   | 5,064   | 434     | ..      |
| Do, entered for home consumption..... | 1,262   | 3,527   | 55      | ..      |
| Do, remaining in warehouse .....      | 663,180 | 165,978 | 324,783 | 5,108   |
|                                       | Peas.   | Beans.  | Blank.  | Flour   |
|                                       | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | cwts.   |
| Quantity imported ....                | 613     | 1,130   | ..      | 5,721   |
| Do, entered for consumption.....      | 184     | 210     | ..      | 2,130   |
| Do, remaining in warehouse .....      | 2,390   | 34,819  | ..      | 359,336 |

PRICES OF HOPS IN THE BOROUGH.

|                           | MARCH 1. |           | APRIL 1. |           |
|---------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
|                           | £ s.     | £ s.      | £ s.     | £ s.      |
| East Kent Pockets.....    | 6        | 0 to 7 15 | 6        | 0 to 7 15 |
| Mid-Kent Pockets.....     | 5        | 5         | 6        | 2         |
| Wend of Kent Pockets..... | 5        | 0         | 5        | 12        |
| Sussex Pockets .....      | 4        | 4         | 5        | 5         |
| Yearlings .....           | 4        | 4         | 5        | 5         |
| Old Olds .....            | 1        | 1         | 3        | 10        |

BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS MARKETS.

|                            | MARCH 1.            |            | APRIL 1. |            |
|----------------------------|---------------------|------------|----------|------------|
|                            | £ s.                | £ s.       | £ s.     | £ s.       |
| Ware, Scotch reds .....    | 2                   | 10 to 3 15 | 2        | 10 to 3 15 |
| York kidneys .....         | 2                   | 15 3 10    | 2        | 15 3 10    |
| Marsh Champions.....       | 2                   | 5 3 5      | 2        | 5 3 5      |
| London whites .....        | 2                   | 2 3 3      | 2        | 2 3 3      |
| Shaws.....                 | 2                   | 0 3 0      | 2        | 0 3 0      |
| Middings, Scotch reds..... | 1                   | 15 2 5     | 1        | 15 2 5     |
| York kidneys .....         | 2                   | 2 2 6      | 2        | 2 2 6      |
| Marsh Champions.....       | 1                   | 15 2 5     | 1        | 15 2 5     |
| London whites.....         | 1                   | 12 2 0     | 1        | 12 2 0     |
| Shaws.....                 | 1                   | 10 2 0     | 1        | 10 2 0     |
| Chat Potatoes.....         | 20s to 25s per ton. |            |          |            |

SMITHFIELD MARKET.

Per stone of 8lbs. to sink the offals.

|                     | MARCH 1. |          | APRIL 1. |          |
|---------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|                     | s. d.    | s. d.    | s. d.    | s. d.    |
| Inferior Beef.....  | 2        | 0 to 2 2 | 2        | 0 to 2 2 |
| Do, Mutton .....    | 2        | 2 2 4    | 2        | 2 2 4    |
| Middling Beef ..... | 2        | 4 2 8    | 2        | 6 2 10   |
| Do, Mutton .....    | 2        | 8 3 0    | 2        | 8 3 0    |
| Prime Beef .....    | 3        | 6 4 0    | 3        | 6 4 0    |
| Do, Mutton .....    | 3        | 6 4 0    | 3        | 6 4 0    |
| Veal .....          | 3        | 0 5 4    | 3        | 6 5 0    |
| Pork .....          | 3        | 0 4 0    | 3        | 0 4 0    |
| Lamb.....           | 0        | 0 0 0    | 5        | 4 6 2    |

WOOL MARKETS.

BRITISH.

|                         | MARCH 1. |          | APRIL 1. |          |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|                         | Per lb.  | s. d.    | s. d.    | s. d.    |
| Down Tergs.....         | 1        | 6 to 0 0 | 1        | 6 to 0 0 |
| Half-bred Hoggets ..... | 1        | 7 0 0    | 1        | 7 0 0    |
| Ewes and Wethers .....  | 1        | 3 0 0    | 1        | 3 0 0    |
| Leicester Hogs .....    | 1        | 6 0 0    | 1        | 6 0 0    |
| Do, Wethers .....       | 1        | 3 0 0    | 1        | 4 0 0    |
| Blanket Wool.....       | 0        | 9 0 11½  | 0        | 9 0 11½  |
| Flannel.....            | 1        | 0 1 3    | 1        | 0 1 3    |
| Skin Combing .....      | 1        | ½ 1 1    | 0        | 0 1 2    |

SCOTCH.

|                               | MARCH 1.             |           | APRIL 1. |           |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
|                               | Per Stone of 24 lbs. | s. d.     | s. d.    | s. d.     |
| Laid Highland Wool, from..... | 11                   | 0 to 11 6 | 10       | 9 to 11 3 |
| White Do. Do.....             | 14                   | 0 14 6    | 13       | 3 13 9    |
| Laid Crossed Do.....          | 14                   | 0 14 6    | 13       | 6 14 0    |
| Washed Do. Do.....            | 16                   | 6 17 6    | 16       | 0 17 0    |
| Laid Cheviots.....            | 16                   | 0 18 0    | 15       | 0 17 0    |
| Washed Do.....                | 19                   | 0 22 0    | 18       | 0 21 0    |
| White Do.....                 | 28                   | 0 30 0    | 27       | 0 29 0    |

FOREIGN.

|                         | MARCH 1. |        | APRIL 1. |        |
|-------------------------|----------|--------|----------|--------|
|                         | Per lb.  | s. d.  | s. d.    | s. d.  |
| Australian .....        | 2        | 2 3 0  | 2        | 2 3 0  |
| Van Diemen's Land ..... | 1        | 6 2 9  | 1        | 6 2 9  |
| German Electoral .....  | 4        | 0 5 0  | 4        | 0 5 0  |
| Primas .....            | 3        | 0 3 3  | 3        | 0 3 3  |
| Secundas.....           | 2        | 0 2 3  | 2        | 0 2 3  |
| Tertias .....           | 1        | 6 2 0  | 1        | 6 2 0  |
| Pieces.....             | 1        | 6 2 3  | 1        | 6 2 3  |
| Lamb's .....            | 2        | 0 3 9  | 2        | 0 3 9  |
| Spanish Lyons .....     | 2        | 0 2 9  | 2        | 0 2 9  |
| Segovias .....          | 1        | 10 2 3 | 1        | 10 2 3 |
| Soria's .....           | 1        | 9 2 0  | 1        | 9 2 0  |
| Extramaduras .....      | 1        | 4 2 7  | 1        | 4 2 7  |
| Lamb's .....            | 1        | 3 1 9  | 1        | 3 1 9  |
| Portugal .....          | 1        | 1 1 5  | 1        | 1 1 5  |
| Russia Maquios .....    | 2        | 3 3 9  | 2        | 3 3 9  |
| Crosses .....           | 1        | 9 2 6  | 1        | 9 2 6  |
| Odessa Zigay .....      | 1        | 1 1 3  | 1        | 1 1 3  |
| Donskoy.....            | 0        | 7 0 9  | 0        | 7 0 9  |



# THE POLITICAL COMPANION

TO

## THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

### THE MALT TAX.

(From the Standard.)

The question, then, shortly results to this—Will the agriculturists endanger an administration which they know to be friendly to them—which will not suffer to be impaired the present imperfect defences of the British farmer, and which must—we repeat it—which MUST REPEAL THE MALT TAX, if it get but a very few years of fair trial? Will, we ask it, the agriculturists endanger such an administration with an assurance, that it will be followed by one by which the Corn Laws must be repealed; by one that has injured and insulted the farmer, and that never, if its members are consistent, can reduce a single shilling of the tax, the reduction of which is the matter in experiment? Surely we need not put this question a second time. But it may be objected that the success of to-morrow night's motion will not necessarily endanger Sir R. Peel's administration. We know not whether it will *immediately* destroy that administration, because we have no means of knowing what may be the Premier's intention in the event of a defeat. But that it will *endanger* the present ministry there can be no shadow of doubt. Lord Spencer has, indeed, set this question at rest, by his declaration last year, that a repeal of half the Malt Tax would necessarily break up the government; and this at a time when the government had in its hands an opportunity of making reductions to a very great extent. But let men calmly look at the question in its present position. Suppose five millions of revenue swept away, nay, suppose half the sum relinquished (though this would afford no relief from by far the worst grievances of the Malt Tax)—does Sir Robert Peel hold that commanding position in the House of Commons that he can dictate an equivalent? Is he so much more powerful than Lord Spencer was a year ago, that he can open sources of revenue that defied the utmost strength of his predecessor in the Exchequer? Are his enemies so much more scrupulous and delicate in their opposition than were the opponent of the Whig Radicals of 1834, that he must find it an easy matter to carry through the House of Commons measures of taxation which Lord Grey's government did not dare to contemplate? Suppose, as the case may be, five millions, or two millions and a half of malt revenue abandoned, what are the articles of use, or enjoyment, that will bear a new or an additional taxation? We shall be told a Property Tax—the fairest and most efficient of all sources of revenue, if only it can be fairly arrived at. But how many difficulties oppose the fair collection of this description of revenue? Landed property, indeed, lies obvious to the tax collector—there can be no question that the landed proprietor, or the mortgagee, must pay up his full proportion of a Property Tax, consequently that the farmer and labourer must be compelled to pay, in rent and

reduced wages, at least their full proportion of the impost. Property in the public funds is as open to such a tax. These are the unconcealed and accessible sources of a Property Tax; but what is to be done with the property embarked in trade? How is this to be got at? By what searching process can we ascertain the actual property, whether in stock, or money, or debts, of the merchant, manufacturer, and shopkeeper? And supposing such a searching process conceivable by human ingenuity, is a House of Commons elected, for the most part by shopkeepers and manufacturers, likely to arm any administration with that process? We say no. A Property Tax must, in fact, always bear, with undue weight, upon the landholder, the agriculturist, and the fundholder. This, to be sure, it may be said, would be the reverse of an objection to such a tax in the reformed House of Commons. But there is another objection. A Property Tax is the most efficient of taxes, as far as landholders, agriculturists, and fundholders are concerned. The machinery once put in motion, the change of a figure doubles the revenue, with certainty and without any other trouble. It is the one exception to the general rule, that, in taxation, two and two does not make four. In the case of a Property Tax alone, excessive increase does not diminish. This peculiar efficiency of a Property Tax, was the reason assigned for its early discontinuance after the war. Now, we ask the agriculturists, is there any reason to suppose that the present House of Commons would give this most efficient of taxes to Sir R. Peel's government, before that government shall have had that opportunity that time, we know, will give it to rivet its claims upon the confidence of the people?

### THE MALT TAX.

(From the Times.)

Argued as was the question of the repeal of the malt-tax on Tuesday evening, and disposed of, at least for a long time to come, as the public may probably now consider the scheme which was then rejected, we should be guilty of levity towards the House of Commons, and more especially towards the Right Hon. Baronet the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who treated the subject with such eminent and decisive ability, were we now to re-open the controversy in detail, nor should we by doing so prove less wearisome to our readers. It is sufficient to say that two or three bold and pernicious fallacies have been laid at rest by the vote of that evening, and by the discussion which preceded it.

The ears of the community will no longer be stunned with declamations upon the distress to agriculturists, arising out of the limited consumption of their produce, of which the malt tax has been the cause, when it is ascertained in the clearest manner, that barley, the

grain immediately affected by the malt tax, is more in demand than at any former period, and though produced in larger quantities than ever, bears a higher price than ever, the consumption and the price advancing steadily for the last four years, and the quantity brought to market in the year 1834, a year of deficient harvest, exceeding that of the previous year by above 800,000 bushels! All this while, be it understood, the price of wheat has been and remains lower than at preceding periods; wheat being free from duty, while barley is subject to it.

Another fallacy has been got rid of by this discussion. It had been said that the malt tax had been the sole cause of checking the consumption of beer within this kingdom. Is there, then, no other cause? While the demand for beer has increased not more than from 6,000,000 to 8,000,000 of barrels in 112 years, the use of tea in the same interval has grown from 370,000lb to 35,000,000lb; spirits from 3,000,000 gallons have increased to upwards of 12,000,000; and the demand for coffee, even since the year 1760, has risen from 262,000lb. to 20,600,000lb. The reasoning of Major Handley was curious upon this point, and pretty much in character. Why, quoth this gentleman economist, had not the consumption of beer increased with that of tea, and coffee, and spirits? To which Sir Robert Peel quite naturally answered, *because* there had been such an increase of tea, and coffee, and spirits. The habits of the country have changed, most fortunately, as we think, save only respecting the use of spirits; and the health of those who combine the consumption of tea and coffee with that of beer—nay, of all those women and children, at least, who wholly substitute the use of the two last mentioned liquids for that of beer—has, we doubt not, derived great general benefit from the alteration.

But the grand fallacy was the pretence that the malt tax was an oppression to the “farmers.” This delusion has now very nearly vanished. The farmers have by this time opened their eyes to the fact that they are no more injured by the tax on native barley than any other description of Englishmen, and that they are in no greater degree served by the duties on foreign corn, which some of the owners of land are hypocrites enough to continue for the “farmer’s” exclusive benefit. This jargon begins to be thoroughly understood. If the malt duty were taken off tomorrow, the farmer would be forced by the proprietor of the light barley soil to pay proportionably a higher rent; and if the tax on foreign corn were reduced tomorrow, and the price of wheat (which is doubtful) were to be lowered in consequence, it is not the farmer’s pocket that would be affected, it is the landlord’s, and his alone. The representation which we have now, for the hundredth time, exposed, is nothing less than a fraud in the financial system of country gentlemen, and we are confident that it will not much longer be successful in deceiving even the simplest and rudest peasant.

#### THE MALT TAX.

(From the Times.)

The consequence of repealing the malt-tax, and thereby cutting off, at a single blow, one full third of the disposable revenue of the country, cannot surely have been fully considered by Lord Chandos, when he so zealously pledged himself to press such a motion upon parliament. Those gentlemen who stand un-

pledged upon the question, and who have been induced to lean towards an abolition of the tax by a notion that it would, 1st, relieve the consumer and enable him to drink more beer, or, 2ndly, that it would assist the farmer, through an increased consumption, and a consequent rise in the price of barley, and thus enable him to pay a higher rent,—such gentlemen ought, we think, to pause a little, and ascertain, so far as it can be done without the risk of an actual and irremediable experiment, the probability of the measure so recommended producing the above, or any, good effects, in a degree at all commensurate with the shock to public credit, which must result from a breaking-up of the revenue, without a substitute for the tax abolished.

We stated yesterday that the reduction of duty (amounting to 2s 7d per bushel of malt) would not lower the price of beer to the consumer more than 2d the gallon, or  $\frac{1}{3}$ d per quart—an alteration which can hardly be presumed to extend in any great degree the sale of the article, by consequence to increase the demand for barley, to raise the price of it, or thereby to assist the farmer. If, on the other hand, the sale of malt should be increased by the reduction of the duty, and with it the price of barley, it is obvious that the advanced price of those materials must fall upon the beer drinker, not upon the brewer, so as to neutralise pro tanto, the relief afforded to the consumer by the abolition of the tax, and to weaken the force of one of the two arguments in favour of such abolition, in nearly the same ratio in which it served the other.

It is fairly stated in an intelligent little pamphlet, entitled “Letters on the Consumption of Malt,” that even when the price of beer was reduced a penny per quart, by the abolition of the beer duty, the increased sale arose much more from the simultaneous multiplication of beer-shops, which afforded such facility of access to the liquor, than to the mere fall in price. Yet the addition to the produce of the duty was only a little more than one-seventh of the whole tax, or about 640,000*l.* per annum. The real advantage to the most numerous class of consumers, as well as to the barley growers, would be (were it practicable) an extension of the manufacture of home-brewed beer, which, under the operation of the present law, would give the poor man’s family as good a quart of beer for 2*d* as he can buy of the publican for 5*d*, and would naturally and inevitably, by increasing the demand for malt, enhance the market price of it. But that is not contemplated by the proposal of Lord Chandos, nor could it be effected by any such mode of legislation. A saving of little more than a farthing in the quart of beer by the repeal of a tax, pressing equally on all purchasers of malt, would not stimulate the poor man to a practice, to which he has not been already tempted by a profit of 2*d*.

The fact is, that if the malt tax were repealed tomorrow, neither the poor consumer nor the industrious farmer would be a gainer by it to the amount of 5*s.* in the 100*l.* The price of one description of farm produce—viz. barley—might be raised by a more enlarged consumption. But does any one imagine that the owner of the soil would permit the cultivator to benefit by the change to his own (the landlord’s) exclusion? Is any one simple enough to conceive that if the produce of an acre of barley land were to fetch a better price, the same acre would not also be valued by its proprietor at a better rent? The same confusion seems to prevail upon this subject as upon



every other involving the relations between landlord and tenant, whether with regard to the price of grain, or to the privilege of voting for members of parliament. The establishment of corn laws is invoked by what goes under the name of the "agricultural interest," as a necessary protection to the tenant, who has really in the long run, nothing to do with it, except in so far as he is a consumer of corn, seeing that if the tax on imported corn protects anything, it is the landlord's rent, and not the tenant's profit, just as tenants at will were said to be enfranchised by the Reform Bill, for their own sakes : whereas it is in the interest of their landlords that their votes have been almost invariably given. Those acquainted with the details of the malt trade have demonstrated pretty clearly that by the repeal of the tax, capital to the amount of 5,000,000*l.* sterling, now employed by the brewers in stirring and animating the trade would, for a time at least, be withdrawn from the market, and must be replaced by fresh capital, bringing with it a new and more languid method of dealing between farmer, maltster, and brewer.

Nevertheless, the main point to be now considered is the alarming deficit which would at once appear in the general revenue of the country, while it is obvious that very few of the Whigs or Conservatives are prepared to adopt the only efficient substitute, viz., a tax on property. It is, we think, impossible that such a measure should be carried, and we shall, as was before hinted, cordially congratulate the noble Lord who introduces it on his double good fortune—the redemption of his pledge, and the defeat of his motion.

#### THE MALT TAX.

(*From the Globe.*)

The ministers triumphed over the country gentlemen last night, and the triumph, as far as regards the question of the malt tax, is decisive. We are equally pleased at the victory, and the mode in which it was obtained. Public faith was saved, but with a fearful consumption of Tory popularity and honour. The merit of saving public credit belongs to the reformers ; the disgrace of present treachery and former faction rests on the ministers and their adherents.

That the repeal of the malt tax would be popular for the time, there is no denying. But we cannot bring ourselves to think that it should be conceded ; because, with all the evils of the tax, we do not look upon it as the most mischievous of existing imposts, or as the one from which relief is most desirable. The consumers of beer imagine that the removal of the tax would cheapen beer ; the farmers that it would have the effect of enlarging the sale, and raising their profits, by raising the price of barley. Both appear to us to be mistaken ; the former to a very great degree, the latter wholly. As long as, by the prohibitions on foreign produce, the supply of malt is confined to this country, the repeal of the duty would very little cheapen beer, and very considerably raise the price of barley ; and while the occupiers and cultivators of the land are for the most part rack-renters or tenants from year to year, the raising the price of barley will raise—not the profits of the farmer, but the rents of the landlord. Now, much as we should desire to augment the enjoyments of the working classes, or relieve the lamentable distress of the farmers, we do not wish to make any sacrifices to the landlords. They at least are not the first and fittest objects of financial commiseration.

We grant that the unpopularity of the tax is a very strong argument against retaining it ; and that if it is matter of certainty that the general feeling against it must prevail sooner or later, it is the wisest course to abandon it at once. But such a concession of policy to public opinion can only be justified by absolute necessity ; and we ought to have far stronger evidence of the strength and permanency, as well as the extent of the feeling in question, than we have had, ere we comply with it. At least, before we yield to an erroneous opinion, let us endeavour to enlighten it. Let us point out the real effect of this tax at present, and the probable consequences of its removal ; let us show the working people and the farmers that their exertions, instead of getting them comforts and necessities, will merely increase the country gentleman's command of luxuries ; and we shall probably hear somewhat less of this outcry ere long—particularly if a certain party in the State find that it is not so much their interest to agitate the question, and that if tampering with the passions of agriculturists is sometimes the way to get into Parliament or into office, the enjoyment of the dignity is liable to be disturbed by the mode in which it has been acquired.

But, after all, the question was decided on more weighty considerations. There is no use in mincing the matter : the question last night was, whether the funds should be attacked or not. We must do some gentlemen the justice to say, that they talked vaguely of meeting the defalcation by economy. Mr. Hume was the only person who committed himself to the specific absurdity of pointing out the items in which nearly one-fifth of the whole controllable expenditure of the State might be saved within the year. As for the talk of substituting a property tax, it is really quite unfair in any one, considering the difficulty of overcoming all the objections in principle—all the obstacles of detail—all the prejudices and interests which are opposed to the imposition of a property tax—to talk of it as a certain mode of supplying any defalcation in the revenue. When we see not a mere bill, but an act for imposing a property tax, then, and not till then, shall we think it reasonable or honest to talk of repealing taxes on the faith of finding such a substitute.

#### THE MALT TAX.

(*From the Morning Herald.*)

An evening contemporary (the *Courier*) has an article upon the important subject of the malt-tax, evidently prompted by some free-trade theorist, and written by a party wholly ignorant of the position of the agricultural occupiers and labourers, as well as the custom of tillage throughout Great Britain ; at any rate the writer is one who is most anxious to blink the real question, for the sake of perpetuating his cruel theories against the industrial portion of the British empire. His notions savour so much of the Macullochite empiricism, that we should not have noticed them but that we know that empirics sometimes dispense most dangerous commodities. He commences by stating that there are many raw materials of manufactured articles that ought first to be relieved from taxation before the malt duty is disturbed. We willingly accord that we wish our crippling system of excise was exploded, and it should be the first endeavour of the government to get rid of that system which, with all its cumbrous inquisitorial machinery, is maintained at the enormous charge of 17½ per cent. on the ag-

gregate. But the writer, in talking about the raw material, has forgotten that the tax on malt is actually a tax upon the raw material called barley, from which, if once the duty were removed, the poor and industrious cottager might brew a wholesome beverage with the cost at the outset of merely a few utensils that would not amount to the indirect duty he now pays for the poisonous stuff he is compelled to drink at the beer-shops and public-houses in the course of three or four months. Again, we deny that the cottagers have generally left off making their own bread; where they have so done it is in consequence of their poverty, and that only in the immediate neighbourhood of large towns. Our personal knowledge bears out this assertion. And he also proves himself little acquainted with the internal economy of the peasant's cottage in decidedly rural districts, when he asserts that his clothes are not mainly prepared at home; in fact, the means of the farming labourer are so reduced that he cannot purchase them already made. So much for this part of his reasoning. That the peasant should be enabled to return to the good old, and still existing custom, in many instances, of brewing and baking, &c., at home, is one of the great objects for our advocacy for the repeal of this onerous tax, because we believe that it will lead to a regeneration of character in that useful portion of our population, which the application of Malthusian and Macullochite theories have tended greatly to lower. The writer says that the abolition of the malt tax will only relieve the occupiers of light lands—to wit, the barley growers, who, from his account, would appear to have made large fortunes by the application of bone-dust for manure. This is a curious apology for the perpetration of the malt tax, and shows that the writer has but a shallow and limited knowledge of agriculture—almost as limited as the supply of bone-dust is now annually becoming, either for heavy clay, wheat, or light barley lands. Verily it is but the paltry excuse of a free trader in corn to accelerate the downfall of the agricultural occupiers by flooding the country with foreign barley in order to suit his private views. He must, if he pretends to knowledge at all, have known that, had it not been for the general adoption of an improved system of applying manures during the last 20 years, that the corn and meat growers of this country could not have maintained their position as they have done. But we must dismiss this twaddler on the malt tax—this masked advocate for free-trade principles at the expense of more than six millions of the British population. Yet we cannot conclude without expressing to the agricultural interests our conviction that the repeal of the malt tax is but a preliminary measure, which will be incomplete without a thorough reform in our monetary system, from which, if the Administration flinch, it truly will merit the reprobation of all who wish well to this country; but we hope, since the King's Speech from the throne has reiterated the admission of agricultural distress, that this important interest will no longer be neglected.

#### THE MALT TAX.

(From the Herald.)

The Marquis of Chandos has, as we anticipated, redeemed his pledge to his constituents, by persevering in the motion which he brought forward last night for the repeal of the malt tax. Great anxiety had been felt and expressed during the last few days in

many quarters, at the approach of a question upon which it was known that the agricultural interests felt strongly, and upon which it was equally well known that the Ministers, for obvious reasons, felt strongly also, though, unhappily, in a different sense—the one denouncing the impost as a burden on the land, the other clinging to it as a productive source of taxation. Amongst the conjectures to which this state of anxiety gave rise the postponement of the question for the present became very general. We need not say that the conjecture was erroneous, for our column this day record one of the most important debates that has ever taken place on the subject. In the speech of the Marquis of Chandos will be found a striking exposition of the whole case of the malt duty, not only in its bearing upon the agricultural interests, but upon the general interests of the community. Nothing could be more characteristic of the manly qualities of the noble speaker's mind than the ardour with which he expressed his determination to keep faith with his constituents. He could assure the head of his Majesty's Government that it was not with any view of embarrassing them—it was exclusively in fulfilment of his pledge to his constituents, and of the duty which he considered he owed the country; and deeming it to be his duty to bring it forward, nothing under heaven should prevent him bringing forward the motion." But, in spite of this ardour, in spite of the sound practical views contained in the speech itself, and of the impressive and affecting eloquence by which they were enforced, the motion was lost by a large majority, and thus another instance was added by another Parliament to the many already upon record, which prove the difficulty of overcoming old and rooted prejudices even in assemblies and amongst minds that make a boast of their superior intelligence. It is mortifying to see a Minister like Sir Robert Peel set himself, at a moment like this, against a measure to which the agriculturists have long looked as the best means of affording them relief. As for the bugbear of a property tax, upon which he seemed to rely so much, and upon which his reliance most certainly did not fail him, every one who looks at the financial condition of the country must know that, to a property tax, in one shape or other, we shall be obliged to come at last. Even the Members of that House, with whom we are persuaded this argument had more influence, because it came in the shape of a threat, than any argument applying more directly to the question—even the Members of that House are aware that a property tax must in the long run be resorted to as the only practicable means of shifting the pressure of taxation from those who are not able to those who are able to bear it. Looking at it in this light, what a short-sighted policy does that appear which, merely for the purpose of gaining time, or adding a few years—it may be months—to the exemption in which they exult at present, would run the risk of alienating an important class of his Majesty's subjects from the Government and institutions of the country. Well might Lord Chandos warn the Administration, as he did last night, that a few proceedings of this kind would destroy all confidence in their measures, and all hope from their establishment in office. Those only who are acquainted with the state of the agricultural districts can form an idea of the disappointment with which the decision of last night—the decision of the new Ministry and the second reformed Parliament—will be received amongst them. It may have saved the Administration some trouble in the financial arrangements for the year, but it will neither add to their strength nor benefit their reputation, nor increase the chances upon which they may calculate for a continuance of their power.



## IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

(From the Times.)

We have received several letters respecting Sir John Campbell's bill for the "abolition of imprisonment for debt, except in cases of fraud." More urgent matters have prevented us noticing till now the re-introduction of that measure, the discussion of its merits in the House of Commons on Wednesday last, the course it is intended to pursue with regard to the progress of the bill, and the communications of our correspondents.

The history of the bill lies in a very small compass. It is no measure of premature or gratuitous legislation. The common-law commissioners reported in favour of such a bill after examining parties of all descriptions—from the petty tradesman up to the greatest merchant. The evidence of these parties, which extends over some hundreds of folio pages, has been some time published. A committee of the House of Commons confirmed the view taken by the commissioners. The bill was brought in last session: it was printed and extensively circulated throughout the country. Sir J. Campbell stated on Wednesday, that he has himself received hundreds from creditors as well as from debtors, urging him to proceed with the bill. Under these circumstances he renews the measure, and it has been once more referred to a select committee of the House of Commons.

It is hardly possible that more ample means could have been exerted to prepare the bill carefully, to make its provisions generally known, to court suggestions for the improvement of its details, and to rouse into action the opponents of its principle. If, however, there remain any persons who desire to be heard against the measure, or against any part of it, their course is easy. The bill is now before a select committee of the House of Commons, and we are quite sure that the members will be happy to examine any one who has suggestions to make. If that mode be disagreeable or inconvenient to any one, he can embody his views in a petition to the House, and ask the member who presents it to move that it be referred to the committee on the bill,—which will be agreed to as a matter of course. Our correspondents will do well to avail themselves of one or other of these facilities of enforcing the objections they entertain to any of the provisions of the bill, and of suggesting any improvements which have occurred to them.

In the debate on Wednesday, and in the letters of our correspondents, there is but one practical objection to the bill which we think deserving of consideration. It is this—the bill, say the objectors, gives a summary remedy in the case of bills, promissory notes, &c., whereas no such remedy is given with reference to book debts, as they are called. The following case is put as an illustration:—A shopkeeper gives a bill at a certain date to his manufacturer or warehouseman; he gives it on the faith of the promise of his book-debtors that they will pay what they owe by the time that the bill becomes due;

they fail in the performance of their promise; the bill becomes due; the shopkeeper cannot take it up, and the warehouseman has a remedy against the shopkeeper which the shopkeeper has not against his book debtors. It is obvious that this is very much the case under the existing law—in other words, that the man who has taken a security is in a better condition than the man who has taken none. If a man now bring an action upon a bill of exchange or promissory note, his course is easier and less expensive than that of the man who has to prove the delivery of goods, their value, and the liability of the party whom he sues. But it is not probable, or rather it is not the necessary consequence of the bill of Sir John Campbell, supposing it passes into law, that every trader will take the security of a promissory note? there might be some little inconvenience in this, but it is as nothing compared with the general benefits of the measure. The nature of the one debt must in every case render the process of its recovery more lengthy and difficult than that of the recovery of bond or bill, or promissory note debts, on the face of which are admitted those things that must necessarily be proved in the other case before a man can be compelled to pay the amount claimed of him—and those things are the delivery and value of the goods, and the liability of the party proceeded against. However, the objection, as we have already said, deserves attention, and we have no doubt it may be met to the satisfaction of the parties who urge it. Where they may urge it with most effect we have also told them.

It is mere nonsense to say that this measure will "do away with all credit;" though we readily admit that it must put a stop to some transactions to which it can hardly be expected that the legislature will extend its protection, because it is not for the welfare or the respectability of the community that they should be tolerated. Indeed, it is upon that very ground that many support the bill. Thus it is supported by Mr. Bernal, Mr. Clay, and Mr. Grote. Mr. Bernal said in the debate that it will destroy what has been substituted for credit, namely, "unlimited confidence"—what Mr. Clay declared to prevail, viz. "*gambling credit*, which keeps up the high prices of inferior articles"—what Mr. Grote called "the wild and injudicious system of credit,"—which he also said was but too common. We see nothing to regret in this, on the contrary, we participate the approbation so expressed and concur in the reasons for it.

The other objections urged in the debate, chiefly by Mr. Baring, were objections to the principle of the bill, and in favour of that the vast majority of the public has already so strongly and so frequently pronounced its opinion, that we feel we should be wasting our own time and that of our readers if we were to say one word in its defence.

## THE MALT TAX.

Although this question is settled for a time, it must *again* be brought before the notice of the House of Commons. Justice *must* be done to the farmers. It will then be of importance to know what were the arguments used in opposition to the repeal upon the late occasion; and, which produced such an astounding effect upon *certain* county members, as to induce them to forfeit the solemn pledges made to their constituents. For these reasons, and believing that our pages could

not be better occupied, we have given a full report of the speeches made upon the Marquis of Chandos's Motion.

TUESDAY, MARCH 10. — The Marquis of CHANDOS rose to bring forward his promised motion for the repeal of the malt tax. The desire of promoting the interests of the country at large was the only motive with which he brought forward the present motion. He could assure the head of his Majesty's government that it was not with any view of embarrassing them; it was exclusively in fulfilment of his pledge to his constituents, and of the duty which he considered he owed the country, and deeming it to be his duty to bring it forward, nothing under heaven should prevent him bringing forward the motion. He could not promise the house that he should be able to enumerate any new arguments in support of his motion—he had only to repeat the tale of wretchedness and distress of the continued condition of agriculture, and the conviction of its existence it was now his endeavour to impress upon the house. When the malt tax was first imposed it was small. First it was 4s a quarter, in 1787 it was 10s 6d, in 1791 it was 12s 6d, in 1802 it was 18s 8d, in 1817 it was 38s 6d, and in 1827 it was diminished to 20s 8d, an amount at which it now stood. He admitted that a partial reduction, any reduction, would afford acceptable relief; but if any part of it were allowed to remain, the expense and vexations of the excise system would continue, which he did not desire. To get rid of the whole would relieve the farmer from vexations, and would be most beneficial to him in every point of view, and would be most advantageous to the best interests of the country. (*Hear, hear.*) He well knew how harrassing and ruinous the malt duty was to the farmer, and the best interests of agriculture, and of the country. It greatly diminished the consumption of barley, it prevented the farmers from having their agricultural labourers in their houses (*hear*), and it caused a depreciation or disuse of the national beverage. (*Hear.*) The malt tax was formerly an annual tax, like the sugar duties, &c., but in 1822 it was made a permanent tax; therefore the parliament had since that period ceased to have the annual control over it that it formerly possessed. The result of the tax had been most prejudicial; besides injuring the farmer, and the farmer's habits towards his labourers, it diverted the taste of the working classes from the truly national beverage, beer, to the consumption of ardent spirits. It had diminished private breweries, and had led to the increase of public breweries and of beer-shops, and, worst of all, to the increase of "gin-palaces." (*Hear.*) They were now to be seen everywhere, and the tendency of them was most pernicious to the morals and the comforts of the people—the great increase of the destructive habit of consuming ardent spirits was but too manifest. It had obviously led to great increase of crime. Between 1812 and 1819 there were 72,216 persons accused of criminal offences; between 1819 and 1826 the numbers had increased to 95,628; and between 1826 and 1832 the number had increased to 131,818—among whom were 12,000 women committed from the police-offices, being originally charged with drunkenness. (*Hear.*) These facts, and the diminished consumption of the national beverage, were demonstrable. The distress was admitted in the King's speech, and some relief had been hinted at; but if no more were contemplated than relief from some local taxes—such as church rates, &c., he could tell the

Chancellor of the Exchequer that such relief would be quite inadequate, and would cause universal disappointment. (*Hear, hear.*) He had made a comparison as to the relief that would be afforded by the different courses. A farmer of 250 acres, by the repeal of local taxes, would be benefited to the extent of 8l; by the repeal of the malt tax he would be relieved to the extent of 70l or 80l a year. (*Hear.*) If hon. members would but look through the country at the state of the farm-houses and of the farmers, they would find scarcely a single man—with the exception, perhaps, of their own tenantry—in the condition in which he was many years ago—able to brew his own beer, and to maintain his own tenants. (*Hear, hear.*) They were now compelled to depend upon the common brewer for the beverage they consumed, and were compelled to purchase that which they formerly manufactured. What could be finer, or more grateful to the feelings, than to look back to the period when every farm-house had its circle of domestic labourers congregated round the fireside, or seated at the table of their master, partaking of the national beverage, the home-brewed beer? (*Hear, hear.*) But now they were constrained to slake their thirst at the pump, or, mayhap, at the nearest ditch, as the employer was unable to purchase, and was not permitted to brew, the beer which he formerly served out from his own casks. (*Hear.*) He trusted that in a British House of Commons, where there were so many country gentlemen, who owed their seats, too, to their pledge upon this subject—(*loud cheers*)—in such a house he should not, he trusted, appeal in vain on behalf of those to whom they owed their seats—nay, their very existence in the country (*cheers*); and this at a time, too, when the agricultural interest was beaten down—when the landlord was obliged to leave his house—to visit a foreign soil,—when the mansions of the gentry were closed up, and those who should depend on them for support were obliged to drag out existence in a workhouse. (*Hear, hear.*) It was utterly impossible that such a state of things could go on—and it was time for the government and the House of Commons to take into consideration the distress which existed, and, by adopting the plan which he should have the honour of proposing, to give relief, as he hoped, to the agricultural classes and satisfaction to the country. If he asked the relief which he now sought at the expense of any other class of his Majesty's subjects, he should feel that it would be as unbecoming him to solicit as it would be for the house to display such a partiality. (*Hear, hear.*) But, in relieving the agricultural classes, they would relieve the community at large, who, instead of grudging the relief, would hail the concession as an act not less of justice than of policy. (*Loud cheers.*) If the house would look at the question in another point of view, they would find that the great profit of the malt trade found its way into the pockets of the maltsters. The noble lord then read a statement exhibiting the entire amount of revenue derivable both by the maltster and the Exchequer from the consumption of malt in the year 1833, taking that as an average year. This amount, up to October, 1833, was 16,303,000l, produced by more than 40,758,000 bushels of malt, at 8s per bushel, including the maltster's expense (3s per quarter), and the extra expense of excise, &c. (3s 6d per quarter). Of these 16,303,000l, only 4,923,000l found their way into the Exchequer; and the balance became the profit of the maltsters. (*Hear, hear.*) He did not mean to say that the maltster was not entitled to a fair profit;



but he contended that such a profit as was exhibited by his statement was most unreasonable. It was apparent that the relief which was sought would not be confined to one class, but would be shared by the entire community; the trade would be thrown open and the opportunity of competition afforded to the brewers. But another evil that flowed from the imposition of this tax was the introduction of a very bad material into the market. In illustration of this he should mention one fact;—in London, the quantity of malt consumed in manufacture from 1720 to 1730 was 500,000 quarters; the same quantity was consumed from 1790 to 1800, while the quantity of liquor in the former period was 3,000,000, in the latter 6,000,000. (*Hear.*) From this it was obvious that the quality of this material must have been greatly deteriorated. (*Hear.*) There was another point of view in which he was anxious that the house should look at this subject. By a repeal of this tax they would in many counties afford the feeders of cattle an opportunity of feeding large cattle upon the refuse of the malt, which the excise duty prevented them from doing at present. In his own county they fed principally upon oil-cake, which was expensive; and he knew that they would willingly feed upon the refuse of the malt, if the opportunity were afforded them. There again would be a direct advantage to the farmer, as well as to the public, for the maltsters would only take the very best barley, and the refuse was almost necessarily thrown upon the public. It was very true that in his (Lord Chandos's) own immediate neighbourhood the taking off the malt tax would not produce any very immediate benefit, but, coming up the country, where barley was more generally grown, the benefit would be very extensive; and he felt warranted in saying that any alteration in the present law would be hailed with satisfaction by the country, as an indication of their intentions to afford relief to the agricultural classes, whenever it was practicable. (*Hear, hear.*) It was utterly impossible for any government to go on and maintain the present duties. He had endeavoured with others who had preceded him, to obtain their repeal, and he regretted that now, as then, his exertions might not meet with the success which he was convinced they deserved; (*hear, hear*), but he would at least have the satisfaction of laying before the house the case of the distressed agriculturists, and of hearing the grounds upon which hon. members could justify their votes against his motion who had come into that house on the express pledge of supporting it. (*Loud cheers from the opposition.*) He was perfectly well aware that his right hon. friend had a right to call upon him, when taking off one tax, to state what substitute he would impose to make up the deficiency in the revenue? Though in reply to such an interrogatory he might have recourse to the observation of Mr. Tierney, who said that it was his business to find fault with taxes, not to impose them. (*Laughter.*) He certainly felt considerable reluctance to enter upon a financial statement—particularly after the budget produced last year by the hon. member for Lincolnshire. (*Laughter.*) He feared he should not be able to submit to the house any thing so comprehensive as that, and he should therefore confine himself to the proposition introduced last year by the right hon. the Secretary of the Board of Trade, in order to make up the deficiency he should impose upon spirits, foreign wines, &c., such a duty as, without trespassing upon the comforts of the poor, would be only an equitable revenue derived from

the luxuries of the rich. (*Hear, hear.*) For his own part he was quite ready to bear a greater burden than that imposed upon him, if by so doing he could take from the shoulders of the humbler classes a weight greater in proportion to their capacity to bear it, than that imposed upon himself. (*"Hear" and cheers.*) It was utterly impossible that the agricultural classes could continue in their present condition, under the increasing pressure of local taxation, unless they were assisted by that house, not in a shape of remission of small taxes, but by some one decided measure; and that to which they looked with the greatest confidence and expectation was the repeal of the malt tax. (*Loud cheers.*) He had been induced to think that in submitting this motion to the house, it would have been necessary for him to propose a more lengthened resolution than that which he was about to submit to their consideration. However, he did not wish to pledge the house to any exact period of time at which this tax should be taken off, for he thought the interest of the maltster should be consulted, that he might get rid of his stock on hand; and he did not wish that the Chancellor of the Exchequer should be called upon for any drawback. (*Hear, hear.*) Taking also into consideration the difficulty that must be created by taking off by one resolution five millions of the public revenue, he felt that he consulted the interest of the community, and of the country, when he proposed that the house should agree with him that it was necessary to effect an entire abolition of the duty on malt; (*cheers,*) and asking of the house permission to bring in a bill regulating the time and the instalments by which it should be effected. (*Hear, hear.*) He did not purpose at once to extinguish the entire duty; but he thought it might be done in two or three instalments, by which means he would relieve the embarrassment of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, (*laughter,*) afford a fair protection to the maltster, and give perfect satisfaction and contentment to the English farmer. (*Hear, hear.*) God forbid that he should get up in that house to propose any measure injurious to the public creditor. (*Hear, hear.*) He was not the man to do that; but he was the man to propose a gradual but decided measure of relief to a class of men to whose distress that house could not be blind, and whose condition demanded the most serious and most favourable consideration. (*Cheers.*) Upon looking back to the efforts already made to procure a repeal of the malt tax, he found that there were in the present parliament many gentlemen who upon former occasions had given that question their serious attention, and expressed a hope that the existing system would be altered in the present session—many there were, too, pledged to their constituents to vote for its abolition. To these, and to the great body of English gentlemen by whom he was surrounded, he appealed to fulfil the promise upon which they had been returned to that house. (*Loud cheers.*) They were pledged to advocate the cause of the farmers, and in that advocacy to give effect to the motion which he had the honour of proposing. (*Hear, hear.*) It was not his business to find fault, nor would he do it, with the conduct or opinions of any man. He brought forward his present motion because he felt himself bound, as an honest man, to discharge that act of duty, to redeem the pledge which he had given to the country; and, whatever might be the result of his motion, he should at least have the consolation of reflecting that he had done his best to serve the agricultural interest, and that he

had not swerved from what he conceived to be his duty as an honest man and an independent member of that House. (*Cheers.*) He wished that other hon. members would consider themselves similarly bound, and that he could calculate with confidence on the result of that night's debate. (*Hear, hear.*) But he feared that the result of the division would not be such as to satisfy the just expectations of the country. It might fall to the lot of some one more worthy than himself to see his exertions for the repeal of that tax crowned with success; but his failure could not at least be attributed to any want of ardent anxiety upon his part to see it carried into effect. (*Hear, hear.*) He had stated before that it was his intention to propose a resolution, calling upon the house to vote for the extinction of the duty upon malt: but he at the same time said that if he succeeded, he should ask the liberty of the house to introduce a bill, embodying an arrangement with respect to the time at which the reduction should take place. In stating this he wished the house distinctly to understand, that in agreeing to his resolution they did not bind themselves down to any specific time for it to come into operation; (*hear, hear.*) this question would arise hereafter—and whether it should be permitted in two or three instalments. He thought it necessary to throw out these observations, because a long resolution might have the effect of embarrassing the question, which was in itself simple and plain. (*Hear, hear.*) He felt that he should not be justified in trespassing at greater length upon the attention of the house. No words of his, no abilities, even more powerful than he possessed, could strengthen the case which had been advanced on behalf of the distressed agriculturists. Last year, when he brought forward this question, he was able to draw the attention of the house so closely to the case of the labouring classes, that, by a very small majority his motion was rejected. The smallness of this majority showed the sense of the house with respect to the existence of distress; and he could assure them that this distress was now certainly not less than it was then. (*Hear, hear.*) The price of the produce was diminished, not increased; and if he did not enter at length into the question of the agricultural distress, it was not, he could assure the house, from not being fully impressed with a conviction that this distress existed, and to a very lamentable extent. (*Hear, hear.*) He thanked the house for the indulgence they had extended to him, and should not longer trespass on their attention. He had laid the case before them as simply as he possibly could; and he should now leave it in the hands of a Jury of English gentlemen, reminding them, however, that the question which they were called upon to decide was not whether the tax should be abolished immediately, but whether it was to be abolished at all. (*Loud cries of "Hear, hear."*) He could not possibly see how any hon. members could plead that they were taken unawares, particularly after the speeches he had read as having been delivered in different parts of the country. (*Cheers.*) At the recent election the agricultural interest had supported many members of that house in their hour of trial, and they now called upon them in return to fulfil the pledge they had given. (*Hear, hear.*) The noble lord concluded, amid loud cheers, by proposing the resolution—"That it is expedient that the present duty on malt do altogether cease and determine."—Major HANDLEY knew how difficult it was in times of political excitement to separate the ques-

tion really before the house from all considerations but those really pertaining to it. (*Hear, hear.*) His object in the line of conduct he should adopt was not, he could assure the house, to obtain any party triumph, but to pursue a conscientious course upon a most important question. (*Hear, hear.*) He could bear his testimony to the accuracy of the noble lord's account of the distress which existed amongst the agricultural classes—a distress with which the government, it would seem, was unacquainted, though assisted by the counsels of hon. members for Essex and Kent. If the government did really believe in the existence of that distress, and to its full extent, he felt assured they would not have confined themselves to offering an insult to their feelings by that mockery of relief contained in the speech from the throne. (*Hear, hear.*) In the year 1821, when a committee sat to inquire into the causes of agricultural distress, wheat was 54s 5d per quarter; in 1833, when another committee sat, it was 53s per quarter; and they had now arrived at 40s 4d, as the average price of wheat. Even this price, he was aware, it did not generally bring—certainly not in his county, where he, last week, sold wheat of the very best quality, for 37s. (*Hear, hear.*) With such a price as this, he asked how was it possible for the agriculturist, even if he had his land rent-free, to grow wheat? (*Hear, hear.*) Such a state of things, he contended, required something more than the appointment of a committee, or the empty sympathy of a sentence in the King's Speech. (*Hear, hear.*) The malt tax he believed to be the most malicious—the most partial—the most unjust of all the evils that afflicted the agricultural classes. It was partial, for it affected only one class, and that one the least able to bear it. It was most demoralising in its effects, and it was most impolitic, because it placed upon the threshold of the malt-house an obstacle to its consumption. The evidence of this would be found in the fact that the consumption of tea and coffee, as proved from the excise returns, have increased the one 40 and the other 200 per cent., while no such increase took place in the consumption of malt. This did not arise from any disinclination on the part of the people to use malt, for it appeared that spirits distilled from malt was 2s per gallon dearer than that produced from raw grain. (*Hear.*) How much of it, too, would be consumed in the feeding of cattle? It was a fact that 7s a-head was paid for bullocks feeding upon wash at distillers; and in all the agricultural societies with which he was acquainted, the prize cattle were not allowed to be fed upon wash, because, while it was the most fattening, its price put it out of the reach of the poorer classes. (*Hear, hear.*) Why, he asked, should the people be obliged to purchase oil cakes? The nicety of metropolitan palates, he believed were sometimes offended by beef fed upon oil cake, which, it was thought, imparted a disagreeable strength to it. Now he would ask hon. members to vote with him on this motion, and they would have their reward in the improvement of their beef and mutton. (*Laughter.*) It might be said that this motion would only affect barley; but he would ask the farmers of clay lands, if there were a demand for barley, would it not in many cases displace wheat? (*Hear, hear.*) The hon. member then adverted to the benefit which would accrue from the repeal of the malt tax, by weaning the people from the beer-shops, and attaching them to the farm-houses in which they were engaged, where they would, as they used formerly to do, receive their beer,



without the temptations to vice by which it was accompanied in the shops. (*Hear.*) There was no mode of checking this evil except by any abolition of the malt tax. Mr. Cobbett, in the course of last year, quoted from the evidence of a gentleman named Simmons, of Gloucestershire, who deposed before a committee that 14 out of 15 clergymen whom he had consulted, expressed their opinion that the best way to remedy the evil of the beer-shops was to repeal the malt tax. (*Hear, hear.*) But some gentlemen would assert that these hopes were chimerical, and that the labourers would not brew at home. He denied this. (*Hear, hear.*) His own labourers brewed whenever they had opportunity. He would beg the attention of the house to this one fact, that at harvest they commonly brewed their little *modicum* of drink, and the price of the malt obliged them to adulterate it with coarse brown sugar, instead of using that which PROVIDENCE had bestowed, and which had been cultivated with the sweat of their own brows. (*Hear.*) It was a well-known fact that labourers and workmen who resorted to beer-houses, returned, after partaking of the beverage they got there, besotted and infuriated. He recollected being told by a waterman on the Thames, that they dared not go into the beer-houses by the water side, for if they did, they would not be able to pull back against the tide. It was manifest the articles sold in these shops must be adulterated; for when the brewer sold the barrel at 38s, they undertook to sell it at 36s; and it was known to be a common practice with such persons, to make three barrels out of two. He could not say what ingredients were used by those retailers; but that they were destructive and injurious to human life there could not be the least doubt. (*Hear.*) It was, he considered, a most impolitic tax—it was a tax which interfered with science—a tax which prevented a man to walk from his cistern to his still unaccompanied by an Excise officer. (*Hear.*) He now came to a portion of the subject which his noble friend had treated lightly, and upon which it was not his intention to press strongly—he alluded to the financial part of it. He recollected that an hon. friend of his, the late member for North Devonshire, had, for the part he had taken upon this motion, incurred a great deal of obloquy, and lost his seat by it. Now it was not to be expected that he would run the same risk. (*"Hear," and laughter.*) He disclaimed the doctrine laid down upon this subject by Mr. Tierney and others, that he should not be prepared to vote away a sum of money on one description of taxes, unless he was prepared to substitute another; for as far as he was himself concerned, he was quite willing to support the proposition of the hon. member for Worcester, when he stated, that in any commutation of the taxes bearing upon the poor and the labouring classes, he was most willing to substitute a property tax. He was himself most willing to have the property tax; but that was a proposition which he was aware was by no means popular in that house. (*Hear.*) But was he to be told that they were so circumscribed in circumstances, that if there was a defalcation in the revenue, the right hon. gentleman would not be able to find the means of supplying the decrease. They could have no such fears when they saw on the right hand of the Chancellor of the Exchequer the President of the Board of Trade, who, in the discussion upon this question in 1833, told the house that "there was no reduction of taxation more likely to give relief than the reduction of the duty on malt," (*"hear," loud cheers, and laughter,*) and "if that

duty could not be spared, it could be easily transferred to some other articles." (*Cheers and laughter.*) He would not anticipate the speech of the right hon. gentleman in support of the motion of his noble friend. (*Cheers and laughter.*) He presumed that the speech which they would hear that night from the President of the Board of Trade would be most useful to the agriculturists, and it would prove to them that they had not lost their able advocate in their consistent friend. (*Cheers and laughter.*) If the malt duty were repealed, he believed the deficiency could be supplied. A just arrangement should be made in the letting of crown lands by auction, and not jollying them away in leases, as at present. If this were done the deficiency in the revenue would shortly be supplied. A tax should be imposed, too, at once, which had been given up by the noble lord the late Chancellor of the Exchequer—he alluded to the tax upon the transfers of stock. (*Cheers.*) For the life of him he could not understand that valid argument could be used against the imposition of that tax. He wanted to know why it was that, when he could not dispose of 5,000*l* worth of land without paying a heavy stamp duty, yet he could dispose of the same amount of stock without having any more to pay than the broker's fees? (*Hear.*) It might be said that imposing such a tax would be a breach of the public faith; but was not the property tax a breach of the public faith? (*Hear.*) Did it not now require three quarters of wheat to purchase the same quantity of debt which in its original value was equal to but one quarter? (*Hear.*) He looked upon a tax but as the insurance paid for the protection of property; and seeing that the agricultural interest was upon the brink of ruin, he asked was it not right that insurance should be paid upon the property in the funds? Let him not be misunderstood; for he would lend himself to nothing which could be regarded as a dishonourable breach of the public faith. He recollected when the hon. and learned member for Dublin was assailed with a burst of indignation in that house, when he upon one occasion spoke of "the cant of national faith;" and if by that the hon. and learned member meant that national faith was not to be maintained, the sentiment was one which should undoubtedly be repressed. (*Hear.*) But this he would ask, what was the value of national faith if they had not the national means to meet it? (*Hear.*) Mr. Pitt had at one time declared that the land was mortgaged to the public creditor. He did not mean to deny the mortgage; but he asked what would be the condition of the public creditor, if he were to attempt to go through the difficult process of taking possession of the land, where he would behold nothing but pauper parishes and uncultivated fields, for his lost dividends? It amounted to this, that either the public creditor must place in peril his entire mortgage—or, like other mortgages in private life, the interest must be reduced. (*Hear.*) He should not trespass further upon the attention of the house than to allude to one sentiment, which had fallen from his noble friend, who seemed to have risen under the apprehension that there was a possibility that gentlemen who had pledged themselves elsewhere would be found voting against him to night. (*Hear.*) Those hon. gentlemen whom he saw around him would not be influenced now by that which had occurred on a former occasion with Lord Althorp, the stale trick of a threatened resignation, (*"hear," and cheers,*) a threat which he knew was not very often carried into effect, and for which he had no apprehension at the present moment. (*Cheers.*) He knew that,

however easy it was for hon. gentlemen to change their opinions, it was not so easy for them to change their places. (*Cheers and laughter.*) But if gentlemen who voted for the repeal of the malt tax against the government of Lord Grey, notwithstanding that threat, should now vote the other way, he asked would not factious motives be attributed to that vote? Would it not show that by their vote upon that occasion, they were influenced by those factious motives which they were latterly so fond of imputing to others? (*"Hear," and cheers.*) But, though rumours were so rife, and he had no doubt that some of those connected with his noble friend believed them—yet he could not credit them. Some weeks ago they raised the cry of "measures not men"—they would be still true to their principles—not that they loved the measure less, but that they loved the men more. (*Cheers and laughter.*) He could not, for instance, suppose that there would be any retraction on the part of those who had pledged themselves; he could not believe, for one, that the hon. baronet the member for South Devonshire, who defeated his liberal opponent because he was so strenuous an advocate for the abolition of this tax, would do so. (*"Hear," and laughter.*) That hon. baronet, in addressing his constituents, after promising that if he should be honoured by becoming their representative in Parliament, he should devote himself to promote the welfare of the industrious classes, and then said he would look to the currency question and other measures; he promised to vote for "the repeal of that most oppressive and mischief-working impost the malt tax, which depresses the industrious classes, and promotes intemperance and immorality." (*Cheers.*) "For these professions I claim credit, because no one can convict me of broken promises, or of having belied my word." (*Cheers.*) He now asked, had not his noble friend been alarmed without any just cause? (*Cheers and laughter.*) Hon. members claimed the support of the constituency upon the exclusive title of their being "the farmer's friends;" and could it be thought that in a few short weeks they would forget their promises. He would ask was it possible that those gentlemen would act thus in that house? (*"Hear," and cheers.*) That those gentlemen should add to the despair of the already heart-broken farmers by betraying and deserting their cause? (*"Hear," and cheers.*) The professions of these gentlemen should now be submitted to the test; they would try their sincerity, and the division of that night would show who were and who were not the farmer's friends. (*"Hear," and cheers.*) He feared he had already trespassed too long upon the attention of the house, he now cordially seconded the motion of his noble friend. (*Hear.*)—Sir ROBERT PEEL said that the course which he proposed to pursue in regard to the discussion of this question, made him peculiarly anxious to rise at an early period in the debate. He did not wish to call attention to any matter mixed up with political or party interests, but to review the facts and arguments which had been adduced in favour of the repeal of duty on malt, in a calm and unprejudiced manner, and, if possible, to exclude the consideration of all subjects likely to excite prejudice, or to militate against what he conceived to be the best interests of the country. (*Hear, hear.*) It was because he sincerely hoped that the house was ready to listen and consider those facts and arguments—because he hoped that the question was not to be decided by political or party feeling, or in consequence of previously received opinions—because he hoped that the house would not omit

the consideration of all other classes of the community, nor select one class for relief without inquiry into the state of the other classes, but that they should sit as an unprejudiced jury upon the merits of the whole of this important question, that he asked them fairly to consider the evidence that had been adduced, and the arguments by which it was supported. (*Hear, hear.*) He was called upon to consider whether or not he should give his consent to a resolution which pledged the house completely and irrevocably to the total repeal of the malt tax. (*Cheers.*) He was called upon by his noble friend to consent to this resolution, at a period when the house had had no opportunity of hearing what the financial state of the country was—when it was not yet known what amount would be demanded for the public service of the country—(*Cheers*)—and before an opportunity had been given for any other class of persons to put in their claim for a share in the remission of taxes which it might be possible to make. (*Loud cheers.*) He was called upon to be a party to a resolution which irrevocably deprived the public revenue of the kingdom of several millions sterling. (*Cheers.*) If this were to be done—if it were possible to do it—he appealed to the house, if the proposition ought not to be brought forward, not at the present period, when nothing was known as to the amount which could be spared from the public service, but after the declaration of what was necessary—(*Cheers*)—a declaration which would necessarily be made at no very remote period. (*Hear, hear.*) It would become his duty to make that declaration as soon after the termination of the financial year—that is to say, after the 5th April next—as possible. But his noble friend the member for Buckinghamshire would not wait till that period. (*Hear, hear.*) No, he called on the house to set aside the consideration of all other classes, and to consider the propriety of coming to a resolution pledging it absolutely and irrevocably to the repeal of the malt tax. (*Cheers.*) It therefore became his (Sir Robert Peel's) duty to consider the arguments which he had brought forward, and to do the best he could to caution the house against the consequences of coming to a precipitate determination upon this important subject. (*Hear, hear, hear.*) He could not state with complete accuracy what the financial prospects of the future year were, but he could refer to the statement made last year by the noble lord the late Chancellor of the Exchequer. In the budget brought forward by the noble lord last year, after allowing for the deficiency which would take place in consequence of the repeal of the house tax, he made a calculation of the probable surplus on the year ending the 5th of April, 1836. The noble lord had stated the probable expenditure of the army for the present year at the same sum as that of last year, but he (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) had the great satisfaction of stating that he trusted it might be considerably reduced. (*Cheers.*) He thought that the expenditure of this year might be reduced by 407,000*l.* But although the noble lord had in that case miscalculated by overstating the expenditure, still in other particulars he had miscalculated by understating the amount required; and it was found that an increase of expenditure would be incurred in other departments nearly corresponding with the reduction which he had mentioned, so that, upon the whole, the calculation was not far from the truth. Now the calculation of the noble lord was, that, on the 5th of April, 1836, the permanent revenue would exceed the expenditure by the sum of



250,000*l.* He (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) did not think that he could calculate on a larger surplus than that stated by the noble lord—that was after making allowance for the 750,000*l.* to be paid as compensation to the West India proprietors, and for the deficiency consequent on the reduction of the house tax. In this state, therefore, with a surplus revenue of not more than 250,000*l.*, the noble lord asked the house to pledge itself to repeal the whole of the malt tax. (*Cheers.*) He believed that last year the gross produce of that tax was no less a sum than 5,150,000*l.* (*Loud cheers.*) In 1831 the net amount paid into the Exchequer, on account of the malt tax, was

|               |            |
|---------------|------------|
|               | £4,208,000 |
| In 1832 ..... | 4,675,000  |
| In 1833 ..... | 4,772,000  |
| In 1834 ..... | 4,812,000  |

Now, if he agreed to the noble lord's resolution, he would forego a certain and available revenue—(*hear, hear, hear.*)—knowing at the same time that there was only a surplus revenue of 250,000*l.*, and thus creating a deficiency in the amount required to meet the ordinary expenditure of 4,500,000*l.* (*Loud cheers.*) But the noble lord told the house, as an inducement to them to reduce the whole of this tax, that, by so doing, they should be able to get rid, as a matter of course they should, of the whole of the charge of collecting it. It was his opinion that there were very few taxes the charges of the collection of which were lighter than the malt tax. (*Hear, hear.*) It was difficult to calculate exactly what the expence of the establishment for the collection of any one tax amounted to, but it was easy to calculate how much of the general establishment could be got rid of if a tax were altogether repealed. Now he thought he could safely say, that if the malt tax were repealed, no more of the charge of collecting the taxes generally could be got rid of than 150,000*l.* Indeed he could say positively, that it would be impossible that the reduction could be more than 150,000*l.* (*Hear.*) Another material point to be considered in relation to the expediency of a tax was, its liability to be evaded by fraud. Now he could confidently say, that no tax by which a revenue of five millions would be realized to the public treasury, or any combination of taxes which was equally productive, could possibly be imposed which was less liable to frauds than the malt tax as at present collected. (*Hear, hear.*) He did not mean to say that some modification in the present mode of collecting the tax might not be introduced—that regulations might not be made by which malt might be employed without the present excise restrictions. (*Hear, hear.*) On these points he reserved his opinion for the present. But the noble lord excluded the consideration of these and all other points, by calling upon the house not to modify the present excise-laws, but to pledge it to the total repeal of the duty on malt. The noble lord and the hon. member (Mr. Handley) stated that no remission of the present tax had been made, while other taxes were reduced. Did the noble lord and the hon. gentleman know that in the year 1830 the duty on malt was considerably reduced? for although the reduction was of the tax on beer, yet that tax fell ultimately on malt. Now in that year the duty on beer was reduced by 35*s.* per butt. (*Hear, hear.*) The noble lord then called upon them to give relief to the farmers, because the agricultural interests were in a state of extreme depression, and because the prices of all kinds of agricultural produce had fallen in the market. He would ask the noble lord if that was the case in

regard to barley? (*Hear, hear.*) Could it be said that barley was lower in price than it had been during the last or the previous year? And was it not singular that when barley was higher in price in comparison with wheat than it had ever been known before, that he would seek to relieve the farmers by repealing the tax upon that article of produce which was highest in the market? (*Cheers.*) Wheat, which paid no tax, was low in price, while barley, which paid this large tax, was unprecedentedly high. (*Loud cheers.*) He had already said that the net amount of revenue paid into the Exchequer on account of the malt tax, was, in the year 1831, 4,208,000*l.*; in 1832, 4,675,000*l.*; in 1833, 4,772,000*l.*; and in 1834, 4,821,000*l.* Now if the tax was so very oppressive has is noble friend and the hon. gentleman would have them to believe, he could not conceive how malt should continue to yield this still increasing revenue, and still that barley should keep up its price. The price of barley was increasing, the quantity malted was increasing, and the amount of duty received into the Exchequer was increasing, and still they were told that this was a most oppressive tax. (*Cheers.*) He knew the answer which would be made to this statement. He knew it would be said, that it was very true that the price of barley was increasing, but that the cause of that increase was the late defective harvest. (*Hear and cheers.*) But it was quite clear, that if the defective harvest were the cause of the increase of price, that the quantity brought to market ought to diminish proportionably. But if he could show that the quantity of malting barley brought to charge since the last harvest had increased, did he not spoil that argument? (*Hear, hear.*) Now, he had this morning sent to the Excise-Office, and he called for an account of the quantity of British malt brought to charge from the 10th of October, 1833, to the 19th of February, 1834, in order that he might compare it with the quantity brought to charge between the 10th of October, 1834, and the 19th of February, 1835; and he had now the satisfaction of stating to the house, that on a comparison, he found that the rate of duty within the latter period had considerably increased, the increase being no less than 846,000 bushels of barley brought to charge. (*Loud cheers.*) It was said that the house ought, at all events, to pledge itself to relieve the agriculturist, and that that could only be done by the repeal of the malt tax. It was said that the reduction of the tax would be the greatest relief to the agriculturists, because there was a large diminution in the quantity of beer used on account of the tax upon malt. He admitted that if a comparison were drawn, it would be found that, in proportion to the population, the quantity of beer consumed had diminished; but the question was, did that diminution arise from the duty imposed upon it? It might have arisen from the undue operation of a tax—(*hear*)—or from the successful competition of other articles. (*Hear.*) Now the argument of the hon. member opposite (Mr. Handley) was rather singular. He said that the consumption of beer had diminished, while the consumption of tea, of coffee, and of spirits, had increased; and he relied on that circumstance as an argument for the repeal of the tax upon malt. Now he (Sir Robert Peel) relied on the same fact—on the increase of the consumption of tea, coffee, and spirits—for the diminution in the consumption of beer; but the hon. gentleman and he came to entirely opposite conclusions from the same premises. (*Hear, hear.*) The hon. gentle-

man said to the people of England, "You drink much more tea, much more coffee, and much more spirits than your ancestors used to drink; I am surprised that you do not also drink more beer." (*A laugh.*) Now, on the same premises, he would say, that it was because the people of England drink more coffee, more tea, and more spirits, and from a change in their habits, that they did not drink so much beer. (*Cheers.*) He would now state the quantity of beer consumed in England during the year 1722, a year in which more beer was drunk, in proportion to the population, than in any other. During the year 1722, when the population of England was six millions, the number of barrels of beer consumed was 6,090,000, being at the rate of about a barrel for each person. In 1833, the population was fourteen millions; there was no correct account for that year alone, but the quantity consumed on the average of that and the two previous years was 8,200,000 barrels. In 1722 the quantity of tea consumed in England amounted to 370,000lbs., or about an ounce to each individual. In 1833 the consumption of tea was 31,829,000lbs., or nearly two-and-a-half pounds to each individual. (*Cheers.*) Was it not notorious, that the use of tea had superseded the use of beer among all classes of the community—(*cries of "hear, hear"*)—in the same manner that the use of spirits and wine had superseded it. (*Hear, hear.*) In 1722, the quantity of spirits consumed was 3,000,000 gallons, while in 1833 it was 12,332,000 gallons. But the most remarkable increase was in the consumption of coffee. In 1760—for there was no earlier authentic account of the consumption of coffee—the quantity of coffee consumed in the United Kingdom was 262,000lb., or about three quarters of an ounce to each person; in 1833 the quantity was 20,691,000lb. or one pound and a half to each person. (*Hear, hear.*) Now, it was impossible that the quantity of tea and coffee could be increased, and the quantity of beer also; and as far as the morals and habits of the people went, he doubted much if they should be improving them by discountenancing the use of tea and coffee. (*Hear, hear.*) The duty on malt was only 2s. 7d. per bushel, or at the rate of 57 per cent. The duty laid upon West India coffee was at the rate of 63 per cent.; the duty upon port and sherry at the rate of 75 per cent.; the duty upon rum at the rate of 407 per cent.—(*hear, hear;*)—the duty upon English spirits at the rate of 333 per cent.—(*hear, hear;*)—the duty upon brandy at the rate of 627 per cent.; and the duty upon geneva at the rate of 930 per cent. How then could the hon. member say that an undue preference had been given to those articles over beer? (*Cheers.*) His noble friend had said that though the duty upon malt paid into the Exchequer was only five millions, that the nation paid sixteen millions more, which enormous profit, by some means or other, found its way into the pockets of the maltster. He did not exactly understand how this was made out; but it appeared strange to him that sixteen millions could be realised by any set of persons entering upon a speculation which was open to the whole world as well as to themselves. But, with respect to the difference between the prices of barley and malt, the hon. member for Oldham had stated on a former occasion—and the statement appeared to make an impression on the house—that when that duty was 20s. 8d., and the price of barley 25s., the price of malt ought to be 45s. 8d., while, in point of fact, it was 66s.; and the 19s. difference went into the pockets of the maltster. Now he (Sir R. Peel) had sent this day to Mark-

lane to inquire into the prices of barley and of malt, because he was desirous to ascertain the real difference between them, and the causes which gave such enormous profits to the maltsters. He found that the price of the best malting barley was from 36s. to 40s. per quarter—a good price that for barley. (*Hear, hear.*) Now if to the barley, which bore the highest price, namely, 40s., were added the duty, amounting to 20s. 8d., the price of malt, leaving no profit to the maltster, ought to be 60s. 8d. And what was the price of malt at Mark-lane this day?—It was 66s.—(*hear, hear*)—leaving a balance of only 5s. 4d. between the price of the barley and the price of the malt. Now, after the expense and trouble which the maltster was put to, he did not think that 5s. 4d. would be considered too much profit for him to put in his pocket. (*Hear.*) Then the noble lord and the hon. member referred to other advantages which farmers would derive from being able to malt inferior barley, because if it would not be sufficiently good for beer, it would do admirably for the purpose of feeding cattle. He had the satisfaction of being able to refer to an order of the Board of Excise on this subject, to which he was anxious to give every publicity. It was not necessary that the barley should undergo the process of malting to render it fit food for cattle—wetting or steeping the barley was found amply sufficient for all the purposes of this nature. The order of the board of excise was of the date of 1827, and stated that the practice prevailed to a considerable extent of steeping barley in water for the food of cattle, and directed the attention of the several officers of excise to see that the revenue was not injured thereby. It directed them to take notice of the persons who adopted this practice, but not to interfere unless in cases of well-grounded suspicion of attempts to injure the revenue.—This order was intended as a public notice that there would be no interference, on the part of the excise, with the steeping of barley not intended for the kiln or oven—that was, provided that it was intended for the food of cattle. (*Hear.*) The next argument that was used was, that the repeal of the duty on malt would enable the poor man to brew his own beer. The principle of this argument appeared to him to be exceedingly weak; for what inducement would the poor man have to brew his own beer, when the malt tax was removed, that he had not at present? He could now buy his malt, and, with his malt thus bought, he could brew his own beer. If the duty on malt was reduced, or rather abolished, the great maltster would be enabled to enter into competition with the poorer manufacturer with as much advantage as at present. If there would be a temptation on the removal of the malt tax for the poor man to brew his beer, why did he not do so when the duty on beer existed? (*Hear.*) That tax, be it recollected, was only paid by the brewer, and the poor man who brewed his own beer did not pay any duty of the kind. Then did the practice of the poor man brewing his own beer prevail to a greater extent than at present? (*Hear, hear.*) He (Sir Robert Peel) warned country gentlemen against being led away by such an assumption. Let them not repeal a tax producing five millions a year under the delusion that by so doing the poor man would be induced to brew his own beer. (*Hear, hear, hear.*) Similar motives would operate—the same inducements would continue—on the poor man to go to the beer shop, when the malt tax was removed, as existed at present. (*Hear, hear.*) It was stated that the poor man



who bought his beer at the beer shop paid more for it than if he brewed it at home, and that he was induced to take a larger quantity in consequence of his being away from his family. It should be recollected, however, that there was something in the good fire at the beer shop, and the chance of meeting with company, which, under any circumstances, would continue to induce the poor man to pay the additional penny for his pot of beer. (*Hear, hear.*) If even they took off the whole of the malt duty, this inducement would remain as strong as ever, for he found on calculation that the repeal of the malt tax would not make a difference of more than a half-penny in the price of a quart of beer. (*Hear, hear.*) The hon. gentleman referred to other taxes, which he thought might be substituted in the place of the malt duty. Now, he could not help cautioning the hon. member to take warning from the treatment experienced by his late colleague, the late Sir W. Ingilby—(*loud laughter*)—he meant the late member for Lincolnshire. That honourable baronet, with the view of meeting the popular feeling in the county which he represented, proposed the repeal of the malt duty, and also opened a budget, in which he recommended the substitution of other taxes in lieu of it; but notwithstanding his strenuous exertions to get rid of the one tax, he could not destroy the hostility which was raised against him on his proposing to substitute other imposts. (*Laughter, and cries of "hear, hear."*) The hon. baronet to whom he had just alluded, who had assumed for one night the character of Chancellor of the Exchequer, because, as the representative of an agricultural county, he had touched on the substitution of other taxes in the place of the malt tax, and notwithstanding his frequent advocacy of the repeal of this tax, lost his seat. (*Cries of "hear, hear," and laughter.*) Let country gentlemen, therefore, take warning, for that would be the case with any man who proposed the imposition of new taxes to the amount of five millions a year in lieu of that which they now were so anxious to remove. (*Loud cries of "hear, hear."*) In his opinion, also, the argument that great advantages would result to the agricultural interest from the repeal of this tax, was not well founded. (*Hear, hear.*) Would the repeal of this tax be of general advantage to the agricultural interest, or only of partial advantage? Admitting as he did, that the agricultural interest was distressed, the question then was, whether the occupiers of the light soils, or barley growers, suffered more than the cultivators of clay lands—that was, the growers of wheat. (*Cries of "hear, hear."*) The only advantage which the hon. member for Lincolnshire or any other hon. gentleman could state, that the owners or occupiers of the heavy soils could derive from the repeal of the malt tax was, that it would force a portion of the clay lands into an unnatural cultivation, and make persons grow barley on those farms which now produced wheat—(*hear, hear.*) He was justified, therefore, in saying, that so far as the agricultural interest was concerned, the repeal of the tax would not be generally beneficial, but only partial in its operation. Supposing, therefore, that there was an available surplus of revenue at his disposal, would it not be more advantageous for the agricultural interest that it should be apportioned in such a way as to relieve it from the burden of certain local rates or charges which fall heavily on the land, than by any equivalent reduction in the malt tax?—(*hear, hear.*) He merely put this as a possible case; and he would appeal to the house,

whether, by pursuing such a course, the advantage would not be more equally distributed among the agricultural interest than by the course now recommended. Indeed he could not help thinking that the agriculturists would find on experiment, that if they succeeded in getting the tax repealed in the way now proposed, they would be exposed for some time to great detriment. At present, from the mode in which the duty on malt was paid, considerable advantage resulted to the producer, and the manufacturer of malt was often enabled to go into the market and receive the price of it before he paid the duty. It would be found that something like a capital of three millions belonging to the public was left in the possession of the manufactures of malt for the encouragement of that branch of industry. By the employment of this capital, the small manufacturer was enabled to enter into competition with the rich maltster. The consequence of the repeal of this duty, it was said, would be, every man would be able to make his own malt; and the hon. member for Lincolnshire argued from this, that there would be a great increase in the consumption of barley. Another circumstance of no small consequence would result from this. If any man was allowed to manufacture malt, there would be an enormous increase of illicit distillation. The process of making malt was dilatory and slow, and it could not be carried on to any extent in secret. The process of distillation from malt, however, was of a very different nature, and could be carried on with rapidity, and with comparatively little difficulty. If, therefore, the manufacture could be carried on to any extent, the inevitable result would be a great increase of illicit distillation. The amount of the duty on spirits would be diminished to a corresponding extent. Thus the revenue would be seriously injured, and at the same time agriculture would not derive any considerable benefit from the repeal of the malt tax, as had been supposed. He could not help saying that the adoption of such a resolution as had been proposed was more calculated to embarrass trade, to suspend all trade in the market, and to produce more injury to the farmer than any other that could be adopted—(*hear.*) His noble friend, for the purpose of protecting the agricultural interest, and of removing the depression under which it laboured, proposed to adopt such a course as would inevitably have the effect of throwing the malt trade into a state of the greatest confusion for some years. (*Cries of "hear, hear."*) After to-night all transactions would be suspended for some time in that branch of trade if the resolution was adopted, as no person would go into the market until he was fully satisfied as to the course that was to be pursued. He ventured to assert that the immediate effect would be to depreciate the price of barley at least 4s. or 5s. a quarter. Supposing that half the malt tax was taken off on the 10th of October next, and the remainder on the 10th of October, 1836, the brewers and maltsters would suspend their operations, well knowing that they would be able to make malt for brewing beer without the payment of any duty; and what would be the situation of the trade, so circumstanced, in the intermediate time? But, supposing the house determined to overlook this, and adopt this resolution—what course did his noble friend intend to propose they should pursue? There was only one of four courses that could be adopted. In the first place, they might increase the duty on other articles of general consumption; or, secondly, they might resort to a property tax (*hear, hear*); or,

thirdly, they might trust to the reduction of the public establishments to make up the deficiency; or, fourthly, after making the deficiency, they might do nothing. He would first take the reduction of the establishments, and he would ask any man, after the reductions made in them during the last few years, and in the last year to the amount of 500,000*l.*—after the efforts of the late government and the exertions of Lord Althorp to reduce them within as narrow limits as was practicable with respect to keeping up their efficiency—if it was possible out of the present establishments to make reductions available in the slightest degree for the purpose proposed. (*Hear, hear.*) Looking to the various interests of the country—to the state of the West Indies and the other colonies—and above all, looking to the reductions already made in the naval and other estimates, he was satisfied that no man could honestly give a vote for a reduction in the revenue to the amount of 4,600,000*l.* a-year, and hope for a reduction in the estimates by any thing like that sum. (*Hear, hear.*) There was a reduction in the estimates of last year to the amount of half a million, and it was extravagant to suppose that a similar reduction could be made immediately. It might be said that the deficiency might be supplied by imposing equivalent taxes on other articles of general consumption. He would caution the house against increasing the duties on spirits or other articles of daily consumption, and expecting to gain an equivalent increase of revenue. The honourable member for Lincolnshire suggested an increase of the duty on spirits as a means of relieving the agricultural classes. Spirits in this country were chiefly made from malt and corn. The imposition of the duty of 1*s.* a gallon on spirits, would be equivalent to imposing a duty of not less than 16*s.* a quarter on the malt thus consumed. The duty on spirits previous to last year in Ireland was 3*s.* 6*d.* a gallon, and at present the duty was 2*s.* 6*d.* a gallon. Was it proposed to raise the spirit duty in England, and not in Ireland? In England the duty was 7*s.* 6*d.* a gallon, and in Ireland only 2*s.* 6*d.* The disproportion was so great, that if the duty on the former was raised higher, the inducement to smuggle spirits from Ireland into England would be increased to an almost insurmountable extent. Again, after the reduction made last year of 1*s.* a gallon on Irish spirits, the house would hardly again be prepared to raise it to 3*s.* 6*d.* a gallon. But what had been the effect in Ireland of this reduction of duty? He had made a point of inquiring, and he had found that the effect of the reduction of the duty from 3*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* had been to lead in a corresponding period, with the reduction of duty, to an increase of one million of gallons brought to charge for the payment of duty. (*Loud cries of "hear, hear."*) He was quite sure that by raising the duty on spirits beyond the present amount there would be a great increase of smuggling, as well as an alarming increase of illicit distillation, which in its result would be extremely injurious to the agriculturists. It ought also to be borne in mind, that as chemical knowledge increased and spread, the illicit distiller was afforded greater advantages in carrying on his trade, while equivalent means of detecting frauds were not discovered. It was, therefore, necessary to take care before they increased the duty—however popular such a proposition might be—that they did not lead to a reduction instead of an increased revenue. There was no doubt but that spirits should bear as high a duty as could consistently be imposed on them, but the moment they raised it to a certain height, they

held out a premium to the illicit distiller, and at the same time sacrificed the revenue, and injured agriculture, by holding out an inducement to distil from other articles. He believed, therefore, that the house was not prepared to have recourse to this means of supplying the deficiency. But they had been told that if they reduced the malt tax they might impose a property tax. When the subject formerly came before the house, they had an available resource of 1,500,000*l.* It was then proposed to repeal half the malt tax, and the house and window taxes. At the period when there was the surplus of 1,500,000*l.* the house came to the following resolution:—"That the deficiency of the revenue which would be occasioned by a reduction of the tax on malt to 10*s.* a quarter, and by the repeal of the taxes on houses and windows, could only be supplied by the substitution of a general tax on property, and would occasion an extensive change in our whole financial system, which would at present be inexpedient." He prophesied that if they got rid of the malt tax, they would, before resorting to a property tax, try what they could do in other ways. Could the country gentlemen of England tell what they would gain by imposing a property tax in lieu of the malt tax? (*Laughter, and cries of "hear, hear."*) They should recollect that a property tax would not fall on the profits of the tradesman, nor on professional incomes, but it would be on the land. (*Hear.*) Then, indeed, they would have reason to repent having, while sitting in judgment on the subject, imposed a property tax in lieu of a duty on malt. (*Loud cries of "hear, hear."*) Then they would repent having tried the bone of a property tax—(*laughter*)—whether graduated or not in lieu of the malt tax. (*Hear.*) He called upon them to act that night as an impartial jury, and he believed there was no other prospect for the landed interest than the imposition of the tax alluded to. They might have promised their constituents that they would exert themselves to get this tax removed, but they might depend on it that if they opposed the motion on the grounds which he had urged, their constituents would, on the appeal being made to them, be convinced of the propriety of the course they had taken for the permanent benefit of the agricultural interests. (*Loud cries of "hear, hear."*) The noble lord said that the extent of advantage to a farmer of 250 acres would be between 70*l.* and 80*l.* a-year from the repeal of the tax. He did not believe that on the average a farmer consumed more than a hundred bushels of malt; but by his noble friend's calculation, he must consume five or six hundred bushels. The honourable and learned member for Dublin had stated with great fairness, on a former occasion, that if a property tax were imposed, it must be levied on all his Majesty's subjects, and that Ireland must bear her proportion of the tax. He begged the gentlemen of Ireland to reflect whether their situation would not even be worse than that of the occupiers of clay soils, if they substituted a property tax for the malt duty. (*Hear, hear, hear.*) The amount of the malt duty in Ireland was, last year, 246,000*l.*, and were they prepared to exchange this for a property tax? He need not say what would be the difference to the people of Scotland and Ireland if they carried the repeal of the malt tax; and he would venture to say any attempt to enact other taxes or duties to the amount of that repealed, would lead to difficulties which would be found insurmountable. (*Hear, hear, hear.*) He need not say what would be the result if they were to make the reduction, and at the same time take no



steps to supply the defalcation in the revenue. By the maintenance of the public credit—by a strict observance of the rules of good faith, the country had been enabled to gain considerable advantages, and of such a nature that they could obtain by no other course. Since the year 1822 we had been enabled to maintain a price of our securities at such a rate, by not suffering any object to interfere with upholding the public credit, that we had been enabled, by making new arrangements with the public creditor, to effect a saving in the expenditure to the amount of 2,340,000*l.* per annum. (*Hear.*) We had been able to obtain this advantage because we had always maintained the public faith; and he had no doubt we could continue to pursue the same course with similar advantage. At present the three and a half per cents amount to 250,000,000*l.*, and although not immediately, at a period not very remote, they might be paid off at par. (*Hear, hear, hear.*) They had thus experienced the value of the high honour and good faith of the country, and he would warn honourable gentlemen not to lose the advantage of the superior character of the country for integrity, but as they had already obtained the remission of taxes and the reduction of the public burdens by pursuing this career, not now to forfeit the probability of a similar result, by losing their fair fame in the world. (*Hear, hear, hear.*) He trusted the house would not again involve itself in those contradictions and those vacillations which had been the consequences of the course taken on former occasions. The history of this very malt tax was pregnant with lessons of warning. (*Hear, hear.*) On three different occasions they had retraced their steps. In 1816 they took off part of the duty in the hope that there would be some great correspondent reduction in the price. In this being disappointed, however, in 1819 they replaced the duty they had so taken off. In March, 1821, the house determined, by a small majority, to repeal the malt duty; but in one month after, in April, 1821, it rescinded its own decision, and re-established the duty it had repealed. They did the same thing in 1832. By a precipitate vote, adopted in the enthusiasm of the moment, they passed a resolution with a view to the repeal of a portion of the duty, and on the following Monday they retraced their steps. Certainly it was better to do that than to persevere in error. (*Hear.*) But let them not again subject themselves to the imputation of that vacillation which was the least of the evils, for in his conscience he believed they would have to re-establish the malt tax. (*Hear, hear.*) It was in order to rescue Parliament from such a difficulty that he asked them this night to vote against the resolution of his noble friend. He felt so confident that the force of reason would prevail—he felt so confident, that with a surplus of only 250,000*l.* they would not cause a deficit of 4,600,000*l.* in the hope of supplying it from other sources, that he never would listen to those who told him to despair, or do so much injustice to the house as to believe that they would come to a vote so rash and so detrimental to the interests of the country. (*Hear, hear.*) He was still of that opinion. He believed that the representatives of the landed interest, and the representatives for Ireland, foreseeing the consequences of a property tax, would retain the power of judging for themselves, their constituents, and their countrymen, whether it would be the wiser course, as statesmen, to retain the malt tax, or to force the consequences inevitable from pursuing a different course. That he believed to be the duty of the house, and he trusted that the result of this

night's division would not show that his confidence in its judgment and integrity was misplaced. (*Cheers.*) But whatever the determination of the house might be, of one fact he was sure, that with his views of the consequences of the repeal of this tax in the present state of the public revenue, he had no alternative but to submit his views to the consideration of the house, and if the house chose to overrule them, to leave it subject to the responsibility which it would assume. (*Cheering.*)—Mr. COBBETT urged the house not to be deterred by the intimation that the right honourable gentleman would resign, were he left in a minority on this question, from giving their support to the motion of the noble lord.—Mr. J. BENETT said, that the right. hon. baronet had appealed rather singularly to the Irish landholders. The majority of the land in that country, and a great portion of that in England and Scotland, were in the hands of mortgagees, a class of persons who were for the most part taxeaters and not taxpayers, and who the sooner they were taxed for the benefit of the State the better. He considered the substitution of a property tax of greater moment than the repeal of the malt tax, and to that substitution he believed they must come. In his opinion, the only equitable mode of taxation was to apportion it according to the property possessed, and not according to consumption. Taxation was understood in this country to be for the protection of property; but instead of men being taxed in proportion to the amount of property they possessed, by the present system, under which articles of consumption were taxed, men were made to pay according to what it was necessary for them to consume. The right hon. gentleman told them, that if a tax were laid on spirits to the amount of one shilling, the consequence of the increased price would be, that greater encouragement would be given to illicit distillation. The reduction of the duty on malt would have the effect of lowering the price of barley; and the result would be, that if to make good the deficiency, spirits were to be subject to an additional tax of one shilling, the cheapening of the barley would reduce their price two shillings; therefore, there was no reason to fear any increase of the temptation to illicit distillation. The right hon. gentleman had made another statement that was not quite correct. He had given them to understand, that the heavy lands would not benefit by the repeal, inasmuch as on them principally wheat was grown. Did not the right hon. gentleman perceive, however, that the light soils, on which barley and wheat were now both grown, would, after the repeal, be used entirely for the growth of barley, and wheat would be confined to the clay soils? He did not, however, see that the repeal of the malt duty would much benefit the landed interest; and he considered it, therefore, of comparatively small importance to that interest; but he begged to tell the right honourable gentleman, that it forced the labourer to consume, for ten months out of the year, water instead of beer. The right hon. gentleman had quoted 27*s.* as a high price for barley; but the fact was, the price was low. The crop of last year did not amount to one-half of an average crop. But the right hon. gentleman might tell them that the consumption was equal. This proved, however, that the consumption was by the rich, and not by the poor; the poor were not able to consume it at such a price. What he desired was, to make beer cheaper than spirits. It was because the labourer was not able to brew at home that he went to the beer

shops, which had increased, and was induced to stay out at night, and waste the means that more properly belonged to his family. He contended that, whatever might be the result of benefit to the farmer, by an increase in their comforts or supply of their necessities, that benefit would eventually extend to the landlord, for the interests of all classes were intimately connected. The time was, when a large number of landlords were not distressed; and now, during the maintenance of the malt tax, they had been obliged to reduce their rents 30 or 40 per cent., which showed the effect of the malt tax not to be one of unmixed good, and he therefore called upon them to assist in reducing it. (*Hear.*) — Lord DARLINGTON thought the malt tax bore oppressively on the agricultural interests, and in their present great distress any opportunity should be seized of affording them every sort of relief; nor would this be relief alone to those classes, but would extend itself to manufacturers, artisans, and labourers. He was aware of the opinions of his right hon. friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the serious loss that would be sustained by the revenue. But he did not see it was any argument that an unjust tax should be continued, when a good substitute could be procured. The time had arrived when every vexatious tax should be removed, though he was ready to admit a difficulty after the amount of taxes already remitted. When demands were made for relief from taxation, he thought there were none better entitled to consideration than the agricultural classes, which now endured the greatest distress. They had in times of the greatest distress borne it with exemplary patience; they had, on all trying occasions, offered testimonies of loyalty and devotion to their country, and had always been the first to maintain, in times of difficulty, order and good government. It was not the agricultural classes alone that would benefit by this repeal. It was the interest of the whole community. There was no single tax that could be taken off that would afford such general relief. If the tax were taken off the public would gain about one-fourth; they would gain 2s. 3d. in each 10s. 7d. He had long entertained these opinions as an honest man, and as a faithful representative he would support the motion.—Mr. C. WOOD would not be tempted by the allusion which had been made by hon. members imputing factious motives to gentlemen on his (the opposition) side of the house, and the best refutation that he could give to it was the vote that he intended to give in support of ministers on this motion. He was not insensible to the distress of the agricultural interests. Deriving, as he did, his income exclusively from land, if he took a course against the repeal of the malt tax, he could not be accused of any want of sympathy for the agricultural interest; but he believed the benefit of its repeal would be so small as not to be put in competition with the loss to the revenue. It was well known that taxes on consumption were chiefly paid by the poorer classes, unless made so high as to cause them to be diminished; and he would refer to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to prove that the consumption of beer had not diminished. If, therefore, the tax were paid by the consumers, its repeal would give small relief to the agriculturists. The relief would be extended to that portion of the community which did not stand in need of it. Little relief, therefore, would be given, and if his noble friend (the Marquis of Chandos) would wish to give relief to the poorer classes, he might give much greater by taking off other taxes. For

instance, taking taxes off the raw material of our manufactures would extend employment and increase wages. He would not go through the substitutes mentioned by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He thought his statements were important. He thought the only possible substitute was a property tax; and when he looked back to the year 1816, and the opinions and difficulties that then existed, he came to the conclusion that those who now call for a property tax would be the first to object to it. He would warn hon. gentlemen, by the example of last year. He hoped that hon. gentlemen, however pledged — (*hear, hear, and laughter*)—would not now place themselves in a similar difficulty. He was aware of the advantages which the pledges of hon. gentlemen on the ministerial side of the house had given them over their liberal opponents; and he knew it was difficult to show the world the fallacy of their intentions, or that the advocacy of the repeal of this tax did not mean exclusive loyalty to the king, or religion, and that it was not for the benefit of the farmers and agricultural interest, but to serve their turn at the elections, and for party purposes. (*Hear.*) Though difficult, yet looking to the consequences, and confessing he had at heart a desire to maintain the national faith, it would not be wrong to break their promises. Those of the ministry who had formerly voted for the repeal, and had accepted office, had a sorry choice—they must differ with their colleagues, or they must have reason for their change. (*Laughter.*) If there were any for whom such a course appeared more difficult than others, perhaps he might instance the right hon. baronet the Paymaster of the Forces (Sir E. Knatchbull), the long-tried and consistent advocate of the agricultural interest in that house. (*Cheers.*) He did not know that it would add to the deference which he hoped all the interests in the country would be ready to pay to the decisions of the Board of Trade—(*hear*)—when they found that the right hon. gentlemen the President and Vice-President were prepared on the present occasion to reverse their former votes. (*Hear.*) From any one but the right hon. member for the county of Essex (Mr. Baring) he should not have been prepared to expect such a change; but when he looked back to the conduct which that right hon. gentleman pursued in 1833, when he found that on the motion for a repeal of the malt tax he put his own principles aside, and, to quote his own words, dealt with the then ministers according to their principles, as he was pleased to attribute to them, he could not but expect that he would now do as much for his friends as he had done for those to whom he was opposed, and that he would on the present occasion, as then, put his principles aside, “content with what he could get in the scramble”—(*loud cheers and laughter from the Opposition*)—and adopt, for the night at least, the principles of his colleagues (*hear, hear.*) But, however that might be—whatever might be the motives which actuated those right hon. gentlemen to whom he had alluded—he (Mr. C. Wood) was prepared to give his Majesty’s Government the support of an honourable and not a factious vote. (*Cheers.*) But of whatever materials the majority of the evening might be composed, he sincerely hoped the decision would be, not to sport away so large an amount of revenue, but to take care that in the result they left unendangered and unimpaired the national faith and honour of the country. (*Loud cheers.*) — Sir E. KNATCHBULL said, after the personal appeal which had been made to him, he should be wanting in his duty to



himself, in his respect to that house, and to the country at large, if he did not avail himself of that opportunity to make one or two observations. The hon. gentleman had asked whether, having on a former occasion voted in favour of the repeal of the malt tax, he (Sir E. Knatchbull) was now prepared to reverse that course? Before having made any charge, the hon. gentleman would have done well to have first ascertained what was the course which he (Sir E. Knatchbull) really had pursued. In 1833, he had undoubtedly advocated the repeal of the malt duty. He had been then, and he still was, of opinion, that the remission of that tax would confer considerable benefit on the agricultural interest of the country. But the house would not fail to recollect that at that period, when he supported that view of the subject, there was a considerable disposal surplus of revenue ("hear, hear," and "no, no"), and to that he looked when he gave his vote. (*Hear, hear, hear.*) He then came to the vote which he was represented as having given on the occasion of Sir William Ingilby's motion; but on that occasion he took no part whatever. At the present moment there was only a surplus of 250,000*l.*, and under those circumstances his present course was perfectly consistent, and he was sure, therefore, the vote he gave would be satisfactory to the hon. gentlemen on the other side of the house. There was another point on which he wished to say a word before sitting down. Without entering into questions of detail as to how far the agricultural interest would be benefited by the repeal of the malt tax, one thing was obvious to all—that a substitute must first be provided before so large a sum could be dispensed with; but it was worthy of consideration that the actual deficit would be much more than 4,600,000*l.*, because the necessary effect of the increased consumption of untaxed beer throughout the country would be, that in other articles, such as tea and coffee, there would be a simultaneous proportionate defalcation in the revenue. He thought that his Majesty's government, by adopting their present course, were doing that which was most conducive to the maintenance of the honour and public faith of the country. (*Hear, hear.*)—Mr. S. RICE could not on the present occasion be content to give a silent vote, connected as he had been with the late government. Acting under different circumstances than when the question formerly came before the house, he yet would consider he would be acting improperly if he did not take his stand against the repeal of the malt tax, as he had done on former occasions. Noble lords and hon. members might indulge in attributing motives of faction to votes given on his (the opposition) side of the house. He would not follow their example; he would not deal out, in the absence of hon. gentlemen, the hard language which had been so profusely used; he would not use offscourings of party, and the sweepings of a pulic office. (*Loud cheers.*) He would ask whether the imputations against the late ministry, which were contained in the speech of the right hon. the member for Kent to his constituents (Sir E. Knatchbull) were such as should have been made? The right hon. gentleman had upon the hustings been pleased to denominate the late government, to which he (Mr. S. Rice) felt proud to have belonged, as the "offscouring of party, and the sweepings of office." (*Laughter and loud cheers from the opposition benches.*) He would take the liberty of saying, that from those who were denominated by the right hon. gentleman as the "offscourings of

party, and the sweepings of office," he and his friend the right hon. baronet should that night receive the most disinterested and honourable support. (*Loud cheers.*) He felt deeply interested in the decision to which the house would that night come; and he was the more interested in the decision of this question, because he had not forgotten the arguments similar to the taunt of the noble lord (Darlinton), which had been used by those who sat upon the Treasury benches, against any combination upon particular questions of individuals, or parties who might have occasionally or frequently differed in opinion upon political subjects. (*Hear.*) There was no one within the walls of that house who looked forward with more cheerful anticipations to the result of the vote upon this question, and there was no one who entertained more sanguine anticipations that the right hon. Baronet's resolution would be sanctioned by a large majority—a majority, too, which he felt convinced would vindicate the character of that distinguished party to which he was proud to belong, from all the imputations of acting entirely from factious motives, which had of late been so frequently urged by those who sat on the Treasury against those occupying the opposition benches. (*Cheers.*) How, he would ask, could those who advocated such a principle—who maintained that a difference in political views upon certain questions, precluded the possibility of men or of parties voting in the same way upon any subject—now come forward and claim his and the votes of his hon. friends in support of a government in which they had no confidence, upon a question the majority upon which must be decided by their votes? (*Cheers.*) He, however, altogether differed from those who laid down that principle as the guide by which the conduct of public men should be directed, and he therefore felt no hesitation in giving to the right hon. baronet opposite, his cordial, earnest, and sincere support upon this question. (*Cheers.*) He was the more anxious that this fallacy should be exposed as speedily as possible, because he knew that there were many hon. members who would vote against the motion of the noble lord, if they were not deterred from doing so by a fear that if they acted in that manner they would be affording support to a ministry whom they distrusted. (*Hear, hear, hear.*) Those gentlemen ought to forget everything but the principles laid down in the speech of the right hon. baronet; and as these coincided, he believed, with their opinions, they ought not to hesitate to give him their support. (*Loud cheers.*) The right hon. gentleman had argued the question in so clear, convincing, and conclusive a manner, that no one who could understand the force of reasoning, or the application of facts, could fail to be persuaded of the expediency and justice of the course which he had recommended to be pursued. (*Cheers from the ministerial benches.*) He, for one, could fearlessly assert that his vote should not be dictated by any factious opposition to the administration; and the arguments of the right hon. baronet, which comprehended, or rather decided the whole question, strengthened and confirmed the conviction at which he had previously arrived. (*Hear, hear.*) He wished to say this, not only because he had been a member of that government, which upon previous occasions had resisted a similar proposition to that of the noble lord, but because he felt bound to declare that if he had never voted at all upon this subject—if now for the first time the question was broached, still, upon the grounds stated by the hon. baronet, he would never con-

sent to sacrifice so large a portion of the public revenue as that which must result from a compliance with the motion of the noble lord. (*Loud and continued cheers.*) It would not be safe to adopt such a course, even if there was a fair chance of finding a substitute for the tax which was proposed to be abolished; but was there, he would boldly ask, a single individual within the walls of that house, who could reckon, with any approach to confidence, upon the possibility of finding a substitute, if the malt tax were repealed? (*Continued cheers.*) There was a subject closely connected with the object of the present motion, which he was surprised had not been alluded to in the course of the debate. The question to which he referred was that of the corn laws. (*Hear, hear, and cheers.*) Before hon. gentlemen committed themselves on the present motion, he thought it would be well if they were to recur to their votes upon the question of the corn laws; or, at all events, read the arguments which had been used on that occasion, and consider how many of them urged against the repeal of those laws rested upon the fact of the land being subject to many and peculiar burdens. (*Hear hear.*) With what grace could those country gentlemen who should vote for the noble lord's motion, which went to relieve the land from one of the peculiar burdens which now pressed upon it, come down to the house and vote against the motion, by which it was intended to deprive the landowners of that monopoly which could be defended only upon the ground that they were exposed to severe and peculiar hardships? (*Hear hear.*) It was only yesterday that a petition was presented, containing the modest request that the house would grant the total abolition of the malt tax, and a great increase in the protecting duties on foreign corn. (*Laughter and cheers.*) The Right hon. gentleman (Sir Robert Peel) had adverted to the reductions which had already been effected in the duty upon malt; but in doing so he had only compared the present state of the duty payable on malt, with that which existed previous to the passing of the beer bill. Let the house, however, observe the reductions which had been effected previous to the periods to which the right hon. baronet had directed their attention. Now from the year 1804 to 1817 the duty on the quarter of malt was 36s 7d; and up to the year 1830, when the beer bill was passed, the duty on the same quantity was 22s 7d. And the maximum of the diminutions which had been effected during those periods, amounted to 25s 11d the quarter. This was an additional argument against the reduction of that branch of taxation which was said to press with such severity upon the land. He could have no doubt as to the result of the division; he could entertain no doubt that in resisting the proposition of the noble lord, the late government would prove that they were swayed in their conduct by no factious motives, but were directed alone by an attachment to those principles which they had formerly professed. (*Cheers from the opposition, in which the ironical hear hear, of Mr. Cobbett was heard when the other members ceased cheering.*) The only ground of alarm which the ministry could reasonably apprehend referred to the pledges which had been given on the hustings. (*Cries of hear, hear.*) He believed that these pledges had been honestly given in some instances: it was impossible that some of them also had been given in ignorance; (*loud cries of Oh, oh, and laughter.*) but this he felt was an excuse which could not be fairly pleaded by those who were now about to vote against the motion of the noble lord, in the

teeth of those pledges which they had given to their constituents on the hustings. (*Cheers.*) This was no new subject. Gentlemen who aspired to become members of parliament had a right to understand what the malt tax was; and when men of character, station, and independence came forward as candidates, and refused to pledge themselves to a measure which they saw no possibility of being carried into execution, those who defeated them had no right, consistently with an adherence to justice and political truth, to carry the elections triumphantly by having inscribed on their banners "No Malt Tax," and afterwards, when they come to vote in parliament, plead ignorance of the nature of the pledge by acceding to which they had succeeded in obtaining their seats. (*Loud and continued cheers.*) The delusion on the subject of the malt tax was, previous to the last election, extended throughout the country. (*hear.*) The Whigs, that party with which he had always the honour to act, were stigmatized as the enemies of the farmers, and their opponents lauded as their steady and faithful friends. (*hear, hear.*) In noticing the delusions which prevailed upon this subject, he could not help referring to the circular which had been put forth by the supporters of the right honourable baronet previous to the last election, and which claimed the support of the farmers at the approaching election in the favour of those who styled themselves their steady and sincere friends. It was in these words: "Farmers of England! look to your Representatives!—Recollect a Knatchbull for Kent (*laughter and cheers.*) out of office, voted for the repeal of the malt tax; a Baring, for Essex, out of office (*hear and cheers.*) voted for the repeal of the malt tax; a Lincoln, for Notts, out of office, voted for the repeal of the malt tax; an Ashley, for Dorset, out of office, voted for the repeal of the malt tax; Murray, for Perthshire, out of office, voted for a repeal of the malt tax!! Farmers of England! look well to these official gentlemen, and now they are IN OFFICE, take care they do not change their votes; but let them prove their consistency as Lord Chandos has done, by voting with him as they did before." (*Tremendous cheering.*) He did not wish to have it supposed that he was anxious to pin hon. members to the opinions which they had pronounced on the hustings, (*laughter.*) he, on the contrary, hoped that they would act in that manner in which their consciences dictated, and trust to the good sense and judgment of their constituents for an exculpation of their conduct upon this question. (*hear.*) The right hon. member in conclusion, expressed a hope that no man, however humble his station, would fail to fulfil that duty which he owed to his country—never to countenance any measure which tended to weaken the national integrity, and to prevent the maintenance of public faith. (*Loud cheers.*)—MR. A. BARING: after deprecating the personal attacks which had been made upon him, begged to be allowed to set himself right with the house respecting that portion of the speech of the right hon. member who had just sat down, in which it was stated that he had called the members of his Majesty's late government "the off-scourings of party and the sweepings of office." Though it could not be expected that he should be very accurate as to the language which he used upon the occasion in question, yet he did recollect that the phrase which had given rise to the misrepresentation of which he complained was speaking of those who lately held the reins of government, and who it was contended could not be succeeded by any other party in the state, simply because they



brought in the Reform Bill ; " How long will this monopoly continue ? is it to last as long as a single successor remains in the public offices of those who were employed in them at the passing of the Reform Bill ? " (*Loud cries of Oh, oh, and laughter from the opposition.*) Having now disposed of one part of the personality affecting himself, he would refer to the way which he had been taunted about pledges ; he never gave any pledge about the malt tax ; he admitted, at the same time, that he should not think of addressing the electors of Essex if he was not prepared to vote for the fullest protection to that interest with which they, above all others, were more immediately connected. — As to what had been said in respect to banners, there was a string of them longer than he had ever observed on any former occasion, and he could not now undertake to speak with respect to their various inscriptions, and in his opinion it would be most unreasonable to fix upon him the responsibility of all of them. With regard to his financial opinions, uttered at different times, they had been made the subject of severe criticism, and he had been represented as sanctioning a general scramble in that house. He begged to be allowed to set that matter upon its right footing. Lord Spencer, when a member of that house, stated early in the year that there was a surplus of 1,200,000*l.* He (Mr. Baring) deprecated the making of any such statement until the Chancellor of the Exchequer should be prepared to enter into the financial details of the current year, for he apprehended that the announcement of such a surplus would excite all the different interests to put in their respective claims for a share, or the whole of it, and thus a general scramble would ensue. He had said that the conduct of the Chancellor of the Exchequer was indiscreet upon that occasion, and he was ready to abide by that assertion. The question now for the house was, could the government dispense with such a sum as the present motion required ? Called upon, as he was, he should say that if there were now a sufficient surplus—if there were a surplus worth dividing—he should be much embarrassed in voting against the motion of the noble lord, for he was aware that there was no interest in the country labouring under severer suffering than the agricultural, at the same time he must say that the anticipated advantage to the farmer from the change had been much overrated. Convinced as he was that there would be no surplus, he felt bound, however reluctantly, to say that the slightest hope could not be entertained of the practicability of remitting such an amount of taxation. In conclusion he said that, whether his votes one year might be set against his votes another year or not, he, at all events, might be permitted to observe, that he was not one who valued office, its powers, or emoluments, as any thing in comparison with a sacrifice of his opinions. He assured the house that nothing could be more humiliating to him than to come down to that house for the purpose of expressing the opinions of others, and that he never would present himself to them as the mere mouth-piece of others.—Mr. P. THOMSON said he was anxious to state the grounds upon which he would give his vote that night, and, more especially, the financial grounds on which he rested that vote. He was extremely sorry to find, from the right hon. baronet's statement, that there would not be a surplus of more than 250,000*l.* The smallness of this surplus, however, he could assure the house was not a consideration necessary to influence his vote. The principles which had been laid down

by the right hon. baronet were in themselves perfectly sufficient. (*Cheers.*) It appeared also that his vote would be given with that of the right hon. gentleman who had last addressed the house ; he could not say that it would be given on the principles put forward by that right hon. gentleman, different as they were from those which he had announced on a former occasion. He (Mr. Poulett Thomson) regarded the tax to be as good as any one which could be imposed ; an evil it must always be, still it was better than any which he could find to substitute in its place. Foreseeing no chance whatever of effecting that substitution for some time to come, or at least until other taxes had been removed, he gave his vote for the tax as a permanent impost, or one enduring until circumstances should be greatly changed. The right hon. gentleman, the President of the Board of Trade, seemed now to feel the force of the arguments used by his right hon. friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer ; but it struck him (Mr. P. Thomson) as strange, that he should not have yielded to them before, for they were the very arguments used last year, the circumstances being, with one single exception, precisely the same in both cases. The right hon. gentleman then proceeded slightly to review the arguments advanced by the right hon. President of the Board of Trade, and contended that there was complete fallacy running through them. The right hon. gentleman then alluded to an observation which had fallen from the noble marquis (Chandos) on the subject of the advantage which would accrue to the farmer from the increased profit consequent upon the repeal. If the profit on a farm were increased, the landlord would take the lion's share. (*No, no.*) Hon. gentlemen might say no ; he contended that the landlord would do so, as indeed he would have a perfect right to do. He was resolved on this occasion to oppose the motion of the noble lord. Although those who sat on his side of the house had been accused of acting from factious motives, he should do his duty in whatever hands the government might be placed. (*Hear.*)—Sir J. GRAHAM said if there were any gentleman within those walls, who by prejudice, by feeling, by inclination, by habit, by common interest, he would add, by common suffering, was identified with the owners and occupiers of land more than any other, or at least equally with any other, it was, he might say, himself. He had the strongest possible feeling for the sufferings of the landed interest—he took a part in the investigation which had been prosecuted in 1833 into the causes of the distress prevailing among them, and he was bound to state, that, so far as his judgment went, no fact was ever more clearly established than that that distress was general, that it had been of long duration, that it was progressive, and that it did require attention. But he was bound also to state, that, entertaining those sentiments, he was still most conscientiously of opinion that the remedy proposed was not applicable to the evils by which agriculture was beset, while it was utterly inconsistent with the welfare of the other interests of the state. The evidence heard before the Agricultural Committee proved the distress of the agricultural interest, and that the pressure principally arose from the low price of wheat. Now, wheat was grown on the heavy lands, whereas the measure proposed by the noble marquis would operate only on barley, which was the produce of the light lands. The hon. seconder of the motion had indeed asserted that the relief would operate indirectly on the heavy lands. But that hon. gentleman overlooked the fact that we had no surplus consumption of wheat,

and that for the last three years we had derived a considerable supply from Ireland. Considering this fact, and that there was yet much unbroken land in Ireland capable of producing wheat, if required, he was at a loss to conceive how the repeal of the malt tax could operate indirectly in relieving the heavy lands of this country. The question was one which was attended with great difficulties. If the repeal of the duty should materially lower the price of beer, then unquestionably the consumer would be benefitted. But if it should not materially lower the price, then the demand would not be increased, and no relief would be afforded to the grower. In that case the revenue would suffer without any benefit accruing either to the consumer or to the farmer. Differing, therefore, altogether from the principles upon the subject of his hon. friend the member for Manchester, he entirely agreed with him in his conclusions; for, beyond all question, a competition for land injurious to the farmer would follow the repeal of the duty. He now came to the question of the absolute necessity of maintaining unimpaired the public faith and credit of this great country. He felt it to be his bounden duty to resist a measure the tendency of which must inevitably be to shake the public credit. He believed that the hon. member for Middlesex was prepared to meet the defalcation by a reduction of the estimates. Now it was well known, and it was a fact highly creditable to the government which preceded that of Earl Grey, as well as to that noble earl's government, that by great and continued efforts those governments had reduced the public expenditure to a degree which, in 1823, the hon. member for Middlesex himself did not believe practicable. It was true that the house had heard from the hon. member for Derbyshire of the advantage that would be derived from a Grote and Warburton administration. He meant no disrespect to either of those hon. gentlemen, but knowing the men with whom those gentlemen would be associated in the government, he should certainly regard with apprehension their accession to office. It was impossible but that the hon. member for Middlesex must form a part of such a government. It was impossible also but that the hon. member for Southwark, who had stated to his constituents, that having measured himself against other individuals in public life, he felt in no respect inferior to any of them, must, with such a consciousness of the extent of his power and ability, hold a high office in such a government. Now, to an administration so constituted, he (Sir James Graham) had a decided objection. Did the landed interest conceive that the repeal of the malt tax would adequately compensate them, not only for the imposition of a property tax (a graduated property tax according to the hon. member for Southwark), but for the repeal of the corn laws? What now were the burdens upon the land? First, the poor; but measures had already been taken to get rid of that burden. (*Hear, hear.*) Then the tithes, and he hoped that on proper terms that burden might be diminished. (*Hear, hear.*) A lessening of the burden of the county rates had likewise been distinctly promised to the landed interest. The only burden that would remain, therefore, would be the malt tax. Now, if all the burdens on agriculture were to be removed, all the means of resistance to the repeal of the protection which agriculture derived from the corn laws would disappear. For all these reasons, therefore, he could not hesitate in giving his vote against the proposition of the noble marquis. It was true

a proposition might be made by an hon. gentleman on the other side of the house which might perhaps shake his determination. The hon. member for Cricklade, in a speech which he made to his constituents, had said that so great was his aversion to the duty under consideration, and so strongly and frequently had he expressed that feeling, that he was familiarly known among his colleagues in the late government by a monosyllabic nickname. (*A laugh.*) That nickname was "Malt." The hon. gentleman had declared that he was for the immediate repeal of the duty, and that he had prepared a measure for that purpose, of the success of which he was exceedingly sanguine, when his efforts and his hopes were all at once cut short by the dismissal of the Melbourne cabinet. Now he (Sir J. Graham) was so confident in the hon. gentleman's ability and industry, that if he were to declare that he had actually matured such a measure as that alluded to, it might perhaps shake his (Sir J. Graham's) intention to vote against the noble marquis's motion; otherwise he must certainly oppose that motion.—Mr. R. GORDON observed that the hon. baronet who had just sat down had talked of the inexpediency of crimination and recrimination; and yet his whole speech had consisted of little else but attacks upon one hon. member or another. (*Hear, hear.*) With respect to the hon. baronet's attack upon himself, he had little expected it from such a quarter. But if the house would permit him, he would state what he had said to his constituents. He told them that he had uniformly supported the repeal of the duty on malt, and that he had on every occasion urged the repeal on the government of which he had been a subordinate member, until they were sick of the subject; but that he regretted to say that no intention had been expressed by that government to propose the repeal.—Mr. HUME expressed surprise at the manner in which the hon. baronet, in the latter part of his speech, had endeavoured to terrify the house by attacking the characters of hon. gentlemen in a manner little honourable to himself, and especially by intimating that the public faith and credit would be endangered by an administration of which the hon. members for London, Southwark, and Bridport, should form a part. The hon. baronet had wondered whether any honourable member was prepared to show the means of meeting the deficiency in the revenue which the repeal of the malt duty would occasion. He (Mr. Hume) was prepared to do so; and he had done it on former occasions. The vote which he should give was the same as that which he had formerly given; for he should vote for the repeal of the duty. It was the duty of that house to examine every charge to which the community at large was subject, and whenever it was practicable to remove that charge. The whole community would be benefited by the repeal of the duty; and it was on that that he advocated the repeal. Not only did he not think that the repeal of the tax on malt would not shake public credit, but he conceived that the continuance of the duty was injurious to public credit, by the mischievous effects which it produced on a large part of the population of the country. It was manifest that, as the price of beer had risen, the consumption of ardent spirits had increased. In his opinion, therefore, the house was in duty bound, by the repeal of this tax, at once to relieve the community from a heavy burden, and to improve the morality of the country, which had been so deeply injured by the disgraceful reduction in 1823 of the duty on spirits.



He now came to the financial consideration of the question—namely, how a deficiency in the revenue of 4,600,000*l.* could be supplied? The house were, perhaps, not aware, that the large establishment of Excise officers which were formerly necessary to collect the tax on beer had been kept up to the present moment, for the purpose of collecting the malt tax. The whole expense of the Excise exceeded 1,200,000*l.* Now he (Mr. Hume) was satisfied that if the malt duty were repealed, 500,000*l.* of that expense might be saved. That would leave only 4,100,000*l.* to be provided for. Now it had been stated by the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the 14th of July, that although six millions of taxes had been taken off since the year 1831, the actual loss to the revenue had been only half the amount. The reason was, that the people who had been relieved from those taxes had laid out their money in other articles subject to taxation. Taking, therefore, the sum in question at 4,600,000*l.*, he was convinced that the only actual loss which they had a right to calculate upon would be two millions and a quarter. This left only 2,100,000*l.* to be provided for, no difficult matter when they took into account the increase of revenue that would accrue from other quarters, in consequence of the reduction on this article. Such, during the last half century, had been the uniform result of any reduction of taxes that had taken place. The right hon. baronet the Chancellor of the Exchequer, had said, in his usual magniloquent style, that the sum sought to be repealed was one-third of the whole disposable taxation of the country; but was this really the case? The late Chancellor of the Exchequer told them in his budget of July last, that 14,500,000*l.* was the amount of charge for the army, navy, ordnance, and half-pay. There was further, a sum of 1,963,000*l.*, which went to the civil list, diplomatic expenses, sinecures, and pensions. Why should they keep up such an enormous diplomatic expenditure for the purpose of making Lord Londonderry Ambassador? (*Cheers.*) There were besides, other charges, amounting to upwards of 3,500,000*l.*, which raised the total of disposable expenditure to 20,000,842*l.* The whole of this might be dealt with except the Civil List and a portion of the salaries of the Judges.—Sir JAMES GRAHAM—And the half-pay.—Mr. HUME would admit that the half-pay should not be touched, but having made these exceptions, was any man prepared to say that 3,000,000*l.* might not be saved out of the rest, and very little more than two millions was wanted. If the right hon. baronet the Chancellor of the Exchequer would only concede the settlement of the Church question in Ireland, a million of this might at once be saved from the military expenses of that country. (*hear, hear.*) Or if he would do justice to the Colonies in America and elsewhere other large sums might be saved in the same department. In Canada alone 3,000 men costing 300,000*l.* might be saved. Or if the militia were reduced 350,000*l.* now wasted, might be saved. Or take the volunteers, which cost 180,000*l.* annually, in order that a number of gentlemen might be well mounted without being subject to the horse duty. But suppose that ten per cent. only was taken from the 20,000,000*l.* see what an immense sum it would amount to; and there could be no difficulty in doing it if Ministers were really anxious to relieve the people from a part of the burdens which pressed upon them. Before the right hon. baronet the member for Cumberland came into office he had repeatedly pressed upon Government the possibility of reducing the naval expenditure of the

country by a million and a half, without impairing the efficiency of the service. Had the result proved him to be wrong? No; for the right hon. baronet had reduced the expense of that department 1,300,000*l.*, and had left the service more efficient than he found it. In the Ordnance department much might yet be done. All who desired to force economy upon Ministers would vote for this motion; and that it was necessary to force economy upon the Government was proved by the fact that neither in the speech from the Throne, nor in any other speech that he had heard, had any hope been held out of a reduction of taxation. (*Hear.*) He had shown that this tax might be reduced without the substitution of another; but if it were necessary to find another, there was no difficulty in doing so. There had been taxes proposed, and acts passed, by those who consulted their own interests. The nobles and those who held large property made a law which suited their own views. One act of this kind would illustrate what he meant. One act was passed, by which any person to whom a bequest was made of one hundred pounds, must pay, if he were not related by blood, ten pounds to the public revenue out of that legacy. But how was the case with the property left by the rich? He would state one case in illustration. The Duke of Sutherland died lately, and left to his family a property of 240,000*l.* a-year, and on this not one farthing duty was paid to the public. He would say if they wanted an additional tax, let them tax such properties as that which he had mentioned, and they would find ample means to make good any real loss to the revenue occasioned by the reduction of the malt tax. Now he would ask the right hon. baronet opposite (Sir Robert Peel) whether he thought he could have any difficulty in making this reduction out of the expenditure, when he (Mr. Hume) had given to the right hon. baronet four items amounting to nearly one million. In addition to this he proposed a reduction of ten per cent. upon the collection of the revenues, which, coupled with the other savings he had pointed out, would leave such ample funds that every man might with a safe conscience vote for the abolition of this tax; and he pledged himself that the public credit would stand higher in proportion as the ability of the people to pay their taxes was increased. (*hear, hear.*) He appealed to those hon. members who usually thought with him, but who, on this occasion, seemed to entertain the erroneous notion that, in their endeavours to repeal other taxes, the right hon. baronet at the head of the Government would go with them—he entreated his friends to repel this notion, and to join with him in the sentiment that the malt tax was a bad tax, and ought to be repealed, inasmuch as it fell upon that portion of the industry of the country which was least able to bear it. (*Cheers, "and loud cries of question, divide, in the midst of which"*)—Mr. PEASE rose and said he could not consent to give away between 4,000,000*l.* and 5,000,000*l.* of taxation at the sacrifice of leaving the public creditor unprovided for. (*hear, hear.*) No just grounds had yet been shown for such a course, and his vote should be a decided negative to the motion now before the house for the repeal of so important a portion of the taxation of the country.—Mr. GROTE said that he considered the arguments of the right hon. baronet opposite (Sir R. Peel) to be unanswerable, and he rejoiced that the right hon. gentleman had this evening dealt with and dispersed so many of the agricultural fallacies so often put forth in this house. (*Hear, hear, "and loud cries of question, question, and divide."*)

Sir R. GRESLEY rose amidst continued and general cries of question and divide. He felt it incumbent upon him to give his vote against the motion of the noble marquis near him, because he held it to be the bounden duty of every true patriot—(*laughter*)—under the circumstances in which the country was at present placed, to consider not the mere question of the repeal of the malt tax, but the inevitable result which must follow the success of that motion—namely, the dissolution of the present government. (*Cheers and laughter.*) It was on these grounds that he held it to be his present duty to alter the vote which he had intended to give, and to vote against the motion of his noble friend. He contended that the suddenness and variety of the changes which had taken place in the political circumstances of the country—circumstances which baffled the keenest foresight—justified a man in voting to-day in a sense contrary to that in which he would vote to-morrow. (*Loud laughter*) He knew very well that in giving this vote he should to a considerable degree and extent offend those who had returned him, on the present occasion, but he should be ashamed of himself if for any personal object he should violate his strict conscientious feelings. (*Renewed laughter.*) He should be ashamed of himself if, with a view to his own individual and personal interests, he should, by his vote, produce such a result as must inevitably ensue if the motion was carried—namely, the turning out of the present government, and installing in their places a democratical administration, the object of whose dominion would be the establishment of annual Parliaments—(*hear, from the opposition,*)—of universal suffrage, vote by ballot, the secularization of church property, the separation of the church from the state, the confiscation of private property, the destruction of the hereditary peerage, national bankruptcy, and civil war. (*Loud laughter.*)—Mr. HODGES, amidst great confusion, claimed the indulgence of the house for a few minutes, as he was not disposed to acquiesce in an adjournment of the debate. (*Cries of "oh, oh! divide, divide."*) He begged, in the first place, to offer his sincere thanks to the noble marquis opposite (Chandos) for the manly conduct which he had exhibited to the house and to the country with reference to this question. It was some consolation to find that there was a man of the noble Marquis's rank prepared to stand by his pledges—(*cheers*)—and whose conduct was calculated to recover that character for the house which was endangered by the course pursued by other members. (*Loud cheers from the opposition.*) The abolition of the malt tax would, in his judgment, lay the foundation for the restoration of that understanding, sympathy, and regard which formerly prevailed between the working and all other classes in this country. He admitted to the fullest extent the ability with which the right honourable Baronet at the head of the government had met the question, but he (Mr. Hodges) was satisfied the defalcation in the revenue consequent upon the abolition of this tax would be provided for in the bill of the noble Marquis opposite, and that by a saving in the expenditure, and, whether or not, it might be necessary to impose fresh taxes, they would, he believed, be very small in amount. In a word, if justice was done to Ireland by the present government the whole matter would in a great measure be accomplished.—Mr. HALL DARE entirely concurred with the honourable member who had just sat down in thinking that the worst feature of the present times was the alienation of the lower

classes from those who were similarly circumstanced with the class which he now addressed, but he dissented from the honourable member in the reasons which he had assigned. He (Mr. Hall Dare) believed that this estrangement or alienation was to be attributed to the writings promulgated and the speeches delivered under factious, personal, and ambitious motives, by gentlemen both in and out of the house. (*"Oh, oh!" and cheers.*) If the motion of the noble marquis was successful, and power were to pass, in consequence of its success, from his right hon. friend's hands into those which had been designated on a former evening by the hon. member for Derbyshire, the confidence of the people in the permanent security of our institutions would be shaken, and the reins of government would be intrusted to those who, by their speeches and their measures, had always shown themselves the enemies of the agricultural interest. (*Hear, hear.*) He believed that the success of this motion would, in its ultimate effects, produce the repeal of the corn laws. (*Cheers.*)—Mr. CURTEIS had only one observation to make. If the hon. member for Derbyshire could, to keep ministers in, violate such pledges as he had solemnly recorded in print, he would confess that he, who was not friendly to those ministers, would not violate one thousandth part of such pledges to turn them out. (*Cheers.*) He most cordially supported the resolution of the noble marquis.—Mr. TREVOR, amid incessant cries of "Question" and "Divide," stated that his reason for voting against the motion of the noble marquis was that he considered it unseasonable.—The Marquis of CHANDOS, in reply, expressed his regret that any hon. member should deem his resolution unseasonable. He expressed his surprise at the change of opinion which he had that night witnessed in the house. (*Hear, hear.*) He had a deep feeling of alarm lest all confidence in public men should be lost by it. (*Cheers from the opposition.*) If hon. gentlemen could make promises and professions on the hustings to their constituents, and then, when they appeared in Parliament, could change their sentiments and votes, the constituency could no longer place that confidence in them which ought to be placed in them, and on which he believed the security of the country depended. (*Cheers.*)—The house divided, when there appeared—

|                                   |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| For the resolution .....          | 192 |
| Against it .....                  | 350 |
| <hr/>                             |     |
| Majority against the resolution.. | 158 |

The announcement of this majority was received with loud cheers.

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ENTERED AT STATIONER'S HALL.

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Published at 19, Old Boswell Court, Temple Bar.

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# THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

MAY, 1835.

No. 5.]

[VOL. II.

## THE PLATE.

The subject of the plate is a Durham Cow bred by FREDERICK OTWAY, ESQ., of EDDLETHORPE, near YORK, and fed by JAMES RHODES, ESQ., of ISLINGTON. She was got by VAUNTER (1543) dam by BLUCHER, (84) grandam by WINDSOR (698). VAUNTER was by PIONEER, who was also the sire of the celebrated CASTLE HOWARD OX. This beautiful animal was exhibited for the prize in Class 6. at the last Smithfield Show, and would unquestionably have obtained the prize had the breeder's certificate arrived in time. She was afterwards sold by Mr. Rhodes to Mr. Humphries, Butcher, Maida Hill, Paddington, and on being killed, the carcase weighed 159 stone, 2 lbs.; the loose fat, 23 stone; 8 lbs. to the stone.

## EMIGRATION CONSIDERED RELATIVE TO POOR LAWS FOR IRELAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE 'FARMER'S MAGAZINE.'

Sir,—The attention of the neighbourhood in which I reside is at the present moment engaged with the subject of emigration. In almost every parish some of the labourers and their families are preparing to embark either for Canada or the United States of America, with the cheerful prospect before them of plenty of employ at good wages; and undoubtedly this prospect will be realized provided they carry with them industrious habits and a sufficient degree of self-denial to resist the temptation the cheapness of spirituous liquors give rise to, both in the United States and in Canada. It is impossible that any accounts can be more favourable than those received from the labourers themselves, who have emigrated within the last few years. I have read several pamphlets of these letters, published by different emigration societies in various parts of the kingdom, and they all agree exactly in the nature and extent of the benefit they derive in consequence of the spirit of enterprise which prompted them to take their labour from a market which is over supplied to one where it is in great demand.

I would particularly call the attention of your readers to a collection of letters published by the Petworth Emigration Committee, and another collection received from the labourers who emigrated from the neighbourhood of Bath.

It is not, however, my wish now to attempt to shew the great benefit derived by the able-bodied and industrious labourers by emigrating from the

eastern to the western hemisphere; because this fact is now generally admitted, in spite of the endeavours of levellers and jacobins to persuade the peasantry of England to distrust alike the system of emigration, and those who advised them to adopt it as a means to obtain "full employ at good wages." These gentry well know that their power and influence is derived solely from the discontent of the necessitous part of the community, and consequently they raise their unprincipled clamour against any object which would have the effect of reducing the number of the distressed.

My present intention is to consider this subject relative to Ireland only, with a view to shew that the expense of emigration incurred by the landowners and occupiers of England is only just so much money put into the pockets of the Irish landlords, and that nothing but Poor Laws for Ireland can effectually remedy this injustice.

On the 21st of this month a vessel is to arrive at Portsmouth, for the purpose of taking in emigrants from several parishes in Sussex, to convey them to Canada. Here is a heavy expense incurred both by the owners and occupiers of the land in the parishes which these people belong to; perhaps each individual who emigrates will cost the sum of ten pounds. In some cases this charge rests entirely on the tenant; in others the landowners pay a proportion of a half or a third; but, however the expense may be met, it is in every instance a very serious charge, and one which, under the present depressed price of agricultural produce, can be but indifferently afforded. Now, at the same season, and may be on the very same day, that these people are sailing from Portsmouth, for the obvious purpose, be it remembered, of reducing the supply of labour in this country, several packets sail from the different Irish ports, bound for England, full of half-starved Irish paupers, who are in the course of a few days to become applicants for work, and, in fact, whose very existence must depend on this self same labour-market, glutted as it already is, and this supply of labour beyond the demand, is fully exemplified by the sailing of the ship from Portsmouth I have before described. I have heard of the digging of holes on one day, and filling them up on the next, applied as illustrative of many negative sort of proceedings; for our purpose now I think it is admirably suited, and if the reader should wish to reduce the above maxim to a more practical shape, he has only to imagine an English squire—and it is easy to find such a one—who let his estate seven years ago, on lease of fourteen years to a respectable tenantry. At the time these leases were granted, we will suppose the squire to have found his estate encumbered with a poor-rate of five hundred pounds a year, which sum he was at that time of course obliged to deduct from the rental value of the land; thus, if there had been no poor-rate to pay, his income would have been two

thousand pounds per annum, but on account of such poor-rate, he had consented to fix it at fifteen hundred pound per annum, during the fourteen years. Well, as we suppose seven years of the term of these leases to be expired, seven years of the term are now remaining, but how stands the poor-rate? Why it has increased a third, and now the tenants instead of having to raise five hundred pounds among them for this purpose, as was the case when they entered into their several engagements, they find they have now seven hundred and fifty pounds to pay. Pray let the reader imagine to himself this squire and his tenants in these circumstances (the former with justice complaining that since he purchased the property twenty years ago, his income had been reduced twenty per cent. by the increase of the poor-rate; and the latter, with equal justice, declaiming because in the middle of their term, they find this charge had increased one third;) being satisfied that something must be done in this emergency—uniting their efforts, both of pocket and of body, to reclaim a certain swamp on the estate, for the common benefit of the whole. In order to accomplish this object, the water is drained off into a neighbouring mill-stream, much to the improvement of the property of Dustypole. Imagine this object accomplished, see the complacent countenance of the squire and his tenants at the prospect of fine alluvial production, which they hope will in due time compensate them in some degree for the great trouble and outlay of capital this improvement has required. Imagine them thus, and then picture to yourself their horror, or, perhaps, the term which Sterne adopts to express the mental agony of his hero, Dr. Slop, would be the more appropriate on this occasion—"their hydrophobia"—on the discovery that some absentee Irish landlord, who happened to possess an adjoining swamp—just such a one as our squire and his tenants had reclaimed—was preparing, in order to reduce his to the same state of usefulness, coolly to inundate his neighbour's improvement. Pray do not do this act of injustice, would be the remonstrance—your present proceedings will be our ruin—on the other had, there is the stream of neighbour Dustypole which would be improved by your directing the drainage of your water to it. It is true it will cost you more capital to do this; but do be just and remember the great expense we have incurred to attain this object. What is the reply of the Irishman? I shall do no such thing; the law authorises me to disencumber myself at the sacrifice of your interests, and in a few hours your improvements will be again under water. The only remedy which now remains for the squire and his tenantry, is to petition the Legislature to *compel* the Irishman either to confine his flood within his own boundary, or if he be determined to proceed with his improvement, that he be allowed to do so only by availing himself of the harmless facility afforded by Dustypole's mill-stream. With claims so reasonable and just, we may, I think, fairly imagine the return of the hydrophobia fit on the constitutions of the landlord and his tenants, when told the legislature had on some *crotchet of policy*, refused to protect them.

Now does not the above illustrate fairly the real state of this question. Can or ought this destructive system to continue, and is it not in *truth* if not in *name*, a plan of poor-laws for Ireland by which the *English land is taxed for the payment of Irish poor-rates*.

It may be said that the Irish poor come over only for the summer months, when labour is in

great demand, and that they return again late in the autumn to Ireland, to winter on their stock of potatoes. When this is really done, the injustice of this temporary importation of labour is not, I admit, so heavily felt by the payers of the English poor-rate, as when the Irish paupers come over for the purpose of permanently remaining in England, and this is done to a considerable and ruinous extent for it is a well ascertained fact that in and about London, and the large provincial towns of England, the tradesmen's labourers include a vast number of Irishmen. Let these be withdrawn, and as they have a right to be provided for in their native part of the kingdom, and then their places and labour would be supplied by the surplus men from our own agricultural districts.

There is a sympathetic feeling which occasions the Irish pauper to follow the Irish peer to England; this at first sight may not be perceptible, but I think on reflection it will be acknowledged to operate in the following manner. The Irish peer comes to reside in England, and every farthing of rent that his agent can *screw* from his tenants, is sent here for his use. The production of the soil, (I mean the beef, pork, bread, and butter,) naturally follows the rent as the means of purchase, leaving the potatoes and buttermilk as the wages of labour; and those who are not satisfied to exchange their labour for potatoes and buttermilk scantily supplied, and it is not extraordinary that multitudes are dissatisfied with this exchange, "take up their tatters" and follow the beef, pork, bread, and butter to England with the hope of being able to earn wages high enough to put some of these necessities within their reach. Some persons are opposed to poor-laws for Ireland because they are disgusted by the dangers which have during a long succession of years crept into the English poor laws, and consequently would avoid if possible, subjecting Ireland to the chance of perverting a principle excellent in itself, but decidedly very liable to be abused in the administration of several of its provisions. But this appears to me to be an argument in favour of the present being the time for the sister kingdom to make the attempt with the experience of the operation of the English poor-laws before us for more than two hundred years Ireland might select what was desirable, and avoid the dangers and corruptions which we unfortunately during the time, and particularly during the last thirty years, have fallen into, and after all I have heard advanced of the difficulties to be apprehended in an attempt to institute poor-laws for Ireland, I am far from being convinced but that the supporters of the English poor-law amendment bill had to encounter quite as intricate a subject, and probably more opposition in their progress than would beset any ministers who should determine to become the framers of poor-laws for Ireland, because in the former case the very nature of the abuse to be remedied, was of an invidious character inasmuch as it advanced justice, circumspection and economy, in lieu of lavish expenditure and mistaken philanthropy. Whereas, the latter, even if it proceeded with all the caution and respect for property that human ingenuity could call to aid, would still be felt and acknowledged to be a merciful relaxation of an "iron hand" offered by a humane legislature for the relief of a suffering multitude.

I am, Sir, your obedient and very humble  
servant,

AGRICULTOR.

Sussex, April 14, 1835.



## BRISTOL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The second anniversary of this Society was held on the 28th February, at the New Cattle Market, Temple Gate. The exhibition of Live Stock was not so large as was anticipated, but there were some fine specimens of the various classes, and on the whole the show was highly creditable to the farmers and breeders of the surrounding neighbourhood.

The meeting for business commenced at eleven o'clock, J. S. Harford, Esq., in the chair. The report of the committee was then read, after which Mr. Woodward, of Bredon's Norton, near Tewkesbury, was appointed censor of the Live Stock; Mr. Webb, of Castle-street, Mr. Smith, of Ashton, and Mr. Rich, were appointed to adjudge the premium offered by Mr. Beard, for a composition to keep the fly from striking sheep; and Messrs. Taylor, Peters, and Fyson, to examine the claims for good behaviour.

A report was read from the committee appointed to examine the claims for the premium of 10*l* to the individual who had judiciously expended the most money in agricultural labour. They declared their award to be in favour of "Live and let live." Their report having been adopted, the chairman proceeded to open a letter containing the real name of the competitor,—Mr. George Webb Hall, whom he thereupon complimented, not less for his liberality and judgment in the management of his estate, than for his success on the present occasion.

Mr. Hall could not but feel particularly gratified, inasmuch as the gentlemen who had awarded the premium, had stated that they had not hastily subscribed their names to their report, but that, having examined the accounts produced as vouchers for his claim, the statements contained in his communication were fully borne out by facts.

The Secretary then read a communication from Mr. Joliffe, entitled, "A secret worth knowing: how to feed swine with profit in these cheap times." It detailed the writer's management of these useful animals, and the success that had resulted from his system. The document was listened to with a great deal of interest, and Mr. J. received the thanks of the meeting.

Mr. Highman, of Bath, then exhibited and explained the nature of an apparatus for drenching animals; and also his new invented bits. The former was highly approved of by Mr. Rawlins, Veterinary surgeon, of Wells, and also by Mr. Leigh, of the Bristol Horse Bazaar; and, with respect to his bit, George Worrall, Esq. and Dr. Bompas, said they considered it a good and useful invention: they were persuaded it would prove a great relief to the horse, have a good effect upon his temper, and at the same time make his mouth more lively. Mr. Highman received the thanks of the meeting, with permission to publish the same, if he thought it desirable.

Dr. Bompas announced that the chairman had kindly offered a premium of 5*l* for the best method of draining land; and Mr. Mullins stated that, having called on Mr. John Hare, jun., on his way to the meeting, that gentleman had kindly signified his intention of contributing an annual premium of 5*l*, leaving it to him (Mr. M.) to fix the object; he would propose that it be added to the other premiums for the promotion of industry and good behaviour. The meeting acquiesced in this proposition, and passed a vote of thanks to J. S. Harford and J. Hare, jun., Esqs., for their liberality.

Five models of machines were then exhibited by

Mr. Cadogan Williams, for grubbing, breaking stones, threshing, raising water, and for hacking land. Mr. W. received the thanks of the meeting.

The awarders of Mr. Beard's premium made their report, and adjudged it to Mr. C. C. Hardwick, for his composition, composed of the following ingredients:—1 lb. sulphur; 1 lb. white lead; 1 lb. hellebore, in powder: and half-an-ounce of oil of wormwood. The above, properly mixed, will be sufficient to dress 75 sheep or 100 lambs.

Mr. Hardwick detailed the success he had experienced from the use of his composition among his own flock, and gave several instances of its usefulness to those neighbours to whom he had recommended it.

The report of the judges of live stock was then read, and a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Woodward for his kind assistance.—Mr. W. returned thanks.

The report of the gentlemen appointed to examine the claims to premiums, under the head of industry and good behaviour, was submitted to the meeting and received its sanction.

Mr. Hall then rose to address the meeting on the subject of poor laws for Ireland, which he considered to be a question of great national importance. Any gentleman who took an interest in what was passing between the two countries, and who observed, not only the immense influx of Irish produce, but also of Irish people, who come here, must, when he reflected on the fact that the poor in that country were denied that provision which subsisted for the poor in England, be convinced that great injustice was done to the occupiers of land on this side the Channel. He did not deny the fair title of Ireland to that market for her commodities which the act of union had secured to her; all he was anxious for was, that that union should be consistent in all its parts,—that, while the intercourse between the two countries, by means of steam-packets, had connected them as if by a bridge, the wants of her own population should be met before she sent a vast amount of produce into this country, to the injury of our own growers. He took his stand on unquestionable ground when he said that the labourer was worthy of his hire, and that the peasantry of Ireland had a claim to be somewhat better fed than the four-legged animal which was commonly the inmate of his family. But it was a subject of great importance, as deeply connected with the national economy. It was well known that Ireland was the scene of lawless aggression, and that instances, too numerous, of cold-blooded murder, and a variety of other appalling facts might be adduced to show that the state of society there was perfectly unnatural; and to what was it to be traced if not to a want of that inestimable blessing—labour? When, by the act of union, our markets were thrown open to the sister country, and the duties on importation were repealed,—a spirit of competition having found its way there, I do think that, in common fairness, the poor laws of England should have been extended also to Ireland. Those laws were, to a great extent, founded on good principles: in particular, he admired that portion of them which, while it ensured to the pauper a remuneration not far below the minimum of wages, ensured also his being kept to labour. For the want of this wholesome provision the poor of Ireland had become demoralised, and this demoralization had gone on in a geometrical ratio with their poverty. Living like pigs, they were susceptible only of mere animal feeling; and the evil had gone on until at length the state of the popu-

lation was so degraded, and, as a consequence, society was so insecure, that were he offered a thousand pounds a-year, on condition of living among them, he would not accept of the offer. He held the security of property to be one of the greatest blessings in a civilized country, and if a man were not taught that he had an interest in its preservation, what was there to prevent him from taking by force whatever he could lay his hands upon? He was no advocate for making men paupers: on the contrary, he believed that incendiarianism, in our own country, was mainly owing to a want of employment, and that it might be traced to an unwise departure from that sound principle which aimed at elevating the labourer by awarding him a just remuneration for his services, instead of degrading him by eking out his wages from the parish rates. Such a practice he held to be detestable and illogical, and so certain was he of its baneful results, that he would take the map of England and wherever he found it to prevail, there would he be sure to find incendiarianism. In the same way he would take the map of Ireland, and wherever he found that the population, when employed, were receiving but 5d. a-day on which to support a family, there would he be sure to find outrages such as were wholly irreconcilable with the well-being of society. He considered the subject peculiarly applicable to an agricultural meeting, such as the one then assembled; for, in consequence of there not being that fair provision for the population of Ireland, which justice to all parties demanded, that food which ought to be appropriated to their sustenance was transferred to this country, and brought into direct competition with its own productions. He would, then, appeal to every farmer—he would appeal to those who were in the habit of witnessing the fine market in which they were then assembled crowded by animals that were not wanted, because of the thousands that were constantly being landed from the sister country,—he would call upon them to join him in the present measure. When they saw, also, that an extensive military force was kept up in consequence of the disordered state to which Ireland was reduced, in great measure, he would maintain, for the want of the remedy he alluded to, he felt it to be the duty of every man to raise his voice to the legislature to procure that redress which the case demanded. But there was one other consideration which he might enforce with peculiar propriety, and that was the manner in which the question affected this city in particular. From the local situation of Bristol, and from the intercourse constantly going on between it and the sister isle, its inhabitants were taxed to a large amount annually to send back the Irish peasantry who periodically flock to this country in the hope of bettering their condition. He would appeal, then, to the inhabitants of Bristol, and ask, whether it was not just and reasonable that those poor people should have a legal claim upon their own soil? Upon these grounds he begged to be permitted to offer the resolutions which he held in his hand. He would only add, that a meeting like the one he had the honour to address, consisting, for the most part, of practical men, were just as capable of forming an opinion, and coming to a right resolution upon the subject, as, probably, the legislature itself; and should the resolutions be adopted, he meant to follow them up by a brief petition embodying their principal points.

The resolutions having been moved by Mr. Ward, and seconded by Colonel Maclean,

Mr. Fyson asked whether, in speaking of the

poor laws, Mr. Hall alluded to the old or the new system?

Mr. Hall said he alluded to the provisions of the 43rd of Elizabeth, which provided subsistence for the maimed and indigent.

Mr. Fyson was not exactly satisfied with this explanation. He expected Mr. H. to have stated explicitly whether he was in favour of the old or the new system, because there was a wide difference between the two.

Mr. Tuckett thought, before the society proceeded to recommend poor laws for Ireland, it ought to agree as to what system was best adapted for our own country. He could not agree with Mr. Hall in assigning the present condition of Ireland to the absence of poor laws, and still less would he assent to the assumption that demoralization was consequent on a low rate of wages. If such were the fact, what must be thought of the inhabitants of Hindostan, whose wages were only equal to about three-half-pence per day English currency? He thought Mr. Hall's arguments did not fairly apply to the case. He thought that it was a question rather of national policy, and, as such, that it could not be fairly discussed without going beyond the limits which the society had marked out for itself.

C. L. Walker, Esq. said there were one or two local points, upon which Mr. Hall had touched, on which he totally differed from him. The great immigration of the Irish poor was at Liverpool, and not at Bristol; and then, with respect to the influx of Irish produce, being himself a considerable proprietor in the steam-packets, he could speak positively that Bristol had greatly benefited from it. The dock company, in particular, derived a benefit from that portion of the trade of the port amounting to between one and two thousand pounds per annum.

The Chairman observed, as it was above all things desirable, in the present infant state of the society, to preserve unanimity, perhaps Mr. Hall would consent to his resolution being withdrawn.

Mr. Hall had no other object than a desire to elicit truth. He claimed the privilege of forming an opinion for himself, and he should be a most unreasonable man if he denied the same liberty to others. He had brought forward the same subject at Bath, and it was there decided that it would be quite ridiculous not to entertain a question of domestic policy. True, there was no petition adopted on that occasion, but it was determined that a premium should be offered for the best essay on the subject. With respect to the rate of labour in Hindostan, the inhabitants, who subsisted chiefly upon rice, were of a much simpler nature and totally different from those of the inhabitants of Europe. "They would find too, that although closely connected, the inhabitants of England and Ireland were totally dissimilar, the latter country being almost perpetually in a state of rebellion. He had no wish to restrict the importation of what might be fairly regarded as surplus produce, but it was time to devise means for a sufficient portion being kept back to feed its own population. He was happy at all times to defer to the opinions of others, when he could do so without sacrificing principle; but he must be excused on the present occasion if he pressed the resolutions.

The Chairman observed that, in common with others, he held an opinion upon the subject of the resolutions, but he must confess he should find a difficulty in going into the question, trenching so closely as it did upon politics, without infringing



the rules of the society. As a matter of prudence, then, seeing that, if the question was passed, it might be attended with some difficulty, and operate prejudicially on the society as regarded the support of the commercial interest of Bristol; he would again appeal to Mr. Hall, whether it had not better be withdrawn.

Mr. Hall consented that the resolutions should be withdrawn.

The business here terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was carried by acclamation.

### PREMIUMS AND BOUNTIES.

#### LIVE STOCK.

|                                                                                                                                  |      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| For the best bull, cow, and offspring, improved short horned breed, Mr. Charles C. Hardwick, a premium of . . . . .              | £ 15 |
| For the best fat cow, improved short horned breed, ditto, a premium of . . . . .                                                 | 5    |
| For the best four fat wethers, Somersetshire breed, ditto, a premium of . . . . .                                                | 3    |
| For four three-year-old steers, Hereford breed, Mr. T. Smith, bounty of . . . . .                                                | 2    |
| For the best fat ox, Hereford breed, ditto, a premium of . . . . .                                                               | 5    |
| For four oxen, Hereford breed, ditto, a bounty of . . . . .                                                                      | 2    |
| For the best fat ox, having worked, Devon breed, Mr. Thos. Hardwick, a premium of . . . . .                                      | 5    |
| For the best four fat ewes, improved Leicester breed, Mr. George Limbrick, a premium of . . . . .                                | 2    |
| For the best long-wool ram, improved Leicester breed, ditto, premium of . . . . .                                                | 3    |
| For a fat wether sheep, improved Leicester breed, ditto, a bounty of . . . . .                                                   | 1    |
| For bull, cow, and offspring, Ayrshire breed, J. Haythorne, Esq., a bounty of . . . . .                                          | 2    |
| For the best fat pig, ditto, a premium of . . . . .                                                                              | 2    |
| For the best yearling cart colt, ditto, a premium of . . . . .                                                                   | 3    |
| For the best boar and sow, Mr. William Bennett, a premium of . . . . .                                                           | 2    |
| For the best yoke of grazing oxen, having worked, Sir John Smyth, bart., a premium of . . . . .                                  | 4    |
| For the second best yoke of grazing oxen, having worked, Hereford breed, George Worrall, Esq. a premium of . . . . .             | 3    |
| (Given by W. Miles, Esq., M.P.) For the best five-long-wool ewes, improved Cotswold breed, Mr. Geo. Rich, a premium of . . . . . | 5    |
| For the best cart stallion, to Mr. Thomas Deacle, a premium of . . . . .                                                         | 5    |
| For two three-year-old steers, Hereford breed, Mr. R. Jolliffe, bounty of . . . . .                                              | 2    |
| For a Hereford bull and cow, Mr. William Hewlett, a bounty of . . . . .                                                          | 3    |
| For two Hereford and Devon heifers, Mr. James Long, a bounty of . . . . .                                                        | 2    |

#### AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

|                                                                                         |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| For most money judiciously expended in agricultural labour, to G. W. Hall, Esq. . . . . | 10 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|

#### INDUSTRY AND GOOD BEHAVIOUR.

|                                                                                                                   |   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Richard Highwood, for 36 years' servitude with Mr. T. Hardwick, of Worle, the premium of . . . . .                | 4 |
| Edward Hellier, for 26 years' servitude with Mr. Thomas Lawrence, of Winterbourne Court, the premium of . . . . . | 3 |
| John Woodman, for 25 years' servitude with Mr. Colthurst, premium of . . . . .                                    | 2 |
| Benjamin Ball, of Worle, for bringing up six children without parish relief, the premium of . . . . .             | 3 |
| John Stockdon, Iron Acton, for bringing up five children without parish relief, a premium of . . . . .            | 3 |

|                                                                                                                                                      |   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Elizabeth Lee, for 32 years' servitude with Mr. William Taylor, of Henbury, the premium of . . . . .                                                 | 4 |
| Mary Hawkins, for 15 years' and upwards servitude with Mr. Edwin Allies, of Westbury-upon-Trym, the premium of . . . . .                             | 3 |
| Henrietta Thomas, for 23 years' servitude with Mr. William Bushell, the premium of . . . . .                                                         | 2 |
| Edmund Baker, for having conducted himself to the satisfaction of his master, Mr. Mullins, Chewmagna, during his apprenticeship, bounty of . . . . . | 2 |

Mr. Beard's premium of 2*l* for the discovery of the best method of preventing the fly striking sheep, was awarded to Mr. C. C. Hardwick.

### IMPORTATION OF THE BONES OF CETACEOUS ANIMALS FROM THE POLAR SEAS FOR THE PURPOSES OF MANURE.

The great consumption of bones occasioned by the increasing demand for bone-manure in the extension of turnip husbandry to the more remote and inaccessible parts of the country, accompanied with the small indeed, but gradual, rise in the price of that valuable means of fertilizing the soil situate at a distance from large towns, naturally creates the apprehension that at no distant period the demand will outrun the supply. In order to anticipate such an "untoward event," our thoughts have lately been turned to a prolific source of supply which has hitherto been almost entirely overlooked—we mean the Polar Seas. Much valuable bone might be brought home in the whale ships from those regions. One large whale might afford several tons of bones. We are quite aware that while the prospect of an abundant supply of blubber arrests the attention of the whale-fisher, he will be regardless of the bones of the animal. This state of mind is natural. The fisherman, when so actuated, only fulfils the principal object of his voyage, and were he always certain of loading his ship with the most valuable part of the cetaceous animals which he captures, no one should be so unreasonable as to request him to direct his attention in the short time he has to accomplish his object, to any other subject. But we all know how very seldom whalers bring home bumper ships, how much more frequently the ships are only half loaded; while every year some come home clean. Now some of their time might be profitably, at least usefully, employed in securing a quantity of the bones, such as the jaws, ribs, and vertebrae of the animals which they capture; and although it would not be desirable to occupy the most convenient parts of the ship with bones, while there was a prospect of obtaining blubber, it should be remembered that no bones can be obtained without in the first place securing the blubber. It will, no doubt, not unfrequently happen that the most successful periods of the fishings are those when the capture of whales takes place faster than the blubber can be removed from the carcass and stored by; and we have heard a whaler assert that they have had fourteen carcasses floating alongside awaiting the process of fleecing. But if the whole bodies can be kept floating alongside to await the convenience of the crew to remove the blubber, cannot the fleeced bodies in like manner be kept floating till it is convenient to disengage some of the bones? Bones are easily disengaged, and would be of easy stowage. They could be cut into junks with cross-cut saws made

for the purpose, and many of them used as wedges to secure the butts in the hold, while others could be stowed away in any space in which a butt cannot be stowed. In this manner any ship could bring home many tons of bones; and it might be an understanding among the masters of the ships on the fishing ground, that if one ship was much taken up with the storing of blubber, while another was less successful, the latter might get leave to tow away the fleeced carcasses to their own ship. We have heard it stated that the bringing home of of bones would be a question of freight with the owners of the ships. We think this is a mistake, for the mode in which whale-fishers are paid has no reference to freight. They are paid according to the tons of blubber which they bring home. Some bones have been brought home of late years; one ship from Leith last season we saw brought four or five tons; but what is that trifling quantity compared to what she might have brought when she came home little more than half laden? The mode adopted by the owners for paying for bones, is to give the crew one-fourth of their value, so that the question of freight has nothing to do with the matter. We wish the owners of the whale ships from Scotland would seriously take this matter into consideration, and encourage their crews to stow as much bone as they conveniently can at their leisure. The value realized by the bone might not only pay the expenses of delivering the ship, but it might even reimburse the owners for the loss of the bounty, over and above the value of the blubber in an average voyage. If a premium of a piece of plate from the Highland Society would be any stimulus to the captains who would bring home the greatest quantity of bones, and thus forward our views for the benefit of agriculture by a constant supply of a cheap and efficient manure, we are sure they will be happy to grant such a prize to the successful competitor, and the owners we are assured would be proud that it was one of their ships which had carried off the honoured prize.

#### HEREFORDSHIRE CATTLE.

The Herefordshire white-faced breed, with the exception of a very few Alderney and Durham cows, have almost exclusive possession of this county. The Hereford oxen are considerably larger than the North Devons. They are usually of a darker red; some of them are brown, and even yellow, and a few are brindled; but they are principally distinguished by their white faces, throats, and bellies. In a few the white extends to the shoulders. The old Herefords were brown or red-brown, with not a spot of white about them. It is only within the last fifty or sixty years that it has been the fashion to breed for white faces. Whatever may be thought of the change of colour, the present breed is certainly far superior to the old one. The hide is considerably thicker than that of the Devon, and the beasts are more hardy. Compared with the Devons, they are shorter in the leg, and also in the carcass; higher, and broader, and heavier in the chine; rounder and wider across the hips, and better covered with fat; the thigh fuller and more muscular, and the shoulders larger and coarser.

Mr. Marshall gives the following account of them: it is tolerably correct, but does sufficiently

distinguish them from their kindred breed. "The countenance pleasant, cheerful, open; the forehead broad; eye full and lively; horns bright, taper, and spreading; head small; chap lean; neck long and tapering; chest deep; bosom broad, and projecting forward; shoulder-bone thin, flat, no way protuberant in bone (?), but full and mellow in flesh; chest full; loin broad; hips standing wide, and level with the chine; quarters long, and wide at the neck; rump even with the level of the back, and not drooping, nor standing high and sharp above the quarters; tail slender and neatly haired; barrel round and roomy; the carcass throughout deep and well spread; ribs broad, standing flat and close on the outer surface forming a smooth, even barrel, the hindmost large and full of length; round bone small, snug, and not prominent; thigh clean, and regularly tapering; legs upright and short; bone below the knee and hock small; feet of middle size; flank large; flesh every where mellow, soft, and yielding pleasantly to the touch, especially on the chine, the shoulder and the ribs; hide mellow, supple, of a middle thickness, and loose on the neck and huckle; coat neatly haired, bright and silky; colour, a middle red, with a bald face characteristic of the true Herefordshire breed."

They fatten to a much greater weight than the Devons, and run from fifty to seventy score. A tolerable cow will average from thirty-five to fifty score. A cow belonging to the Duke of Bedford weighed more than seventy score; and an ox belonging to Mr. Westcar exceeded one hundred and ten score. They are not now much used for husbandry, although their form adapts them for the heavier work; and they have all the honesty and docility of the Devon ox, and greater strength, if not his activity. The Herefordshire ox fattens speedily at a very early age, and it is therefore more advantageous to the farmer, and perhaps to the country, that he should go to market at three years old, than be kept longer to be employed as a beast of draught.

They are far worse milkers than the Devons. This is so generally acknowledged, that while there are many dairies of Devon cows in various parts of the country, (none of which, however, are very profitable to their owners,) a dairy of Herefords is rarely to be found.

To compensate for this, they are even more kindly feeders than the Devons, and will live and grow fat where a Devon will scarcely live. Their beef may be objected to by some as being occasionally a little too large in the bone, and the fore-quarters being coarse and heavy; but the meat of the best pieces is often very fine-grained and beautifully marbled. There are few cattle more prized in the market than the genuine Herefords.

The Devons and the Herefords are both excellent breeds, and the prejudices of the Devonshire and Herefordshire farmers for their peculiar breed being set aside, a cross of the one will often materially improve the other. The Devon will acquire bulk and hardihood, and the Hereford a finer form and activity. The Hereford bull, and the West Highland or Kyloe cows, have been tried, but they did not feed so rapidly, nor weigh so well as the Here-



ford, and they had the defect of being extremely pugnacious.

Mr. Culley, although an excellent judge of cattle, formed a very erroneous opinion of the Herefords when he pronounced them to be nothing but a mixture of the Welsh with a bastard race of long-horns. They are evidently an aboriginal breed, and descended from the same stock as the Devons. If it were not for the white face, and somewhat larger head and thicker neck, it would not at all times be easy to distinguish between a heavy Devon and a light Hereford. Their white faces may probably be traced to a cross with their not distant relations, the Montgomeries.

The Hereford cow is apparently a very inferior animal. Not only is she no milker, but even her form has been sacrificed by the breeder. Herefordshire is more a rearing than a feeding county, and therefore the farmer looks mostly to the shape and value of his young stock, and in the choice of his cow, he does not value or select her, or breed from her according to her milking qualities, or the price which the grazier would give for her, but in proportion as she possesses that general form which experience has taught him will render her likely to produce a good ox. Hence the Hereford cow is comparatively small and delicate, and some would call her ill-made. She is very light-fleshed when in common condition, and beyond that, while she is breeding, she is not suffered to proceed; but when she is actually put up for fattening, she spreads out, and accumulates fat at a most extraordinary rate.

The breeder has been taught by experience, that when the cow, although she should be somewhat *roomy*, is too large and musciline, the ox will be brawny and coarse, and perhaps a little sluggish at work, and even somewhat unkind and slow in the process of fattening, and these are objections which, most of all, he would be unwilling to have justly made. The Herefordshire cow is therefore somewhat undersized; and it not unfrequently happens that she produces a bull-calf that grows to three times her own weight.

Kindly as the Hereford ox fattens, very few are grazed in their native county: even the beasts which the home consumption requires are principally heifers and old cows. The oxen are sold at five and six years old in tolerable condition, at the Michaelmas fair in Hereford, to the graziers of Buckinghamshire and the neighbouring counties, by whom they are principally preferred for the London market.

The fertility of the soil in Herefordshire has been very much overrated. The traveller, and the superficial observer, have been misled by the luxuriant woods and rich alluvial soil upon the banks of its rivers. The pasture-grounds are generally poor, and the herbage is not nutritious, and therefore the farmer naturally confines his chief attention to his rearing-stock. The dairy has been comparatively neglected; for experience has proved that the breeding qualities of a cow are materially lessened, and even her form is deteriorated, by her being inclined to give a large quantity of milk.

A very interesting trial was made in the winter of 1828,29, between the Herefords and the improved short-horned breeds of cattle, in the or-

dinary mode of feeding, without forcing by artificial food of any description, and the result seemed to be much to the advantage of the Herefords, considering their original weight, and the quantity of food consumed. It must, however, be confessed, that it is not sufficient to enable us to decide upon the relative merits of the two rival breeds of large cattle, nor are we yet quite prepared for the inquiry; but we insert it as an experiment that was fairly conducted, to which the advocates of the Herefordshire cattle often refer, and which they will naturally expect to be placed upon record.

Three Herefords and three short-horns were selected; they were put together in a straw-yard on the 20th of December, 1827, and were fed in the open yard, at the rate of one bushel of turnips per beast per day, with straw only, until May 2, 1828, when their weights were taken, and they were sent to grass.

|                 | c. qr. lb. |                   | c. qr. lb. |
|-----------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| No. 1. Hereford | 8 3 0      | No. 1. Short-horn | 9 2 0      |
| 2. ..           | 7 3 0      | 2. ..             | 8 2 0      |
| 3. ..           | 7 0 0      | 3. ..             | 9 0 0      |

On the 3d of November they were taken from grass, and put into the stall, when their weight was as follows:

|                 | c. qr. lb. |                   | c. qr. lb. |
|-----------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| No. 1. Hereford | 11 3 0     | No. 1. Short-horn | 12 3 14    |
| 2. ..           | 10 2 0     | 2. ..             | 12 2 0     |
| 3. ..           | 10 3 0     | 3. ..             | 12 3 0     |

|                   | Turnips lbs. | Hay lbs. |
|-------------------|--------------|----------|
| The Herefords.... | 46,655       | 5065     |
| The Short-horns.. | 59,430       | 6779     |

They then weighed—

|                 |    |   |    |                   |    |   |    |
|-----------------|----|---|----|-------------------|----|---|----|
| No. 1. Hereford | 13 | 0 | 14 | No. 1. Short-horn | 14 | 2 | 0  |
| 2. ..           | 12 | 0 | 0  | 2. ..             | 14 | 1 | 14 |
| 3. ..           | 12 | 0 | 0  | 3. ..             | 14 | 2 | 14 |

Being an increase of weight in favour of the

|                                       |         |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Herefords of .....                    | 13 2 14 |
| And in favour of the Short-horns..... | 17 2 0  |

And making a difference in the Short-horns of.... 3 3 14

But then the Short-horns had consumed 12,775lbs. more of turnips, and 1714lbs. more of hay.

When they were all sold together at Smithfield on the 30th of March, the heavier short-horns fetched 97l., and the lighter Herefords 96l., being an overplus of only 1l. to pay for the enormous difference in the food consumed, and the greater price given on account of the heavier weight of the short-horns at the commencement of the experiment.\* Another Hereford and a short-horn were also tried together at the same time; but they did not undergo the same process, nor was so regular an account kept of their progress. The Hereford increased in weight 3 cwt. 3 qrs., and the short-horn 4 cwt. 1 qr.

\* The Michaelmas cattle fair at Hereford is not exceeded by any show of beasts in good condition in the kingdom. They are usually sold to the graziers in the neighbourhood of the metropolis, by whom they are prepared for the Smithfield market.

There is an entry in an account book kept by William Town, in the neighbourhood of Hereford, in the year 1694, of the price of fat oxen at that period.

“25th August, 1694,—sold the nine oxen at 52l.; the money to be paid into the Exchequer within a month.” The price of oxen is, at least, six times as great now.

(From the Library of Useful Knowledge; Article, “Cattle.”)

## ON THE POTATO CULTURE.

BY MR O. HALLORAN.

*(From the Irish Farmer's Magazine.)*

Gentlemen,—As the probable cause and remedy against a recurrence of the recent failures in our potato crops, which is the all-engrossing subject amongst your agricultural writers, will most likely ere long be developed to the public, from some of the numerous pens which must have been employed on the subject in another quarter—among which I have obtruded my humble contribution—as the cultivation of the potato may be supposed to be well understood already—and as your talented correspondent (Mr. Pooler) has ingeniously supplied the means by which the prolific crop of one season, may be made available to the exigencies attendant on the scarcity of another, it would appear an obtrusion of superfluous matter to offer any further opinions; however paramount the importance of the subject. But as my firm conviction is, that by disseminating a scientific but plain outline of the nature and habits of the potato, and the influence of atmospheric agencies on the plant amongst the generality of cultivators, any man who is capable of reading, may be capable thereby of trying experiments which would lead him to deviate from the dull routine of culture handed down by the predecessors of one generation to another, and pursue a more economical and profitable mode; I am therefore persuaded to offer, through the medium of your widely circulated pages, a few instructory remarks on the subject; accompanied by a brief account of a mode of culture which I tried with success last season, and which I have not heard of being adopted elsewhere.

Before we enter on the subject of the potato, it may not be improper to impress on the mind of the cultivator that minute observations have proved, that there is a constant circulation of ascending and descending sap from the roots to the herb, flower, and fruit of the generality of plants, which is analogous to the circulation of blood in the veins of animals; that this circulation commences in the roots or fibres, and ascends, *by the agency of solar attraction*, in a liquid state, through sets of minute vessels or tubes, on the same principle as water is exhaled from the earth by evaporation, until it ascends to the body of the plant and leaves, where it is acted upon and *changed to another substance* by the influence of light, air, and other atmospheric agents, and descends—*probably by night when the attraction of the sun is least powerful*—by certain sets of vessels, until it meet its destination by depositing itself in various forms and in various parts of the plant, and becomes the food or luxury of man, which is its ultimate object.

I am aware that some are not converts to such theory as this; but without discussing more widely so important a point, it is as sufficient as it is necessary for our present subject, to adduce as a corroborative instance, the plant in question—the potato. Let any cultivator, who has a desire to inform himself, watch the progress of a few tubers after being planted, and he will find that each shoot in protruding to the surface establishes in its ascent, two, three, or more sets of fibres at as many joints, according to the distance it has to penetrate, which fibres are intended by nature to search for nourishment for the plant at a future period; and that the embryo tubers are also formed at an early stage on each of these succeed-

ing joints. Let the observations be pursued until the plant shall arrive at its full growth, and, at any part of the stalk above the surface, let it be cut across, and the tubes in the margin or outer part of the stalk containing the *ascending*, as well as the tubular cavity in the centre, containing the *descending* sap, but in a more congealed state, will be visible even to the naked eye. Let such cross sections be continued towards any of the joints below the surface, and the direction of the tubes, communicating with the fibres, which imbibe and convey the *ascending* sap, will be found to have a tendency *upwards*, while that of the other tubes or conduits which convey the *descending* fluid through the ligaments by which the tubers are attached to the plant, is *downwards*, and communicates with the centre. Thus unquestionably proving that the tubers or potatoes are only the depositories of the descending sap which nature has changed to another substance; and it follows, that such depositories will swell and enlarge only in direct proportion to the degree of nourishment afforded by the fibres. Nor is this the only palpable instance of such change of substance, which the potato can furnish; for the plant and fruit (or berries) are found by chemical analysis to contain a considerable portion of poisonous matter, and yet we find the tuber, which is composed of the sap which at that stage was poisonous, to be not only divested in part, if not wholly, of such pernicious quality, but we find it as wholesome as it is a nutritive food.

With these preliminaries let us next enquire what influence the atmosphere exerts on the growth of the potato, and see if we cannot derive practical instructions from an acquaintance therewith, as well as with the physical constitution and habits of the plant itself. It is evident to the most careless observer, that nature finishes her work not alone in the perfection of the potato as an article of food, but that she also provides for the re-production of the species by directing the functions of the sap contained in the tuber to the nourishment of a shoot until a new plant is capable of doing for itself; for every cultivator is aware of the simple fact, that a potato or part of a potato will, after being planted if in a sound state, make one or more shoots, the direction of which will be invariably *upwards*. This undeviating principle is effected by two causes—expansion and attraction—both of which are governed by the influence of the sun. Expansion is caused by the action of heat upon all expandible substances; and as the potato is no more in reality than the depository of the descended, but coagulated fluid, as observed before, so when solar heat begins to act upon it, it expands itself in the form of a shoot. And in the tendency of the shoot to direct itself upwards, it is governed by the principle of solar attraction. It is equally certain that a shoot derives little nourishment except from the mother tuber, until it penetrates to the light; (at which time a reciprocal motion will commence between the fibres and the plant) and the more abundant the store of nourishing sap retained in the tuber, the stronger and more luxuriant will be the shoot—hence the necessity suggests itself of planting large cuts, if not whole tubers, when deeply imbedded in the soil; or in early plantings, when the rays of the sun will be more feeble and consequently unable to attract the shoot so quickly to the surface.

Having such indisputable facts before us, we may easily infer, that the well-being of a crop depends on, and may be comprised under the following



particular heads. *First*, a free and unimpeded scope for the fibres to run through the soil in search of nourishment; for we see it is that nourishment, after being imbibed by the fibres in a liquid state, and circulated upwards through the body of the plant, that returns and swells the tubers in another form. *Secondly*, a combination of nutritive liquids—the extract or essence of manure—with the fluid which the fibres absorb, so as to give strength and fertility to the plant; for on the same principle as pure water is less nutritious for the human frame than other extracted liquids, so the existing on so simple an element is equally prejudicial to the frame of a plant, and unfit for the nourishment or increase of its tubers.—And *thirdly*, an unintercepted circulation of air, combined with the timely influence of rains, heat, &c.; and each of these heads are reducible to practice in the following manner:—

The *first* suggests the propriety of deep ploughing and pulverization of the soil, preparatory to a crop; of breaking or removing obstacles, such as clods or stones, that may impede the passage of the fibres; of an *undisturbed repose* for the fibres in their searches for nourishment; and of the covering being regulated according to the stiffness or friability of the soil, or the part of the season in which the crop may be planted. For instance, as we find it to be the attraction of the sun that causes the shoot to spring upwards, the lighter the covering the better, in *early* planting, when the sun is least powerful—except indeed that frost be anticipated. On the other hand, if the soil be stiff or cloddy, the covering will lose in compactness, and the fibres, established at successive joints in the ascent of the shoot, cannot come into such immediate contact with the earth or manure as might be in friable earth; consequently an unavoidable depth of covering would in this case be necessary, (and in such cases as this, strong cuts, if not whole tubers, should be invariably planted); but whatever the soil or the season, a sufficient depth should be allowed to enable the shoot to make two or three sets of such fibres (which may be about three inches); for the more fibres or *feeders* a plant has to nourish it, the more certain it will be of success.

The *next* proposes the proper application of manure. There is a difference of opinion with regard to putting the manure *under* or *over* the sets; but from the foregoing observations there may be some inferences drawn in favour of putting it *over* them; and I can say with confidence that the difference is discernable when reduced to practice. In the ascent of the shoot it naturally protrudes through the dung when placed over it; and its successional fibres will come in timely contact to receive immediate nutriment. Besides, if rain should succeed, it will dissolve the juices of the dung, and carry them with it in its descent to the fibres. On the contrary, if the manure be placed under, the fibres will have to descend perhaps two or three inches before they reach the dung, which delay would obviously prevent the immediate prosperity of the plant. The application of manure, indiscriminately through the ground, is in no case so commendable as in the detestable *lazy-bed* system; and if that indolent system has any thing to recommend it, it is only in the mode of applying manure. In that case the fibres, at whatever part they are formed on the shoot, in directing themselves downwards, will meet the manure in every direction, and will run horizontally through the manure; and the fibres at the base of the shoot near the tuber will draw early

assistance from being so contiguous to nourishment.—Hence we find crops of the *lazy-bed* system considerably earlier than those cultivated by more commendable methods.

By an observance of the *third*, we are prohibited from planting our crops *too close*, as that precludes the free admission of air and light, which are *indispensable agents to the prosperity of a crop*.

But though general outlines may be given with propriety, yet no specific rule can be given which is not subject to variation according to circumstances. Therefore it is, that every extensive cultivator should have a scientific knowledge of his subject.

If a farmer were scientifically acquainted with the nature of the potato, he would not adopt the monotonous routine of culture pursued by his predecessors or neighbours in every year, on every soil, and under every circumstance; he would on the contrary change his modes in various ways, as various matters may render it necessary. If, for instance, his soil were *poor*, and he deficient of a sufficiency of *manure*, he would plant his crop at the *usual* distance asunder; for in this case, as the deficiency of manure and richness in the soil would produce proportionably diminutive plants, and be a sure bar against the approximation of the stalks, so a large proportion of air, which is absolutely necessary, would thereby be preserved. Little do farmers, who pride in seeing their ground covered all over with stalks, conceive that it is the proximity of the stalks to each other, and the consequent exclusion of air, that draws them beyond their own strength, and that in being thus stretched beyond the limits of their resources, they are unable to return a sufficient maintenance to the tubers beneath. But were he provided with plenty of manure, and that his ground were naturally fertile, he would, in the expectation of luxuriant tops, apply a lesser portion of manure and plant at greater distances, and thereby provide also for a greater proportion of air. He would also take into consideration the individual variety he was about to plant; whether a *new* variety recently raised from *seed*, and from a *late* planting of the former season; or an *old* worn-out variety grown from an *early* planting of the previous season; for in the *former* case the tubers are invariably full of sap and vigour, which naturally gives them the propensity of making luxuriant stalks, and therefore should be planted further asunder; but in the *latter* the tubers are generally dry, farinaceous, and deficient of sap, and consequently their stalks are proportionately stunted, and need not be allowed such unnecessary room.

Last year I procured a few tubers of the imperial pink-eye, and though small the quantity I had, yet I was induced, from their being of a new and such extraordinary variety, to plant them experimentally. Amongst the rest of my trials, I selected four potatoes which weighed together  $2\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. and planted them *whole* at eighteen inches apart, occupying six feet of a drill. I cut  $2\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. more and planted them partly in continuation of the same drill, and partly in another beside it at one foot asunder in the row. The two drills were of equal length (sixteen feet), and three feet asunder. I put down *one* whole potato, which weighed in itself three quarters of a pound, in a single hole three by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet in extent. All were supplied with a good share of manure. I gave the drills the usual care of common culture; and the only care I bestowed on the single potato was, that I pegged down the shoots as they arose, divided them round, and covered them with a hillock of earth in the

centre: nor do I conceive this treatment absolutely necessary.—Now, though my single potato did not get *one-fourth* the manure applied to the drills—though it weighed not one-seventh of those planted in the drills put together—though the drills had the advantage of air at each side which an extensive crop could not have—and though their stalks when full grown covered *six times* the extent of ground that the single plant did, yet the advantage of the latter will be seen by the following. The produce from the whole potatoes in the drill was 14½lbs., that from the cut ones, 22½lbs., and that from the single potato, 12½lbs. The latter were large, clean, and even sized, while some of the former were small and unsightly. The portion of surface which the stalks of the single potato had covered, was about one-sixth of that which the drills had covered: and had I planted six single potatoes in the ground allotted for the drills, they would have produced, by this calculation, seventy-five pounds weight, or double the produce of the drills put together: and may we not expect an average proportion from more extensive crops?

There is another prevalent practice amongst farmers of running a plough through their drills, for the purpose of landing, as they call it, not perhaps until the crop is nearly in blossom—at a time when the fibres are in the vigour of their searches for the support of the plant, and when, without any respect for their necessary functions, they are disturbed, though at a season of the year when drought will prevent their immediate recovery. Now, that this is unnecessary, I have practical proofs; and that it is prejudicial, is my fullest conviction.

'Tis true, in most cases, landing is necessary—for instance, it protects a stalk, in some measure, from breaking at the surface by high winds: and if a variety of potato be prone to admit any tubercles at the base of the stem, these tubercles, if covered with earth, will certainly swell and become natural potatoes; but such application of mouldings should never be done at the expense of the fibres, whose office is to provide support for the plant and the tubers.

To remedy this, the potato crop should never be touched with the plough or the spade after being three inches high; at that period the drills may be softened with the plough and the spade, or the spade alone, at the same time applying a portion of landing. If more landing appear to be necessary, it should be done only with the hoe, when the stalks are about six inches high; and then for the season leave them to themselves and to nature, except in the removal of weeds.

I adopted a system of culture last year, which, though I have seen it frequently practised in broken ground, yet I have never seen it on *ley*.

At the extremity of a green field a line was strained, to the length of which a cut was made with the spade; at the distance of 2½ feet the line was removed, and another similar cut was made, and so on to the end. This being done, a sod or spit, ten inches broad and ten inches deep, was dug along each cut, with the grassy side left uppermost, and chopped in three or four parts. This being finished, the first drill which was dug was opened with a shovel, and its contents thrown aside; and the cuts were dropped along in this drill, with a small quantity of manure over them; (I should have said that the manure was laid on the ground after the drills were dug and previous to planting), then this drill was covered with the contents of the next, turning, with a twist of the

hand, the surface of grass which lay uppermost, and putting it close to the cut, whilst the friable earth below the surface was kept to cover the top. Thus did the work go on, the excavation of one drill covering another, until the crop was planted.

It is easy to imagine that after this was done, a space of eighteen or twenty inches, or a bone (as some would call it) of grass remained in every space between the drills, whose extraordinary appearance too, drew forth the ridicule of many old practitioners, who knew nothing of my intentions. At the lapse of three weeks, (when leisure permitted), those spaces were deeply dug, and the turf or grassy surface turned to the bottom, at which time, and not until then, did the plantation assume the appearance of tillage. It remained so until the stalks were four or five inches high, and then a landing was given *with a hoe*; for were I even desirous of landing them in the ordinary way, the sods turned down were not sufficiently rotted, and therefore could not be disturbed. The crop received no other treatment, and the difference of produce, compared with the bed system, will show the superiority of the plan.

Through the prejudices of some, who called themselves experienced potato planters, against my strange system, and through their deep-rooted bias in favour of old practices, I was induced to try a few lazy-beds, which I planted at the same time that I planted the drills. Every bed was equal to *three* drills, and each bed got three times the quantity of manure, with twice the seed, as the three drills put together; and in weighing the produce of each, there was somewhat *more* potatoes in *two* drills than in the beds, leaving the produce of one drill, or *one-third more*, in favour of the drills, on a given piece of ground, and that too of equal quality, and side by side.

It is easy to distinguish the reason of this additional produce; for the green sward when turned down, as well on the sets as in the spaces between them, became a mass of decomposed vegetable matter, and consequently a manure in itself; and further, I am inclined to believe that the fermentation it necessarily underwent, accelerated, in some measure, the growth of the young shoots. The fibres besides ran freely through, and collected abundant nourishment from this decomposed vegetable manure.

It is attended, 'tis true, with more labour than other methods more generally practised, but the increase of produce will amply repay for the additional trouble, and is, I think, particularly adapted for *con-acre* crops. For the persons whose unhappy lot it is to depend for existence on that objectionable system, are generally those who have not permanent employment otherwise, and the difference of labour to them is but of small consideration. The drills may be dug at any time in spring—indeed the earlier the better, and left so until the time of planting; (the plough may be used at this process with equal propriety), the planting may then, in due season, go on and be finished very expeditiously, and the spaces between may be left untouched until leisure permit—indeed until the crop appear above the surface. By this the cultivator may, in the meantime, attend his other employments, and may considerably gain in point of economy.

I feel I have trespassed already too far, and therefore must defer for the present any further remarks.

Prospect, Glasnevin, 2d February, 1835.



## A WAY-SIDE INN.

John Horney was a publican,  
 A man of many merits;  
 Though oft reminded of his *bier*  
 He always was in *spirits*.

An oculist most rare was John,  
 Without the student's trouble;  
 For those who enter'd once his house  
 Would leave it seeing *double*.

He lov'd to talk of politics,  
 Folks often wonder'd why;  
 Some said, to shew his wit—I think  
 He deem'd the subject *dry*.

John was no traveller himself,  
 Save on a turnpike road;  
 Yet those who sat too long with him,  
 Did find themselves *abroad*.

The "Spirit of the Times," to John,  
 Was the Spirit which he drew;  
 The "Signs"—the one above his head—  
 Was the only one he knew.

But oh! the Cider Shops he curs'd,  
 He thought they led to sin;  
 Like B——m, he wish'd them all turn'd out,  
 As long as he kept *Inn*.

John welcom'd all—at least I mean—  
 Who likely seem'd to pay:  
 No quarter did he show to those  
 Who knew no quarter-day.

If then the *shot* was not discharged,  
 The toppers kept aloof;  
 Their eloquence might *move* the spheres,  
 John's tap was *double-proof*.

His ledger was a large black board,  
 Hung in the chimney warm,  
 When, Cobbett-like, he drew a bill,  
 This board was his "*Chalk Farm*."

The tip-top travellers rattled past,  
 Which made poor John irate;  
 "I wish they'd stop, as once they did,  
 Like badgers for a *bait*."

But all must die, and John is dead;  
 "To that bourne is he passed,  
 From whence no Traveller returns"  
 So John's his wish at last.

He grew so fat in latter days,  
 By drinking strong black strap,  
 He never left his tap, till both  
 His legs were fit to tap.

On drops he liv'd—by dropsy died—  
 Peace to mine ancient host!  
 The clay will now oft moistened be,  
 Cheaper than at "prime cost."

April 3.

NOBODY.

During the last year, 759,200 head of cattle were sold in the markets of Poissy, Sceaux, and Paris, amounting in value to 57,055,800*f.*, of which Paris for its consumption contributed 39,422,224*f.* These cattle were brought from 40 different departments. The amount of the sums advanced by the *Caisse* of Poissy to the butchers to enable them to make their purchases was 41,000,000*f.* The product of the public slaughter-houses from 1st Sept. 1818, when they were first opened, to the 31st December, 1834, was 16,037,535*f.* The highest receipt was in 1825, producing 1,159,940*f.*; the lowest in 1831, the amount being only 892,420*f.* The general average receipt is 1,002,350*f.* per annum.—*Paris Advertiser*.

## FOREIGN EMIGRATION UNNECESSARY.

The *Manchester Guardian* says, "An experiment has recently been made in the neighbourhood of Manchester on a small scale,—the results of which may eventually become of some importance to the manufacturing districts, and of most vital consequence to those agricultural parishes in England which are now labouring under the evil of a redundant population, aggravated and confirmed as that evil has been by gross mal-administration of the poor-laws. When the Poor Law Amendment Act was under discussion, Mr. Edm. Ashworth, of Egerton, addressed a letter to Mr. Chadwick, in which he pointed out the great demand for labour which existed in Lancashire, and the desirableness of promoting the removal hither of the superabundant population of the agricultural parishes of the south, instead of permitting the void to be filled up, as it otherwise would be, by importations of Irish families, whose habits have a very injurious effect on the resident population." The article goes on to state that in consequence of a statement which appeared in the *Times* in December, signed by about 30 labourers of Great Bledlow, in Buckinghamshire, complaining of their low wages and scanty employment, a negotiation took place between the Commissioners and the parish officers of Great Bledlow, and a correspondence with Mr. Ashworth and Messrs. Grey, at Quarry bank, near Wilmslow, Lancashire, when four or five families who expressed their willingness to remove were conveyed to Messrs. Grey's, "where they are now in employment, and very highly satisfied with the change in their condition, as their employers are with them. They consist of twenty-four individuals in all, the greater part of whom are females. Some of them had been previously employed in the manufacture of thread-lace, and consequently were very familiar with the species of labour required in a cotton manufactory. Another family was shortly afterwards sent over to Messrs. H. and E. Ashworth, at Egerton. Before their removal, the father, Joseph Stevens, when in employment, which was very uncertain, received seven shillings per week, the highest wages given at Bledlow. His family consisted of a wife and eight children (four sons and four daughters.) At the best of times, the joint earnings of the whole family did not exceed 15*s* per week, and they were generally 12*s* and 13*s*. Such was their condition before their removal. Now, the father has been engaged for three years as a labourer, at 10*s* per week for the first year, 11*s* for the second, and 12*s* for the third. Four of the children, who are of sufficient age to be employed in a factory, have been engaged for the same term, at 20*s* per week for the first year, 25*s* for the second, and 28*s* for the third. So that, at the outset the income of the family has been raised from 12*s* or 15*s* per week to 30*s*, with a prospective increase of 5*s* per week in each of the two succeeding years; in which time also two of the younger children, who are now sent to school, will be of sufficient age to earn their own living. Since the arrival of these families, many other manufacturers, some in Manchester, but more in the surrounding country, where the scarcity of inferior hands in the factories is very severely felt, have written to the Commissioners to say that they shall be very glad to receive and give employment to a number of persons of the same description, and we believe that arrangements are now in progress, in several parts of the South and West of England, for sending hitherwards a number of families, now a burden to their parishes,

who will readily procure profitable employment in this neighbourhood. The extent to which that employment can be provided in Lancashire and Cheshire is at the present time very great, and when the new mills which are now in course of erection shall be completed, the demand for labour will be still more extensive. In the neighbourhood of Stalybridge alone there are said to be mills now building which will furnish employment for at least three thousand *working* people; so that an additional population of at least six or seven thousand persons will be necessary in that quarter.—At Stockport the want of hands is also very great: the *Stockport Advertiser* says "Such is the scarcity of hands in the power-loom manufactories of this town, that five hundred additional persons could be put to work immediately if they could be obtained." Indeed, from all parts of the cotton manufacturing districts the statements are to the same effect: and it is tolerably clear that, without some extraordinary supply, many of the new factories cannot be worked. The agricultural districts of Lancashire, Cheshire, and Yorkshire, which have heretofore afforded considerable numbers of hands, appear to have been entirely cleared of their superabundant population; and have ceased to yield any further supplies; and there is, therefore, an excellent opening for those who may be disposed to remove from the south."

### RETROSPECT OF THE WOOLLEN TRADE.

The state of business in our markets for the last few weeks has continued to be highly satisfactory—the impulse communicated by the improvement in demand which occurred early in the year has yet lost none of its effect, but has acquired additional force with the advance of the season. Newly-made goods have found purchasers in our cloth-halls as fast as they have appeared, and the old stocks have been gradually diminishing. The operations out of the halls have continued to present an aspect equally favourable, but, in speaking of them, we must not be supposed to include all the "transactions in the warehouses," because the activity displayed in that branch of commercial enterprise is not always productive of commensurate public advantage. We may easily imagine a quick transfer of goods, to the amount of some hundreds of pounds, from one warehouse to the next door, and thence to another warehouse in the next street, without change of form or value, or any other change save that of place and hands. A movement thus indirect may be of advantage to the last purchaser, if it enable him to stock himself with cheap goods, and the sacrifice of price made by the seller may be no less advantageous to him if the produce of the sale place him in a favourable situation to stop payment just at the critical moment, and leave the unrequited original owner of the goods in the lurch. Such a case would exhibit much of activity, and of dexterity too,—much more, we apprehend, than would be admired by the sufferers, who would hardly like to be taught at such a cost that the practice of the Volls school is not yet quite exploded—that the race of Joshua is not yet altogether extinct. The operations to which we allude, on the contrary, are less partial in their effect; they have fair legitimate demand for their object, and the activity they produce imparts a substantial benefit wherever it extends its influence.

A state of things so gratifying affords few ma-

terials for public comment so long as its permanent existence be not threatened, and we can perceive nothing in the present real posture of commercial affairs which ought to excite alarm on this head. We have passed through a long period of stagnation and difficulty which has taught us the necessity of circumspection in our proceedings. The speculative rage for high prices was our bane; the re-establishment of moderate prices has been our antidote; and it will be hard if we suffer the dearly-bought lesson of experience to be thrown away upon us. But we are arrived at a period of the year which is always a critical one as far as regards the wool trade. The three months immediately preceding the clip are a period of great anxiety both to buyer and seller. It is quite natural for all parties to look forward with much interest to the probable produce of the clip, upon which the value of all existing stocks so immediately depends, and just in proportion as that interest becomes excited, whilst the result remains uncertain, is the opportunity afforded to speculators and other interested parties for the exercise of their ingenuity. The absurd report circulated amongst us at this time last year and the year before, were, unfortunately, too readily believed to be readily forgotten. On both occasions we were assured that the produce would prove deficient, whilst our buyers would have to compete with an extraordinary demand from other parts. Yet, in both years the produce proved to be abundant, whilst the greater part of the excess continued regularly to find its way to this country as before. Reports have again been industriously circulated for some weeks past, and when we find them so nearly resembling their predecessors in feature and complexion, we are surely justified in receiving them with suspicion, as members of the same family, if not in rejecting them altogether.

We believe that on the present occasion no difference of opinion exists between the wool dealers and the manufacturers in this district as to the danger of again unsettling prices; both are alike convinced that, upon the continuance of moderate and steady prices depends the continuance of the prosperity we now enjoy, so that if deception be again practised it will have to embrace a wider range for materials to work upon than heretofore, when a great diversity of opinion prevailed upon this point, and the pernicious effect of fluctuations were not so generally understood. The clothiers, as a distinct class, are perhaps the most liable to be imposed upon by delusive representations of this nature. Their general rule of proceeding is to sell, not exactly according to the cost of their goods, but for a price at which they can replace them with a profit. Hence, let it only be impressed upon them, however falsely, whilst they are working round one stock of wool, that the article is a rising one, and that their next purchase will cost more, they will look for a corresponding advance upon their goods in hands; failing to realize such advance, they may then be expected to vent complaints of the inadequacy of the prices actually obtained, although such prices afford fair profitable remuneration upon the actual cost. Let the merchants next give ear to the constant reiteration of such complaints, they may naturally conclude that under such circumstances goods are a safe article to purchase to an extent beyond present wants, but with a speculative view to the supply of future demand, at an extraordinary profit; and this point gained, the infatuation may proceed, one party after another becoming involved in the maze, all stimulating each other in the wild career, until



the purposes of the first agitators become served at the expence of all the great interests of the community.

We have no certain data whereby the stocks of wools now in existence may be determined. We know the quantity imported, but as to the quantity used in a given time, we can judge of it only by reference to the general state of manufactures and trade in that time. Thus we find that in the last two years the importations of wool increased by about twenty millions of pounds, making the quantity imported in 1834 more by three-fourths than that of 1832. If, then, we look to the state of our manufactures during these two years, and find no evidence of a corresponding increase of consumption, we certainly ought not to lose sight of such excess in the late supplies, if we wish to form an opinion as to the probable relation which produce may bear to demand for the approaching season. Much stress has been laid upon the quantities of low rubbish from the Continent, which are said to have swelled the amount of importations in the early part of last year. Now the quantities entered for payment of duty, and the amount of duty received thereon, are stated thus:—

|                          | 1833.      | 1834.      | Decrease. |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Quantity in lbs. ....    | 33,361,487 | 30,733,336 | 2,628,151 |
| Duty received thereon. . | £138,280   | £131,685   | £6,595    |

And the decrease in the quantity brought to charge being greater than the decrease in the amount of duty received, it follows that a smaller proportion of wool paid the half-penny per lb. duty in 1834, as being under the value of 1s per lb. than in 1833.

Coming back, then, to the question of consumption, we have at all events one element to guide us to a conclusion as to the probable increase. The quantity of goods manufactured for the home supply we cannot determine, but we have official accounts of the value exported, and if we there find an increase at all commensurate with the augmented supply of wool, we may admit that its appropriation is accounted for. It appears, however, that the declared value of woollen manufactures exported in 1834, was less by about half a million pounds sterling than in 1833, and that the average of these two years exceeded that of the eight preceding years, from 1825 inclusive, by about one million pounds, or in the proportion of one-fifth only. It is plain, therefore, that we cannot look to the supply of foreign demand for our manufactures as an adequate outlet for the extra supplies of wool which have been received. At the same time we are not aware of any thing in the state of our own population, as to numbers or circumstances, which could lead us to regard the supply of goods for home consumption, as sufficient to take off this excess of produce, and therefore, until more enlightened, or better informed, we must abide by the conclusion that considerable stocks of wool must yet remain on hand, ready to be brought out in competition with the coming produce, for higher or for lower prices, as the chapter of accidents may require.

The importations of wool thus far in the present year are only about two-thirds what they were up to the same period last year, whence we should suspect that the stocks abroad have, at all events, been pretty far sought into, in order to furnish the extraordinary supplies to this country. If so, whatever may be the amount of stocks held here at the present moment, we have but the new clip to rely upon for further supply to any extent. But, we believe, no apprehension need be entertained

as to scarcity. The season has been highly favourable for the sheep, and the clip of this year, both in this country and in Germany, is expected to prove abundant in quantity and good in quality. In two or three months the result will be shewn; in the mean time our manufacturers have only to continue the exercise of that caution which they have exhibited for the last nine months, and be the result what it may, they will have no reason to blame themselves. The chances of beneficial speculation at this moment, we are sure, will not be considered equal to the risks.

NOTICES OF NEW HARDY TREES.—The Gardener's Magazine for January contains an article relating to new hardy trees, deserving of general cultivation, from which we extract the following:—"Among the trees worthy of introduction every where are, the scarlet-flowered horse-chestnut, the new scarlet-flowered thorn, the *Cratægus tanacetifolia*, *Aronia*, and odoratissima, remarkable for their large yellow or coral-coloured fruits; the *Sorbus domestica*, and the *Diospyros Virginiana*, both of which have borne fruit freely, on trees only ten years planted, in Mr. Loudon's garden at Bayswater, the last summer; the *Pyrus vestita*, the noble tree of the genus, of which there is a fine stock at Messrs. Loddiges; the *Nyssæ*, all the species of which are beautiful small trees; the *Alnus cordata*, and the cut-leaved alder; the cut-leaved birch; the scarlet oak; the new *Lucumbe* oak; the new variegated evergreen oak, introduced by Mr. Veitch; the liquidambar, an old inhabitant of the nurseries, but a tree which ought to be in the margin of every plantation whatever, whether useful or ornamental; the *Pinus Cembra* and *Sabiniana*; the *Abies Douglasii*, a rapid growing tree; the *Abies Webbiana*, a kind of giant silver fir, and in short all the new species of *Pinus* and *Abies* that can be got. If our nurserymen were skilful in grafting these genera, in the herbaceous manner practised extensively by the French, we should have no want of young plants of all the rare pines and firs; of many of which there is at present hardly a plant to be got. That such grafted pines and firs will ultimately become large timber trees, is proved by the size which such grafted trees have attained in the Botanic Garden at Metz. It may seem superfluous to recommend the Cedar of Lebanon; yet planters ought to be reminded that this noble tree will under the same circumstances grow as rapidly as the common larch. Mr. Sang of Kirkaldy published this many years ago; and it may be proved at Kenwood, Lady Tankerville's at Walton, Claremont, Ascot Park, High Clere, and a number of other places. Among the new shrubs may be strongly recommended that beautiful evergreen *Escallonia rubra*; and where there is a conservatory wall *Escallonia montevidensis* may be also recommended. Tree seeds, like those of culinary vegetables, ripened remarkably well during the last summer both in England and America, and many sorts which are generally scarce and dear in the seed shops, are now abundant and comparatively cheap.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES. — By an account which has just been returned to the House of Commons, it appears that the ten inspectors for the county of Middlesex, appointed under the new Act, have rejected 26,301 false weights, and 20,996 false measures; for which service, and marking 227,103 true weights, and 377,897 true measures, they have received in fees, 3,974*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*

## TITHE AND TITHE BILL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—Although I differ from you totally as to the propriety of supporting the present Ministers, yet I am bound to admit that I never found a column of your paper devoted to the patronage of corruption. The communications of your correspondents are also admitted impartially. It is often said, one fact is worth a hundred arguments. I have the misfortune to be a small farmer, managing something above 100 acres, and applying to the management of my land all the means applicable for its profitable cultivation.

This moment I am returned from my barley-field, and while there, I saw our greedy parson send for the last wheelbarrow-full of Swede turnips, from a ten-acre field, which field was sown for the purpose of being partly eaten off by sheep, and partly drawn and carried away, for the purpose of feeding cattle in the stall. This mode of feeding, it ought to be observed, adds much to the increase of good manure; the turnip crop is obtained by a very costly preparation. Every part of it, therefore, withdrawn by the parson is a grievous loss, inasmuch as it robs the farm of every tenth load of manure obtained by this costly system. You are aware that when tithe is exacted in kind, as it is in our parish, the parson claims a tenth of all the crops which are gathered. When I have drawn up nine heaps of turnips, therefore, for myself, I have been compelled to draw one for my parson; he wished me also to be at the trouble of sending up (a mile distant) every time to inform him of my having done so! In addition to this very injurious claim, the parson demands tithe of the lambs dropped and fed in the same field, and also of the wool of the sheep fed therein, providing they are shorn in the parish. Now I think it will appear very evident, that the present mode of managing and cropping land is so totally different from that when tithes were originally granted, that the payment of them in kind now is onerous, oppressive, and injurious in the extreme. The present system of management by draining, by the application of bones, by artificial grasses, and by turnips, requires a great additional capital; the parson therefore now takes the tenth part of all the additional capital expended by this improved and costly process. A small six-acre field was added to my farm eight years ago. It had been in the hands of a poor man, who entirely neglected it; it grew nothing but weeds. Before cropping, I laid out 60*l.* in draining, cleaning, and improving the land. Two years ago I had for the first time a fair crop; the parson then came, for the first time also, for every tenth shock of wheat, claiming and exacting a tenth part of my capital to its proceeds, although he contributed nothing for ploughing, nothing for seed, nothing for reaping!

Never was there anything so inadequate, absurd, and futile as Sir Robert Peel's proposed Tithe Bill! Why, Sir, in our parish, as well as in many others, could we have prevailed with our parson, we might have had a voluntary composition long ago! When a man, however, is ill-disposed and malevolent, he will retain the collection of tithes in kind, in order to gratify his malevolence. He

will take a pleasure in vexing and thwarting the parish, thereby enjoying the gratification of his malignity. Petty oppressions by village parsons are more in number and more in magnitude than will obtain belief. From this proposed measure, in its present form, we may perceive the baneful effects of having men to work out the great measure of reform who are enemies to it in their hearts, who concede to the force of public opinion, and who, in that constrained acquiescence, are compelled to contradict all their former principles.

But now one word as to the church. In the parish of Lindby, notwithstanding the payment of tithes in kind, the offices of religion are, in my humble opinion, inadequately attended to. We have service in church only once on a Sunday; we have no singing—no Sunday School. Our parson we never see in any of our houses. He is, I believe, a sportsman; and although I make a point of occasionally attending the parish church, yet I prefer encountering the expense and inconvenience of travelling upwards of two miles to attend church service where it is administered, according to my view, more consistently and effectively. I do not dwell upon the numberless bickerings and disputes and magisterial applications which result from this tithe system—the parish is in one eternal broil. I make no inquiry as to the private character of our parson, I have only to do with what affects his ministerial character; but it is quite evident that the receiving of tithe in kind is not only prejudicial to the farmer, but unjust to him also in the application of his capital. I believe, moreover, that it has a manifest tendency to lower the church in the estimation of its members; and that to leave the composition of it to the voluntary acquiescence of unwilling parsons (as proposed by Sir Robert Peel's bill) will prove a mere delusion and mockery.

R. HOPPER.

## MILCH COWS.

The management of the milch cows is somewhat peculiar in this country. The cattle are a mixed breed, between the original African race and the European; and few of the cows will give their milk without allowing their calves to suck for some time. But as all the calves are reared to increase the stock, no inconvenience is felt from this circumstance. An oblong enclosure is made with strong poles fixed in the ground, with a pen at one end to confine the calves until they are wanted. Into this pen the calves are driven before the cows come home from grazing in the evening. The cattle being never housed, become excessively wild; and to catch and tie a young cow to her post in the 'kraal,' is a matter of no small difficulty, and sometimes not free from danger. On the first attempt to take hold of the calf in the field, the enraged cow generally runs furiously at the person who presumes to interfere in her family concerns, when he must take care to get out of her way with all convenient speed, or abide the consequences of a disagreeable collision with her horns. If he can succeed in catching up the calf in his arms, he is then safe from injury, on account



of his burden; which he may forthwith proceed to deposit in the pen, unmindful of the menacing gestures of the angry mother. But the worst part of his task still remains to be achieved—to secure the cow; and this is as much as two or three people generally can manage. The moment the animal perceives that an attempt is made to convey a noose round her horns by means of a long stick, and the attempt fails, she becomes so impatient and shy that it is necessary to change the point of attack. One of the people now endeavours, by means of the stick, to get the noose round her hind leg when she lifts her foot from the ground, which operation requires much dexterity. As soon as this end is effected, the thong used for the purpose is drawn tight by the assistants, and secured round one of the poles of the ‘kraal;’ when the animal becomes perfectly furious, bellowing, kicking, and plunging. Wo be to him that comes within the length of her tether! for, with inflamed eyes and tongue lolled out, she runs indiscriminately at everything that comes within her reach. But, taking advantage of her turnings, the people, who are secure from her rage behind the poles of the ‘kraal,’ gradually tighten the thong and confine her efforts until her leg is drawn up close to the pole, and they can venture to approach her head and fasten to her horns another thong, which is then conveyed round a pole on the opposite side of the ‘kraal.’ One thong is then slackened and the other tightened until the cow’s head is secured to her post, where she is allowed to fume and bellow till she is tired and becomes more manageable. At the time of milking, a boy stands at the door of the pen, and lets the calves out as they are wanted, for they soon learn to answer to their names. After allowing the calf to suck for a few minutes, they proceed to milk all they can get from the cow, which generally retains enough for her young. The quantity of milk the cows yield is in this part of the colony very inconsiderable. Twenty cows seldom give more than from twenty-four to thirty-six quarts at a milking; but it is generally very rich in quality. It is remarkable, notwithstanding the intractability of the other cattle, that the bulls have none of the ferocity of those in England.”—*Moodie’s South Africa.*

**A SLEEPING PARTNER.**—At the late assizes at Horsham, a clodhopper of the real Sussex breed underwent a sharp cross-examination by one of the learned counsel, in the course of which he was asked who his sleeping partner in business was. “My sleeping partner?” replied Hodge, scratching his head and giving his hat, which he held by the band in his other hand, another turn, and staring at the same time at his interlocutor, as much as to say I wonder what the deuce is coming next, “My sleeping partner?—I’ve got noa sleeping partner but Mary.” The Court was convulsed with laughter, and when it had somewhat subsided, the counsel resumed, “You say your sleeping partner is Mary?” pray who is Mary?”—“Why doesn’t thee know Mary?” rejoined the witness, grinning till his fat red cheeks almost closed his eyes, “why she’s my woife, to be zure!”

## THE FATE OF THE OAK.

The owl to her mate is calling,  
The river his hoarse song sings,  
But the oak is marked for falling,  
That has stood for a hundred springs.  
Hark! a blow, and a dull sound follows;  
A second,—he bows his head;  
A third,—and the wood’s dark hollows  
Now know that their king is dead.

His arms from the trunk are riven,  
His body all bark’d and squared;  
And he’s now like a felon driven,  
In chains to the strong dock-yard.  
He’s sawn through the middle and turned  
For the ribs of a frigate free,  
And he’s caulk’d, and pitch’d and burned,  
And now he’s fit for sea!

Oh! now, with his wings outspread,  
Like a ghost (if a ghost may be)  
He will triumph again, though dead,  
And be dreaded in every sea.  
The lightning will blaze about,  
And wrap him in flaming pride,  
And the thunder-loud cannon will shout,  
In the fight, from his bold broad side.

And when he has fought—and won,  
And been honour’d from shore to shore,  
And his journey on earth is done,  
Why, what can he ask for more?  
There is nought that a king can claim,  
On a poet, or warrior bold,  
Save a rhyme, and a short-liv’d name,  
And to mix with the common mould.

BARRY CORNWALL.

*Friendship’s Offering for 1835.*

MALT.—An account of the number of bushels of malt consumed by common brewers in each of the three years ending January 5, 1832, 3, 4, distinguishing the quantities separately consumed in England, Scotland, and Ireland:—

|               | 1832.      | 1833.      | 1834.      |
|---------------|------------|------------|------------|
| England ....  | 14,176,309 | 13,832,851 | 14,443,391 |
| Scotland .... | 818,208    | 885,038    | 934,390    |
| Ireland.....  | 1,493,392  | 1,543,265  | 1,683,285  |

The United Kingdom .. 16,587,909 16,261,154 17,061,066

The members of the Hurstperpoint Sparrow Club held their last meeting for this season, the 8th of April. The number of sparrows’ heads produced since November last is 5,855. The prizes were awarded as follows:—1st prize, Mr. J. Bull; 2nd ditto, Mr. N. Marchant, Little Park; 3rd ditto, Mr. Hider. The evening was spent with much hilarity, and many appropriate songs were sung on the occasion. The health of Samuel Goodman, Esq., was proposed by the chairman, Mr. N. Marchant, and drank with three times three. The aggregate number of sparrows’ heads produced by the members since the establishment of this club in the year 1831, is 19,777. Many other clubs on the above principles have been formed in different parts of the country, and no doubt much to the interest of the agriculturist.

### GREEN FODDER FOR CATTLE.

Whatever adds to the supply of food, and increases the comfort of the animals retained about the farm, or domestic homestead, is, or may be made, a source of profit to their owner. The new clover (*Trifolium Incarnatum*) is coming into repute, and we see more or less of it in many farms; the turnip-rooted cabbage, or rather kail (*Kohl-rabi*), ought also to be esteemed a very valuable adjunct, and be extensively cultivated. But there is a plant which comes in earlier than anything else, and produces a vast abundance of wholesome succulent herbage; that, strange to say, is never to be seen. There was a time when it promised to be generally known; but we believe that, being an advertised article, and therefore over-vaunted, the public expectation was too highly raised; and as disappointment attended many trials which were made of it, disgust succeeded, and prevented that patient investigation of the merits of the herb which alone could determine its real value. We allude to the prickly cress—*Symphitum asperifolium*.

This plant belongs to a genus of the *asperifolia* of the 5th Linnæan class. It is a native of Caucasus, and was introduced in 1799, as an ornamental herbaceous plant. The flowers are cylindrical, with a bell-shaped border. They emerge of a brilliant red tint, which changes to a beautiful sky blue. They are produced at the summit of the stems, on a sort of curved spike, and are very pretty; but the whole plant, which attains to the height of five or six feet, is coarse and bristly. If a few plants be put into good common garden or field mould at the present season, the roots will soon establish themselves, and increase by suckers so abundantly that, though little larger at first than primrose roots, they will extend in every direction, and produce a mass of foliage which will frequently be three or four feet in circumference in one season. The root is fleshy and mucilaginous, the young herbage juicy and nutritive; if the flower stems be permitted to rise, they become very coarse and disagreeable. The leaves may be drawn up or cut over very early in April, and at that period furnish a most acceptable supply to cattle, pigs, and horses. The plants continue to increase, and to yield abundance of green fodder, which may be cut over and over again till November. We have much to say experimentally on this subject, but must reserve our remarks for our agricultural notice at the close of the month.

### ST. MICHAEL ORANGES.

The orange plantations or quintas of St. Michael's, are of large extent, always encircled by a wall from fifteen to twenty feet high, and within a thick plantation belt of the faya, cedar-tree, fern, birch, &c., to protect the orange-trees from the sea breezes. The trees are propagated from shoots or layers, which are bent at the lower end into the ground, and covered with soil until roots begin to strike, when they are separated from the parent stem, and transplanted into a small excavated well about three feet deep, (lined with pieces of lava, and surrounded at the top by plantations of laurel, young faya, and broom), until the tender orange-plants are sufficiently strong, at which period the plantations immediately round them are removed, and each plant begins to shoot up and flourish, after which no further care is taken of it, beyond tarring occasionally the stem to prevent injury by insects; and it in time spreads out with the majestic luxuriance of a chestnut-tree. In this country it only requires seven years to bring an orange-plantation to good bearing; and each tree, on arriv-

ing at full growth, a few years after, will then annually, upon an average, produce from 12,000 to 16,000 oranges. A gentleman told me he had once gathered 26,000.

The crops are purchased previous to their arriving at a state of maturity by the merchants, who ascertain the value of the probable year's produce, through the medium of experienced men, and then make their offer accordingly. The men thus employed to value orange-crops, gain a livelihood thereby; and such is the skill whereto they attain, that, by walking once through a plantation, and giving a general glance at the trees, they are enabled to state, with the most astonishing accuracy, on what number of boxes the merchant may calculate. It becomes, however, quite a matter of speculation to the purchaser, as orange-crops are a very uncertain property, and subject to various casualties between the time they are thus valued and the gathering. For instance, a continuance of cold north or north-easterly wind will cut them off;—a violent storm will sometimes lay the whole crop on the ground in a night, or it may be entirely destroyed by insects.

Nothing can exceed the rich luxuriant appearance of these Hesperian gardens during the principal fruit months, namely, from November to March, when the emerald tints of the unripe and golden hue of the mature fruit mingle their beauties with the thick dark foliage of the trees; and the bright odoriferous blossom which diffuses a sweetness through the surrounding neighbourhood is quite delicious.

The present amount of oranges and lemons exported, is upwards of 120,000 boxes, and nearly 70 or 80 vessels are sometimes seen lying in the roads, waiting to carry them to Europe. Besides these, a large quantity of the sweet lemon is cultivated for the consumption of the inhabitants: it is produced by grafting the sour lemon on the orange, but it is tasteless and vapid, though esteemed salutary and refreshing by the natives.

There is a species of epicurism peculiar to the Azores with respect to oranges, particularly observed by the higher classes, who only eat that side which has been most exposed to the sun, and is, of course, in its fresh state, easily distinguished by the tint—a refinement we are unable to emulate, the colour being rendered uniform by age.—*Boid's Western Islands*.

MANNER OF MAKING PERSONS FREE AT ALNWICK, IN NORTHUMBERLAND.—Those who are to be made free, or, as the phrase is, *leap the well*, assemble in the market-place, very early in the morning, on the 25th of April, being St. Mark's day. They appear on horseback, dressed in white, with white nightcaps, and every man a sword by his side, attended by the four chamberlains, and the castle-bailiff, mounted and armed in the same manner. They then proceed, with music playing before them, to a large dirty pool, called Freeman's Well, where they dismount, draw up in a body, then rush in all at once, and scramble through the mud as fast as they can. After this they take a dram, put on dry clothes, remount their horses, gallop round the confines of the district, and then re-enter the town, sword in hand, and are met by women, dressed in ribbands, with bells and garlands, dancing and singing. These are called Timber-wastes. On this day, the houses of the new freemen are distinguished by a holly-bush, as a signal for their friends to come and make merry with them on their return. This manner of making free is peculiar to Alnwick, according to a clause in the charter given them by King John, who, travelling this way, stuck fast in a hole, and thus punished the town, for neglecting to mend the roads.



## POOR LAW COMMISSIONERS.— STOKE POGES.

Copy of a letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to his Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department; with a Copy of the Directions issued by them, and also a Copy of the Declaration by which the Eton Union has been formed.

To his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department.

Poor Law Commission Office, Somerset-house,  
March 17, 1835.

Sir,—The attention of the Poor Law Commissioners for England and Wales having been directed to a petition presented to the House of Commons from the inhabitants of Stoke Poges, they think it their duty to lay before you the following statement:—

The first plan for bringing the Poor Law Amendment Act into operation in the South of Buckinghamshire, which the commissioners had under their consideration, was the formation of a union, comprehending 29 parishes in the hundreds of Stoke and Burnham.

This proposal was objected to by many of the parishioners of Stoke Poges, by some, because it involved the necessity of building a new workhouse on Stoke-common; by others, because they deemed the interference of the commissioners to be altogether needless and uncalled for.

These objections were represented to the commissioners, both personally and in writing; and on the receipt of a memorial from the parish, the commissioners thought it their duty to re-consider the arrangement. Having done so, they resolved on dividing the proposed union into two parts, by which means they obviated the necessity of building the workhouse on Stoke-common, and prevented the paupers of Stoke from being mixed with the paupers of more distant parishes, which some of the inhabitants thought likely to prove injurious to their character and morals.

Thus modified it appeared to the commissioners that the union was liable to no valid objection. By any further reduction in size its management would have been rendered more costly and less efficient. Its boundaries appear to be natural and convenient; on the west and on the south it is bounded by the Thames, on the east by the county of Middlesex, and on the north by the line of the Beaconsfield hills. In the centre of this district the parish of Stoke Poges is situated. To have excluded it from the union would have disturbed and rendered imperfect the whole plan; and its position is such that it could not have been left out in the hope of annexing it more conveniently hereafter to some other union.

It is true that the parish is not quite so highly rated as some of the adjoining parishes; but no union can ever be formed by the commissioners if parishes are to be omitted solely because their present burdens, from temporary or accidental causes, may happen to be somewhat less than those of an adjoining parish. Whatever advantage Stoke may have in this respect, it will, when its average expenditure is correctly ascertained, continue to enjoy.

It will contribute to the repairs and management of the workhouse in the proportion which its average expenditure upon the poor for the last three years bears to the like average expenditure of the rest of the union, and it will only be charged with the relief of its own paupers, whether in or out of the workhouse.

As soon as the union is completed, a board of guardians will superintend the relief of the poor, and they will be aided by proper and efficient officers,

No unnecessary pressure on the paupers need be apprehended, as the commissioners have not deemed it expedient to enforce the provision contained in the 52d clause of the Poor Law Amendment Act, which enables them to direct that no relief shall be given to the able-bodied paupers except in the workhouse.

With reference to the workhouses, and the regulations to which they may hereafter be subject, it is necessary to point out, that the commissioners have not as yet issued, with respect to the Eton union, any positive rules for their management, though, as regards another union they are shortly about to do so.

In framing such rules they are guided mainly by the practice and experience of parishes in which well-regulated workhouses already exist, and they think it will be their duty to act on that principle. They know no reason why a system of workhouse management, which has been found on trial to be perfectly successful in the parish of Cookham (only a few miles distant from Stoke Poges,) should not be equally applicable to the workhouses in the union in which that parish is situated.

When applied to for information on the subject of workhouse rules, the commissioners have on all occasions said that they thought married couples should not be placed in different houses, that children under the age of nurture should not be separated from their mothers, and that the aged, infirm, and sick paupers should be treated with care and tenderness, and not of necessity be forced into workhouses, as they now generally are, in preference to the sturdy and able-bodied pauper.

With respect to the question which was in reality to be decided upon by the commissioners in reference to the memorial presented to them by the inhabitants of Stoke Poges, the commissioners were full aware of its great importance. It imposed upon them the necessity of deciding whether, because a portion of the inhabitants of a particular parish were disinclined to be included in a particular union, and desired to be left in the undisturbed management of their parochial affairs, it became at once the duty of the board to acquiesce. It appeared to the commissioners to have been foreseen and contemplated by the legislature, that parishes might frequently object to be included in proposed unions, and that Gilbert's Act having failed principally because there was no power to compel parishes to unite, the commissioners had expressly been intrusted with a power to overrule such objections.

The commissioners therefore having deliberately inquired into the situation and circumstances of the parish of Stoke Poges, and given to the representation of the parishioners the fullest consideration in their power, decided on including the parish in the Eton union, and they confidently believe that they have not erred in so doing.

Their attention has been drawn in a particular manner to the district in which the parish is situated, and their interference in the neighbouring parishes had been anxiously solicited.

The parish of Stoke Poges itself, though the pressure of its poor is somewhat diminished by the extensive charities and benevolent disposition of many of its inhabitants, must still be considered as heavily burdened for the support of its pauper population. The charge for the maintenance of its poor for the three last years for which the parliamentary returns are made up was as follow:—

|                |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1830           | 1831           | 1832           |
| 671 <i>l</i> . | 515 <i>l</i> . | 778 <i>l</i> . |

Out of a population of 1252, it appears by a recent return that 118 are paupers. Relief is stated to be allowed to the out-door paupers according to a scale

(a practice which in itself calls for a remedy, inasmuch as it is one of the worst which has been suffered to establish itself,) and the cost per head of the paupers in the workhouse exceeds 4s weekly, being nearly double the amount in well-regulated workhouses were ample provision is made for the poor. The state of the parish as compared with others in the union, may be ascertained by a reference to the accompanying table, with respect to which the commissioners lament that the returns are not complete to a later date.

Though as yet the commissioners have refrained from issuing any rules which should apply generally to the kingdom at large, they have thought it their duty to lay down certain directions for the guidance of Boards of Guardians, wherever a union of parishes is formed. A copy of these directions they have the honour to lay before you, together with a copy of the declaration by which the Eton union have been formed.

The commissioners have the honour to subscribe themselves, sir, your most faithful and obedient servants,

T. FRANKLAND LEWIS,  
J. G. S. LEFEVRE,  
GEORGE NICHOLS.

(The documents for regulating the unions follow.)

THE SEASONS.—Many philosophers have directed their attention to the period of the equinox, or, more correctly speaking, to that point of time when the sun enters the sign Aries, and passes into the northern signs of the Zodiac, *i. e.*, the 21st day of the month, for the real equinox, as to time, when the sun rises and sets at six, falls on the 19th, with few deviations. We cannot refer to the several hypotheses which have been advanced, but may be permitted to solicit the reader's attention to a *rule*, which has been founded upon the uninterrupted observation of a long series of years. A late clergyman of St. Peter's, in the Isle of Thanet, first communicated it to us, and his informant had witnessed its accuracy for above 60 seasons. "If at the period when the sun enters the vernal sign the wind be northerly, and particularly at any point between north and east, the barometer about 30 inches, rising, and the weather fine, the succeeding summer will, in almost every instance, be dry, and *vice versa*." During the course of the month of March the barometer ranged between 20in. 50cts. and 29in. 80cts. On the 19th, 20th, and 24th days only, it has risen to 30in. and a fraction. The wind had for the twenty days of the month varied between S. by W., and W. by N., and floods of rain, with storms of wind, were the prevailing concomitants. On the 21st day, however, the wind veered to north, and from that time it has tended to the east; but the weather has been bad, and the limits of the prognostic do not extend beyond two or three days before and after the 21st. There is, then, as attached to the summer of 1835, some ambiguity; however, the weather is improving, and the barometer has gradually risen, it being now considerably above 30 inches. We may then hope that the summer will, in general, be fine (with intervals of rain); and if it correspond with the season of 1832, the land will yield its abundant increase, and plenty compensate in a great degree for low prices.

The Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, have voted their large gold medal to Edward Rogers, Esq., of Stanage Park, Radnorshire, for his extensive plantations in the county of Radnor.

## ON THE CULTIVATION OF SWEDISH TURNIPS.—By MR. GEORGE POWELL.

(From the Irish Farmer's Magazine.)

Gentlemen,—Permit me to lay before the readers of your most useful Magazine a method which I have followed with much success in the cultivation of field turnips. The soil is a strong brown clay (loam). The crop, the details of which, with your permission, I am about to submit, succeeded wheat and oats, which were off the land by the first of September. The stubble was ploughed immediately to the depth of five or six inches, and with any herbage which was on the surface, was rotted by the beginning of October, when the ground was harrowed and ribbed, or drilled into three-foot distances. The plough for this purpose being drawn by two powerful horses, and being of a good construction, brought a considerable quantity of the subsoil to the surface, there to be acted upon by the meliorating influence of the winter frosts, &c. In this state, and lying high and dry, it was permitted to remain until the beginning of March, when it was levelled down by the harrow, (some kinds of soil are too stiff to be levelled by the harrow, in which case the drills are split with the plough,) and cross ploughed to the depth of ten or twelve inches. Early in May it was harrowed, rolled, and again ploughed across the former ploughing—barrowing and rolling being repeated until the ground was perfectly pulverized; the drills were then opened at two feet six inches apart, and the dung being applied freely, was immediately covered in, and the summits of the drills being flattened in some degree by the roller, Swedish turnip seed, at the rate of 3lbs. to the Irish acre, was sown with the ordinary turnip-barrow. I have tried experiments by steeping turnip seed, and afterwards drying it by dusting it with flour of sulphur, but can perceive no difference, as the dry seed vegetates as freely when the ground is properly prepared, as that which has been steeped; nor does drought, even of long continuance, effect the crop; for the ground being properly pulverized retains the requisite degree of moisture. The proper season for sowing Swedish turnip is from the 10th to the 20th of May.

As soon as the plants have four or five rough leaves, the paring-plough is set to work, and goes pretty close to the plants. The hand-hoes (of which six will thin an acre in a day) then follow, by which the plants are thinned to twelve inches apart—weeding being as much the object as thinning, the hoes are to be plied well amongst the remaining plants. The thinning and weeding being completed, the horse-hoe passes between the drills, and the whole is finished by returning the earth to the sides of the drills which had been removed from them by the paring-plough. Some cultivators object to earthing turnips; but in my opinion it is a useful practice, and this for more reasons than one. In the first place, the earth preserves the manure from the parching effects of the sun's rays. Secondly, the water more readily escapes from the drills in winter. I should have observed that where practicable, the drills should run north and south.

So far on the cultivation of Swedish turnip.

A part of the stubble field adverted to above, I sowed on the 14th of September with winter vetches, at the rate of four bushels per acre: it yielded an abundant crop, and was off the ground by the 20th of May. The land was then ploughed and harrowed, and by means of the couch-harrow rendered quite clean; and before the first of June was sown with Aberdeen turnip, which yielded as large a



produce as the Swedes. Some of the latter weighed 14lbs. each; and in one portion of the field, where they were weighed, were found to average 7lbs. a bulb; in another 6lbs.—exclusive in every case of both the tops and tap-root. A white Norfolk turnip which happened to grow amongst the Swedish, weighed, exclusive of the tops and tap-root, 17lbs. Such, gentlemen, is the result of careful practice; and I refer those desirous of seeing specimens of the turnips, to Messrs. Toole and Mackey's seed warehouse, 41, Westmoreland-street, Dublin, where I have forwarded some for that purpose.

An acre of turnips as productive as mine usually are, will stall-feed twelve or thirteen beasts from the first of November to the first of March. This being the case, the advocates of stall-feeding with potatoes would do well to consider well their practice.

I shall conclude for the present with a few observations on preserving turnips.

I shall suppose that it is necessary to remove them off the ground on which they grew, in order to get in a crop of wheat in November. With this view let them be taken up, their tap-root cut off, but not their tops; let them be brought home, care being taken not to bruise them, and laid in the position in which they grew in a convenient field or yard out of the reach of cattle: or if the tops can be consumed at once, the bulbs may be piled in a shed or on the north side of a wall, in which case they will require turning once in three weeks to check vegetation. Turnips should by no means be permitted to remain undisturbed after the first of February, as they become greatly deteriorated by the effort to push up a stalk for seed.

Clonsilla, March 3, 1835.

#### LIABILITY OF FOREIGNERS TO TAKE PARISH APPRENTICES.

It will be remembered that at the last Leeds Borough Sessions, an appeal was tried—*Ries v. the Overseers of Leeds*,—involving the question of the liability of Foreigners domiciled in England to take parish apprentices, and that on the trial it was contended they were exempted by the statute passed in the reign of Henry VIII. A case has been submitted to Sir Frederick Pollock, the Attorney-General, and his opinion has been requested—

“Whether by the existing laws and statutes of England, Foreigners or Aliens, although not naturalized, occupying warehouses or other premises in Leeds, for the purpose of carrying on business therein, or occupying dwelling-houses, and not being occupiers of warehouses or other premises, are liable to take parish apprentices, and whether they are subject to such and the like penalties for refusing so to do as natural-born subjects of the King.”

To this question the Learned Knight has returned the following answer:—

“I am of opinion that Foreigners domiciled here, whether naturalized or not, are liable, in the same manner as natural born subjects, to the poor laws, and may be called upon to take apprentices, and would equally be liable to penalties for refusing to do so. I do not see how the statute of Henry VIII (referred to) forbids this, or is, in any way, inconsistent with it. The object of that statute was to prevent Aliens from having Alien apprentices, and to cause them to take as apprentices natural-born subjects who might learn and profit by their handicraft. Their taking apprentices under the poor law is quite in accordance with this object, if the parish children are (as probably they will be) natural born subjects.”

#### ON WATER MEADOWS CAUSING THE ROT IN SHEEP.

(From the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture.)

About the year 1808, some land, part of which had been under water, much of which was a bog, and part of which was nearly dry, was drained, levelled and irrigated. Although it was drained, and was so far dry that horses could at all times walk upon it, yet it produced coarse herbage, rushes, and even some flags. In this state it remained for at least fifteen years, and during the whole of the time, it was constantly fed on by ewes and lambs in the spring, and no instance was ever known of any of these sheep ever showing the slightest symptom of the rot.

As, however, the herbage was not good, and it was supposed that, by obtaining a better outfall, and a more effectual mode of drainage, the meadow might be much improved, it was broken up in 1829, drained more perfectly, better levelled, and was again laid down to grass after a turnip-fallow. The land then appeared to be perfectly drained. The turnips were excellent, and the grass which was sown in 1831 was beautiful. It was mown that autumn, after having been irrigated, and produced abundantly. It carried great flocks of sheep the ensuing spring, and produced a very great crop of grass early in the summer; but afterwards, in that year, the land appeared starved, and the grass did not come a second time to the scythe. In the spring of 1833, the meadow yielded a good pasture to the sheep, but, except in those parts which were dry and steep, it produced little for the scythe. Rushes made their appearance, and as it was probable that the land was not sufficiently drained, more drains were made, which produced a great deal of water. Then for the first time suspicions were raised that the sheep fed on the land were tainted by the rot, and it has been ascertained that, since Christmas 1833, sheep fed upon it have taken the rot in five days. In the spring of 1834, more drains were made in it. The consequence of which has been a great improvement in the quality and quantity of the herbage, but as far as the rot is concerned, it has been equally fatal to every sheep put upon it. It is necessary to add, that although the whole of this meadow is now so well drained, that, after a fortnight's irrigation, it will become so dry in a week, as to admit of horses galloping over it without scarcely leaving the print of their shoe; yet as some parts of it are much lower, and consequently nearer the water by some feet than others, it might be supposed that they would be more likely to produce the rot than those parts which are higher. But this is not the case. It has been ascertained that they are all equally infectious. Other meadows in this neighbourhood, irrigated partly by the same stream, have equally rotted the sheep though perfectly well drained. As those other meadows are entirely new, it cannot be said of them that there was a time when, though less well drained, they did not rot the sheep. They do not affect the question, what can be the reason why land which, when less well drained, was fed by sheep with impunity, rots them now, when it is much better drained?

It cannot be attributed wholly to the seasons; because other water meadows in the same county, but on a different stream, did not rot the sheep in the spring or even in the autumn of 1833. It is true that, in the spring of 1834, some few, out of very many, have been supposed to take the rot;

and that in the autumn of 1834, even on these meadows, scarce one has escaped the infection. But where they have taken it, some parts of the land have not been effectually drained.

These occurrences naturally excited attention, and recourse to every known means supposed to be capable of preventing this infection was resorted to. It has been said that sheep folded on fallows and not allowed to go on to their pastures till the dew was off the ground, have escaped the rot, when others which were allowed to remain constantly on them, have taken it; that dry food given to them on dry ground during the night; and that salt and oil-cake, have acted as preservatives. The evidence of the good effects of all these antidotes has been such as it was impossible to doubt. But each and every one of them has been tried here with the greatest attention, and it is painful to add, that they have all failed in *every instance*. The mode in which these experiments were made, was this: Out of a large lot of fat wethers which were in the course of being killed, and which were all believed to be sound, three at a time were selected for the trial of each of these remedies, and put on the meadows. At the end of three weeks, their livers were invariably found to be more or less infected, while the livers of the others of the same lot which had not been on the meadows, and which had remained in their usual dry pastures, remained unaffected.

This continued for some time; but at last two wethers which had *not* been on the meadow, were found to have diseased livers, and therefore it cannot be affirmed with perfect certainty that the subjects of the experiment had taken the disease in spite of the remedies; because it is just possible, that, like the two last, they might all have taken the infection at some previous period.

#### WESTSUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Show on Tuesday March 31, though not large, exhibited some beautiful stock. The prizes were adjudged as follows:—

- To the owner of the best Suffolk Stallion, 1st prize, £8.—Mr. R. Howlett, of Wyverstone.
- Second prize, £4.—Mr. G. Mumford, Lavenham.
- Best Brood Mare, 1st prize, £4.—J. T. Ord Esq.
- Second prize, £2.—O. R. Oakes, Esq., (much admired.)
- Best 3-year old Colt, 1st prize, £3.—Mr. Phillip Parker.
- Best pen of 5 fat Southdown Shearling wethers, £3.—W. Bryant, Esq.
- Best pen of any other breed, £2.—Mr. Geo. Beeton.
- Best Ox, bred in Suffolk, £2.—The Duke of Norfolk.
- Best Fat Ox, £3.—Ditto.

#### SWEEPSTAKES—SOVEREIGN EACH.

- Best Bull, any breed, won by Mrs. Stutter, Flempton.
- Best Suffolk Cow, won by Mr. Geo. Beeton.
- Best Southdown Hoggett Tup,—W. Bryant Esq.
- Best Breeding Sow, bred in Suffolk (half-sovereign each) O. R. Oakes, Esq.
- The Judges for the Horse Stock were—Mr. W. Adams, Mr. Giles Steward, and Mr. E. Futter—for Cattle &c., Mr. F. Nunn, Mr. G. M. Rodwell, Mr. S. Shillito, and Mr. George Mumford.

WATER.—Although our subject is far from exhausted, a few words on the amazing quantity of water upon the earth, and we have finished. 129

million square miles—more than half the surface of the globe—are covered, it is calculated, with water; and the quantity is said to be some thousand millions of cubic miles: from our ignorance, however, of the real depth of the sea, which has never been fathomed beyond one mile, any statement on this head must be hypothetical. Now, when we remember the amazing flood of water daily poured into the sea, from the various rivers and other sources, we are surprised that it does not overflow its cliffs, and ultimately swallow up the dry land; but it has been calculated by Dr. Halley, that every ten inches square of the ocean gives off one cubic inch of water in vapour every day, from which he estimates that 5,280 million tons evaporate from the Mediterranean Sea alone during a warm day, probably to supply these very rivers. All is changing, nothing remains at rest, whether our bodies, the earth that we inhabit, or the waters which surround it. The drop of water born to-day in the laboratory of the chemist, is dissipated by the heat of the apartment, and in the shape of vapour, is transported by the winds thousands of miles; it is congealed by cold, and descending in the shape of snow, assists to wrap up and protect the surface of the earth from the freezing blast; thawed by the sun of summer, it filtrates through the ground, and with its fellows, bubbles forth a spring from the mountain side; the spring may become a river, and the river, after passing through its destined course, empties itself into the ocean, bearing with it our drop of water, whence it is taken up by the atmosphere, again to pursue its round of usefulness.—So is it with all nature!—*Literary Union.*

#### DISCRIMINATION OF SOILS.

Nothing tends more effectually to confuse the tyro in horticulture, and to frustrate and disappoint his practice, than the misappropriation of terms. Amateur gardening has, of late years, extended amazingly, and whatever timid or selfish vendors of plants may imagine, it is quite certain that the extension of horticultural knowledge will, in proportion, encourage the progress of the nursery business, and increase the demand for plants. We happen to be acquainted with gardeners of the first order, and know that, so far from attempting to mystify their art, they speak without reserve, and describe any particular process with candour and liberality. Horticultural publications become every year more numerous, and keep pace with the rising spirit of enquiry; but no one can look over their pages without perceiving that, in as far as soils are concerned, there is much of uncertainty and confusion. We shall confine our remarks at present to one or more terms of very common occurrence. Formerly (that is about the commencement of the present century,) whenever a person who purchased a plant inquired of the nurseryman what soil was suitable to its habit, he was answered that loam, or “bog-earth,” or a mixture of the two, in certain proportions, would be suitable. We have on a former occasion, expressed our opinion of the indeterminate meaning of the word *loam*, and shall now, therefore, confine ourselves to the other staple earth above named. By bog-earth, the cultivators in the vicinity of London always meant to express that light, vegetable black mould, abounding with white silicious sand, which was obtained from Hampstead-heath, Sydenham-common, and other places where heaths abounded. No term could be more inappropriate, nothing could be more remote from than the soil of a bog or turbary; yet it was so far determinate, that it



had but one definite meaning. By the words *bog-earth*, then, *black heath-soil* was clearly understood. But of late this term has been nearly abandoned, and we everywhere read of *peat*, and mixtures of *peat* and *loam*, &c. But here confusion begins, and we have a right to inquire what is the true and legitimate meaning of *peat*. Strictly speaking, *peat* and *bog-earth* ought to express one and the same thing; that is, the earth of *peat*, *bogs* or *turbaries*, the deposits of masses of decayed vegetation, swamped with water. *Peats*, doubtless, differ more or less in their components, if chemically analysed; but the term has but one proper, definite meaning: yet we may ask, do those persons who mention the application of *peat* always imply the earth of *bogs*? We distinctly reply that they do not—that, in nine cases out of ten, they mean to express the light black, or brown, surface soil of *heaths*, abounding with sand; the soil, in fact, which the *ericæ*, and the greater part of shrubs usually styled “*American*,” delight in. But in some cases, *real peat*, the black, swampy, hard-binding earth of *bogs*, is not only implied, but is, in fact, the medium best calculated to promote the luxuriant health of some of our most beautiful plants. *Thunbergia* revels in pure *peat*; its leaves and flowers expand to double the dimensions which they commonly attain in loamy soils. The herbacious *calcicolarias* thrive well in a compost containing much *peat*, and so do a few other plants. But these may be quoted as exceptions to the rule; for it is our firm conviction that, by the term, now so frequently employed, they who use it mean to express the surface soil of the *heath*, not that of the *peat-bog*. Let us define our terms, and henceforward (as we hope to do ourselves,) when we wish to direct the use of what was called *bog-earth*, always designate it by its proper title, *heath-soil*, or *mould*, and we would recommend any amateur who wishes to lay in a stock of this most useful ingredient, to have it cut with the grass turf, and laid in square masses with the herbage downward, to moulder and blend together till they assume one homogeneous texture. Silver sand can be added at the time of using it, if the mould appear deficient in that ingredient. We tested a portion of soil from *Bagshot-heath*, and found that, in 100 parts, nearly 90 consisted of pure white sand, and with a little iron; the remainder was vegetable matter of decayed leaves destructible by fire. These proportions agree sufficiently with the analysis given in the “*Treatise upon Planting*,” by the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, 1832, page 48, No. 1. *Peat*, on the contrary, contains at least 60 per cent. of vegetable remains, a considerable portion of protoxide of iron, and some alumen or pure earth of clay.

**ONIONS.**—As large and as mild as those imported may be produced by the following method:—“About the middle of February, the seeds are sown on a slight hot-bed, the covering of which being six inches of rich light soil; after the plants have come up, a full stream of air is admitted, in order to rear them hardy and stubby. A piece of an open quarter in the garden is trenched two feet deep, finely broken in the process and well manured; the surface trodden with the feet, raked level, and beaten smooth. About the middle of April the plants are very carefully lifted with their roots *entire*, and planted in the ground thus prepared, at fourteen inches apart, and ten inches in the line; the holes being made of sufficient size to admit the roots with ease at their full length, the bulb resting on the surface, and in the hoeing afterwards these must be covered. The

plants will be established by the middle of June, when, should the season prove dry, they must have copious waterings, desisting however about three weeks before they are taken up, that the sap may be concentrated, and the bulb hardened in the swelling off. By this method I have been enabled to raise bulbs weighing two and a half pounds; and I do not hesitate to say, that onions may be grown in our own country as large and mild as those imported from the Continent. The kinds that I sow are the Brown Portugal, Brown Spanish, James Keeping, and Tripoli. The soil is light, sandy, incumbent upon gravel. Should a hot-bed not be used, the sowing will require to be in the previous autumn.”

## ON JUDGING CATTLE BY MEASUREMENT AND WEIGHT.

(From the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture.)

To judge accurately of the quality and weight of live stock, is an acquirement which every farmer is desirous to possess; and which, when its importance has been appreciated, presents itself in an enticing form to every pupil of agriculture. It is, indeed, the highest accomplishment which a breeder of stock can acquire; for by it he can never fail to maintain his stock in the highest perfection. It is an accomplishment, however, which can only be rightly acquired by very extensive experience; but even with the most favourable opportunities of acquiring it, some men cannot become good judges of stock. The faculties of acute observation and discernment must cull judiciously from the lessons of experience, before men can acquire the character of good judges. Many breeders who profess to judge of stock aright, are not gifted with these natural faculties, although their perseverance may have rendered their acquirements respectable; but many more who do possess them will not take the trouble to acquire the requisite knowledge by the slow process of induction through experience. They must become judges intuitively, or not at all. Hence the experience which men employ to acquire that knowledge which can only be rightly acquired by experience. Hence the many tables which have been constructed by which the weight of live-stock may be ascertained by measurement,—the many rules by which their value may be calculated from their weight, when alive. Good judges condemn those rules and tables; and they are right, for they can ascertain the real weight of marketable flesh on any animal much more nearly by the eye than by any artificial rule, and the true quality of it by the touch, a property which those tables can give no idea of. Nor need the comparative superiority of the senses excite surprise. There are so many points on an animal which are requisite to be attended to in ascertaining its value,—this point depreciating it, that one enhancing it,—that the judgment must be exercised; but could the relative values of those points be easily ascertained by artificial rules, the judgment would be of no avail, the tape or the steelyard would universally become the substitute for the eye and the hand. Were the bodies of animals of a strictly mathematical form,—were they true cylinders,—and did the offals always bear an invariable ratio to the four quarters of flesh, then the tape and the steelyard would always tell accurately; but it is otherwise when the bodies of animals assume shapes of various proportions, the judgment then can alone ascertain their value, by comparing the value of the several disproportionate parts. It is nevertheless true that the real weight of animals possessing symmetrical and full-conditioned bodies, approaching the nearest to the mathematical

form, can be nearly ascertained by rule; but no rule hitherto known can be so explicitly relied upon in all cases as the judgment. Besides, the rules, however excellent in themselves, may not be judiciously applied. Every man cannot measure animals, nor even weigh animals aright. One inch measured too much or too little in the girth and length of a large animal, and particularly in both, will lead to a much greater error than any judge will commit with the eye. The accuracy of the live-weight depends in a great measure on the state of the animal, whether he is full or empty of meat. But neither measurement nor live-weight, however accurately taken, can give the least idea of the quality of the flesh; the eye and the hand alone must judge of this essential particular.

We have been led into these remarks by comparing the measurements and live-weight with the dead-weight of some of the largest oxen which were shown at the show of the Highland Society at Aberdeen in 1834, and observing in some instances the great disparity between them. Whether the disparity arises from the inapplicability of the tables to such great weights as were shown at Aberdeen, or from some inadvertency in measuring and weighing the cattle, we have no means of ascertaining. The rule for ascertaining the weight of an animal by measurement is to multiply the square of the girth taken behind the shoulder, by the length taken from the fore part of the top of the shoulder, in a straight line to the tail head, as far as the flesh of the buttocks extend; and this product by the decimal .258, which will give the weight of the four quarters in imperial stones. To ascertain the dead-weight by weighing, is to multiply the live-weight by the decimal .605, and the product will give the dead-weight of the four quarters in imperial stones. Both these rules have been tested by experiment. It was long thought that the dead-weight of the four quarters was just equal to half the live-weight, and we believe this opinion is yet prevalent among country people; and it must be confessed, this point has not yet been satisfactorily settled.

The first instance which we shall take to illustrate these rules, is Lord Kintore's large black ox. He was got by a pure bred short-horn bull, out of an Aberdeenshire horned cow, said to have had a slight dash of the West Highland blood in her. He was exhibited at the Smithfield show two years ago, and again brought down to Scotland, to be exhibited at the Highland Society show, at Aberdeen, on the 3d of October, 1834. He was seven years and six months old, when he was killed a few days after the show, by Mr. Roger, Crown-street, Aberdeen. His live-weight was 28 cwt., or 224 imperial stones. According to the generally received rule of the one-half, his four quarters should have weighed 112 stones, or by the rule of the decimal .605, which is considered by learned men as the correct thing, they should have weighed 135½ stones; but the dead-weight of the four quarters was 173 stones 4 lb. He was heavier in London, where he weighed, alive, 30 cwt., or 240 stones. His falling off is a matter of no surprise, when it is considered that, when he was slaughtered, two or three of his ribs were found to have been broken; and it is not improbable that this accident had occurred to him when he was sent to London. His tallow only weighed 16 stones 7 lb.; his hide, 8 stones 3 lb., a small weight of hide for an ox which measured round the girth 10 feet 3 inches: entrails, 126 lb.; blood, 84 lb.; head and feet, 64 lb.; heart and liver, 43 lb.; tongue, 14 lb.; and kidney collop, 5 lb. As another instance of the fallacy of the rule for live-weight, we will take that of a spayed heifer which was killed by Mr. Bos-

well of Kingcausie. She weighed, alive, 11 cwt., or 88 stones; the half of which would give 44 stones and by the decimal .605, 53 stones 3 lb.; but the actual weight of the four quarters was 49 stones. She was good, but not extra fat.

For the particulars of the following cattle, we are indebted to the kindness of Deacon Sparks of Aberdeen, who slaughtered all of them. Every one who was at the show, will remember the lot of five remarkably fine horned Aberdeenshire cattle exhibited by Mr. Sparks. The red ox exhibited by Lord Kintore was got by a short-horn bull out of a Dutch cow; was six years 8 months old; the four quarters weighed 142 stones 6 lbs.; the hide, 8 stones 6 lb.; and the tallow, 18 stones. The meat was rather inferior to what was expected.

The white ox exhibited by Mr. Boswell was a pure short-horn, and six years eight months old. He measured in girth 9 feet 3 inches; in length, 6 feet 2 inches; and the weight sent us was 15 cwt. 2 qrs. 17 lb., or 125 stones 3 lb. According to the old tables of Mr. Renton of Dykegatehead, a farmer in Berwickshire, that measurement should give 126 stones 9 lb.; those of Mr. Stewart give 117 stones; and those of Mr. Ainslie, land surveyor, 122 stones. The actual weight of the four quarters was 136 stones 10 lb., being 10 stones 1 lb. heavier than the highest tables, which, at 7s. per stone, would depreciate the value of the ox, when sold, 3l. 10s. 7d. The hide of this ox weighed 8 stones, and the tallow 29 stones 12 lb.; "being the greatest quantity," says Mr. Spark, "of rough tallow ever known to be produced by one animal here."

The two grizzled oxen, also exhibited by Mr. Boswell, were got by a short-horn bull, out of pure Aberdeenshire cows. They were six years eight months old, and had been worked for two years. The lightest coloured one measured 9 feet 2 inches in girth, and 5 feet 9 inches in length, the weight sent being 14 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb., or 114 stones 4 lb. Renton's tables give for that measurement the weight of 117 stones 12 lb.; Stewart's 108 stones 3½ lb.; and Ainslie, 112 stones 12 lb. The darkest coloured measured in girth 8 feet 10 inches; in length, 5 feet 10 inches; the weight sent being 13 cwt. 1 qr. 25 lb., or 107 stones 11 lb. Renton's tables give 110 stones 9 lb.; Stewart's, 104 stones; and Ainslie's, 107 stones 10 lb. Mr. Sparks slumps the real weights of both these oxen at 32 cwt. 23 lb., or 257 stones 9 lb., the average of the two being 128 stones 11 lb. The average weight of the two exceeds, in this case, the weight of the heaviest, as given by the highest tables (Renton's), by 10 stones 13 lb.; that is 3l. 16s. 6d. in money value; and the weight of the lightest, as given by Stewart's tables, by 24 stones 11 lb., or 8l. 13s. 6d. of money value at 7s. per stone. The hides were 7 stones 7 lb. and 7 stones 12 lb., and the tallow of both 35 stones 4 lb. Mr. Sparks says, "these animals were most excellent meat, beautifully marbled, and superior to any of the short-horn crosses that ever appeared in our market."

The light red two year old ox exhibited by Mr. Boswell, was got by a short-horn bull out of a pure Aberdeenshire cow. He measured 7 feet 10 inches in girth, and 5 feet in length, the weight sent us being 9 cwt. 14 lb., or 73 stones. Renton's tables give 73 stones 8 lb.; Stewart's, 80 stones 3½ lb.; and Ainslie's 73 stones. The actual weight of the four quarters was 89 stones 10 lb.; that is, 16 stones more than two of the three tables has given; or in other words, this ox would have been sold for 5l. 12s. less than his intrinsic value, had the seller made his bargain by these tables. The hide weighed 6 stones 2 lb., and the tallow 14 stones 4 lb. Mr. Sparks



considers this was an extraordinary animal of his age." He was, without exception, the most perfect cross-ox we ever saw, shewing his points fully, and all of them well covered. Mr. Boswell has caused a lithographic print of his likeness to be made, but it certainly does not do him justice. We conceived him to be the most perfect animal on the show-ground.

These facts are important, in so far as they prove that the rules hitherto upheld as accurate for ascertaining the actual weight of beef in the four quarters of any ox, by measurement and weight, give results very far from the truth. All the tables are considerably below the truth, when applied to cattle exceeding 90 stones; and their effect is to injure the farmer, by valuing cattle above that weight below their intrinsic worth; and the same remarks will apply to the decimal rule of .605, and, of course, in a greater degree to the rule of one-half of the live-weight. The rules for live-weight seem to undergo a modification in their application to oxen of middling weight. That of the one-half is, then, against the farmer, and that of the decimal .605 against the butcher. The rectification of these rules and tables presents an interesting field, in which ingenuity may exercise its talents.

Mr. Sparks thus proceeds in his account of the oxen shown at Aberdeen:—"The ox exhibited by Mr. Lumsden of Keir, which gained the premium for the best ox of the Angus or polled breed, weighed, in the four quarters, 14 cwt. 26 lb., or 113 stones 12 lb.; hide, 8 stones 8 lb.; and tallow, 12 stones 4 lb. The meat was rough, and very unworthy of praise. Likewise, the ox exhibited by Mr. Lumsden, which gained the premium as the best Aberdeenshire three year old ox, weighed in the four quarters, 12 cwt. 2 qrs. 4 lbs., or 100 stones 4 lb.; hide, 6 stones 2 lb., and tallow 13 stones 9 lb. The meat did not shew the superior quality that characterizes the Aberdeenshire cattle. The five cattle I exhibited at the show, exceeded, when slaughtered, our most sanguine expectations for tallow and beautiful marbled meat. One in particular, a brown buckit, or down-horned Aberdeenshire ox, weighed, in the four quarters, 16 cwt. 26 lb., or 129 stones 12 lb., being an astonishing weight for the size of his bone. The hide weighed 6 stones 5 lb., and the tallow 19 stones 13 lb. The other four were proportionally such like." This buckit ox of Mr. Sparks reminds me of the axiom in breeding, "small in bone great in value."

The three fat pigs, not exceeding fifteen months old, which were also exhibited by Mr. Boswell, were sent alive by steam to London; and, although one of them fell sick on the voyage, they were sold for 17*l.*, averaging 52 Smithfield stones each. The two-year old boar which he exhibited and sent to London, along with the pigs, although not fed up for the occasion, nor looked very heavy, was 40 Smithfield stones.

**SWEDEN TURNIPS.**—One of the greatest difficulties which presents itself in bringing extraneous manure upon a farm, generally arises from the cost of conveyance consequent upon the bulk and weight. This evil may be avoided by using CLARK'S DESTROYED COMPOST, one hogshead of which containing 36 bushels, is sufficient top dressing for an acre of land, or if drilled in with turnips will suffice for two acres, and insure a good crop, pushing the young plant out of the reach of the fly much sooner than any other manure.

## ANIMALIZED CARBON, A NEW MANURE.

This substance is of French origin, and its manufacture is secured by patent. It was discovered by a French chemist; but that it is a substance easily manufactured may be inferred from the fact of its being shipped free on board for 35*s.* per ton. Mr. Joseph Owen of Copenhagen acquired the knowledge of the manufacture from the patentee in France, and has since established a manufactory on his own account in Copenhagen. His traveller, a Danish gentleman, was the first to introduce this new manure to the notice of the Scottish agriculturists. We have not had an opportunity of seeing a sample of it, but it seems it has been tried last year by Mr. Dalgairns of Inghinston, and of Mr. Inches of Cardean, who, we hope, will favour us with their opinion of its efficacy. We understand that the Danish gentleman has disposed of 250 tons of it in the counties of Forfar and Kincardine. Mr. Owen's card gives the following account of its nature, and the mode of using it:—

"The chief excellency of this manure is, that it is powerful in its effects, occupies but little room, is easily separated, and conveniently used either by hand or drill; its effects are farther to ensure a rich crop, by gradually ameliorating the soil, and rendering fallowing unnecessary. For wheat, rye, buckwheat, barley, and similar descriptions of corn, about 8 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb. is used per acre: it may be either broadcast or drilled in before harrowing. For flax, hemp, beet, potatoes, &c. about 10½ cwt. per acre; and 12 cwt. 2 qrs. 10 lb. per acre for artificial meadows, different sorts of cabbage, rape, culinary plants, and for refreshing natural meadow land. For plants that are set in rows, a handful is put to each plant; for those which are transplanted, a child follows the planter, and throws a very small handful of the manure into each hole, which is immediately covered over with earth;—in several places for rape it is scattered out in rows along the roots of the plant, which the plough covers by forming a new furrow. On meadow land it must be spread out in December or January, when the snow is not on the ground. Generally speaking, it is well to mix the manure with half its quantity of finely sifted earth; but there is no necessity for pursuing this method. On light and warm soils about 2 qrs. 22 lb. less per acre is used than on cold or clay lands, where an extra 2 qrs 22 lb. are added to the quantity as before-hand directed to be used; it is, in fact, left to the farmer's judgment to make use of the above directions according to local circumstances. What characterizes this manure most is, that it develops its effects so slowly and gradually, that it may be applied, without danger in contact with the seed or roots of plants; in this it differs from a number of other manures which are less rich but more heating. In Scotland it has been tried in 1834 on eight different soils, has been found nearly equal to bone-dust for turnips, and has since been ordered in large quantities from the manufacturer, Mr. Owen, at Copenhagen, who delivers it free on board at 35*s.* per ton."

**BEES AT THE CAPE.**—A swarm of bees had attached themselves to the parlour window, occupying the space between the shutter and the glass. On inquiring about them, I found that they had taken a liking to the situation for several years, and always persisted in swarming there, although repeatedly driven away. After the fear of being stung by them was got over, I contemplated the labours of these little creatures with much pleasure, and they frequently afterwards occupied my attention. They are much smaller than

our bees, and appear to be far less irritable, and I was informed that they work during the whole year. They kept the house well supplied with honey, the comb being taken away about eight times in the course of the year, or about every six weeks. The hexagonal form of their cell did not seem to be the result of pressure, and were all of the same form both at the top and the sides. In the course of my observations of them I frequently saw them removing a portion of wax from one part of the comb to another.—*Voyage of the Chanticleer.*

### THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

The following extracts are from a powerful article, by Mr. W. MEDLEY, published in "The Agricultural and Industrial Magazine."

After contending most strongly, that the whole cause of Agricultural and Commercial distress arose from the alteration in the Currency, Mr. Medley proceeds—

"I have yet, however, abstained from furnishing you with proofs of the truth of my assertions. I at once begin:—The last great loan that was made during the war (1815), was contracted for at 56, and amounted to 36 millions; but the average price of all the loans during that period was under 63: that is, *sixty-three pounds sterling of paper money, or about three loads of wheat, were lent to the nation, for which we have been paying, during the last fifteen years, the exorbitant sum of 90 pounds,\* not in paper money (mark ye), but in gold, at 3l. 17s. 10½d an ounce*; in other words, we are paying *seven loads and a half of wheat for the three loads borrowed*.† This is the actual fact, impossible to be controverted, and is alone the cause of all our difficulties. Now, let this bargain be acted upon in private life, as it, in fact, has been, *unknown to the parties*,—and can we then wonder at the great and cruel suffering and sad vicissitudes of fortune that have been experienced during the last fifteen years; let any man carry his recollection back to the numerous respectable families he has witnessed during that period hurled from comparative affluence to ruin by this "hocus pocus" alteration and tampering with the currency. A nation borrows 550 millions sterling, receiving only 63 pounds for every nominal 100l so borrowed, and it is now endeavouring to repay the debt *in money at 90 pounds per cent.*; but in actual value *at one hundred and fifty pounds per cent.*‡—I mean the actual measured value of commodities, measured by the great staff of life, bread and meat, as it ought to be measured, and not by the value of gold. I will simplify it further: you will, I am sure, agree with me, that the 63l. received during the war would only then purchase three loads of wheat, to be made into bread for the supply of our immense army and navy during that period,§ and you will further agree with me, that the 90l. we are now paying the fundholder, will, at this

very day, purchase 7½ loads of wheat, in return for the three loads so lent us, *which, if measured in the actual value of the commodities at the time the bargain was made, makes us actually paying, as before stated, 150l for the 63l we have so received.* Now, were it possible to object to the measure of value being made in bread or meat, I would consent to its being measured by other commodities purchased during the war, viz., artillery or cavalry horses, cheese, butter, sail-cloth, clothing; in fact anything constituting the sinews of war. In all these cases the disproportion of value between what we have actually received, and what we are now paying, is enormous; and yet must an arbitrary and tyrannical law be made, to fix gold as the only standard of value, and gold, too, at 3l 17s 10½d per oz., although, up to the period of 1776, there was a double standard of gold and silver. I doubt whether insanity can be carried further; but after all, outrageous as these proceedings are, and at variance, too, with common sense and common honesty, no sooner is an attempt made to expose the wickedness and injustice of the measure, than we are immediately accused of a desire to violate the public faith; thus adding insult to injury. It reminds one of the outcry of a gang of coiners, pickpockets, or house-breakers, who, when detected in their acts of villany, coolly turn round and accuse you of robbing them. It may naturally be asked, if the case be so clear as I have now stated, why has not the evil been remedied before? I will tell you. At the time of the restoration of cash payments there was, in the House of Commons, a gentleman of the name of Ricardo, a celebrated stock jobber; and this man, having accumulated a fortune of seven hundred thousand pounds in a few years, was looked upon by the members of the then Bullion Committee (amongst whom was Mr. Peel) as a very great prophet, and a very great man. Well, *this great man*, (I think I hear his squeaking, but fatal voice, in the House of Commons now,) told this said Bullion Committee and the House of Commons, that the return to cash payments would only make a difference of 4 per cent; mark ye, *only 4 per cent!* And yet I heard this very man get up in the very same House two or three years afterwards, and acknowledged he had been deceived, for it had made, he confessed, a difference of 25 per cent. although a few minutes afterwards, he was dared, by Mr. M. Attwood, the talented member for Whitehaven, to deny that it had not made a difference of more than 50 per cent. The Records of the House of Commons will in a moment prove the truth of this assertion. Yet, in spite of this confession of the principal author of this iniquitous measure, that it had made a difference of *six times as much as he had anticipated*, and although, *in fact*, it had made cent. per cent. difference, the House of Commons refused even to inquire into the cause of this gross and fatal blunder; their answer now is, "*that it is too late to go back.*" God help them! I defy them to go forward without producing a revolution. *Too late to go back, indeed!* Can it ever be too late to repair an infamous injustice? Can they possibly imagine that the people of England, the agriculturists in particular, when made acquainted with the true cause of their long and extended suffering, will patiently submit to this cruel injustice and oppression?

MANURES.—"The merits of bone dust manure appear to be decidedly established in this quarter; it is particularly effective in light soils where it soon

\* Consols are now 92.

† Seven and a half loads of wheat, at 12l. per load, is 90l. exactly.

‡ The average price of wheat, during the war, being 20l. seven and a half loads would of course cost 150l.

§ If any doubt could exist on the subject, the various and enormous contracts, both for bread and meat, could be easily referred to, by which it would be seen that I have rather underrated than overrated the amount.



decomposes; in the heavier soils it is advisable to mix more or less dung with it. Mr. Morrison, factor at Clangregor, who has used this manure very extensively for turnip, applies at the rate of 25 bushels per acre; and in his communication, published in our Report of 1833, he recommends depositing the bones at 3 inches deep, and the seed along with them, as much of the success of a turnip crop depends upon the seeds being put pretty deep, and immediately among the fructifying matter, particularly in dry weather. In gravels, so small a quantity as 14 bushels per acre, dibbled in, has produced a good crop of turnip, which afterwards eaten off with sheep, has ensured excellent grain crops; this practice, it is considered, may be accomplished to a great extent and very profitably. When bones are left of the size of half an inch to an inch, they are called drill bones."—*Report of Drummond's Agricultural Museum.*

### SPAIN.

The arable land now under cultivation in Spain, is estimated at about 15,000,000 of English acres, which is double the quantity under tillage thirty years ago. Taking into account the fallows, it thus appears that about one-fourth of the area of Spain is at this time under cultivation. One half of the kingdom is supposed to be in pasturage, supporting 400,000 horses, 3,000,000 of horned cattle, and 18,000,000 of sheep. The forests of Spain occupy only one twelfth part of the surface of the country, and the remainder is made up of sterile mountains and of rivers.

Spain contained in 1723 about seven millions and a half of inhabitants. Its population is now very nearly fifteen millions, so that it has taken 111 years to double the number of its inhabitants. This increase, however, has not been in a regular scale of progression. From 1803 to 1826, a period of twenty-three years, the increase was 3,361,000 souls, showing an advance of 30 per cent. upon the number in 1803; according to which rate, the population would double itself in less than sixty years.

In regard to the agricultural productions, it appears, that they have increased during the last twenty years even more rapidly than the population. The quantity of corn now harvested suffices for the whole increased population, whereas, in 1803, the then inferior population had to look elsewhere to supply a deficiency of one-fifth of the quantity of corn necessary for its support. The quantity of grain now produced is estimated at twenty-two millions of bushels, which is nearly double the quantity yielded at the end of the last century. Horned cattle have not similarly increased. Although more than one-half of the kingdom is pasturage, there is only one horned beast to every five inhabitants, which is less than half the proportion in this country. Sheep have increased more than one-half since 1803. The flocks furnish annually nearly forty millions of pounds of wool, worth about 3,200,000*l*.

The annual consumption of meat throughout the kingdom for each inhabitant is not more than twenty-two pounds. The consumption, in the whole of France, is thirty-six pounds, and in Paris eighty-six. In the whole of Great Britain the annual consumption is ninety-two; and, in London, one hundred and forty-three pounds in the year for each inhabitant.

The total net produce of Spain, thirty years ago, arising from agricultural and industrious sources, was estimated at 34,420,840*l*, or 3*l* 8*s* 10*d* per in-

habitant. M. Moreau de Jonnés estimates the total present net produce at 48,759,160*l*. The expenses of production, which amounted to three-fifths of the gross value thirty years ago, are now lessened by the diminished cost of transport; but, on the other hand, the prices of agricultural produce are very greatly reduced. The foreign commerce of Spain is very little greater at present than it was fifty years ago. The total value of exports and imports in 1784 is stated at 5,727,040*l*, while in 1829 it amounted to only 5,867,760*l*. It should be observed that the foreign trade of Spain is greatly increased by the aid of smugglers, the sum of whose transactions has been roughly estimated to amount to one-third as much as the legalized trade.

### SYSTEM OF THOROUGH DRAINING AND DEEP PLOUGHING. — PROSPECTS OF BRITISH AGRICULTURE.

What is usually termed the soil of a country consists of two parts altogether distinct in character and functions. Before any accurate knowledge can be obtained of scientific agriculture, it is necessary as a first step to discriminate between the vegetable soil or mould—forming a portion of all soils, and the greater proportion of black earth; and the real earthy soil—that substance formed of gravel, clay, and other fine detritus, which holds or contains the vegetable mould.

The vegetable soil or mould is that portion of the compound soil which actually feeds the plant, that is, which the plant takes up and assimilates to itself; and where it is not present in proper quantities, or of the right kind, it must be supplied by manuring. The science of manuring, in fact, consists in the knowledge of the amount of mould already in the soil, and of the kind of manure wherewith in all the various circumstances of practical husbandry, the deficiency, where deficiency exists, ought to be supplied. In some countries there is an almost inexhaustible amount of this mould mingled with the earthy soil by nature. Where forests of hard wood are found growing—dating, for all that we know, from the epoch of the flood—the mould will have accumulated to a vast extent, as the annual fall of the leaves furnishes an annual supply of vegetable substance, which by rotting changes into it. Rivers also passing through such forests, bring down the rich loam, and deposit it upon the lower grounds, which thus acquire part of the capacities of the forest territories. It is the combination of both circumstances, in quite an unprecedented degree, which has so marvellously enriched America, and put all idea of the necessity of manuring—at least for the coming century—very far from the minds of the farmer on the banks of the Mississippi or the Ohio. In all lands, however, there is a large portion of the mould we speak of, also supplied by nature; and it is its prevalence which gives so much comparative fertility to our lowlands and carse. It is manifest too, that in countries where manure is abundant, the farmer who needs to supply it will have all possible advantage; and a thickly peopled territory necessarily affords sources of power to the cultivator, which no agriculturist in less favoured or less advanced countries can command.

But the earthy soil performs duties to the plant not second in importance to those of the vegetable mould itself. It is this soil which holds the plant—which permits it to stretch out its roots in search of nourishment, and which is the main agent in pro-

viding it with the requisite warmth. Now, in order to the right execution of these functions, this part of the soil must have certain properties. It must neither be too stiff nor too light: an error of the former kind is remedied by the addition of proportions of marl, and an error of the latter kind by the intermixture of clays. There is one quality, however, the most essential of all to the proper action of this soil; because, unless it possesses it, it cannot perform aright any one of the foregoing functions, nor would it be at all improvable. That quality is dryness. Unless the earthy soil possesses, or can be made to possess, the quality of absorbing or transmitting away in some direction, the moisture which falls upon it in the shape of rain, it is comparatively useless, and it needs no argument to prove it so. A wet soil, in the first place, is a cold soil—destructive to the plants by depriving them of the due amount of heat; it is totally incapable of holding the roots of the plants, as a single frosty night will be sufficient to make it throw out the young plants even after they are comparatively vigorous; and the attempt to increase the vegetable mould of such a soil by manuring must be always most expensive, because a great amount of it is all but sure to be run away.

The first thing to be done, then, in reference to the earthy soil—the achievement on which all others must be built, and to which, unless money is to be wasted, all others ought to be subsequent, is the production of this dryness. Various schemes for the accomplishment of this have been brought forward and practised, but the most complete, we will venture to say the only complete scheme hitherto devised, is that explained by Mr. Smith of Deanston in the second and third reports (but especially the third) of the Messrs. Drummond's Museum. The remarks just made have been suggested by the perusal of that admirable paper; and we have made them to show the important place in practical agriculture which ought to be occupied by such operations. That, we repeat, is the very first and most essential place; for why manure, until you can be certain that the manure will not be swept away? or why open or add body to the soil whilst you may only be preparing it for conversion into mud, or thick and stiff chilly clay? In reference to the latter kind of operations too, the draining we speak of opens up powers and facilities to the farmer which he cannot otherwise enjoy. Mr. Smith shows how the soil may be dried or made available to the full depth of eighteen inches, and a large body of earth thus brought into use and activity which in most cases is now lying an inert or soaked subsoil.

It is of course quite impossible to enter in this place on the minutæ or details of Mr. Smith's system, which has already been approved in practice, and we are happy to know by several intelligent Fife farmers; but we feel it a duty to refer the enterprising agriculturists of our great and rich county to the work which treats of it; and we have no doubt whatever as to what will follow from their attentive consideration of it. The operations recommended, must soon be very prevalent, and their adoption will constitute a great era, not only in practical husbandry, but in the agricultural position of Great Britain. Will any person with a farmer's eye take a glance over the Lothians, Berwick, Strathmore, Clydesdale, or Fifehire, &c., and tell us how much, on a moderate calculation, those corn-growing districts may be supposed to lose annually in consequence of the imperfect way in which their soils are thus fundamentally prepared? It is no exaggeration, that three-fourths of the soil of Fifehire might, by due attention to the process in question, be made to yield,

upon an average, one-half more than its present produce; and, looking to the whole country, we can scarcely think it a piece of an inventive enthusiasm, when Mr. Smith remarks, that, instead of fearing about corn laws, Britain has it in her power actually to take part in an exporting trade.

Farmers will naturally be anxious concerning the point of expense; and, with a view to gratify them on this matter, we subjoin a table given by Mr. Smith.

| Subsoils to which the distances are applicable.                                  | Distance between the drains in feet. | Roots per Acre, to landlord. | Cost per Acre to Landlord. | Cost per Acre to Farmer. | Cost per Acre to Farmer. | Total cost per Acre. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
|                                                                                  |                                      | s. d.                        | s. d.                      | s. d.                    | s. d.                    | s. d.                |
| For hard till sub-soil.....                                                      | 10 48                                | 4 8                          | 0 0                        | 1 8                      | 4 0                      | 12 0                 |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 11 43                                | 7 5                          | 13                         | 3 12                     | 11                       | 10 19                |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 12 40                                | 6 13                         | 4                          | 3 6                      | 8                        | 10 9                 |
| Stiff Clay.....                                                                  | 13 37                                | 6 3                          | 4                          | 3 1                      | 8                        | 9 5                  |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 14 34                                | 5 14                         | 5                          | 2 17                     | 3                        | 11 0                 |
| Sandy Clay.....                                                                  | 15 32                                | 5 6                          | 8                          | 2 13                     | 4                        | 10 0                 |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 16 30                                | 5 0                          | 0                          | 2 10                     | 0                        | 10 0                 |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 17 28                                | 4 14                         | 2                          | 2 7                      | 1                        | 10 3                 |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 18 26                                | 4 9                          | 2                          | 2 4                      | 7                        | 13 9                 |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 19 25                                | 4 4                          | 5                          | 2 2                      | 3                        | 6 0                  |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 20 24                                | 4 0                          | 0                          | 2 0                      | 0                        | 6 0                  |
| Free stony bottom                                                                | 21 23                                | 3 16                         | 8                          | 1 18                     | 4                        | 5 15                 |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 22 21                                | 3 12                         | 6                          | 1 16                     | 3                        | 5 9                  |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 23 20                                | 3 9                          | 2                          | 1 14                     | 7                        | 5 9                  |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 24 20                                | 3 6                          | 5                          | 1 13                     | 4                        | 5 0                  |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 25 19                                | 3 4                          | 2                          | 1 12                     | 1                        | 4 16                 |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 26 18                                | 3 1                          | 8                          | 1 10                     | 10                       | 4 2                  |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 27 17                                | 2 19                         | 2                          | 1 9                      | 7                        | 4 8                  |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 28 17                                | 2 16                         | 8                          | 1 8                      | 4                        | 4 5                  |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 29 16                                | 2 15                         | 0                          | 1 7                      | 6                        | 4 0                  |
| More open bottom                                                                 | 30 16                                | 2 13                         | 4                          | 1 6                      | 8                        | 4 0                  |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 31 15                                | 2 11                         | 8                          | 1 5                      | 10                       | 3 17                 |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 32 15                                | 2 10                         | 0                          | 1 5                      | 0                        | 3 15                 |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 33 14                                | 2 8                          | 4                          | 1 4                      | 2                        | 3 10                 |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 34 14                                | 2 6                          | 8                          | 1 3                      | 4                        | 3 0                  |
| Irregular beds of gravel or sand and irregularly open rocky stratifications..... | 35 13                                | 2 5                          | 10                         | 1 2                      | 11                       | 3 8                  |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 36 12                                | 2 4                          | 5                          | 1 2                      | 3                        | 6 8                  |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 37 13                                | 2 3                          | 4                          | 1 1                      | 8                        | 3 9                  |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 38 12                                | 2 2                          | 6                          | 1 1                      | 3                        | 3 9                  |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 39 12                                | 2 1                          | 1                          | 1 0                      | 7                        | 3 1                  |
| .. .. .                                                                          | 40 12                                | 2 0                          | 0                          | 1 0                      | 0                        | 3 0                  |

It will be noticed that part of the expense is here supposed to fall upon the landlord. The true principle of such distribution is this. If an improvement is likely to outlast, in its effects, the tenant's lease, the landlord ought to pay in proportion to this farther duration, and simply because he will himself be paid for it by the rise of rent on the next tenant. And inasmuch as real improvements yield a very great deal more than the money spent on them, the landlord as well as the improving tenant would always be a gainer. In the present instance, the great proportion of the improvement is permanent—the drains being constructed to outlast many leases; so that the part of expenditure laid by Mr. Smith on the purse of the proprietor is any thing rather than overmuch. But in as much as the result will pay both parties very satisfactorily, there is no need for too nice criticism on this point. When the spoil is large, the possessors do not quarrel concerning the destruction of trifles.

How plain is the moral deducible from the consideration of subjects like this, and how strange that our landlords will not see it! With organic matter in the form of manure, at command in immense quantities, and a soil capable of being improved by science, at least threefold, at small comparative expense, what is it which withholds Britain from her due place as an agricultural country? One thing alone,—the want of capital employed in the improvement and cultivation of the soil; and the disinclination of capitalists to invest or hazard money in what



has been, is, and, under the present system, must continue to be, a gambling, and therefore a losing, trade. Will it never be believed that, in a country so rich, so exhaustless in money resources as ours is, it is the first and only requisite to the prosperity of any attainable mode of industry, to make it stable—to deliver it from all conditions and causes of capricious variation—to place it on that free and independent footing from which it may bid defiance to all the world? We laugh at those who speak of the necessary inferiority of British agriculture. The simpletons think of the high wages of our labourers, but they never think of our immense resources in the way of applicable capital. The Hindoo, indeed, will scratch his master's field for twopence a-day, but out of that same field the work of an English labourer, aided by English methods, would bring thirty times the produce. And here is the mystery which our good frightened landlords cannot at all understand. They legislate in excessive terror of opponents like the harmless Hindoo; and to be preserved from the attacks of ogres so gentle and replete with humanity, that before them an insect is safe—they wisely cripple our capitalists, repulse the advances of capital, and ham-string ours and their real strength! How it will end is clear enough. Ignorance cannot prevail, although it chooses to call knowledge destructive. By and bye we will take up our friends per force—throw them into the long-boat—and, in good company, hurra for land!

### THE MALT TAX.

Sir,—It is not surprising that the malt tax should engross so much of the attention of the farmers, when they are the chief sufferers; on the contrary, I think they have been too patient, too slow, in their operations in petitioning parliament, too negligent of their own interests, by listening and attending to such arguments as those in your last paper by J. H. Y. The fact is, the farmers, farm labourers, and the productive classes are saddled sure enough at present with that obnoxious tax, the removal of which, without doubt, would be a great boon to them. Yet your correspondent would persuade the farmers to be still under the pressure, and for this reason, namely, that whatever parliament takes off one shoulder, they would assuredly put on the other. Now this is very comfortable doctrine indeed at the present moment, yet I think it will not have much weight, for the great body of the farmers are of a different opinion, well knowing that they have many influential and staunch friends in parliament, and it would be wrong to suppose they would vote against such proofs as will be brought before them of the great hardships and sufferings which they, the farmers, have endured for several years past, by easing them of one burden and putting on them another. No, I hope better things. If there be any shifting in that respect, surely those who ought to bear it will receive it; for instance, an increased duty on *wine, spirits, horses, dogs, carriages, foreign wool, tallow, rapeseed, linseed, cloverseed, &c.*; a tax upon *steam vessels and steam carriages* ought also in fairness to be levied. Now this is the kind of shifting I and many farmers would like to see carried into effect. Now let us see how the repeal of the malt tax would operate upon the barley grower. In the first place it would increase the consumption considerably, advance the price, consequently more land would be sown with that grain, and less with wheat, thereby causing an advance in that article also. A few years ago, when wheat sold well, and barley was low in

price, many sand farmers made a constant practice of sowing in the spring of each year a considerable quantity of land with wheat (I mean turnip land, which had been eaten off with sheep,) and which otherwise would have been sown with barley. I have introduced this for the purpose of shewing the clay farmers that the interest of both is blended. In answer to this it is said, "O yes, it is very true; it will advance the price by increasing the consumption, yet at the same time it will be the way to let in foreign barley at a low duty, thus overwhelming the home grower by the supplies, when the latter evil will be worse than the first." This I treat with indifference, for past experience has shown us there is no cause for alarm on that head, as the chief part of the foreign barley has hitherto not been fit for the maltster; and if the line of argument which has been assumed by your correspondent be good for any thing, will it not apply to wheat also? Tell the clay farmer that a scheme was in agitation which would take off a considerable quantity of wheat out of the market, and by that means cause an advance in price, would he not rejoice at the information, well knowing that the importation of foreign wheat would never much affect him, so long as he was receiving anything like a remunerating price for his own. Although the present corn laws are not quite what some farmers approve of, as respects the manner of striking the averages, yet upon the whole it must be allowed the sliding scale of duties acts so admirably that the home grower cannot for any length of time be injured by the influx of foreign corn. The legislature could not have formed them on a wiser plan; for while, on the one hand, they protect the farmer from foreign importation, when his corn is at low prices, so on the other hand it may be truly said they protect the consumer, when the home farmers' corn is at high prices.

A word or two for the farm labourers. Let any one visit the country villages, go into the barns, ask the labourers, with flails in their hands, at hard work, what the repeal of the malt tax would do for them? They would reply, "We should then get a little ale every day, but as it now is, we never taste any from week to week; our reduced wages in the winter months will not allow of it." And here with shame it may be said, an industrious, orderly, well-behaved and loyal body of men, are deprived of what they so much need by an intolerable tax. Remove it, then the labourer would be enabled to purchase half a bushel of malt at a time, for his wife to brew, and, at a fair calculation, this would be done at 2s 6d and would make above twenty quarts of ale, at 1½d per quart; allowing him a quart per day, the half bushel would give him nearly three weeks' consumption. This would empower him to do more work, earn more wages, and keep more at home, thus preventing his mind from being contaminated at that greatest of all nuisances—the beer-shop—where revel together the political agitator, the drunkard, the lewd and profligate, in short all the refuse amongst the lowest grades in society. This of itself is a sufficient reason for abolishing the tax. The insertion of these remarks in your valuable paper will greatly oblige, sir, your obedient servant,

AN OLD FARMER.

March 10, 1835.

LECTURE ON MALT LIQUOR.—(From a Correspondent.)—On Thursday evening, a public meeting was held in the Music-hall, Leeds, for the purpose of hearing a lecture from Mr. Joseph Livesey, of Preston, on Temperance, including an exposure

of the "Great Delusion" respecting the properties of malt liquor. Soon after seven o'clock, Mr. Bulmer, surgeon, was called to the chair. After a few remarks on the objects of the meeting, he stated that the members of the Leeds Temperance Society had not generally agreed to abstain from all intoxicating liquors, and that the declaration of the Society only required abstinence from ardent spirits, and moderation in the use of other intoxicating liquors, and that the Committee were in no way responsible for any statement Mr. Livesey might make. He then introduced that gentleman to the meeting. Mr. Livesey requested that a friend of his, Mr. John Thompson, of Halifax, might be permitted to address the meeting. Mr. T. said that he followed the laborious employment of a stuff dresser, that for upwards of three months he had abstained from all intoxicating liquors, and so great was the change in his system and feelings, that he felt as if he was placed in a new world. Mr. Livesey then commenced the delivery of his lecture, which occupied nearly two hours. He first observed that virtue, sobriety, and morality were of more importance to the stability and prosperity of a nation, than wealth, population, or intelligence. He then dwelt upon the causes of intemperance, amongst which he reckoned the influence of *interest, fashion, and ignorance* of the nature of intoxicating liquors. He stated that the nutrition in a gallon of ale would only be in proportion to the solid part of the barley dissolved in it; also, that not more five pennyworth of barley was used in the brewing of a gallon of ale, which is sold for two shillings; and that such was the loss sustained in the process of malting, brewing, and fermentation, that the nutriment contained in the ale was not more than a fifth part of the original cost of the barley. By the following division he showed how the two shillings paid for the gallon of ale were divided:—Barley costs 5d, maltster 1½d, government 3½d, brewer (including hops) 8d, and retailer 6d,—making 2s. Mr. L. also explained the process of malting, the object of which was to develop more saccharine matter;—that of brewing, the object of which was to draw off the saccharine contained in the malt:—and that of fermentation, by which the sweet matter is converted into spirit. After exhibiting the extract from a quart of ale, he stated that the average weight taken from a gallon was about ten ounces; that this extract was nutriment of a very poor description, and that ten ounces of fine wheaten flour, which could be purchased for one penny, contained as much nutriment as the ten ounces of extract from a gallon of ale. He then produced about three ounces of spirit taken from the same quart of ale, and burnt it upon a plate, to the surprise of the audience. He explained that this was the cause of the great delusion respecting the nutritious properties of malt liquor. Mistaking stimulation for strength, the people were deceived by the momentary excitement which malt liquor produced. He successfully met many popular objections respecting the excellency of home-brewed beer,—as to men getting fat with drinking ale,—as to the bad tendency of temperance people making a distinction between ardent spirits and other intoxicating liquors,—and as to the great danger of allowing the moderate use of any kind of alcoholic drinks in the present state of society. Mr. Livesey was most cordially and unanimously cheered during the lecture, and at the conclusion of it there was an enthusiastic applause. Mr. Anderton, of Preston, next addressed the audience in a most animated style for some time,

and about half-past ten thanks were given by acclamation to the chairman, and the meeting concluded. Twenty-six persons have signed the total abstinence pledge.

## THE PULQUE.

This *pulque* is the favourite beverage of the lower classes in the City of Mexico, and in a very considerable portion of the republic around; it is the produce of a plant called *Maguey*, or *Mettl*, or *Pittes*, a species of *Agave Americana*, or American Aloe. The growth of the plant is slow, but when it has reached maturity, its height varies from six to eight feet, with leaves of corresponding size; it will flourish with very little culture, on the poorest soil. In some parts of the country, there are regular plantations of this useful production; the plants are there arranged in lines, with an interval of about three yards between each. When the period of flowering arrives, the plant begins to be productive; it is on this account extremely important to the cultivator, to know exactly the time of efflorescence. The Mexicans learn its approach by certain signs which they attentively observe; they know almost the very hour in which the stem, or central shoot, which is destined to produce the flower, is about to appear, and they anticipate it by making a deep incision, and extracting the whole heart or bundle of central leaves (*el corazon*), leaving nothing but the thick outside rind, which forms a natural basin or wall, about two feet deep, and one and a half in diameter. Into this the sap, which would have gone to support the large shoot which has been cut off, is continually oozing in such quantities, that it is found necessary to remove it two or three times a day. This sap is allowed to ferment, and in a week or two it becomes *pulque* in the best state for drinking.

"The natives," says Mr. Ward, "ascribe to *pulque* as many good qualities as whiskey is said to possess in Scotland. They call it stomachic, a great promoter of digestion and sleep, and an excellent remedy in many diseases. It requires a knowledge of all these good qualities, to reconcile the stranger to that smell of sour milk, or slightly-tainted meat, by which the young *pulque*-drinker is usually disgusted; but if this can be surmounted, *pulque* will be found both a refreshing and a wholesome beverage, for its intoxicating qualities are very slight, and as it is drunk always in a state of fermentation, it possesses, even in the hottest weather, an agreeable coolness." The offensive smell in question is attributed to the dirty pig-skins in which it is conveyed from the place of culture to large towns. There is also a strong sort of brandy, called *Mexical*, or *aguardiente de Maguey*, prepared from this plant, and of this the consumption is great.

The cultivation of the maguey thus possesses considerable advantages. To use Humboldt's words, "a proprietor who plants from 30,000 to 40,000 maguey is sure to establish the fortune of his children." But it requires a degree of patience seldom found among the Indians of Mexico, to pursue a species of cultivation which only begins to grow lucrative at the end of fifteen years. In a good soil, the plant reaches the period of flowering in five years; in a poor one, no harvest can be expected in less than eighteen years. The plant is destroyed, if the incision be made too early,—that is to say, long before the flowers would have naturally developed themselves.



## ON THE MALT TAX.

Glamorganshire, March 31, 1835.

MR. EDITOR,—There are few recent instances in which the eloquence of a single speech has produced so great an effect on the opinions of the community, upon any public measure, as the speech of Sir Robert Peel, in the House of Commons, on the Marquis of Chandos' Motion for the repeal of the above tax. We now find many warm supporters of the agricultural interests, Whigs, as well as Tories, appealing to that speech to justify their abandonment of former convictions. The public press also, with few exceptions, are equally loud, either in eulogizing it, as proving the policy of the tax, or in impugning the motives of those who continue to adhere to their former opinions; and still believe that the agriculturists, and the labouring classes, have the strongest claims for its repeal. Being one of the former, whom the speech of the right hon. baronet, has failed to convince, and observing that you also remain firm to former convictions on the same point, I have taken the liberty of troubling you with the following observations on the subject. I have now before me a revised copy of that speech in a separate pamphlet, and much as I admire the ingenuity of its arrangement, and the ability displayed in it; yet, Sir, I trust I shall be able to prove that a great portion of its most important arguments rest on fallacious grounds.

Let me premise, Sir, that although I differ with the right hon. baronet on this question, yet I entertain a very high opinion of his splendid talents; and whether the malt tax is repealed or not, I consider his great knowledge and experience in the affairs of this nation eminently qualify him, with the guidance and assistance of a reformed Parliament, to occupy his present distinguished situation.

In the first place, I find that great stress is laid on the impropriety of bringing this question forward previous to the ministers' financial statement; also, because, "the noble marquis had called upon the house to exclude the consideration of every other interest." Does not his Majesty in his speech, I would ask, deplore the distress of the agriculturists; and trusts that the burdens which now unequally press upon them, will be lightened. In the same manner did the king's speech of last year deplore this distress, no reference being made in either of them to the distress of any other interest. Now, Sir, we all know the result of patiently waiting last year, for these financial statements, which was the repeal of the *house tax*. As I cannot for one moment doubt the sincerity of those speeches from the throne, and believing that the subjects referred to in them are intended for the consideration of parliament, the noble marquis must have been fully justified in taking this interest into consideration to the exclusion of others; and, if this tax ought to be repealed, the sooner it was determined upon the better, to afford the minister time for finding a substitute before his financial statement was framed.

But the main grounds upon which the worthy baronet appears to rest his case, are "the altered habits, and new tastes of the community," in now preferring tea and gin to beer, and refers with much confidence to the increased consumption of those articles. He then asserts that the removal of this tax would only afford an imaginary benefit to the farmer. In another part of his speech, he observes, "that we have no grounds to complain of the malt tax, for that the price of barley is

higher in proportion than any other grain, and for the last two or three years, has been gradually advancing,—why then," he asks, "disturb the tax? and what grounds have you for hoping that barley subject to the tax being very high, and wheat subject to no tax being very low, the removal of the tax on barley will ensure a rise in the price of it?" Indeed the triumphant manner in which the hon. baronet referred to this point, led me almost to expect that he would have concluded by proposing a duty of some hundred per cent. on wheat, with the view of advancing the price of this grain also to the grower.\*

I admit that the consumption of malt had greatly reduced in the last century, since the tax became so high; and for the past three years is again gradually increasing, but as the worthy baronet has carefully abstained from any reference to what I conceive to be the *real* cause of this change, I will endeavour to supply that deficiency. The habits and tastes of the lower classes, Sir, were changed by taxing that beverage, which had ever been the boast and favourite of Englishmen, near five hundred per cent., advancing the pot or quart of beer below 1½d., to 6d., and 7d.,\* which held forth such temptation to adulterate the article, that the community after being compelled for many years to drink the most noxious liquor, composed of deleterious drugs,† as a substitute for malt and hops, gave it up in disgust. This iniquitous system, and to the wants and necessities of the labouring poor the most cruel, was partially mitigated by the removal of the beer duties. Now mark the result, although the English labourer had been thus deprived for so long a period of his native and wholesome beverage, and had acquired a taste for tea and spirits; yet we find him, on the first opportunity returning gradually to his old beverage, which I contend is the real cause of the increased demand for barley ever since that tax was removed. It is true that hitherto he has only been permitted to get the article through the medium of those sinks of iniquity, the beer shops; but had the comforts and morals of himself and family been taken at all into the account, he would have been allowed to enjoy it with his meals at his own fire side, where only it would be to him a real blessing.

In the next place, I find the rates of duty imposed upon sundry articles of foreign production is given:—for instance, port and sherry eight-five per cent; coffee, sixty-three; tea, one hundred, &c. I grieve exceedingly, to see an article the staple produce of this country, the annual value of which to the consumer may be fairly estimated at twenty millions sterling, and yielding employment to upwards of one hundred thousand families, placed in juxta position as an object of taxation with the produce of foreign capital, and foreign labour. What, Sir, is the growth of our own fields, and the produce of our own taxed labourer not to

\* Allowing three bushels of malt to a barrel of beer, the cost, if free of duty, according to the present price of barley, would be as follows:—

3 bushels of malt at 3s. 9d. .... 11s. 3d.  
1½ lb. of hops, duty free ..... 1s. 0d.

Total cost of 36 galls., or about 1d per qt. 12s. 3d

† Annual imports of,

Corelus Indicus ..... 154,864 lbs.  
Gentian Roots ..... 175,000 lbs.  
Nux Vomica ..... 218,624 lbs.  
Quassia, ..... 140 tons.

have some preference in our own markets over the vineyards of Spain, and Portugal, and the tea gardens of China? Must we ever continue to bow the knee to the despots of those countries for leave to expend our millions sterling in the purchase of their commodities to supplant the skill and industry of our own husbandmen? The average rate of duty on the two latter articles, selected no doubt as the highest of those consumed by the lower orders, is eighty-one per cent., while the tax and restrictions on malt advance it upwards of one hundred per cent., and in beer shops where those orders can get it, it is much more. Sir R. Peel admits that prior to the taxing of this article, when the population was only six millions, there were six millions of barrels of beer consumed, and that at present there were only eight millions of barrels consumed with a population of upwards of fourteen millions; but the decrease in the quantity of malt made is now below half its former proportions. From the experience we have had of the removal of the beer duties, we have a right to calculate that if the tax and restrictions on making malt were removed, the consumption would shortly increase one-third, or 1,666,000 qrs., which at 30s. a quarter for the barley, would amount to two and a-half millions sterling. At the present price of corn, about two-fifths of its value is composed of labour, consequently there is now lost to the English labourer one million sterling annually, through the operation of this tax; while our poor-rates are heavily burdened with the maintenance of a good portion of them in idleness, or in transporting them to some distant part of the globe as emigrants. The new life and confidence which would be imparted to the drooping cultivators of our own soil, by an increased annual demand for their produce of two and a-half millions sterling, would soon be beneficially felt by other classes. But, says, Sir Robert Peel in his pamphlet, "it is only a matter of prophecy, and of course uncertainty, that any advantages will accrue to the agriculturists by repealing this tax." It is not prophecy, Sir, but fact, that since the beer duties were repealed, the consumption has increased more than it did in the previous one hundred years, and up to the 19th ult., appears to be at the rate of one million of quarters annually, which at 30s. a quarter, is a present benefit to the growers of one and a-half millions sterling for the barley. It is also a fact, admitted in this pamphlet, that the effect of lowering the duty on spirits last year in Ireland, has already increased the consumption 1,000,000 gallons, which forcibly confirms the prophecy that reducing the cost of an article of such universal necessity as beer, one half would greatly increase the consumption of it. Again, at page 30, the hon. baronet, states that the average consumption of beer on a farm of three hundred acres, is one hundred hogsheads annually, or one hundred and fifty barrels. The present cost at three bushels to the barrel is 24s. 9d., but if the duty on malt, and also on hops, were repealed, it would be only 12s. 3d., saving on each barrel, 12s. 6d., or 6s. an acre on the whole occupation. Now, Sir, I humbly conceive, that this also is not uncertainty, but deduced fairly from his own statements, and is a degree of relief to the farmers which is not to be sneered at in these times; yet, this is not all, for if the consumption, and consequently the growth of barley, increased one-third, the cultivation of other grain must diminish, which would shortly improve its price. On a mixed farm of three hundred acres of arable and pasture, one hundred would be under corn, and if it averaged

twenty-eight bushels per acre, an advance of 1s. a bushel would amount to 140% per annum. It is a very erroneous idea of the hon. gentleman, to suppose that any advantage arising from the removal of the tax would be confined long to only a small portion of our cultivators. The old adage, Sir, down corn, down horn, and vice versa, never fails to be verified, temporary derangements in the relative value of different kinds of agricultural produce frequently takes place from increased demand, or deficient crops of some grain, or severe losses of stock, but in a few years prices are again adjusted—witness the present reaction in the value of sheep. Shortly before the beer duties were removed, barley did not realise half the price of wheat, and an increased growth of the latter ensued. The practical experience of thirty years as an agriculturist, convinces me that within two years hence, unless the malt tax is repealed, barley would be reduced to its proper proportion to wheat, for I already observe numerous instances of land sown with barley instead of spring wheat. These proportions are, that the latter should be double the price of the former, barley would consequently be only 2s. 6d. a bushel at present. The removal of the beer duties has therefore advanced the price 1s. a bushel. The removal of this tax would also tend more than any other measure to bring back the farm servant under the roof of his master; and as to the supposed difficulty of labourers brewing at home, a daily allowance might easily be obtained from the employer according to the existing practice in cyder counties. Let the candid reader examine these facts, and I imagine he will acknowledge that it does not require the spirit of prophecy to foretell, that the agriculturist, and the working classes, would derive immediate and substantial benefits from the removal of the malt tax. I do not mean to contend, that it is the *only* cause of our distress, nor that the removal of it would be the *panacea* for all our difficulties. A great portion of the mischief, may, I believe, be traced to our monetary system; but this grievance is not confined exclusively to the agriculturist. Another cause is the facilities now afforded to Ireland to inundate us with her untaxed produce, and her starving population. But a revision of both these measures, although as absolutely necessary, would be slow in their operation for relieving the acknowledged distress, and the pressing demands of the poor occupiers for immediate relief.

With respect to the reduced quantity of malt made in 1816 and 1817, it may I believe be satisfactorily accounted for; in the first place, by the extreme misery experienced by the lower orders in those years for want of employment, but more especially by the wet harvest of 1816, which rendered at least one-half the barley crop totally unfit for malting, one of the worst harvests known in England during the last century, good malting barley advancing in value 100 per cent., increasing the price of malt considerably more than the reduction in duty. Again, in 1819, and 1820, the crops were above an average, excellent in quality, and low in price; and, as a natural consequence, an increased quantity of malt was made.

The total burden of this tax upon the community is next adverted to, which he makes out in the same plausible manner to be only a trifle beyond the duty paid. Now, instead of going to Mark-lane to find out the price of a choice sample of Chevalier barley, probably for seed, I will appeal to the experience of every grower of corn, and every maltster in this part of the kingdom, whe-



ther they have averaged more than 3s 8d for barley in the last two years, and if malt has not averaged in the same period 7s 8d to 8s? The real state of this account would consequently stand as follows:—

|                                                                                                             |             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 5,000,000 qrs of malt, at 64s . . .                                                                         | 16,000,000  |
| Increased price of beer at the ale and beer-shops, from 1½d to 5d a pot, the effect of the malt tax . . . } | 1,500,000   |
|                                                                                                             | £17,500,000 |
| 5,000,000 qrs of malt free of duty, at 30s . . . . . }                                                      | 7,500,000   |
| Total impost upon the community . .                                                                         | £10,000,000 |

—which is chiefly paid by the labouring classes for what I contend to be an article of necessity. Who that is possessed of the common feelings of nature, will deny the necessity of some nourishing beverage, to allay the thirst of those whose hard lot it is to toil from morn to night, or from sun-set to sun-rise in the mines and iron-works in this county, generally in a temperature of 120° or upwards? Or show me the man who has no pity for the poor peasant, exposed to the scorching rays of a summer's sun, while exerting his whole strength for 14 or 15 hours a day in cutting down the produce of our fields, and is compelled by this cruel tax to quench his thirst in the adjoining ditch, which it is my lot continually to witness. Even in the absence of any other motive, let the odium be what it may, I shall on these grounds alone continue to advocate the repeal of the Malt Tax.

The ingenuity of the honourable baronet is next displayed in attempting to make it appear that this Malt Tax with all its bonds, duties, penalties, restrictions, &c., is the most salutary and efficacious method that can possibly be devised for keeping the trade free. That the removal of these restrictions, and the reduction in the value of malt, from 64s to 30s, would afford such positive advantages to the great capitalist that we should see no more of small maltsters with limited means, but that the growers of barley would then be entirely at the mercy of the former, for he states that at present “there is 3,000,000l. of the public money applied as so much additional capital in the purchase of barley.” Who ever heard of a maltster getting money from the treasury to buy barley? It is true that the payment of the duty is not required at the time of making the malt, provided ample security by bonds is given, and a few weeks credit is thus obtained, but nothing else. As the right honourable baronet claims so much credit to the Government for their liberality to the maltster on this head, let us compare it with that shown to the importer of any foreign commodity. In the latter case the article is allowed to remain in warehouse for any length of time, and is regularly bought and sold in the market before the duty is demanded, which is not done until the article is taken out for consumption. The maltster, on the contrary, when the sitting day arrives, has no mercy shown him, and whether he has been able to dispose of a single bushel of his malt or not, the duty *must* be paid.

I must now come to the general summing up of the honourable gentleman, which he does in the most pathetic strain, and in the language of the most serious alarmist, such as—“Shall we maintain the public honour,—the disgraceful course of

a deficient revenue,—the suspension of payments,—breach of the national engagements,” and that “those who reject his advice must be responsible for all the consequences of so rash and unwise a decision, &c.” and that great *bug-bear*, the bare mention of which, even to a *Reformed Parliament*, produces such gloomy reflections and such consternation even amongst the most refractory members, that in the hands of a skilful minister it is found to be a dreadful weapon, and on several former discussions on the impolicy of the Malt Tax, when the measure had been carried by sound reasoning, no sooner were the words “*Property Tax*” mentioned, than the hustings-repealers of this Tax immediately viewed the matter in a different light. In his ironical manner, he “congratulates you gentlemen of the landed interest on finding yourselves relieved from the pressure of the Malt Tax, and falling upon a good comfortable *Property Tax*.” As one of that body, Sir, who would be affected in some little degree should that prospect be realized, I would cheerfully accept his congratulations, being fully persuaded that a *Property Tax* would be a far more just tax towards the landed interest than this Malt Tax, for the injurious effects of the latter are almost exclusively felt by them; and its removal would, according to the foregoing calculations, release the land from a heavy and most unfair pressure, to the amount of 8 or 10s an acre on all farms of the description before mentioned, which would be an immediate benefit to the tenants, and on general principles must be a deduction from rent. Whereas a *Property Tax* of, say 5 per cent., which would yield a much larger revenue than is now derived from malt, would not affect the land 1s an acre; and would fall equally on all property;—on houses, public buildings, manufactories, mines, collieries, tithes, funded property, canals, railroads, docks, tolls, shipping, &c., &c., which are affected only in a very slight degree by the duty on malt. If “the gentlemen of the landed interest” could be brought to view this subject in its proper light, they would not hesitate one moment in deciding in favour of a *Property Tax*.

The pressure of direct and indirect taxation on the industrious classes, though nominally to an infinitely greater amount, was comparatively unknown during the operation of the Bank Restriction Act. But now, with a metallic currency, and the low prices which necessarily accompany it, it is become intolerable. Our present system of indirect taxation enters so largely into the cost of production as to be highly prejudicial to the British manufacturer for the foreign market. It is generally admitted, that at least one-fourth part of the wages of labour is absorbed by taxation, every article the produce of labour must therefore be enhanced in value in that proportion; thus every manufacturer or farmer paying 1,000l. a-year to his workmen, pays 750l. for labour, and 250l. for his mens' taxes. Indirect taxation pauperizes a large portion of the community by enhancing the value of those articles they are most in need of, and again by fettering their employers deprives them of employment. Parochial burdens and the charges of tradesmen and mechanics are all enhanced a third or fourth by the same means. Out of the eight millions Poor-rates, at least two millions of it goes to Government. From the effects of this system of taxation we find a large portion of our aristocracy escape altogether by residing in foreign countries. Two-thirds of our present taxes are required to discharge the interest of the debt, which was chiefly contracted

during the war to protect the *property* not the industry of the country, certainly not the industry of the present day, which then had no existence. It is therefore only just that a portion of this burden should be directly levied on the former. Let skill, industry, and labour, be released from the trammels of taxation, and they would soon enhance the value of property beyond the amount of a moderate tax on it. The raw produce of the earth, whether the soil on the surface, or the mineral beneath, is of little worth to the owner without the application of the skill, capital, and labour of the productive classes, and the imposition of taxes on the latter in an undue proportion, while at the same time a collateral measure is secretly but steadily reducing the market price of their produce, will in the first place effect their destruction, and in the next reduce the property of the former to a very low value.—I am, Sir, yours, &c., CYMRO.

### ZEKIEL HOMESPUN'S SONG.

AT THE PLOUGHING MATCH, WHICH TOOK PLACE AT NEWTON, MARCH 12, 1835; WRITTEN AND SUNG BY THEIR POET LAUREATE, IN THE CHARACTER OF A PLOUGHMAN.

Feather Adam, when turned off his land,  
To earn bread by the sweat of his brow,  
It is thought there were put in his hand  
Some materials to mack him a plough.  
From that time to this its been used,  
Or the world had been thistles, folk say;  
But no labour sure ever amused  
Like the ploughs we have witness'd this day.  
Tol de rol, &c.

All mankind have a plough of their own,  
Tho' strictly not class'd as *ploughmen*;  
The sculptor's sharp plough moulds the stone,  
While the lawyer ploughs deep with his pen;  
The ploughman's a state plough in motion,  
Which turns up fresh thoughts to convince;  
And Lord Nelson so well plough'd the ocean,  
It's ne'er bourn a haughty foe since.  
Tol de rol.

Great Napoleon ploughed hard with his sword,  
And ne'er let the poor Continent thrive,  
Not a king durst oppose his proud word,  
Till we sent him some lads that could drive;  
In their match they found plenty to do,  
For three days they tried all their skill;  
It wor work'd on the plains—Waterloo,  
And Lord Wellington tought 'em to drill.  
Tol de rol.

Our king tried of late through each borough,  
With prerogative's plough in his hand,  
To turn up a political furrow,  
And see what lay dormant i' the land;  
But if all the world tells us not stories,  
The wind scatter'd seed fro' his fist,  
For in soaring up Whigs with the Tories,  
Its thought that some Tories have mist.  
Tol de rol.

Chandos has a plough rather shallow,  
And he's plough'd up St. Stephen's with care,  
For he ne'er let those Manners be fallow,  
While his feather still sack'd the best share;  
But his conscience—I'd not wish to shock it,  
For surely he's choking with sense,  
To wedge all the rents fast in his pocket,  
And relieve us at the nation's expense.  
Tol de rol.

He has said "He'll ne'er rest in his place,  
Till they've ta'en all the duty off malt."\*  
If fresh water should fill ocean's space  
Would it change with a handful of salt?  
If he said "He'd ne'er sleep in his bed  
Till he'd made the landowners consent  
To mack tenants rejoice in cheap bread,  
By reducing one-half of their rent."  
Tol de rol.

But if landlords are deaf to our trouble,  
And for sufferings like our's cease to think,  
Let's abjure both Chandos and his bubble,  
Nor besot our ideas with cheap drink.  
In the Indies their work they disown,  
So when the worst comes, to the worst we'll go  
snacks,  
We mun learn how the shugar cane' grown,  
And exchange our condition with the blacks.  
Tol de rol.

But let's banish all thoughts of our sorrow,  
And rejoice with those lads—won the purse,—  
Mayhap things may change by to-morrow,  
And we all know they ne'er can get worse.  
Let's drink to our friends and each neighbour,  
In friendship and love pledge the vow,—  
May crops cheer the poor farmer's labour,  
And God speed the husbandman's plough.  
Tol de rol.

HITCH'S PATENT BRICKS.—We have lately had an opportunity of examining with some attention these most ingenious and admirable bricks, invented by Mr. Hitch, of Ware, and feel surprised that they should be so little known in the metropolis, or, if known, so little used. These bricks, which are of large size, are so formed that each dovetails into the other, offering a bold and uniform face, but presenting in the interior a system of cavities, which are made to communicate throughout the whole extent of the wall by means of dowel holes through the bricks; into these cavities, as the work proceeds, a concrete of lime and clean gravel is introduced, which renders the whole, when set, a complete rock, immovable unless broken piece by piece, and this, in consequence of less labour being required on account of their size, and the difference in price between concrete and brickwork, is done astonishingly cheaper than by the common method. These bricks, it appears to us, might be used with the greatest advantage for docks and embankments where great strength is required, and in these, from the thickness of the walls, the saving would, of course be still greater. In the walls of green-houses, we think the interstices might be left open for the circulation of hot air, and in the thicker walls of dwelling-houses, the flues might be constructed with some advantage. The only difficulty in the way of their general introduction appears to be that which would result from the ignorance of the workmen, the bricks being of many shapes; this, however, a little practice would of course obviate.

In the flock of Mrs. Millward, at the "Fish pond farm," near Hastings, the following extraordinary number of lambs have been produced this season, five ewes yielded one each; 290 had twins; while the remaining five produced each three at a birth; making in all 600 lambs from 300 ewes: an instance of fecundity unparalleled.

\* Vide—His Lordship's speech to the Buck's electors.



## PENSIONS GRANTED BY BRITISH MINISTERS.

The following document was laid on the table of the House of Commons in the early part of 1832:—

| Premiers.   | No. of years in office. | No of Pensions granted. | Amount per annum. |
|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Lord North  | in 11 ..                | 16 ..                   | £ 1,932 18 2      |
| Pitt.....   | — 17 ..                 | 164 ..                  | 21,816 15 11      |
| Addington.. | — 3 ..                  | 37 ..                   | 3,349 12 0        |
| Grenville.. | — 1 ..                  | 32 ..                   | 4,912 12 8        |
| Perceval .. | — 2 ..                  | 28 ..                   | 3,357 14 6        |
| Liverpool.. | — 15 ..                 | 376 ..                  | 40,869 11 6       |
| Canning ..  | — ..                    | 3 ..                    | 298 6 10          |
| Goderich..  | — 3 ..                  | 14 ..                   | 2,979 7 10        |
| Wellington  | — 2 ..                  | 50 ..                   | 10,717 13 9       |

It appears that the Duke of Wellington, in two years found thrice as many objects deserving Royal bounty and public reward as Lord North found in eleven years; being in the ratio of about sixteen to one!

## THE PRESENT STATE OF AGRICULTURE, AND OF THE INTERESTS DEPENDING UPON IT.

(From the Metropolitan.)

In our former number we endeavoured to point out, that as the price of labour would always depend upon the price of bread, the lower classes would not be benefited by low prices; that, on the contrary, they would suffer, as low prices were invariably attended with distress and want of employment. We followed up our argument, by pointing out that, in sacrificing the agricultural to the manufacturing interest, we were destroying the property, the competence, and the happiness of the many, to the supposed advantages of the few;—a system of misrule which must prove fatal, as the great duty of a government is to provide employment for labour, which is the real wealth of the country. We shall now continue our arguments, and our first object shall be to prove that low prices have always produced misery, not only to the agricultural labourers, but also to the manufacturing population.

In so doing, we shall avail ourselves of the remarks of Messrs. Milne and Bain. From the first, who was opposed to the agricultural interests, we have nevertheless this calculation in his Treatise on Annuities, in which the average rate of mortality of each year is ascertained, with the price of wheat. It is only by these means that we can obtain any estimate upon this point. It is evident, that as people are in full employment, and consequently not suffering from distress, so will the mortality be less; whereas if, on the contrary, they are out of employment, and subject to privation and misery, the mortality among them will be greater.

| Price of Wheat per Quarter. | Average rate of Mortality |    |         |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----|---------|
| Under 40s.                  | ..                        | .. | 1 in 37 |
| 40 to 50                    | ..                        | .. | 1 .. 39 |
| 50 .. 60                    | ..                        | .. | 1 .. 41 |
| 60 .. 70                    | ..                        | .. | 1 .. 46 |
| 70 .. 80                    | ..                        | .. | 1 .. 43 |
| 80 .. 90                    | ..                        | .. | 1 .. 50 |
| 90 .. 100                   | ..                        | .. | 1 .. 50 |
| Above .. 100                | ..                        | .. | 1 .. 43 |

This statement, from an opponent, affords pretty fair evidence of the unfavourable effect of low prices. The mortality decreases until corn rises above one hundred shillings per quarter, when scarcity has the same effect as want of employment.

But Mr. Bain has taken much more pains in his calculations, and commences them with this most judicious observation:—

“Believing the prosperity of the landed proprietor, the merchant, the manufacturer, and the labourer, to be intimately connected, a system of policy, which seeks to enrich any one of these classes at the expense of the rest, is likely to terminate in the impoverishment of them all.”

First, let us lay before the reader the result of his first enquiry.

*Burials of each Million of Population, on an Average of the Forty-one Years, 1780 to 1820.*

| Bullion Price of Wheat per Quarter. | Burials in seven Manufacturing Counties. | Burials in ten Agricultural Counties. | Difference in favour of Manufacturing Counties. | Difference in favour of Agricultural Counties. |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Under 40s.                          | 21,430                                   | 25,165                                | 3,735                                           |                                                |
| 40 to 50                            | 22,364                                   | 23,112                                | 740                                             |                                                |
| 50 .. 60                            | 21,030                                   | 21,181                                | ....                                            | 177                                            |
| 60 .. 70                            | 20,358                                   | 19,700                                | ....                                            | 330                                            |
| 70 .. 80                            | 19,502                                   | 18,925                                | ....                                            | 577                                            |
| 80 .. 90                            | 19,873                                   | 17,550                                | ....                                            | 2,323                                          |
| 90 .. 100                           | 19,206                                   | 17,417                                | ....                                            | 1,789                                          |
| Above 100                           | 23,780                                   | 20,480                                | ....                                            | 3,300                                          |

It is evident, by this table, that low prices affect both the agricultural and manufacturing poor, but the agricultural by far the most; until the prices advance, when the agricultural labourers suffer the least. Still the suffering of the manufacturing classes is considerable, as will be seen by the second column in the table, in which the loss of population, when the wheat was at ninety to one hundred shillings, is only 19,206 in the million; when, with the wheat as low as forty to fifty shillings, the loss amounted to 22,364. That low prices are not so injurious to the manufacturing as to the agricultural classes, is certain; but it is no less certain that they are injurious, as we shall show by the following table, in which the average mortality of seven manufacturing counties is calculated.

| Bullion Price of Wheat per Quarter. | Burials in each Million of Manufacturing Population. |    |        |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|----|--------|
| 1793 to 1820.                       | 1793 to 1820.                                        |    |        |
| Under 50s.                          | ..                                                   | .. | 21,860 |
| 50 to 60                            | ..                                                   | .. | 20,618 |
| 60 .. 70                            | ..                                                   | .. | 20,030 |
| 70 .. 80                            | ..                                                   | .. | 19,502 |
| 80 .. 90                            | ..                                                   | .. | 19,873 |
| 90 .. 100                           | ..                                                   | .. | 19,206 |
| Above .. 100                        | ..                                                   | .. | 23,780 |

It will be observed, in each of the three tables we have given, that immediately the price of wheat rises to a height to prevent the poor from obtaining the needful supply, the mortality again increases. The medium appears to be the most salutary—very low prices necessarily being attended with want of employment, which occasions the same distress and subsequent mortality as the scarcity arising from the prices becoming so high, that bread is not attainable by the poorer classes.

We will now give one more table from a work of great research, (Pebrer on the Capital and Resources of the British Empire,) as it will more fully prove the truth of our observations as to the immense importance of agriculture to this country, and the capital which is staked on it, compared with that employed in the manufactures, consumed at home as well as exported.

**ESTIMATE of the Value of PRODUCE and PROPERTY annually raised and created in GREAT BRITAIN and IRELAND, by the Combination of Capital with all animate and inanimate Power.**

| <i>Agriculture.</i>                                                                               |             | £         | £           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| Grain of all sorts - - -                                                                          | 86,700,000  |           |             |
| Hay, Grass, Field Turnips, Vetches, &c. - - -                                                     | 113,000,000 |           |             |
| Potatoes - - - - -                                                                                | 19,000,000  |           |             |
| Gardens, Orchards, and Nurseries - - - - -                                                        | 3,800,000   |           |             |
| Timber cut down, Hops, Seeds, &c. - - - - -                                                       | 2,600,000   |           |             |
| Cheese, Butter, Eggs, &c. -                                                                       | 6,000,000   |           |             |
| Manure, and labour in rearing Cattle - - - - -                                                    | 3,500,000   |           |             |
| Hemp and Wood, labour included - - - - -                                                          | 12,000,000  |           |             |
|                                                                                                   |             |           | 246,600,000 |
| <i>Mines and Minerals.</i>                                                                        |             |           |             |
| Slate, Chalk, Stone, Gravel, &c., labour included - -                                             | 1,900,000   |           |             |
| Salt, Alum, &c., ditto - -                                                                        | 600,000     |           |             |
| Tin, Lead, and Copper - -                                                                         | 3,800,000   |           |             |
| Iron - - - - -                                                                                    | 4,100,000   |           |             |
| Coal - - - - -                                                                                    | 11,000,000  |           |             |
|                                                                                                   |             |           | 21,400,000  |
| <i>Inland Trade.</i>                                                                              |             |           |             |
| Profits of Shopkeepers, Warehousemen, Vendors, Factors, &c. - - - - -                             | 23,625,000  |           |             |
| Do. Millers, Butchers, and Bakers - - - - -                                                       | 16,200,000  |           |             |
| Do. Coach, Cart, and Barge Proprietors, and all persons engaged in the transport of Goods - - - - | 8,600,000   |           |             |
|                                                                                                   |             |           | 48,425,000  |
| <i>Coasting Trade.</i>                                                                            |             |           |             |
| Profits of all Capital and Labour engaged - - - - -                                               | 3,550,000   | 3,550,000 |             |
| <i>Fisheries.</i>                                                                                 |             |           |             |
| Round the Coast - - - -                                                                           | 1,900,000   |           |             |
| River Fisheries - - - - -                                                                         | 900,000     |           |             |
| Foreign ditto - - - - -                                                                           | 600,000     |           |             |
|                                                                                                   |             |           | 3,400,000   |
| <i>Shipping and Foreign Commerce.</i>                                                             |             |           |             |
| Profits and Commissions of Merchants - - - - -                                                    | 10,177,704  |           |             |
| Do. of Underwriters, &c. -                                                                        | 2,120,355   |           |             |
| Do. of Ship and Colonial Brokers and Agents - -                                                   | 1,600,000   |           |             |
| Shipowners' Freights - -                                                                          | 3,800,000   |           |             |
| Wages of Clerks and Labourers - - - - -                                                           | 7,200,000   |           |             |
| Do. of Seamen - - - - -                                                                           | 6,300,000   |           |             |
| Profits of Ship Chandlers, Sail and Rope Makers, &c. -                                            | 2,200,000   |           |             |
| Miscellaneous, Dock Charges, Collectors of Port Dues, &c. - - - - -                               | 1,000,000   |           |             |
|                                                                                                   |             |           | 34,398,059  |
| <i>Bankers.</i>                                                                                   |             |           |             |
| Profits of this class - - -                                                                       |             | 4,500,000 |             |
| <i>Foreign Income.</i>                                                                            |             |           |             |
| Income from Property invested in Foreign Securities, &c. - - - - -                                |             | 4,500,000 |             |

*Manufactures.*

|                                                                         |              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Cotton - - - - -                                                        | 31,000,000   |
| Silk - - - - -                                                          | 8,000,000    |
| Woollen - - - - -                                                       | 16,250,000   |
| Linen - - - - -                                                         | 11,000,000   |
| Leather - - - - -                                                       | 15,000,000   |
| Hardware - - - - -                                                      | 17,300,000   |
| China, Glass, Pottery, &c. -                                            | 5,900,000    |
| Jewellery, Plate, &c. - -                                               | 3,400,000    |
| Paper, Furniture, Colours, Printing and Book Apparatus, &c. &c. - - - - | 9,000,000    |
| Miscellaneous - - - - -                                                 | 31,200,000   |
|                                                                         | 148,050,000  |
|                                                                         | £514,823,059 |

Now the first argument we shall attempt to prove is—That the price of corn in this country is not raised by the landlords or farmers, but by the government, who have laid such onerous taxes upon this necessary of life.

The second is—That in destroying the agriculturist, we are destroying the consumer, and injuring the manufacturer as well as the agriculturist.

The third—That the state of the agriculturist is at present as bad as it can be, and that the corn laws are already virtually repealed.

1st. That it is the onerous taxation which has raised the price of corn.

Let it be remembered, that of *all* other taxes the agriculturists pay their equal share with the rest of the community, and taking them in their ratio to the rest of the population, of about sixty-three to one hundred and sixty-five,

|                                                                              | £           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Their proportion of the sum annually raised of fifty-four millions will be.. | 20,600,000  |
| To which we have to add the Land Tax not yet redeemed .. .. .                | 1,160,000   |
| The Malt Tax .. .. .                                                         | 4,359,333   |
| Hops .. .. .                                                                 | 150,000     |
|                                                                              | £26,269,333 |

Such are the taxes which press upon the agricultural interest; but if these were all, they might be borne, although they amount to one-half the taxation of the British empire; but these are not all, we have some enormous items still to add. In the first place, we have the poor-rates, the proportion of which paid by the agriculturists cannot, at the lowest, be estimated at less than six million pounds; and then we have other charges equally onerous and oppressive, which are, generally speaking, lost sight of by those who are not landholders. We refer to the county and highway rates. Every one knows the expense of law and justice, and of road-making in or near a metropolis. Let them then reflect what it must be to pay all the expenses of these important objects throughout the whole empire.

What is it then that has raised the price of bread in this country above that of others? In every other article of manufacture we can beat down all competition, and so we could in bread, if we were allowed to compete fairly; but all this taxation, excellent and superior as our farming is, renders it impossible. It is taxation, unjust and unequal taxation, which has raised the price of agricultural produce in this country, and has so paralyzed its energies.

Our second argument is, that in destroying the agriculturist, we are destroying the consumer, and



injuring the manufacturer, as well as the agriculturist; or in fewer words, we are ruining the nation.

The great error of the political economists and advocates for free trade is, that they consider the prosperity of a nation to depend upon its exports and imports alone; or if not wholly depending upon them, that they are paramount to all other considerations. Hear their arguments—

“It costs a year's labour of three men to raise a given quantity of corn, on our inferior soils, whereas we might purchase an equal quantity of foreign corn for manufactured goods, with the labour of two men: thus one-third of the cost might be saved.”

Now if we had to procure the three men from another country to till this inferior land, it would perhaps be preferable to hire two manufacturers instead, but such is not the case. We have the men, and if we do not find employment for them, they must be supported without labour. Moreover, in the case of manufacturers, we purchase the raw material; in the case of agriculture, we produce it. Yet this is called argument!!!

Agriculture is a manufacture, and the most profitable of all manufactures to the state. Every grain raised beyond the seed sown adds the whole extent of its produce to the wealth, and the whole of the people employed in the production of it, to the strength, of the state. Its profits are certain, its employment is healthy, and it is almost independent of machinery.

The great object of every state, the *ne plus ultra* of good government, is to afford employment for the industry of the inhabitants; and the first point to be attended to in finding that employment, is in manufacturing the raw material produced by the country, for this is real wealth. Agriculture, therefore, must always prove the most beneficial manufacture (for a manufacture it is) to every state. The fruits and productions of the country are raised by labour and capital, are disseminated and divided among every class and condition, who in return exchange their labour for the labour of the agriculturist, until sustenance is obtained by all. It is this internal commerce which is so beneficial, and so important from the rapidity of the exchange, and the stability of it, as far as the produce of every description is consumed by those who inhabit the country.

We have already observed that the rents formerly expended in the country have decreased about seventeen millions; but we have, in this instance, only referred to the landlords, not the majority of those employed in agriculture, amounting to eight hundred thousand families in Great Britain alone, whose wages, in good times, amounted to twenty-five millions annually, and which are now reduced to one-half. Do the manufacturers, the shopkeepers, and every other branch of the community, lose nothing by the twelve millions less expended in the productions and manufactures of the country? This is a rough calculation we grant, but still it cannot be far wrong; and when we add this to the other seventeen millions before-mentioned, it will make an aggregate of nearly thirty millions less expended in the home consumption of the country, which deficiency, we conceive, it will be difficult to make up by any return arising from our foreign trade.

It is not true then, that, by oppressing the agricultural interest, we are injuring the manufac-

turer and the state at large. To strengthen our arguments, let us lay before the reader the amount of capital employed in agriculture. Pebrer states—

“That £1,901,900,000, or more than one half of the whole British capital in the United Kingdom, is employed or vested in agriculture.”

The last argument we have to prove is, that the state of our agriculturists is as bad as it can be, and that the corn laws have virtually been repealed. What do the advocates for free trade assert?

“We might purchase a regular supply of corn from abroad, at about forty shillings per quarter, whereas, our present system of corn laws compel us to raise the same supply from our inferior soils at the expense of sixty shillings per quarter, or more; thus are we losers of twenty shillings per quarter on our whole annual consumption.”

First, let us observe how carefully these gentlemen talk of inferior soils as being the cause of the high price of corn. Our soil is not inferior, and our skill in husbandry is superior to every other nation; but it is taxes and rates upon the price of bread which obliges the farmer to ask a remunerating price. They know all this, but they also know how very popular the outcry is against the landowners. They would ruin them to serve their own purposes. Unfortunately, as we stated before, they would, in their short-sightedness, destroy the goose which lays the golden egg; and in that attempt would they involve all in one general destruction.

But what is the real fact at this present moment? These political economists tell us that they might import corn at forty shillings per quarter. Why, they have the desideratum; for corn now in England has been at forty shillings per quarter, or little more, during this winter, and that without the repeal of the corn laws.

How is it then that their wishes have been fulfilled? If it were not for the corn laws, such would be the case they have asserted in their radical spoutings. But it is now the case, and the corn laws still remain in full force. The causes are these:—First, from a very good harvest in England and Scotland;—second, from a very large importation from Ireland, which increases every year, and will very soon do away with the necessity of abrogating the corn laws;—and, thirdly, by a side-wind manœuvre of Mr. P. Thompson's, which virtually repealed the corn laws. He decreed that all corn coming from the Canadas, Ireland, Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, and the Isle of Man, should come in upon simple declaration. Now any one who knows how little oaths are regarded at the custom-house, may imagine how very little effect a declaration must have. The consequence has been, that Russian and Prussian wheat have been admitted, *ad libitum*, upon a simple declaration that it was of colonial growth. Thus have the corn laws been evaded, and Mr. Thompson has proved, not only in encouraging drunkenness, but also in encouraging falsehood, that morality is no part or parcel of the new light in political economy.

One more remark here. It appears that the price of corn in England is now as low as it can be if imported from the continent. We have already shown what a load of taxation there is upon this

necessary of life grown in England. Can there then be any longer any doubt of the injustice shown to the English agriculturist, or the extreme state of distress to which he is now reduced?

Now although, for a short time, a supply of corn may be received from the continent, either surreptitiously as at present, or allowing the corn laws to be repealed, the question is, would that supply continue at the same price? We reply, most certainly not. The very moment that the supply to this country was felt by the country supplying, the price would be raised. At present, each country raises the corn for which she can procure a market, and no more. It is true, that if the ports were open, that they would raise more; but that requires some little time, and after all, would be to them an uncertain speculation, as it would be a *manufacture* depending upon a foreign market, which might be closed to them. A small supply might be sent in at forty shillings, but any considerable demand would immediately raise the price.

We will now proceed to examine what consequences may be expected, if the corn laws are repealed; or, what is the same thing, if the agricultural interest is to remain in its present depressed state.

To answer this in a few words, we should say, it must end in *national bankruptcy*, even if every other vital interest of the nation were regarded; but when we consider how these political madmen have struck the same blow on our shipping interests—how our West India colonies have been sacrificed—how indeed, we may say, every rampart of national prosperity, so carefully guarded by our fore-fathers, has been thrown down by these enemies to their country—we can only hold up our hands in amazement at finding “such things are,” and bitterly curse the folly and vanity which would, before this, have annihilated any country not possessing the enormous resources and capital of Great Britain. But to proceed.

At present, the price of corn is but sufficient to pay the bare expenses of agriculture; for this last year rents have either not been paid at all, or have been paid out of the savings of former years. Oppressed as the land is by the imposts of government, it can no longer be tilled, and can no longer afford that employment for the industry of the country, which is so beneficial to the state. The consequence has been, that thousands of acres have every year, for some time past, been laid down as pasture; and the consequence will be, that thousands and tens of thousands more will, to avoid the expense of tillage, be laid down as fast as possible.

Pasture indicates a country in a poor and primitive state; the capital and the labour required for pasture land is little or nothing compared to that in tillage. Every acre, therefore, thrown down into pasture, takes away from the wealth of the state and the employment of the poor. A clever writer has lately observed, that “every million of acres thrown out of cultivation *foregoes* a sure and direct profit to the state of five to eight millions annually. Now we will take the lowest calculation of five millions, and allow that land in pasture is equal to half the value of land in tillage, which it is not. If then ten millions of acres are laid down in pasture out of the forty-seven millions of acres cultivated in this country, there will be a positive loss to the state of twenty-five millions annually, a sum which it will require the export of many manufactures to reproduce.

|                                                                                                                           |             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| The total value of woollen goods exported, of which manufacture many of the dye-stuffs are foreign, does not exceed ..... | £ 5,000,000 |
| Silk goods, of which the staple and many of the dyes are foreign, are not valued at .....                                 | 300,000     |
| Linen, of which the flax is foreign, about.....                                                                           | 2,000,000   |
| Cotton goods and yarns, from which we must deduct seven millions at least for cotton, dye-stuffs, &c. ....                | 17,000,000  |

Let these facts be carefully weighed, and then the true value of agriculture, employment, and home consumption, will be seen by every unprejudiced person.

We must never forget that the industry of a country is its wealth, and that in proportion as that industry is unemployed, so will the country become impoverished. Commerce adds to the wealth of a country by affording a profitable exchange of the fruits of industry, and in the same way the manufactories are important even when we work the raw material of another country, as it affords employment and subsistence, as well as returns wealth or profitable exchange; but of all commerce, that raising from home produce, exchanged for home manufacture, is the most valuable, as a country can exist by the latter, which is stable and certain, but cannot depend upon the uncertainty of the former. Internal commerce, or home consumption, is also the most valuable of all commerce, from the rapidity of the exchange. The great axiom of political economy is to legislate equally for the industry of all classes, to provide ample employment for that industry, the overflows of which will, by foreign exchange, add to her riches after that the cup, filled to the brim at home, has secured competence and content.

Every fraction of labour we part with, is parting with so much wealth, for it throws so much capital out of employment, and in proportion must all classes suffer. In farming there is a constant demand for wood, for iron; assistance is required of the rope-maker, of his hemp, of the saddler, the mason, the plaisterer, the brick and tile-maker, the brewer, the baker, miller, flax-dresser, soap and candle maker, woolcomber, weaver, clothier, hatter, and hosier; the money raised by produce is circulated in the purchase of manufactures to an enormous extent, the shopkeeper thrives, or is bankrupt, as the farmer thrives, or is ruined. There is not one class of people who are not directly or indirectly interested in the well-doing of the agriculturists; in fact, wealth and strength, the existence and happiness of the state, depend upon its agricultural prosperity. We trust, that in the many pages which we have written, that we have succeeded in proving that the agricultural interest has had but foul pay—that it has been oppressed and unfairly burdened—that every tax laid upon the agriculturist, is, in fact, a tax laid upon the price of bread. We have repeated again and again, that the price of labour will depend upon the price of bread. and that the only boon which can be given to the artisan or agricultural labourer, is full employment for his industry. We have also argued, and we trust proved, that home agriculture and home consumption are of more importance to every state, than foreign trade, and that the health and strength of the state depend upon it. We have now to inquire what measures should be taken to relieve the agricultural inter-



rest, which has not only been neglected, but cruelly oppressed, by an interested and miscalculating theoretical government.

We have shown that one great cause of agricultural distress was the alteration in the currency, created by Mr. Peel's bill, and it may be inquired whether we think it advisable to return again to an artificial state. In reply, we say we do not wish that money should return to the same depreciation as it was before that bill was passed; yet, at the same time, we think that a more unlimited currency would go far to relieve the nation, now that it has to provide fifty-six millions per annum for the annual expences. It is in the point of taxation that an artificial currency so much assists every portion of the community; and to prove that we will assume a case. A tradesman in an artificial currency receives nominally one thousand pounds per annum in the course of business, and expends in the same proportion. In cash payment he receives five hundred pounds per annum, and expends in proportion. So far he is not affected by the return to cash payments, as selling dear, he buys dear, and selling cheap, he purchases cheap; but the government demands from each individual a certain proportion of his means for the expences of the nation. Now it is quite indifferent to government whether that demand is paid to them in artificial or real money, as they pay it away under the same circumstances. Assuming, therefore, that the government requires one hundred pounds in direct and indirect taxes from this individual, in the artificial currency he would pay one hundred pounds out of one thousand, whereas, in the real currency, he pays one hundred pounds out of five hundred: in one case paying ten per cent., in the other twenty per cent. We have here assumed numbers, merely to make the illustration clear. We have no intention of asserting that the return to cash payments made any such difference, or that the taxation is what we have brought forward. We only show that an artificial currency enables the nation to meet the burthen of taxation much more easily than when it is paid in cash.

This would certainly afford some relief, but if the agriculturists expect that they will ever be placed (unless in case of war) in the same position that they formerly were, they are mistaken. It would be injurious to the state, and ultimately prove injurious to themselves, for there can be no stable prosperity when any one interest is supported to the prejudice of the others. They require relief, and have a right to it, but that relief cannot be of the magnitude which many would anticipate, or claim as their right.

We always were of opinion that the removal of the malt tax would not afford that relief which has been anticipated; and after the admirable and argumentative speech of Sir Robert Peel on the subject, we consider that the question is for ever set at rest in the opinion of unprejudiced men. We must, therefore, offer an opinion as to what other measures may be resorted to, to relieve the agricultural interest.

In the first place, we consider that the removal of the duty on hops would be very advantageous. At present the price of hops is so enormous, that but a small portion is used in brewing—drugs of different sorts being substituted. Now this is wrong, as foreign is employed to the injury of home produce; and we really believe, that if hops were allowed to be grown in every garden, that there would be a great increase in the consumption

of beer, to say nothing of its being made a much more wholesome beverage. Here the agriculturist would be benefited and the country lose nothing, in all probability, as the increased consumption of malt would more than compensate for the present duty on hops, not amounting to more than four hundred thousand pounds.

The second remedy to which we will allude is one, perhaps, which will not be so readily acknowledged as advisable, but still it is no more than justice. The only property which can be laid hold of, is the *soil* and the *funded property*. The former, we have shown, bears more than its share of the general burden, and must be relieved; the second *pays no portion whatever*. This is unjust, and we consider that a tax on the funds (after we have paid off the three and a half per cents.) is advisable; other taxes, which bear upon the whole community, and chiefly on the agricultural interest, being remitted equal to the tax imposed.

If this were acted upon, the landowners would in another way be much relieved. Mortgages would then be obtained at a much lower rate of interest than at present, for the funded property being taxed, and the money lent on mortgage not taxed, it is clear that there would be a great premium upon the latter.

We believe that we have now mentioned all that can be done at present for the relief of the agriculturists, keeping in mind the good old maxim of carrying the dish even. Much cannot be done, but something must, and that speedily.

THE AUCTIONEER.—There is no man who spends so much breath, who talks so fast, and is so lavish of words, as the auctioneer. He repeats the same thing over and over again, and never grudges his labour. He is fond of smart sayings and sudden turns of the sense, and he is witty, at the expense of his goods or at the expense of his customers. He can talk of several different things at once and without confusion. But he sometimes very ludicrously mixes up different subjects in the same sentence. For instance, lately dropping in at a book-auction, there happened to be a man who annoyed the company and the auctioneer with a segar. The book had gone up to twenty-seven cents and a half, and the auctioneer dwelling upon it cried, "And a half, and a half,"—when smelling the annoyance, he shouted out, "Curse your segar!—and a half, and a half, twenty-seven and a half,—thirty—thirty-two and a half, and a half—kick out that man with the segar, and a half, and a half—going, going—thirty-five, thirty-five—thirty-seven a half—plague take the segar smoker!—and a half, and a half—I'd rather have the devil about me—and a half, and a half, and a half—it gives me the phthisic—and a half, and a half, and a half—going, going—forty, forty cents—forty-two and a half—who's putting the brimstone on the stove?—and a half, and a half, and a half—I wish I had hold of that boy—and a half, and a half—I'd choke the rascal—and a half, and a half, going, going—who says forty-five—not half the price of the book—and a half, and a half, and a half—forty-two and a half—forty-five—now forty-seven and a half, and a half—a Treatise on the Tooth-ache, gentlemen—who'll give fifty cents for the tooth-ache, hand a half, and a half—forty-seven and a half—look at that boy there—and a half, and a half—pocketing one of those pen-knives—and a half, and a half—I can't have my eyes every where—and a half, and a half—fifty—fifty-two and a half—kick all the boys out of the room—and a half, and a half—kick'em out I say—and a half, and a half, going, going, gone."—*New York Transcript.*

## EARLY COACHES.

We have often wondered how many months' incessant travelling in a post-chaise it would take to kill a man; and wondering by analogy, we should very much like to know how many months of constant travelling in a succession of early coaches an unfortunate mortal could endure. Breaking a man alive upon the wheel would be nothing to breaking his rest, his peace, his heart—everything but his fast—between four and five; and the punishment of Ixion (the only practical person, by the bye, who has discovered the secret of the perpetual motion) would sink into utter insignificance before the one we have suggested. If we had been a powerful churchman in those good old times when blood was shed as freely as water, and men were mowed down like grass, in the sacred cause of religion, we would have lain by very quietly till we got hold of some especially obstinate miscreant, who positively refused to be converted to our faith, and then we would have booked him for an inside place in a small coach, which travelled day and night; and securing the remainder of the places for stout men with a slight tendency to coughing and spitting, we would have started him forth on his last travels, leaving him mercilessly to all the tortures which the waiters, landlords, coachmen, guards, boots, chambermaids, and other familiars on his line of road, might think proper to inflict.

Who has not experienced the miseries inevitably consequent upon a summons to undertake a hasty journey? You receive an intimation from your place of business—wherever that may be, or whatever you may be—that it will be necessary for you to leave town without delay. You and your family are forthwith thrown into a state of tremendous excitement; an express is immediately dispatched to the washerwoman's; everybody is in a bustle; and you, yourself, with a feeling of dignity which you cannot altogether conceal, sally forth to the booking-office to secure your place. Here a painful consciousness of your own unimportance first rushes on your mind—the people are as cool and collected as if nobody were going out of town, or as if a journey of a hundred odd miles were a mere nothing. You enter a mouldy-looking room, ornamented with large posting-bills, the greater part of the place enclosed behind a huge lumbering rough counter, and fitted up with recesses that look like the dens of the smaller animals in a travelling menagerie, without the bars. Some half dozen people are "booking" brown paper parcels, which one of the clerks flings into the aforesaid recesses with an air of recklessness, which you, remembering the new carpet-bag you bought in the morning, feel considerably annoyed at; porters, looking like so many Atlas's, keep rushing in and out with large packages on their shoulders; and while you are waiting to make the necessary inquiries, you wonder what on earth the booking-office clerks can have been before they were booking-office clerks; one of them with his pen behind his ear, and his hands behind him, is standing in front of the fire, like a full-length portrait of Napoleon; the other fellow with his hat half off his head, enters the passengers' names in the books with a coolness which is inexpressibly provoking; and the villain whistles—actually whistles—while a man asks him what the fare is outside, all the way to Holyhead! in frosty weather too! They are clearly an isolated race, evidently possessing no sympathies or feelings in common with the rest of mankind.

Your turn comes at last, and having paid the fare, you tremblingly inquire—"What time will it be necessary for me to be here in the morning?" "Six o'clock," replies the whistler, carelessly pitching the sovereign you have just parted with into a wooden bowl on the desk. "Rather before than arter," adds the man with the semi-roasted unmentionables, with just as much ease and complacency as if the whole world got out of bed at five. You turn into the street, ruminating, as you bend your steps homewards, on the extent to which men become hardened in cruelty by custom.

If there be one thing in existence more miserable than another, it most unquestionably is the being compelled to rise by candle-light. If you ever doubted the fact, you are painfully convinced of your error, on the morning of your departure. You left strict orders, over night, to be called at half-past four, and you have done nothing all night but doze for five minutes at a time, and start up suddenly from a terrific dream of a large church-clock with the small-hand running round with astonishing rapidity, to every figure on the dial-plate. At last, completely exhausted, you fall gradually into a refreshing sleep—your thoughts grow confused—the stage-coaches, which have been "going off" before your eyes all night, become less and less distinct, until they go off altogether: one moment you are driving with all the skill and smartness of an experienced whip—the next you are exhibiting, *à la Ducrow*, on the off-leader: anon you are closely muffled up, inside, and have just recognized in the person of the guard, an old school-fellow, whose funeral, even in your dream, you remember to have attended eighteen years ago. At last you fall into a state of complete oblivion, from which you are aroused, as if into a new state of existence by a singular illusion. You are apprenticed to a trunk-maker; how, or why, or when, or wherefore, you don't take the trouble to inquire; but there you are, pasting the lining in the lid of a portmanteau. Confound that other apprentice in the back-shop, how he is hammering!—rap, rap, rap—what an industrious fellow he must be; you have heard him at work for half an hour past, and he has been hammering incessantly the whole time. Rap, rap, rap, again—he's talking now—what's that he said? Five o'clock! You make a violent exertion, and start up in bed as if you were rehearsing the tent scene in *Richard*. The vision is at once dispelled; the trunk-maker's shop is your own bedroom, and the other apprentice your shivering servant, who has been vainly endeavouring to wake you for the last quarter of an hour, at the imminent risk of breaking either his own knuckles or the panels of the door.

You proceed to dress yourself with all possible dispatch. The flaring flat candle with the long snuff, just gives light enough to show that the things you want are not where they ought to be, and you undergo a trifling delay in consequence of having carefully packed up one of your boots in your over anxiety of the preceding night. You soon complete your toilette, however, for you are not particular on such an occasion, and you shaved yesterday evening; so mounting your Petersham great coat and green travelling shawl, and grasping your carpet-bag in your right hand, you walk lightly down stairs lest you should awake any of the family; and after pausing in the sitting-room for one moment, just to have a cup of coffee (the said sitting-room looking remarkably



comfortable, with every thing out of its place, and strewed with the crumbs of last night's supper,) you undo the chain and bolts of the street-door, and find yourself fairly in the street.

A thaw, by all that's miserable! The frost is completely broken up. You look down the long perspective of Oxford-street, the gas-lights mournfully reflected on the wet pavement, and can discern no speck in the road to encourage the belief that there is a cab or a coach to be had—the very coachmen have gone home in despair. The cold sleet is drizzling down with that gentle regularity which betokens a duration of four-and-twenty hours at least; the damp hangs upon the house-tops, and lamp-posts, and clings to you like an invisible cloak. The water is "coming in" in every area—the pipes have burst—the water-butts are running over—the kennels seem to be doing matches against time—pump-handles descend of their own accord—horses in market-carts fall down, and there's no one to help them up again—policemen look as if they had been carefully sprinkled with powdered glass—here and there a milk-woman trudges slowly along, with a bit of list round each foot to keep her from slipping—boys who "don't sleep in the house," and an't allowed much sleep out of it, can't wake their masters by thundering at the shop-door, and cry with the cold—the compound of ice, snow, and water on the pavement is a couple of inches thick—nobody ventures to walk fast to keep himself warm, and nobody could succeed in keeping himself warm if he did.

It strikes a quarter-past five as you trudge down Waterloo-place on your way to the Golden-cross, and you discover for the first time that you were called about an hour too early. You have not time to go back; there is no place open to go into, and you have therefore no resource but to go forward, which you do, feeling remarkably satisfied with yourself, and every thing about you. You arrive at the office, and look wistfully up the yard for the Birmingham High-flyer, which, for aught you can see, may have flown away altogether; for no preparations appear to be on foot for the departure of any vehicle in the shape of a coach. You wander into the booking-office, which, with the gas-lights and blazing fire, looks quite comfortable by contrast—that is to say, if any place *can* look comfortable at half-past five on a winter's morning. There stands the identical book-keeper in the same position as if he had not moved since you saw him yesterday. As he informs you that the coach is up the yard, and will be brought round in about a quarter of an hour, you leave your bag and repair to "The Tap"—not with any absurd idea of warming yourself, because you feel such a result to be utterly hopeless, but for the purpose of procuring some hot brandy and water, which you do—when the kettle boils; an event which occurs exactly two minutes and a half before the time fixed for the starting of the coach.

The first stroke of six peals from St. Martin's church steeple just as you take the first sip of the boiling liquid. You find yourself at the booking-office in two seconds, and the tap-waiter finds himself much comforted by your brandy and water in about the same period. The coach is out; the horses are in, and the guard and two or three porters are stowing the luggage away, and running up the steps of the booking-office, and down the steps of the booking-office with breathless rapidity. The place which a few minutes ago was so still and quiet, is now all bustle; the early vendors of the morning papers have arrived, and

and you are assailed on all sides with shouts of "*Times*, genlm'n, *Times*," "*Here's Chron—Chron—Chron*," "*Herald*, ma'am," "*Highly interesting murder, genlm'n*," "*Curious case o' breach o' promise, ladies*," &c., &c. The inside passengers are already in their dens, and the outsides, with the exception of yourself, are pacing up and down the pavement to keep themselves warm; they consist of two young men with very long hair, to which the sleet has communicated the appearance of chrystallized rat's tails, one thin young woman, cold and peevish, one old gentleman, ditto ditto, and something in a cloak and cap, intended to represent a military officer; every member of the party with a large stiff shawl over his chin, looking exactly as if he were playing a set of Pan's pipes.

"Take off the cloths, Bob," says the coachman, who now appears for the first time, in a rough blue great coat, of which the buttons behind are so far apart that you can't see them both at the same time. "Now, genlm'n," cries the guard, with the way-bill in his hand, "Five minutes behind time already!" Up jump the passengers—the two young men smoking like lime-kilns, and the old gentleman grumbling audibly. The thin young woman is got upon the roof by dint of a great deal of pulling, and pushing, and helping, and trouble, which she repays by expressing her solemn conviction that she'll never be able to get down again. "All right," sings out the guard at last, jumping up as the coach starts, and blowing the horn directly afterwards in proof of the soundness of his wind. "Let 'em go, Harry, give 'em their heads," cries the coachman—and off we start as briskly as if the morning were "all right," as well as the coach, and looking forward as anxiously to the termination of our journey, as we fear our readers will have done long since, to the conclusion of our article. BOZ.

## UPON POISONS AND POISONING.

The animal poisons, which first come under our notice, include the sting and bite of certain animals, and others when taken internally as food. And, first, of the bite of serpents—a very large class of reptiles, of which, however, Plenck assures us that only twenty-four species are venomous. Of these, Europe has only five, and Britain, happily, but one—the common viper or adder. There is a marked difference between the teeth of the innocuous and poisonous snakes: in the former there are four rows, two towards the palate and two towards the front of the jaw; while in the poisonous kinds there are only two of these parallel rows—namely, the palatine teeth—and, instead of the others, there are simply two large fangs projecting towards the edge of the mouth, and these are the poisonous fangs. The venom of these animals is contained in a bag situated on both sides of the head, which, when the animal intends to bite, it presses, by means of a muscular arrangement for the purpose, and the poison flows from it along a duct to the base of the tooth, which is moveable, very sharp, and hollowed throughout its length; through this canal the poison progresses, and issues into the wound by the opening which is near its end, for the point of the tooth itself is hard and solid. If these fangs be removed, or their structure destroyed, the animal is rendered harmless; and thus mountebanks are wont, whenever they suffer vipers to bite them before spectators, to stop with cement the perforations of the teeth, or destroy the glands in which the poison is secreted. The only

venomous serpents in Britain, as we have already mentioned, is the viper, and the power of that reptile is so slight and feeble, as not in general to endanger the life of man. Small animals may be killed by a viper, but its bite does not usually kill a dog; according to the experiments of Forster, it requires three or four viper bites to kill a dog. Circumstances, however, such as great debility of body, disturbance and irregularity of the digestive apparatus, or unusual heat of the season, have sometimes led to fatal results in the human subject.

In the treatment of injuries of this kind, the principal object is to prevent the passage of the poison from the wounded part into the body; and hence it is of advantage to apply a tight ligature above the bite, that is between it and the heart. This of course is only advisable to be done immediately after the accident; for, if swelling has taken place, it is likely to do more harm than good. The part is to be most carefully washed, so as to remove all venomous matter, and then the surface of the wound may be pared out with a sharp penknife; at any rate, it should be well scarified and laid open, to afford the opportunity of more complete ablation. These means will generally suffice when the bite has been inflicted by the British viper; but with regard to other species, the symptoms which come on are so serious, the rapidity of their progress so great and so fatal, that very little can be done. Besides the means we have recommended, powerful stimulants are to be given internally, and the best, perhaps, is hartshorn. In the East Indies, the natives administer a remedy which has been called the *Tanjore pile*, the chief ingredient of which has been discovered to be arsenic; but such means scarcely any but a medical man would be justified in resorting to.

It is somewhat singular that the poison of serpents should be perfectly inert when taken into the stomach, a fact, however, which appears to have been known from the earliest ages, when such wounds were sucked with impunity; and we learn, when Cato marched the remains of Pompey's army through Africa, he wisely informed the soldiers that they might drink of the waters that contained serpents without injury to themselves. Thus, the bite of a single viper will very speedily deprive a pigeon of life, and a single bite by no means exhausts the whole poison of the gland; but a piece of bread moistened with the whole poison of ten vipers, and given to a pigeon, will produce no effect. To be effectual, therefore, it is necessary that the poison of serpents should be applied to a recent wound. It may be applied to the surface of the body without any harm accruing,

The bite of many foreign snakes is attended with peculiarly dreadful consequences. The author of the "Excursions in New South Wales," speaking of the result of a bite from the death or deaf adder, says, "immediate decomposition commenced, and, in a very short space of time, the body was in such a state that it was with difficulty removed to where the grave had been dug. My informant," he says, "who had been twenty-two years in the colony, emphatically added, that when a person is bitten by a death adder, he has scarcely time to exclaim, 'Lord have mercy upon me!' before he becomes a lifeless corpse. It is affirmed that, in Africa," continues this author, "there are several, the bite of which causes a most horrible death. The person bitten feels drowsy, and the form melts at once into a mass of putrefaction. The burning snake of India can cause instant death, the blood flowing from the eyes, nose, mouth, and ears, and exuding from the pores. An American serpent, called *de la cruz*, is said to kill in the

same manner; finally, the bite of the *najer* is represented to be so fatal, that a person bitten by one will die in the course of half an hour." But these are foreign to our present purpose, and we shall proceed to the bite of rabid or mad animals; at the head of which stands the dog.

The term hydrophobia, which means a fear of water, is applied to that dreadful, and as far as our present knowledge extends, invariably fatal disease, arising from the bite of rabid animals, and produced in the human frame by the introduction of a poison peculiar to animals affected with canine madness. This poison is introduced with the saliva; that is, the saliva of animals labouring under the disease acquires the dreadful property of communicating it to man or other animals when infused into their system. We will not in this place inquire if any other fluid than the saliva can communicate the disease; we believe there is none, nor do we think that the perspiration or breath of an infected animal can communicate it, and still less do we think it ever arises spontaneously; but these discussions do not accord with our present purpose. The dog, wolf, fox, cat, with the horse, ass, mule, cow, sheep, pig, and perhaps the goat, are liable to hydrophobia; but there is reason for believing the disease can only be communicated by the dog, wolf, fox, and cat. The wolf suffers much from the disease; and the late Duke of Richmond lost his life in consequence of hydrophobia contracted from the bite of a fox in Canada. When a dog labours under the complaint, his manner becomes much altered; he is peevish and sullen; he scarcely will notice those to whom he has been accustomed; he will get away from home and wander about. He will not go out of his way to attack individuals or brute animals, but he is very apt to bite those who come across him. He picks up and swallows small objects; straw, bits of grass, and dirty substances of any kind. When he is tied up, and towards the latter period of the complaint, he will gnaw and bite the objects around him; he will grow angry, and become very wild in his appearance; his jaws are continually covered with tough saliva; and at last he dies in all the horrors of confirmed madness. The disease is usually communicated to the human subject by a bite; in fact, the saliva of a rabid animal must be brought into contact with a recent wound, or with an ulcer or abraded surface; and it is not absolutely necessary that this should be done through the medium of a bite. Not long ago, a lady of rank had a French poodle, of which she was very fond, and allowed to lick her face. She had a small pimple on her chin, of which she had rubbed off the top; and allowing the dog to indulge in its usual caresses, it licked this pimple, of which the surface was exposed, and thus she acquired the disease of hydrophobia, of which she died. Wounds are not equally effective in conveying the poison, particularly if a person is bitten on a part covered with clothes; in which case the teeth of the animal are in a manner wiped or cleaned by passing through the cloth. An interval of time elapses between the infliction of the wound and the appearance of any symptoms; generally speaking, the disease shows itself between the thirtieth and fortieth day. The only symptom to which we shall allude is an extraordinary aversion or dread of drink which seizes the unfortunate patient; this, when added to the excessive degree of salivation with which it is accompanied, leave no doubt us to the cause.

With regard to the treatment of hydrophobia, we know of none; but much may be done in the way of prevention; and the means we are about to recommend should be put in practice after every, or any,



bite, no matter how slight, that is received from a dog or other animal. They are simple in themselves, and will generally prevent much fear and anxiety, if not on the part of the patient, among his friends and connections. Very hot water should be poured from a tea-kettle into the wound, the vessel being held four or five feet above it; if a common syringe, or squirt, is at hand, the water should be injected into the wound; and this ablution should be carried on for three or four hours. Burning the part with caustic is not a safe method, as we cannot be certain of applying it to the whole wound; and some of the saliva may perhaps escape being touched with it. Indeed, the only plan entirely to be depended upon, is cutting out the bitten part; taking care that all the flesh with which the animal's teeth came in contact be removed. If this be effectually done, there can be no fear of hydrophobia; and if a medical man or qualified person cannot be procured within an hour or two, during which time the mode of washing we have recommended is to be persevered in, any body, with a sharp penknife might proceed with the operation; by doing so, the patient may be saved from a death most terrible to the individual, and most appalling to those interested in his well-being.

We have three species of wasp in Britain—the hornet, the common wasp, and the small wasp—each of which possesses the property of producing by its sting violent and painful inflammation; there are also seven species of the genus *apis*; the most remarkable of which are the small field-bee, the common hive-bee, the humble-bee, and the great humble-bee. The single sting of any of these cannot be regarded as attended with danger; and the same means of relief as recommended for the bites of vipers, may here also be employed. The supposed power of the toad to spit out a poisonous fluid, has, by many experiments, been so satisfactorily refuted that we need not enter upon the subject; this poor animal, though vilified and traduced, is perfectly innocuous.

With regard to poisonous fishes, and especially of the more common one, the mussel, we are inclined to think that much depends upon the unhealthy condition of the animal, and the peculiar habit of body of the individual eating it. Every body is aware that one person may harmlessly eat of a fish which disagrees with another; and also, that substances the least putrescent, as long-kept game, &c., are highly injurious. But much obscurity attends this department of our subject; we know, however, that the softest kinds of fish become soonest putrid, and hence we see the policy of the Hebrew legislator—"Whatsoever hath no fins nor scales in the waters, that shall be an abomination unto you."

If a case of poisoning from eating fish should present itself, we cannot do better than administer an emetic, and the best is a teaspoonful of mustard in a tumbler of warm water; and this should be followed by a smart purgative dose.

We now come to a consideration of those poisons which belong to the vegetable kingdom. In this department of our subject we may begin with the poisonous vegetable substances which are found growing wild among our hedges, our plains, our woods, and hills, and which may become the agents of much uneasiness, or even death, to the unsuspecting and unwary. And, first, of a very common plant in England, but rare in Scotland, and of a highly poisonous nature—the wild vine or bryonia (*Bryonia diacia*); the flowers of which are greenish, with small red berries, and a spindle-shaped root, like a radish or carrot, which has a very fetid smell: it was formerly employed in medicine, but is now banished from the pharmacopœia. A small quantity of it is poisonous,

producing violent inflammation of the bowels. Of the several species of the ranunculus, common every where, the same may be said; and many unpleasant accidents have been occasioned by them. So powerful is the action of these plants, that, when bruised and applied to the skin, they cause small ulcers to arise; and thus beggars often employ them as a means of exciting commiseration. So common is this practice, that, on the Continent, the ranunculuses or buttercups have obtained the name of *herbe aux gueux*, or beggar's plants. They carry with them, however, a punishment for those who use them, as the sores they create are both painful and difficult to heal. The anemone is another poisonous plant; and the *Caltha palustris*, the marsh marigold, or May-flower, is a powerful acid. The stavesacre (*Delphinium staphysagria*) and the clematis—

—"The favoured flower,  
Which boasts the name of virgin's bower"—

must also be avoided, as well as all the daffodil tribe. The mezereon is a poisonous species of *Daphne*, which all must have admired in March, when, as Cowper sings, it is,

"Though leafless, well attired, and thick beset  
With blushing wreaths, investing every spray."

The singular beauty of the berries of this plant has often tempted children to eat of them, and sometimes caused their death. Linnaeus says that six berries will kill a wolf, and he once saw a girl die from eating twelve of them.

The subject of Vegetable poisons will be concluded, along with a notice of poisons of a mineral nature, in a subsequent article.

## OBSERVATIONS ON GELDING.

BY MR. R. THOMSON, BEITH, N. B.—ADDRESSED  
TO MR. DICK.

(From the Veterinarian.)

I have made many experiments as to the use of the ligature in the castration of colts and horses, and the removal of this ligature on the second or third day. However humane the plan may appear, there are serious objections to it. Suppuration, in the generality of these cases, does not commence until the fifth day—rarely sooner, and sometimes later. Inflammation of the scrotal portion of the peritoneum must extend more or less during that period, and its progress is not arrested until suppuration commences. The protracted time must, in this mode of operating, be more dangerous, especially in fiery blood colts. I have cut about ten colts, using this operation. Some did remarkably well: in others the swelling was very great before suppuration commenced. In one that died it was uncommonly large. Suppuration did not commence until the sixth day. The animal got better at that time—the swelling subsided—but he died about two months afterwards. The adhesive inflammation, by being so long protracted, had done so much mischief that the scrotum, peritoneum, and chord, were all glued into one mass. Fomentation, bleeding, and laxatives, were employed in vain. The colt was a wild fiery animal, half bred.

I have cut a good many bulls in the same way, and there does not appear to be the least bad consequence attending this plan with regard to them. I have scarcely seen any swelling, although I gelded three in one day, in the very heat of summer.

The first colt gelded by me did remarkably well: it was three years old, and the success of the plan

made me persevere until I saw its danger ; and I will gild no more upon that principle, unless particularly requested to do so.

The success of common gelders, in my opinion, is founded on this, that however coarsely the operation be done, and however unmerciful may be the application of the hot iron, there is an almost immediate tendency given to suppuration ; suppuration does make its appearance much sooner after the iron than after the ligature ; and the patient is always considered, in a manner, out of danger when the parts begin to suppurate, unless immediate inflammation of the peritoneum followed, and mortification has taken place.

I am quite aware that you are a great advocate for firing nothing more than the vessels, and so am I likewise. I would fire no more than necessary. I well remember that, when seeing you castrating (and I was extremely anxious to see you perform that operation), no more was generally fired than the mouth of the artery. There is one small artery on the posterior part of the chord that cannot well be fired without touching a portion of the peritoneum. This small portion of it being touched with the iron suppurates ; the rest of the divided portion gradually follows from that point where the cautery touches the peritoneum upon the chord, and prevents the adhesive inflammation from ascending far upon it, in consequence of the suppurative process more or less taking place in a very short time after firing. So that I consider the practice of firing the divided surface of the chord safer than tying, or even than firing no more than the mouths of the arteries ; for if the least portion of peritoneum upon the chord be touched with the cautery, it forms a point for suppuration, and answers the object as well as the old plan of burning the chord like a cinder.

I am aware that it may be argued that, by firing the points of the arteries a suppurative point is formed in the chord ; but the chord and the peritoneum covering it are distinct, and suppuration may take place extensively in the chord, as is sometimes the case in fistulous abscess of that part, without much affecting the peritoneum covering it.

I consider the caustic clams as operating upon the same principle. The caustic burns the peritoneum and the chord ; suppuration immediately follows, the scrotum is left open while the clams are upon it, and allows the fluid to escape there which forms between the peritoneum and testicle, and in a great measure prevents the swelling and discharge from being so abundant as in firing or tying the arteries. I do not mean to argue that bad consequences would always attend tying the arteries, or only firing the mouths of the two arteries of the chord ; but what I argue is this,—if a small portion of peritoneum is fired or burnt with caustic, the operation would be comparatively safer, as it cannot be denied that suppuration always follows castration, more or less, and the sooner the better ; and inflammation of the peritoneum, to any extent, without suppuration, is always dangerous in gelding.

If suppuration follows the operation of firing in two or three days, it must be safer than when prolonged to five or six days, as in tying the arteries.

### COMPARISON OF MEN WITH ANIMALS.

Of all the species of animals which exist on the surface of the earth, man alone exhibits an ex-

cessive disparity in his attainments at remote periods of his history. In animals, each individual attains the complete use of all its faculties ; and this even though successive generations of the tribe be separated from each other by a long lapse of time. With many animals nothing in the shape of instruction is needed. The insect tribes at once proceed in the course that nature has designed for them. No sooner does the egg burst, than the larva sets itself about the business of its existence ; it swims expertly through the water, and seeks out its appropriate food. Led on by an unerring instinct, it approaches the surface of the pool, or climbs the stalk of some aquatic plant ; and ere the spectator has time to mark the change, it launches off into an untried element, and is undistinguished amid the thousands that have had the long experience of an hour. Some, again, wake to life in the tough bark, and eat their vermicular way through the sap-wood ; till, when the metamorphosis draws near, they suck the outer rind, cut it with their mandibles, elevate their elytra, unfold from beneath their delicate wings, and use with the utmost ease their newly acquired powers and senses. Ascending (as it is termed) the scale of existence, we find the elements of tuition begin to appear. The birds, for the most part, educate their young ; they lead them by short flights to seek their food, and only abandon them after their powers are fully developed. The same remark holds good of many of the quadrupeds. In all cases, however, the powers arrived at are nearly the same, with each individual of a species. But when we reach the top of the scale, how different ! The young of the human species receive not merely that tuition which is common to all mammalia, but also a distinct kind of education, which conveys the fruits of the experience of all the preceding generations. Man lives to add to that experience ; and, though his physical powers reach to their full development, the entire man knows nothing of maturity. Powers of which our ancestors were ignorant, are now wielded by us ; while we, in our turn, are opening the way for other and more transcendent powers to be employed by our descendants. The burrowing bee still uses the same instrument to pierce the downright shaft, and to cluster round it the beautifully-smoothed cells. Still she selects the hard-beaten soil, whence the wind may sweep the dust that otherwise would betray her labours. The sand-spider still uses the same cement to form the walls of her retreat, and to weave her branchy net. But man is found at one time burrowing himself in the ground, at another tearing the rocks to rear magnificent palaces. Here he draws his sustenance from the ocean, there he cultivates the ground ; here he clothes himself in the skin of the wild beast, there he wears the delicate web, and prides himself in the splendour of his apparel. With man there is no permanence ; every thing is changing, and each season adds to his powers and comfort. He seems to possess an endless variety of appetites, that are only called into action as opportunity offers for their gratification ; there lurks within him an immense variety of powers, of which only a few are called into active use by any individual. Among animals, the history of an individual is almost the history of the race ; but the story of the life of man is ever changing ; and the mode of living of one nation appears incredible to another. Man is possessed of a highly muscular and pliable form, capable of enduring long and vigorous exertion ; the tenderness of his limbs prohibits the direct employment of his powers. The animals are in-



variably supplied with instruments fit for the various operations they have to perform. The bee has the proboscis to reach the nectary; the burrowing animals have claws for digging the earth, and the beasts of prey for tearing their food. But man works by tools. The capability of employing inanimate matter—of making it, as it were, a part of himself, is peculiar to man: only faint traces of that power are to be perceived among the animal tribes. In man it is completely developed; for, on reflection, we at once perceive that almost every operation which we perform, is done by the assistance of tools of one kind or another.—*Edinburgh Philosophical Journal*.

### ON HORSE FEEDING.

MR. EDITOR,—Though the plan of feeding horses with wheat instead of oats has been adopted in a few instances, I am much surprised that it is not more generally acted upon, when as at present, a pound of sweet sound wheat, (a grain containing a greater proportion of the nutritive principle than any other,) may be bought for as little or less money than the same weight of Oats. It is objected to the use of wheat as food for the horse or any other herbivorous animal, that it is apt to disend the stomach and produces bad consequences. This I admit it will do if it be given in its natural state, but every evil result is averted either by boiling the grain until it be burst or nearly so (which I consider the best mode of preparation) by steeping until the maximum of distension be attained or by pounding or breaking in a mill. I find that about 2½ quarts of raw wheat will, when boiled, make two good feeds. It may be given *either warm or cold* (as frequently as it is usually the practice to give corn) mixed with a small quantity of ground oats, bran, shuders or chopped hay, and any water which the wheat may not have absorbed in the boiling, should either be mixed with one of the before mentioned ingredients (thus forming a mash of the whole) or given to the animal to drink. This mode of treatment has been found not only in my own practice, but in that of many of my friends, to improve the wind, increase the capability for work, and promote that state of general health, technically called *condition*, in so much greater a degree than has been attained by any other system of diet, that I hope you may not consider it an encroachment on your columns when I request the favour of the insertion of this letter, wishing as I do, to recommend a trial of the plan I have described to such of your readers as are owners of a horse or horses.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,  
April 11, 1835. VETERINARIUS.

### THE LAMENT OF POOR TOBY, THE LEARNED PIG.

"A little learning is a dangerous thing."—*Pope*.

O HEAVY day! oh day of wo!  
To misery a poster:  
Why was I ever farrow'd—why  
Not spitted for a roaster?

In this world, pigs, as well as men,  
Must dance to fortune's fiddlings;  
But must I give the classics up  
For barley-meal and middlings?

Of what avail that I could spell,  
And read, just like my betters,  
If I must come to this at last,—  
To litters, not to letters?

O! why are pigs made scholars of?  
It baffles my discerning,  
What griskins, fry, and chitterlings  
Can have to do with learning.

Alas, my learning once drew cash,  
But public fame's unstable;  
So I must turn a pig again,  
And fatten for the table.

To leave my literary line  
My eyes get red and leaky;  
But Giblett doesn't want me *blue*,  
But red and white, and streaky.

Old Mullins used to cultivate  
My learning like a gard'ner;  
But Giblett only thinks of lard,  
And not of Doctor Lardner.

He does not care about my brain  
The value of two coppers;  
All that he thinks about my head  
Is, how I'm off for choppers.

Of all my literary kin  
A farewell must be taken;  
Good bye to the poetic Hogg!  
The philosophic Bacon!

Day after day my lessons fade,  
My intellect gets muddy;  
A trough I have, and not a desk,  
A sty—and not a study.

Another little month, and then  
My progress ends, like Bunyan's;  
The seven sages that I lov'd  
Will be chop'd up with onions!

Then over head and ears in brine  
They'll souse me, like a salmon;  
My mathematics turned to brawn,  
My logic into gammon.

My Hebrew will all retrograde,  
Now I'm put up to fatten;  
My Greek, it will go all to grease,  
The dogs will have my Latin.

Farewell to Oxford! and to Bliss!  
To Milman, Crowe, and Glossop,  
I now must be content with chats,  
Instead of learned gossip!

Farewell to 'Town!' farewell to 'Gown!'  
I've quite outgrown the latter;  
Instead of trencher cap, my head  
Will soon be in a platter!

O! why did I at Brazen-Nose  
Rout up the roots of knowledge?  
A butcher that can't read will kill  
A pig that's been to college!

For sorrow I could stick myself—  
But conscience is a clasher;  
A thing that would be rash in man,  
In me would be a rasher!

One thing I ask,—when I am dead,  
And past the Stygian ditches—  
And that is,—Let my schoolmaster  
Have one of my two fitches.

'Twas he who taught my letters so  
I ne'er mistook or miss'd 'em;  
Simply by *ringing* at the nose,  
According to *Bell's system*.—*Comic Annual*.

## TRAVELLING IN ENGLAND THIRTY YEARS AGO.

Upon this subject there appears an entertaining well-written article in the twelfth number of Tait's Edinburgh Magazine, published a few weeks ago, from which we present the following sketch:—“Whilst reverting to these remembrances of my childhood (says the writer,) I may add by way of illustration, and at the risk of gossiping, a brief notice of my very first journey. I might be then seven years old. A young gentleman, the son of a wealthy banker, had to return home for the Christmas holidays to a town in Lincolnshire, distant from the public school, where he was pursuing his education, about a hundred miles. This school was in the neighbourhood of my father's house. There were at that time no coaches in that direction; now there are many every day. The young gentleman advertised for a person to share the expense of a post-chaise. By accident, or chiefly, I believe, out of compliment to the gentleness of my manners, and the depth of my affections, I had an invitation of some standing to the same town, where I happened to have a female relation of mature age, besides some youthful cousins. The two travellers-elect soon heard of each other, and the arrangement was easily completed. It was my earliest migration from the paternal (or, as I ought *then* to call it, the maternal) roof; and the anxieties of pleasure, too tumultuous, with some slight sense of undefined fears, combined to agitate my childish feelings. I had a vague slight apprehension of my fellow-traveller, whom I had never seen, and whom my nursery-maid, when dressing me, had described in no very amiable colours. But a good deal more I thought of Sherwood Forest, which, as I had been told, we should cross after the night set in. At six o'clock, I descended, and not, as usual, to the children's room but, on this special morning of my life, to a room called the breakfast-room, where I found a blazing fire, candles lighted, and the whole breakfast equipage, as if for my mother, set out, to my astonishment, for no greater personage than myself. The scene being in England, and on a December morning, I need scarcely say that it rained; the rain beat violently against the windows, the wind raved; and an aged servant who did the honours of the breakfast table, pressed me urgently and often to eat. I need not say that I had no appetite; the fulness of my heart, both from busy anticipation, and from the parting which was at hand, had made me incapable of any other thought, or feeling or attention, but such as pointed to the coming journey.

Thirty-nine, or possibly I believe even forty years, have passed since that December morning in my own life to which I am now recurring, and yet, even to this moment, I recollect the audible throbbing of heart, the leap and rushing of blood, with which, during a deep lull of the wind, the aged attendant said, without hurry or agitation, but with something of a solemn tone, ‘That is the sound of wheels; I hear the chaise. Mr. H——! will be heard directly.’ The road ran for some distance by a course pretty nearly equidistant from the house, so that the groaning of the wheels continued to catch the ear, as it swelled upon the wind, for some time without much alteration. At length a right-angled turn brought the road continually and rapidly nearer to the gates of the grounds, which had purposely been thrown open. At this point, however, a long career of raving arose; all other sounds were lost; and for some time I began to think we had been mistaken, when suddenly the loud trampling of horses' feet, as they whirled up the sweep below the windows,

followed by a peal long and loud upon the hell, announced, beyond question, the summons for my departure. The door being thrown open, steps were heard loud and fast; and, in the next moment, ushered by a servant, stalked forward, booted and fully equipped, my travelling companion—it such a word can at all express the relation between the arrogant young blood, just fresh from assuming the *toga virilis*, and a modest child of profound sensibilities, but shy and reserved beyond even English reserve. The aged servant, with apparently constrained civility, presented my mother's compliments to him with a request that he would take breakfast. This he hastily and rather peremptorily declined. Me, however, he condescended to notice with an approving nod, slightly inquiring if I were the young gentleman who shared his post-chaise. But without allowing time for an answer, and striking his boot impatiently with a riding-whip, he hoped I was ready. ‘Not until he has gone up to my mistress,’ replied my old protector, in a tone of some asperity. Thither I ascended. What counsels and directions I might happen to receive at the maternal toilet, naturally I have forgotten. The most memorable circumstance to me was, that I who had never till that time possessed the least or most contemptible coin, received, in a net-work purse, five glittering guineas, with instructions to put three immediately into Mr. H——!’s hands, and the rest when he should call for them. The rest of my mother's counsels, if deep, were not long; she who had always something of a Roman firmness, shed more milk of roses I believe, upon my cheeks, than tears; and why not? What should there be to her corresponding to an ignorant child's sense of pathos, in a little journey of about a hundred miles? Outside her door, however, there awaited me some silly creatures, women of course, old and young, from the nursery and the kitchen, who gave and who received those fervent kisses which wait only upon love without awe and without disguise.

I found myself lifted into the chaise: counsels about the night and the cold, flowing in upon me, to which my companion listened with derision and astonishment. I and he had each our separate corner; and, except to request that I would draw up one of the glasses, I do not think he condescended to address one word to me until dusk, when we found ourselves rattling into Chesterfield, having barely accomplished four stages, or forty or forty-two miles, in about nine hours. This, except on the Bath or great north roads, may be taken as a standard amount of performance in 1794 (the year I am recording,) and even ten years later. In these present hurrying and tumultuous days, whether time is really of more value, I cannot say; but all people on the establishment of inns are required to suppose it of the most awful value. Now-a-days, no sooner have the horses stopped at the gate-way of a posting-house, than a summons is passed down to the stables; and in less than one minute, upon a great road, the horses next in rotation, always ready harnessed when expecting to come on duty, are heard trotting down the yard. ‘Putting to,’ and transferring the luggage (supposing your conveyance a common post-chaise,) once a work of at least twenty minutes, is now easily accomplished in three. And scarcely have you paid the ex-postilion before his successor has mounted; the ostler is standing ready with the steps in his hands, to receive his invariable sixpence; the door is closed; the representative waiter bows his acknowledgment for the house, and you are off at a pace never less than ten miles an hour; the total detention at each stage not averaging above



four minutes. Then (*i. e.* at the latter end of the eighteenth and beginning of the nineteenth century) half an hour was the minimum of time spent at each change of horses. Your arrival produced a great bustle of unloading and unharnessing; as a matter of course you alighted and went into the inn; if you sallied out to report progress, after waiting twenty minutes, no signs appeared of any stir about the stables. The most choleric person could not much expedite preparations, which loitered not so much from any indolence in the attendants as from faulty arrangements and total defect of foresight. The pace was such as the roads of that day allowed; never so much as six miles an hour, except upon a very great road: and then only by extra payment to the driver. Yet even under this comparatively miserable system, how superior was England, as a land for the traveller, to all the rest of the world, Sweden only excepted.

What cozy old parlours in those days! low-roofed, glowing with ample fires, and fenced from the blasts of doors by screens, whose foldings were, or seemed to be, infinite! What motherly landladies! won, how readily, to kindness the most lavish, by the mere attractions of simplicity and youthful innocence, and finding so much interest in the bare circumstance of being a traveller at a childish age! Then what blooming young handmaidens, how different from the knowing and worldly demireps of modern highroads! And sometimes grey-headed faithful waiters, how sincere and how attentive, by comparison with their flippant successors, the eternal 'Coming sir,' 'Coming sir,' of our improved generation.

Such an honest old butler-looking servant waited on us during dinner at Chesterfield, carving for me, and urging me to eat. Even my companion found his pride relax under the influence of wine; and when loosened from this restraint, his kindness was not deficient. To me he showed it in pressing wine upon me, without stint or measure. The elegancies which he had observed in such part of my mother's establishment as could be supposed to meet his eye on so hasty a visit, had impressed him perhaps favourably towards myself: and could I have a little altered my age, or dismissed my excessive reserve, I doubt not that he would have admitted me, in default of a more suitable comrade, to his entire confidence for the rest of the road. Dinner finished, and myself at least, for the first time in my childish life, somewhat perhaps overcharged with wine, the bill was called for—the waiter paid in the lavish style of antique England—and we heard our chaise drawing up under the gateway—the invariable custom of those days, by which you were spared the trouble of going into the street, stepping from the hall of the Inn right into your carriage. I had been kept back for a minute or so by the landlady and her attendant nymphs, to be dressed and kissed; and, on seating myself in the chaise, which was well lighted with lamps, I found my lordly young principal in conversation with the landlord, first upon the price of oats, which youthful horsemen always affect to inquire after with interest; but secondly, upon a topic more immediately at his heart, *viz.* the reputation of the road. At that time of day, when gold had not yet disappeared from the circulation, no traveller carried any other sort of money about him; and there was consequently a rich encouragement to highwaymen, which vanished almost entirely with Mr. Pitt's act of 1797 for restricting cash payments. Property which could be identified and traced, was a perilous sort of plunder: and from that time the free trade of the road almost perished as a regular occu-

pation. At this period it did certainly maintain a languishing existence; here and there it might have a casual run of success; and as these local ebbs and flows were continually shifting, perhaps after all, the trade might lie amongst a small number of hands. Universally, however, the landlords showed some shrewdness, or even sagacity, in qualifying according to the circumstances of the inquirer, the sort of credit which they allowed to the exaggerated ill fame of the roads. Returning on this very road, some months after, with a timid female relation, who put her questions with undisguised and distressing alarm, the very same people, one and all, assured her that the danger was next to nothing. Not so at present: rightly presuming that a haughty cavalier of eighteen, flushed with wine and youthful blood, would listen with disgust to a picture too amiable and pacific of the road before him, Mr. Spread-Eagle replied with the air of one who feared more than he altogether liked to tell, and looking suspiciously amongst the strange faces lit up by the light of the carriage lamps—'Why, Sir, there have been ugly stories afloat; I cannot deny it; and sometimes, you know, sir,' winking sagaciously, to which a knowing nod of assent was returned, 'it may not be quite safe to tell all one knows. But you understand me. The forest, you are well aware, sir, is the forest: it never was much to be trusted, by all accounts, in my father's time, and I suppose will not be better in mine. But you must keep a sharp lookout: and Tom,' speaking to the postillion, 'mind when you pass the third gate, to go pretty smartly by the thicket.' Tom replied in a tone of importance to this professional appeal. General valedictions were exchanged, the landlord bowed, and we moved off for the forest. My companion had his travelling case of pistols: these he began now to examine; for sometimes said he, I have known such a trick as drawing the charge whilst one happened to be taking a glass of wine. Wine had unlocked his heart—the prospect of the forest and the advancing night excited him—and even of such a child as myself, he was now disposed to make a confidant. 'Did you observe,' said he, 'that ill-looking fellow, as big as a camel, who stood on the landlord's left hand?' 'Was it the man?' I asked timidly, 'who seemed by his dress to be a farmer?' 'Farmer, you call him? Ah! my young friend, that shows your little knowledge of the world. He is a scoundrel, the bloodiest of scoundrels. And so I trust to convince him before many hours are gone over our heads.' Whilst saying this, he employed himself in priming his pistols: then after a pause, he went on thus:—'No my young friend, this alone shows his base purposes—his calling himself a farmer. Farmer he is not, but a desperate highwayman, of which I have full proof. I watched his malicious glances whilst the landlord was talking; and I could swear to his traitorous intentions.' So speaking, he threw anxious glances on each side as we continued to advance; we were both somewhat excited: he by the spirit of adventure, I by sympathy with him—and both by wine. The wine, however, soon applied a remedy to its own delusions; three miles from the town we had left, both of us were in a bad condition for resisting highwaymen with effect—we were fast asleep. Suddenly a most abrupt halt awoke us; my friend felt for his pistols—the door flew open, and the lights of the assembled group announced to us that we had reached Mansfield. That night we went on to Newark, at which place about forty miles of our journey remained. This distance we performed of course on the following day, between breakfast and dinner.

But it serves strikingly to illustrate the state of roads in England whenever your affairs led you into districts a little retired from the capital routes of the public travelling, that for one twenty-mile stage, viz. from Newark to Sleaford, they refused to take us forward with less than four horses. This was neither a fraud, as our eyes soon convinced us (for even four horses could scarcely extricate the chaise from the deep sloughs which occasionally seamed the road for tracts of two or three miles in succession,) nor was it an accident of the weather. In all seasons the same demand was enforced, as my female protectress found in conducting me back at a fine season of the year, and had always found in traversing the same route. The England of that date (1794) exhibited many similar cases.

It was not until after the year 1815 that the main improvement took place in the English travelling system, so far as regarded speed. It is in reality to Mr. M'Adam that we owe it. All the roads in England, within a few years, were remodelled, and upon principles of Roman science. From mere beds of torrents, and system of ruts, they were raised universally to the condition and appearance of gravel walks in private parks or shrubberies. The average rate of velocity was, in consequence, exactly doubled—ten miles an hour being now generally accomplished, instead of five. And at the moment when all further improvement upon this system had become hopeless, a new prospect was suddenly opened to us by railroads; which again, considering how much they have already exceeded the maximum of possibility, as laid down by all engineers during the progress of the Manchester and Liverpool line, may soon give way to new modes of locomotion still more astonishing to our preconceptions."

### THE UNIONS.

All hail! to Hymen, the god of the *Unions*! never had the divinity such a crowd of worshippers! From the humble mender of soles to the valiant *ninth*, all trades and mysteries are flocking to his altar, and offering sacrifice.

The *Carpenters*, in plain terms, declare that their masters are old *files* and *screws*,—that their present wages are not sufficient to obtain *board*, much less lodging, and that they must and will have more *brads*.

The *Weavers*, according to the nautical phrase, "*loom*" large, and assert that their *frames* cannot be supported under the present system.

The *Shoe-makers* say their exertions are at present "bootless;" that their masters deserve to be *welted* for their conduct, and that they are resolved to stick out to the last.

The *Watch-makers* say every thing is *going wrong*, and requires immediate *regulation*. Instead of piece-work, they wish to work only for *time*! And, having joined the unions, they have now *wheels within wheels*, and expect there will be a new *spring* given to their business, and all their *hands* be employed. But, after all, they have said nothing more than all the rest of the malcontents, and of course may be regarded as *repeaters*. Their masters remonstrate in vain: they say *don't go*; but the men answer they are now *wound up*, and they will!

The *Tailors* have taken it into their heads to *suit* themselves, and have taken *measures* accordingly.

The *Locksmiths* have *bolted* from their benches, and, having deserted their *vices*, are *drilling* them-

selves into sobriety, in order to *file off* in an orderly manner before the commissioners. They are all on the *key vive*, and arranging their locks to look smart.

The *Coopers* have assumed the *casques* of war! and vow they will be *butts* no longer.

The *Wheelwrights* declare their masters are *knaves*, and by leaving off work they hope to 'put a *spoke* in their wheel!'

The *Blacksmiths* take advantage of the times, and *strike while the iron is hot*. They have *hammered out* a long list of grievances, numerous subscribed, although it is generally believed both the documents and signatures are *forged*.

The *Masons* have left their *marbles* to play a more serious game, and resolve to leave no *stone* unturned, till they obtain their wishes.

The *Printers* have given their governors sufficient *proofs* of their *impressions*, by deserting the *press*, and joining the *crowd* of complainants. Punctuation is at a *full stop*, and they threaten to make nothing but *pie* till they receive sufficient remuneration to obtain *bread* for their own consumption. It is expected the masters will be compelled to submit to *composition*.

The *Bakers* say they have long *needed* a reform, and turn out with the *flower* of the trade. Their *muster roll* is very long. From their martial appearance it would be supposed they were *bred* to war; at least they seem resolved to contest it manfully, and would rather be *dead men* than yield. Their *dernier resort* will be a petition to the master of the *rolls*.

The *Dyers*, warring against the course of nature, have refused to *dye*, and yet solemnly declare they will *die* first! There is no doubt they will come off with *flying colours*.—*Comic Offering*.

THE TEETH.—Many publications have appeared from time to time professing to give directions for the preservation of the teeth. We have however not met with any work in which Dental Surgery has been so systematically treated, and this too without destroying its practical utility in the hands of the unprofessional reader as in Mr. Mallan's "*Practical Observations on the Physiology and Diseases of the Teeth*." The rules for the preservation of the teeth which he lays down, are so simple and so easily adopted, that we feel confident all who study cleanliness, and value beauty and durability of the teeth, will lose no time in making themselves acquainted with and adopting them.

The beet-root growers and sugar manufacturers of the north of France have formed private clubs and committees to resist, they say, both the government and the colonies. The Minister is about to put a tax on home-grown sugar, which calls forth the opposition above alluded to. France, says the *Moniteur de Commerce* on this subject, is the worst market for raw sugar in the world. The first material sells better at New York and London than at Havre and Bordeaux. At the end of 1833 there were twenty two millions of pounds of colonial sugar unsold in bond in the French entrepôts. Double that quantity will be found to have been in the same state at the close of 1834. The merchants of Martinique have, on their side, petitioned against the high sugar-duty, and against the restrictions imposed. All the objects of consumptions, says their petition, with which France furnishes Martinique, might be had by that island from 10 to 50 per cent. cheaper.



## RAILROADS IN THE UNITED STATES.

A publication recently compiled by Mr. Tanner, gives a short description of all the canals and railroads in the United States, now completed or in progress—from which work the following is collected:—

|                             | CANALS.                 | RAILROADS.              |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| New Hampshire . . . . .     | miles 834 $\frac{3}{4}$ | .....miles —            |
| Maine . . . . .             | 20 $\frac{1}{2}$        | ..... —                 |
| Massachusetts . . . . .     | 78 $\frac{1}{2}$        | ..... 116               |
| Rhode Island . . . . .      | —                       | ..... 46                |
| Connecticut . . . . .       | 27 $\frac{1}{2}$        | ..... —                 |
| New York . . . . .          | 800                     | ..... 300               |
| New Jersey . . . . .        | 149                     | ..... 105               |
| Pennsylvania . . . . .      | 788 $\frac{1}{2}$       | ..... 322               |
| Delaware . . . . .          | 13 $\frac{1}{2}$        | ..... 16                |
| Maryland . . . . .          | 354                     | ..... 194               |
| District Columbia . . . . . | 9                       | ..... —                 |
| Virginia . . . . .          | 60                      | ..... 240               |
| N. Carolina . . . . .       | 24 $\frac{1}{2}$        | ..... —                 |
| S. Carolina . . . . .       | 51 $\frac{1}{2}$        | ..... 135 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Georgia . . . . .           | 28                      | ..... —                 |
| Alabama . . . . .           | 16                      | ..... 62                |
| Mississippi . . . . .       | —                       | ..... 63                |
| Louisiana . . . . .         | 14                      | ..... 5                 |
| Kentucky . . . . .          | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$         | ..... —                 |
| Ohio . . . . .              | 265                     | ..... —                 |

*Alabama Intelligencer.*

**COALS.**—According to a return just made to the House of Commons, the quantity of coals brought coastwise and by inland navigation into the port of London in 1833 was 2,014,804 $\frac{1}{2}$  tons, and in 1834, 2,080,547 tons. From Newcastle there came, in 1833, 1,060,839 tons; in 1834, 1,142,903 tons. From Sunderland, in 1833, 666,787 tons; in 1834, 559,105 tons. From Stockton, in 1833, 170,690 tons; in 1834, 221,971 tons. From Blythe and Seaton, in 1833, 48,689 tons; in 1834, 64,268 tons. From Leith, Inverkeithing, Kirkcaldy, and other ports in Scotland, in 1833, 15,138 tons; in 1834, 39,487 tons. From Swansea, Llanelly, Milford, and other places in Wales, in 1833, 32,156 tons; in 1834, 33,200 tons. From Hull, Goole, Gisborough, and other places in Yorkshire, in 1833, 16,110 tons; in 1834, 17,751 tons. Quantity which passed the boundary stones on the Grand Junction Canal at Grove-park, Herts, and on the River Thames, at Staines, in 1833, 4,395 $\frac{1}{2}$  tons; in 1834, 4,862 tons.

**BAKING THE BAKER.**—During the reign of Hammooda Basha, the Kaeed, who, according to custom, had made his rounds, and had ascertained from different travellers what they had paid for their provisions, found that one of them had purchased a certain quantity of bread, which was found deficient in weight when placed in the Kaeed's scales. The party proceeded to the baker's, whose scales gave exactly the weight at which he had sold the bread; on this the Kaeed had them broken, when they were found to contain a quantity of quicksilver in a hollow tube, which could thus be made to throw its balance on either side. The baker's oven happened at the moment to be properly heated, and the Kaeed, without any further trial, ordered the culprit to be immediately thrown into it. Hammooda having heard of this remonstrated with the Kaeed on his precipitancy, when he answered, 'I have done great good—bakers will in future deem it preferable to heat their ovens for bread of a proper weight, than for themselves, or whatever weight they may chance to be.'—*Excursions in the Mediterranean.*

## SHROPSHIRE ASSIZES.

## WARRANTY OF SEEDS.

PIERCE V. HEATH.

An action to recover the value of six bags of hempseed, supplied by the defendant's London factors to the plaintiff, under a warranty of being "new" seed; but which, on being sown, never grew, and was alleged to be old, and useless for the purpose of sowing.

Mr. J. Hitchin received a note from his nephew, the plaintiff (residing near Newport), desiring witness to purchase a quantity of hempseed from Mr. Heath. Mr. Heath said he had none, but would write to London and get some. Witness desired him to order the seed, which was to be delivered at Prior's Lee, and was so delivered. [A letter from defendant's agents, warranting the seed to be new, was here read.]

Joseph Jenks, servant to plaintiff, sowed the hempseed on the 19th of May, the day after it arrived. The field in which it was sown, upwards of five acres, was well prepared for it, but not a blade of hemp came up. The weather was very dry; but a quantity of clover sown with the hempseed came up very well.

Mr. Clay has been in the habit of growing and purchasing hempseed: saw this field before it was sown, and found it very properly prepared; it was worth 5l an acre; went to look at the field after the seed was sown, and took up a good deal of it; the seed ought to have sprung in five days, but not one blade came in a month. Can safely swear the seed was not new; it was old and very bad. Even when sown in June, hempseed ought to spring well.

Sarah Light examined the seed, and found it old and worthless. Sowed some of it in a flower-pot, and watered it, but not a blade came up.

Mr. Wm. Liddle, solicitor, proved the defendant's admission that he was indemnified as to the result of this action by his London factors.

For the defence Mr. Andrew Andrews was called, who for many years was in the employ of Messrs. Ambridge and West, seedsmen, of London. The seed supplied to plaintiff was new, and as fine as ever was seen; and would have grown if it had been earlier sown. It was foreign seed.

Mr. Bidwell sent off the seed on 13th May, and never saw finer. It was new seed, full of oil and meal.

The Judge thought as the warranty was proved, the jury had only to decide upon the conflicting evidence.

Verdict for plaintiff—Damages 25l.

## HOME CIRCUIT.—LEWES.

BARRON V. THE EARL OF ASHBURNHAM.

This was an action for a breach of contract.

Mr. PLATT and Mr. CLARKSON conducted the plaintiff's case; Mr. LONG and Mr. DAREY the defendant's.

Mr. Barron rented a farm of the Earl of Ashburnham, and, prior to entering upon his tenancy, made an agreement with the steward of his lordship, that as he did not keep a dog or carry a gun, the keepers should, when required, kill the rabbits and game that might do an injury to the wheat, &c. It was alleged that there had been a breach of the contract, inasmuch as the keepers had not destroyed the rabbits and game when required, and that a severe loss had been sustained in consequence.

For the defence it was contended that there had been no breach, as the keepers had always destroyed the rabbits and game when sent for, and had, in fact,

killed a great number. The loss sustained in the wheat was attributed to the improper manner in which the land had been sown and cultivated. There were a great many witnesses called on both sides.

The Jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff.—Damages Eight Pounds.

### NORTHERN CIRCUIT.

#### KILLING A HORSE BY ADMINISTERING AN IMPROPER MEDICINE.

STABLES v. RHODES.

Counsel for the plaintiff, Mr. Serjeant ATCHERLEY and Mr. WIGHTMAN; for the defendant, Mr. ALEXANDER and Mr. ADDISON.

The plaintiff, Mr. John Stables, was a solicitor in Leeds—the defendant was a chemist and druggist, residing in the same town. The plaintiff alleged that the defendant, being a person in the habit of making up medicines for horses, had prepared one for him of so dangerous and violent a nature as to occasion the death of his horse, and the action was brought to recover the value of it. It was a fact, not much disputed in the cause, that the death of the horse had been occasioned by the administration of that medicine. The case set up by the defendant was, that the ball was made conformably to the prescription of the plaintiff, who directed that a ball should be prepared, consisting of eight drachms of Barbadoes aloes, and one drachm of calomel, and that the defendant told him that it was a very powerful medicine, and should not be used except by a person who understood the nature of horses. This the plaintiff denied, and insisted that he had given no direction as to what the ball should be composed of, but left it to the judgment of the defendant. The evidence on the case was of the most conflicting nature. A friend of the plaintiff, who went with him to the defendant's shop, stated that the order was given without any specification of what ingredients the ball was to be composed, but he would not venture to swear that such an order might not have been given; and a young man, apprentice with the defendant, stated that he gave particular instructions as to the nature and quantity of the ingredients of which the medicinal ball was to be composed, and the caution given by the defendant as to its violent and powerful nature.

Mr. Baron PARKE said if the medicine had been prepared according to the instructions of the plaintiff, it was quite clear that he could not recover in this action; and his Lordship intimated that, as the witness for the plaintiff had only stated that he did not hear that which the witness for the defendant positively swore had taken place, he thought the Jury would have little hesitation as to their decision.

Mr. Serjeant ATCHERLEY claimed, with some little warmth, the right of reply.

The Jury, after hearing this and the charge of the Learned Judge, found a verdict for the defendant.

### ASSIZES.—KINGSTON, APRIL 4.

#### THE EPSOM RACE COURSE.

BRISCOE v. ROBERTS.

This was an action of trespass. The question at issue was the right of the plaintiff, John Ivatt Briscoe, Esq., the late Member for this county, to the title of the Lord of the Manor over the Epsom Race Downs. The defendant, a tradesman and inhabitant of Epsom, claimed a right in his character of an in-

habitant of Epsom to hold races and erect booths on the Downs at all seasonable times of the year.

Mr. THESSIGER addressed the Jury, and observed that it had been said that the plaintiff had been actuated by a desire to put an end to the Epsom races. He disclaimed any such intention; his sole motive was to protect his own rights, and the rights of those who would succeed him, against the claims of a body of men who had no pretensions for making them. Mr. Briscoe married a daughter of the late Sir Joseph Morbey, who, in the year 1771, became the purchaser of the manor of Epsom. In ancient times the manor belonged to the Abbey of Chertsey, but in the reign of Henry VIII. it was separated from it, and passed into the possession of Sir Nicholas Carew, who was afterwards attainted in the same reign. In the reigns of Mary and Elizabeth several grants of it were made, and ultimately it came into the possession of Sir Joseph Morbey, under whom, in right of his wife, Mr. Briscoe deduced his title. In the year 1815 a portion of the soil was leased to a Mr. Saunders, and in November, 1828, a portion was also leased to a Mr. Bluck, who erected the building called the Grand Stand, and he always paid ground rent to the Lord of the Manor. Two or three years since some parties, inhabitants of Epsom, formed themselves into a committee, and called it the Racing Committee, and took upon themselves the right of letting out the land during the races to any person who might be the highest bidder. They claimed the right as inhabitants of Epsom, from a usage of sixty years, to hold races, and erect booths, on the "Downs during seasonable times of the year." Mr. Roberts, who is an inhabitant of Epsom, rented some ground of the committee during the races in May and October, and paid the sum of five hundred guineas. He proceeded last year to erect booths preparatory to the races, and Mr. Briscoe, determined to try the right, desired his bailiff to serve him with a notice not to make the erection.

After the production of documentary evidence to prove the plaintiff's title, witnesses were called to prove having attended the races for a number of years, and having always paid ground rent to the different collectors, who told them that the money was collected for the Lord of the Manor, Sir Joseph Morbey.

Mr. PLATT addressed the Jury for the defendant.—He said, he defended this action on three grounds—1st. That the soil and freehold were not in Mr. Briscoe but in Baron de Tessier, a gentleman of property, residing at Woodcot Park, in this county. 2dly. That the defendant had leave and license to erect the booths; and 3dly., That the inhabitants of Epsom had a prescriptive right to hold races and erect booths at all seasonable times of the year. He would adduce evidence in support of those pleas, and then they would have to determine whether the plaintiff should have it in his power to discontinue a great public amusement or not.

Certain documentary evidence was then put in to prove Baron de Tessier's claim to the soil, but it appeared that the Baron had only an easement in the land, a sheep walk for four hundred sheep; the plea was therefore abandoned.

Witnesses were also called to prove that they had attended the races for a long period, and had paid rent to the collectors, who invariably told them the money was applied for the purposes of the Course. The witnesses on either side who gave the forgoing testimony were principally a class of persons called travellers, who keep booths for refreshments, &c. at races and fairs.

The Jury after a short deliberation returned a verdict for the plaintiff—Damages 5*l*.



## PARING AND BURNING.

BY MR. RICHARD MINCHIN, HAZLETON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

(From *Baxter's Library of Agriculture*.)

This system of culture consists in paring off the grassy sward or surface of the land, with an instrument called a breastplough, to the depth of from half an inch to an inch, and the turf or sward pared off being burnt, the ashes obtained have, under a good rotation of crops, produced one of the cheapest and most profitable of manures.

This method of culture appears to have been very anciently practised : it may be inferred from Virgil, that its beneficial effects were as well known and as highly appreciated by the Romans in his time, as they are now by the English farmer ; but whether it perished with other arts and sciences with the ruin of the Roman empire, or whether it struggled for an obscure existence with the barbarisms of the middle ages, cannot now perhaps be ascertained ; the probability, however, is, that it has never been entirely discontinued ; for although the chemical properties of soils might have been unknown, combustion offered so ready a means of effectually destroying weeds, and to facilitate in breaking up old pastures, that to embrace an advantage so desirable could scarcely be omitted by the agriculturist in the lowest state of his art.

*Paring and burning*, however, has been but a few years generally practised in any part of this kingdom ; and it was but little practised, till within the last sixty years, on the Cotswolds in Gloucestershire, where now, with the adjoining parts of Oxfordshire, it is so extensively and, upon some lands, so uniformly adopted, that it has become a striking feature in the rural economy of that district.

It appears to have been used at first only occasionally in the bringing of sainfoin leys into tillage : the sainfoin was kept down for a great length of time, frequently from ten to fifteen years ; the sward, of course, was become thick and strong, and their method of breaking it up was of the most rude and troublesome description. They ploughed the sward up deep with the horse plough, some time during the winter, and sowed it with oats in the spring ; but as neither drags nor harrows would make much impression on such tough furrows, the crops were very scanty. The next year the land was ploughed again, and again sown with oats ; the ensuing year they had a summer fallow, and then cleaned it as they best could ; applying the little manure they could command, they then planted it with wheat, or, which was not then very common, with turnips. To subdue this tough sward, paring and burning was a striking improvement ; it being taken off and burnt, the after-culture became comparatively easy ; the dressing of the ashes produced generally a plentiful crop of turnips, which was followed almost of course with a good crop of barley, and a luxuriant crop of clover.

But from paring and burning being expensive, and money being scarce, and old habits not easily removed, it was twenty or thirty years before the old practice could be quite exploded, and the paring and burning universally adopted, which was still confined to the sainfoin leys. The high price of grain, however, induced people to bring enclosures and old down pastures into tillage, and they were not slow to avail themselves of a practice so highly beneficial as that adopted with the sainfoin leys ; and perhaps in

no one instance have old pastures on the Cotswolds been brought into tillage without the agency of the breastplough.

The greatest part of these soils were of the lowest quality, but from having been down a great number of years, and from the plentiful dressing of ashes, the most sanguine expectation of the cultivator was realized in the abundant crops produced. Notwithstanding these manifest advantages, prejudices were soon raised ; the land, for the want of a good rotation of crops, became exhausted, which gave rise to an opinion that those advantages were acquired at the expense of the future fertility of the soil ; in short, that the soil would be burnt up, and eventually become worthless. This idea had at one time possessed the landed proprietors so forcibly, that many of them introduced a clause in their leases prohibiting the practice altogether.

Although some proprietors prohibited their tenants from paring and burning, others did not ; and it was soon discerned that those who practiced it had a great advantage over those who did not ; the poorest and most exhausted downs, when the rye grass and clover leys were burnt for wheat, showed symptoms of returning fertility. Imperfect as the rotation of crops at this time was, these strong evidences in its favour became more apparent ; as the system of cropping was improved, opposition gradually became less, and has long since altogether ceased.

From the sainfoin leys and down pastures the system was soon extended to almost every kind of soil, and almost every kind of crop, with various success, and perhaps in a very few instances without advantage ; but the most complete triumph of this singular species of husbandry is, that after a regular succession of cropping for a long series of years, without the aid of any other manure than the ashes afforded by paring and burning, the land, so far from being deteriorated, has become visibly improved. It will therefore be requisite to give the best practice for the various soils, to facilitate which, it will be advisable to divide the subject into the following heads :—

- i. A description of the various soils on which paring and burning has been performed with advantage.
- ii. The method of performance.
- iii. Rotation of crops.
- iv. Concluding observations.

#### i. A DESCRIPTION OF THE VARIOUS SOILS ON WHICH PARING AND BURNING HAS BEEN PERFORMED WITH ADVANTAGE.

It would be difficult to determine, with anything like precision, on what soil paring and burning has been used to the greatest advantage ; therefore it may not be amiss to take a review of its effects on the various soils ; for this purpose it will be requisite to make the following subdivision :

##### 1. *Peat*, or soil on which vegetable matter forms the whole or principal part.

This consists chiefly of drained bogs and other lands which have been wet, and is sometimes of an extraordinary depth. Paring and burning seems to be entirely adapted to this soil ; it is easily ploughed with the breastplough, and when burnt produces a great quantity of ashes, generally black and soft, which are considered the best, which act not only as a manure on this soil, it being very light and prone to throw up the plants, but from the ashes being much heavier than the soil, contributes to make it much more firm, and causes the plants to root more

strongly. Dr. James Anderson, in his ingenious and useful essays on agriculture, after speaking of paring and burning generally in terms of high commendation, particularly excepts peaty soil, and says, 'that on this it can be nothing but injurious.' The experience derived from practice of late years is completely at variance with this opinion.

2. *Mixed soils*, but where vegetable matter predominates.

The same effects are produced from paring and burning on this soil as on the peaty soils, but to a less extent; and it may perhaps be taken as a rule, that where vegetable matter most prevails, the benefit derived from this system of culture is the greatest. In soils where earths are pretty regularly mixed, there appears little reason to expect any greater advantage to arise from paring and burning on this soil, than that of speedily converting vegetable matter into an active manure, as it neither wants to be made more heavy nor more friable. It is, notwithstanding, extensively practised, and it is supposed to possess considerable advantage; for if paring and burning of the grasses and fibrous roots, which have accumulated upon the land, affords a ready means of procuring a manure that will produce a good crop of turnips, which crop will generally ensure all the succeeding crops good, how can this practice then be otherwise than advantageous?

3. *Clayey soils*.—These have been less attended to in this matter than either of the soils previously noticed. The *breastploughing* or *paring* is more expensive, and the burning is attended with more risk and uncertainty, on account of the great length of time which is required for drying the turf; the ashes are supposed to be inferior to those before named; the land cannot be breastploughed in dry weather; and if it has been trodden with cattle after the frost is over, it cannot be breastploughed at all. These obstacles seem to be sufficiently formidable; yet it has been performed, and with eminent success; the difference in expense is only a few shillings per acre, and the ashes are certainly good; and it must not be considered proved that their quality is inferior to the ashes of other soils. To this, however, more immediate attention will be paid when treating on the rotation of crops.

There is also an advantage attending this system of husbandry on clayey soils which should not pass unobserved, as it will compensate for much expense and trouble in the operation,—and this is, the permanent improvement it makes in the nature and the staple of the soil, independent of the manure which it affords; the quantity of ashes produced by continually paring and burning will not only, by mixing with the clay, make it more friable, but, on account of their specific gravity being greater than that of soil, work to the bottom of the furrow, and thus form a gritty subsoil, which greatly facilitates the ploughing and the working of the land, making at the same time a dry and healthy bed for the growth of the plants: hence the plants never turn sick and yellow from wet, on burnt lands, as they do on lands that have not been burnt.

4. *Sands*.—Sandy soils have been pared and burnt still less than those of clay; the breastploughing on these soils is easy, but the burning is rather troublesome, on account of the sand running, which frequently puts out the fire; neither is it benefited by the mechanical action of the ashes, as in the case of clay and peat. It has, however, been used advantageously in cleaning foul lands of this description; and although Sir

Humphry Davy's opinion is entirely opposed to paring and burning on light poor sands, yet, until it has been tried under the best rotation of crops, which will be hereafter pointed out, it would be premature to condemn it altogether.

## ii. METHOD OF PERFORMANCE.

It has already been noticed that paring and burning consists in paring off the grassy sward or surface of the land with an instrument called a breastplough, and as the success of this system of culture greatly depends on the manner in which it is performed, it will be necessary to enter into the following detail for the information of those who are entirely unacquainted with it.

1. *Breastploughing*.—Sainfoin leys, old pastures, and all pastures and foul lands are easily brought into culture by the use of the breastplough, by which means the surface of the land is taken off, from half an inch to an inch. The time of performance varies with the soil and the crop it is to precede; the greater part, however, is performed some time between the first of January and the first of August. The turf must remain until the mould, which is turned uppermost by the breastplough at the time of paring, is quite dry; it is then dragged or harrowed repeatedly, until it is sufficiently dry for burning.

2. *Burning*.—For this purpose, it is all raked together into convenient heaps, and set on fire with a little straw, which requires good attention until the heaps are well lighted; they will then all burn out excepting a little turf on the outside, which should be raked together into fresh heaps and burnt.

3. *Spreading the ashes*.—The heaps, after being well burnt, should remain some time before they are opened, at any rate till they are well cooled and damped by the earth and dews; and it is far the best to have rain on them first, for if they are opened hot, or spread when too dry, the wind, if at all brisk, will carry a great quantity of the most valuable part away; care should also be taken at the time of spreading, that the spots on which the heaps are burnt are well cleared, and that the ashes are regularly spread over the ground, and if dung be added, it must be laid on the ashes, and the ashes and dung ploughed in together.

4. *Ploughing previous to sowing the seed*.—It is absolutely requisite that burnt lands should be ploughed as lightly as possible, for should this point be neglected, the paring and burning will scarcely amount to any other than labour lost; it may indeed assist in cleaning foul land, but as a manure it will be of little or no service. The ashes should be concentrated and kept as much as possible together to act effectually, whereas, in deep ploughing, they are dispersed, and their action on the plant is either lost, or much weakened. To effect this it should be first *risbawlked*; this term is well understood on the *Cotswolds*; but as it may not be generally known, and as frequent use will be made of it, the following explanation may be required:—*Risbawlk* is a method of ploughing by which a narrow rib of unploughed land is left between each furrow, which rib cannot be too narrow. Those who are unacquainted with this description of ploughing, may not be easily persuaded of the propriety of ploughing one part, and leaving the other part unploughed; a little experience, however, would soon convince them, as there is no method by which the whole surface of the ground can be so completely broken at a depth equally shallow. To state at what depth burnt lands should be *risbawlked* would be to little purpose, as it cannot be done on all land at the



same depth ; it is however often done at two inches, and, if possible, should not exceed at any time two inches and a half. After the *risbaults* have lain a short time they should be harrowed down ; and if the surface of the land is well broken, it may, at the proper time, be cleaned, ploughed, and the seed sown, but if the surface of the land be not well broken, it should have a second *risbault*, which must remain, of course, a short time, and be afterwards clean ploughed, but not to have more than one clean ploughing if it can be possibly avoided ; care should also be taken that the ploughings across each other should be done in a proper manner, otherwise the plough will jump from rib to rib, and cause a very disagreeable jerking. Some lands, from being thrown up in ridges, and from other causes, cannot be *risbaulted* ; these should, therefore, be ploughed as shallow as possible, and the seed sown as soon as in a proper state.

5. *The cost of paring, burning, and spreading the ashes.*—This varies according to the nature of the soil, &c. from ten to thirty shillings per acre ; the greater part however, by far, where plenty of *breastploughers* are to be had, is done at from fourteen to twenty shillings, but when it is first introduced into a district, it is probable it would be more expensive.

### 3. ROTATION OF CROPS.

The rotation of crops, under which it will be necessary to carry on the system of *paring and burning* with success, is of so much importance as to require the most minute attention even at the risk of being tedious. It may be used, certainly, under any rotation to which it is applicable when the land is of a good quality and pretty well supplied with dung ; but when ashes is the only or principal manure, the case is quite different.

#### 1. *Mixed soils of pretty good quality.*

ROTATION.—The *first year*, turnips ; *second year*, barley, among which seeds are sown and kept down ; *third and fourth years*, seeds which are pared and burnt some time before the end of July in the *fourth year*, and sown at the proper time for *fifth year*, with wheat ; *sixth year*, oats, with which a cheap rye-grass is usually sown, and pared and burnt the following spring for *seventh year* turnips.

This rotation may be used to advantage when a little dung can be added to the ashes, but not otherwise ; for unless a dressing of manure can be added to the ashes, no good farmer would take two white corn crops in succession. The seeds are fed off (very lightly) in the autumn, after sown among the barley, and are generally once mown the first year, and afterwards fed off by sheep. By this course the land will in six years bear.

|              |   |            |
|--------------|---|------------|
| Wheat once   | } | Six years. |
| Barley once  |   |            |
| Oats once    |   |            |
| Turnips once |   |            |
| Seeds twice  |   |            |

#### 2. *Peaty, or mixed soils of an inferior quality, or when dung cannot be added.*

ROTATION 1.—*First year*, turnips ; *second year*, barley, among which seeds are sown, and kept down ; *third and fourth year*, seeds, and pared and burnt as above for *fifth year*, wheat ; and *sixth year*, turnips, for which the wheat stubble is pared and burnt, which will produce in five years,

|              |   |             |
|--------------|---|-------------|
| Wheat once   | } | Five years. |
| Barley once  |   |             |
| Turnips once |   |             |
| Seeds twice  |   |             |

This is a good course if the wheat stubble can be

depended on to produce grass enough to furnish a sufficient dressing of ashes ; and this is frequently the case ; for if the land be clean and in a good condition, it will, towards the latter end of April, or the beginning of May, be covered with a fine soft grass ; this should be pared off clean, and burnt as quick as possible ; the land may then be very lightly ploughed, by giving it first a *risbault*, as described in the method of performance, and the turnips sown as soon as it is sufficiently moist. Very good crops have been grown in this way ; but if there is reason to expect the wheat stubble will not be sufficiently grassy, the following course is most to be relied on.

ROTATION 2.—*First year*, turnips ; *second year*, barley ; *third and fourth year*, seeds, sown, kept down, and pared and burnt as before ; *fifth year*, wheat, with which seeds are sown to stand ; *sixth year*, seeds, which are fed off by sheep, and pared and burnt the following spring ; for *seventh year*, turnips, which in six years stands thus :—

|              |   |            |
|--------------|---|------------|
| Wheat once   | } | Six years. |
| Barley once  |   |            |
| Turnips once |   |            |
| Seeds thrice |   |            |

This course will keep land in good condition for any length of time, without the aid of any other manure than that which is left on the land by the sheep, in feeding off the turnips and the grass crops.

I have land on my farm at Hazleton, which has been in regular cultivation for nearly thirty years, without any other manure at any time whatever than that afforded by the sheep in feeding off the turnips and seeds, and it has been pared and burnt invariably for wheat and turnips.

#### 3. *Poor down lands, or other poor soils on which wheat cannot be grown to profit.*

ROTATION.—*First year*, turnips ; *second year*, barley or oats, among which seeds are sown and kept down ; *third, fourth, and fifth years*, seeds, and pared and burnt the following spring for *sixth year* turnips, which in five years will stand as follows :—

|                     |   |             |
|---------------------|---|-------------|
| Barley or oats once | } | Five years. |
| Turnips once        |   |             |
| Seeds thrice        |   |             |

Under this system extreme poor lands may be kept in culture to considerable advantage ; it is not recommended, however, that the seeds should be kept down longer than they continue to carry a good plant.

#### 4. *Clayey Soils.*

When a farm consists wholly of clay, turnips may be inadmissible, consequently this system of husbandry perhaps is altogether inapplicable ; but when the clay bears a small proportion to the whole quantity of arable land, paring and burning may be practised perhaps with as great advantage as under any of the circumstances that have been noticed ; for this purpose the clay land should be divided in equal proportions, that one part may be sown with turnips every year, which may be fed off by sheep early in the autumn, and then, as soon as the frost has mellowed the soil, it should be breastploughed, which should lie until the proper time to plough for the sowing of the barley or oats. When the pasture, rye grass or clover ley is intended for wheat, the paring and burning must be carried on in the spring, and lie all the summer in a state of unprofitable fallow, which, with some persons, is a considerable objection ; this, therefore, may be obviated by paring and burning only for turnips, and sowing wheat as soon as possible after the turnips are off.

ROTATION 1.—*First year*, turnips ; *second year*, bar-

ley or oats, among which seeds are sown and kept down; *third and fourth years*, seeds, and pared and burnt the following spring for *fifth year* turnips; *sixth year*, wheat, among which seeds are sown and kept down; *seventh year*, seeds, and pared and burnt for *eighth year* turnips, which stand in seven years thus:—

|                     |   |              |
|---------------------|---|--------------|
| Wheat once          | } | Seven years. |
| Barley or oats once |   |              |
| Turnips twice       |   |              |
| Seeds thrice        |   |              |

The stubbles may be pared at any time of the year if they have not been trodden by cattle, and the drier the better.

If a summer fallow, which may not perhaps be objected to by some farmers, the following course must be pursued:—

ROTATION 2.—*First year*, turnips; *second year*, barley or oats, among which seeds are sown and kept down; *third and fourth years*, seeds, and pared and burnt the following spring, and lie, *fifth year*, summer fallow; *sixth year*, wheat, among which seeds are sown and kept down; *seventh year*, seeds, and pared and burnt as before for *eighth year* turnips, which in seven years stands as follows:—

|                     |   |              |
|---------------------|---|--------------|
| Wheat once          | } | Seven years. |
| Barley or oats once |   |              |
| Turnips once        |   |              |
| Seeds thrice        |   |              |
| Summer fallow once  |   |              |

It has been already slightly noticed, that by some persons the ashes on clayey soils are supposed to be inferior to those on other soils. This supposition took rise principally from the following curious idea,—that, when the ashes are red and brick-like, they are bad;—when they are black and soft, they are good. Popular as this opinion is, it is not borne out by experience; for no farmer, perhaps, has been able to observe the least difference in his crops, even if patches of each were interspersed about the same field. The redness or blackness of the ashes is caused partly from circumstances connected with the operation of *paring and burning*, and partly from the nature of the soil; for, if the land be wet at the time of *paring*, and the sod *burnt* before it has become sufficiently mellow by changes of weather, the ashes will be red: the same effect will also be produced, if, at the time of burning, the wind be rough, and the turf burns too rapid, and the stiffer the soil, the greater the redness and coarseness of the ashes.

The introduction of sainfoin has been avoided in giving the above rotations; but where land is adapted to its growth, it will, of course, form part of the rotation. A mixture of grasses suitable to the soil may also be used to very great advantage.

#### 4. CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS.

From the above account it will be easily perceived that a large proportion of the land in Great Britain might be materially benefited by the process of *paring and burning*, which, so far from destroying the soil, not only mechanically acts greatly to its improvement, but changes dead, inert, and useless substances into a manure, highly conducive to the growth of the cultivated crops; the effect of which may be seen in the turnips and clover more particularly, it being a manure in which they seem especially to delight.

It will also be perceived that it cannot be extensively nor successfully pursued only from *attention being paid to the method of performance*, and to the *ameliorating crops with which it is associated*. Those who contend that the soil will be injured by burning, in consequence of the principal part of the vegetable

matter being dissipated, appear to overlook the reproduction of that matter by a proper system of cropping.

There is also a mechanical action produced from burning, which should not be omitted—that is, *if the land be dry at the time of burning*, every spot where the heaps were formed and burnt will produce a much more luxuriant crop than those parts where the ashes were only spread—so much so, that it will appear in patches of nearly a foot higher in growth all over the field. This has been noticed in particular on peaty soils, although the peat has ignited and burnt to the depth of three feet below the surface of the soil. Surely this practical fact will then induce scientific part of the agricultural community to pay greater attention to this much neglected, although valuable system of culture, and point out the ratio of action by which the land is kept thus productive, at an expense far less than any other manure could be obtained.

The system of *paring and burning* is equally worthy the attention of government as it is of *individual proprietors*, on account of the ready method it offers of bringing waste lands and inferior pastures into immediate and profitable cultivation, and of keeping them in that state. Why these lands and inferior pastures still exist to disgrace and impoverish the country in these days of agricultural science it is difficult to account; for they afford neither profit to the owner, nor employment to the peasant. But of what value is the introduction and culture of the turnip to those who have predetermined that none shall grow on their land? and of what value are the cultivated grasses to those who are satisfied with the scanty supply of spurious grasses which may be collected amidst the *furze, fern, and moss* on their grounds? These are, it is true, clean to walk upon and soft to ride upon; and if they have bushes, they are pleasant to look at; but as for any useful purpose to the community, they are little better than lost. To the statesman and the patriot, this consideration will probably suggest itself—whether these waste lands and inferior pastures might not have afforded profitable employment for those persons whom of late it has been thought advisable to export, to produce the grain which has in the same time been imported?

SPRING SALAD.—We know of nothing more grateful to the palate than a fresh gathered spring salad, more particularly when dressed after the Parisian manner. In this department our Gallic neighbours have altogether eclipsed us. We have often partaken of an exquisitely dressed salad, at a *restaurant*, in the Palais Royale, the only drawback to our enjoyment being the reflection that we could not obtain such a luxury upon our return to our own metropolis. The secret has, however, been at length discovered, and we challenge the most skillful disciple of Dr. Kitchener himself, to distinguish between a real French salad and a genuine English one, when dressed with “CROSSE and BLACKWELL'S FLORENCE CREAM.” It is equally delicious with lobsters and shell-fish, and enables a salad to be prepared in one minute. In the country, where the necessary materials for preparing a good mixture cannot readily be obtained, it will be found invaluable.

Whoever would enjoy a steak, chop, fish or game in perfection, should use CROSSE and BLACKWELL'S SOHO SAUCE. The rich and piquant flavour which it possesses, being at the same time free from anything predominant, is an excellent attribute of a good sauce.



## RUTLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Spring Meeting of this Society (for the show of cart stallions) was held on Monday, the 6th of April, in the riding house, Oakham: the attendance of horses was large, many having come from different counties to compete for the liberal premium offered; to the best cart stallion that shall attend at Oakham once a week during the season of 1835.

The premium was awarded to Mr. Daniel Housin's horse, Oxford, and Mr. Billing's horse allowed to be the second, and succeeding horse, in case the winner should neglect the restrictions laid down by the society. The judges, — Wright, Esq., of Alstead, Leicestershire, and Clarke Morris, Esq., of Oakham Grange, Rutland, also commended the following:—

Mr. Valentine Stapleton's chesnut horse; Mr. Berridge's black horse; R. W. Baker, Esq.'s., Suffolk horse, Rutland Plough-boy;—and Mr. King's black horse: all of which were of a superior kind. Several others were shown in addition to the above. After the business of the day was gone through, a large party dined together at the Crown Inn, John Painter, Esq., in the chair.

It is an important fact to state that the premiums of the above society for the present year, 1835, amounts to no less than *one hundred and fifty pounds*; there are three classes open to all England, namely, class 1, 7, 11, under certain conditions, contained in the society's bill of 1835, which may be obtained by any person applying to the Secretaries, at Oakham, Rutland, on or before the 16th of November 1835, the day all certificates are required to be sent in.—Class 1, for oxen or steers of any breed or weight, under five years old, without restriction as to feeding; a premium of 15 sovereigns to the best. Second best, ditto, 7 sovereigns.—Class 7, for long woolled fat wether sheep, one year old, without restriction as to feeding. To the best pen of three under 22 months old, a premium of 7 sovereigns. To the second best, ditto, 3 sovereigns.—Class 11, for pigs of any breed or age, weight above twenty stone. To the best fat pig, a premium of 5 sovereigns. To the second best, ditto, 2 sovereigns. The following sweepstakes are also open to all England, which close on the 16th November 1835:—

A sweepstakes of two sovereigns, for the best beast, of any breed, age, or weight. A sweepstakes of one sovereign, for the best pen of three sheep, of any kind, breed, or age. A sweepstakes of one sovereign for the best sheep, of any kind, breed, or age. A sweepstakes of one sovereign, for the best pen of 5 breeding ewes, of any breed or age, that have suckled lambs up to the 1st July, 1835; and that have been fed on grass and seeds only, for six months previous to the time of showing.

## AGRICULTURAL MEETING AND CATTLE SHOW AT KELSO.

On Tuesday, March 31, the Union Agricultural Society held their annual show of stock, and sale of short-horns, at Kelso, when the quantity of stock brought forward was even more numerous than heretofore. In the department of short-horned bulls

alone, nearly fifty animals were shown for competition and for sale, a great proportion of which appeared to be brought to the highest pitch of excellence of which the breed is susceptible. In cows and queys, the show was also unusually large, particularly in the latter, many of which we understand also met with a ready market, at very encouraging prices. Indeed, at none of the previous exhibitions has the show of queys been either so numerous or of such superior description in point of quality. The show of sheep, considering that this is not the season when that kind of stock is usually exhibited, was, though not large, highly respectable, especially in Leicesters, several of the pens for which were occupied by very superior animals; the number of Cheviot sheep brought forward was smaller than that of the Leicesters, but the judges considered those shown to be of very excellent quality. In the department of extra stock, his Grace the Duke of Buccleugh exhibited a pen of five Dorsetshire ewes and lambs, from Bowhill, which were much admired. Of draught stallions, more than twenty were exhibited, many from Lanark and Stirlingshire. Some of them were splendid horses, and the judges must have been a good deal puzzled in making a selection of those on which to bestow the Society's premiums. The exhibition lasted from between ten and eleven o'clock in the forenoon till about half-past three, and during that period, several county gentlemen, and a great number of eminent breeders and agriculturists from both sides of the Border, were in attendance. At four o'clock, a party of upwards of eighty members and friends of the Society, with several of the gentlemen from a distance, who had attended as purchasers in the show-yard, sat down to dinner in the White Swan Inn; George Baillie, Esq., younger, of Jerviswoode, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society, in the chair, supported on the right by his Grace the Duke of Buccleugh, and on the left by Thomas Tod, Esq., of Drygrange. Henry F. Scott, Esq., younger, of Harden, another of the Vice-Presidents, officiated as croupier. A great number of toasts, suited to the occasion, were given and prefaced by the chairman, in eloquent and spirited addresses, and the whole business of the evening was conducted with that ability, kindly feeling, and good humour for which Mr. Baillie stands pre-eminently distinguished, and which never fail to inspire a company over which he presides with the utmost enthusiasm. Another great source of delight to the meeting was the presence of his Grace the Duke of Buccleugh, the Union Society's most munificent supporter, and the patron of every institution having for its object the improvement of the country, and the welfare and prosperity of its inhabitants. The health of the noble duke was received with the most rapturous plaudits, and, in returning thanks, his Grace alluded to the high compliment which was lately paid to him by the tenantry of the Lothians, and expressed the delight which he always experienced, when it was in his power to be present at such meetings, and in such company as he then saw around him. The evening was spent in the most joyous and delightful manner.

## DOMESTIC SERVANTS.

MR. EDITOR,—Allow me to draw your attention and that of the public to a matter of universal interest, viz., DOMESTIC SERVANTS.

As the time for re-hiring is at hand, it has occurred to me that an hour spent in suggesting a few hints as to the causes of the ill conduct of many among that class, and as to what may tend

to their improvement, would be a service both to the heads of families and ultimately to themselves.

In the first place it strikes me as a most glaring anomaly, that amidst the vast depreciation which has taken place in the last fifteen or twenty years in the value of all sorts of property and produce, that domestic labour should have retained if not advanced on the war price! Is it not a fact that all articles of consumption, among female servants in particular, are nearly fifty per cent. cheaper than during the war? Now, in regulating the price of wages to the *out-door labourer*, regard is always had to the prices of articles of consumption; is there anything in their peculiar condition why the same rule should not regulate the wages of in-door servants?

But though in times like these, when from a great depreciation in the value of property, all, from the Peer to the lowest tradesman or agriculturist, are bitterly complaining of the burden of the outgoing payments necessary to the station of life they occupy, this would be justification enough for the burdened party *to make one common effort to unburden itself*; yet I think this not the only, nor even the chief reason why we ought all to resolve on a proportionate decrease in the wages of our servants. I more particularly confine my remarks to female servants. It is obvious that the class in general must, from their origin, be ignorant, and from their age, have but little experience and less discretion; at the same time they are for the most part young, and of that age when their passions are most likely, if there be any external cause to give a bias, to warp them from what little discretion they may have into a channel neither favourable to *virtue nor domestic usefulness*.

That external cause is, I fear, to be found in the extraordinary highness of wages. There are few tradesmen or farmers' daughters having no other dependence, who think they can afford to put upon their backs clothing to the same amount as an ordinary servant can, who is in a family of middle rank. The consequence is, that servants are now *eaten out with pride*. Ask any farmer's wife in the country whether the servants are not all getting above their work? In short many respectable yeomen have expressed to me their apprehensions that *no servants will be found for farm houses!*

Besides, the vanity of mind induced by dress, produces that *fickleness of disposition*, which is the great cause why they are so little anxious to retain their places for any length of time. Many a servant now thinks nothing of changing her place twice or even thrice a year! The evil to which this leads is very great—it makes servants *indifferent to character*—nay, it tends to *do away with the practice of obtaining characters*—for what is the value of a character of three or four months standing?—but what is worse than all is, that it paves the way for destitution and misery to the young woman in after life: for as a rolling stone gathers no moss, so she, by such roving habits both fails to acquire that knowledge and experience which would qualify her for the office of a mother, when eventually she becomes one (which alas, is the case often, too soon, from the very cause I complain of), and to conciliate that esteem from her betters which is usually shown towards domestics, who

by retaining their places, have at length so won the esteem of their employers as to elicit some solid proof thereof on their entering the married life; or at least to know that should adverse circumstances hereafter make them objects of pity or compassion, they may rest assured in the cheerful sympathy and aid of their former master or mistress.

Who that is accustomed to visit the haunts of the poor in a way of sympathy, but must agree with me in saying that, except in a few instances (and these I find have been good servants), our cottages exhibit a scene of *utter improvidence, bad management, filth, and waste*? The weary husband comes home at night, but not to comfort, to cleanliness, and to peace, but to *lawless children—to an ill-cooked meal—to squalidness* induced by the wife's sudden transition from plenty to penury, and to *rags*, which she has, from former profusion, become habitually too indolent to repair! The moral effect of all this is dreadful! With the man *disgust* now usurps the place of attachment, and the beer shop with inviting placard, cheerful fire, and well dressed landlady (dressed well with the money that should clothe the labourer's wife), offer a way-side refuge too inviting for the labourer to pass by. What follows? The standing overseer will unfold one part of the sequel, the session or assize calendar the other!

I hope I have shewn (and I speak from personal observation) that the practical tendency of high wages to servants is unfavourable to domestic usefulness; to themselves and eventually to society at large. It appears also altogether anomalous that with an augmented population chiefly from this very class, and consequently we may say, with a glutted market—with the means of supplying themselves with clothing at almost half what it was, we should still be paying for their services an increased, increasing premium.

Reserving a few other observations for another communication, should you deem this worthy of insertion,

I remain, yours, &c.

OMNIUM AMICUS.

April 2.

#### A FRAGMENT.

Oh! tis' a precious gift, those young bright flowers  
So beautiful and fresh, the spring's rich boon  
To the rejoicing earth. They come to us  
Like messengers of gladness—do they not  
Speak to our hearts, of summer's splendid leaves—  
Of the rich scented rose—of hues more bright  
Than those which gild with light, the present hours?  
And the heart fondly clings to all that tells  
Of the mysterious future: we so love  
To chain our hope to days that are to come.  
These flowers too are the first that winter's storm  
Hath passed no blight on; their scented breath  
Has been but flung upon the milder breeze,  
And we feel too, that by their bursting forth  
From wintry dust, they are the blessed signs  
Of love and mercy, which have ever ruled  
This world, in seasons that have fled, and still  
Gives spring and flowers and gladness to the earth.

Kimbolton.

B. B. B.



## WEST CUMBERLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

This Society held its Second Spring Show of Cattle at Cockermouth, on Monday, April 13. The Show which took place in a field near the Gas Works, was much inferior in point of number to that of last year, though the quality of the animals exhibited was of the highest excellence. Several of the smaller beasts were models of symmetry, and the larger cattle attracted much attention, and considerable speculation prevailed as to which would be declared superiors, the quality being so nearly alike that the opinions of even good judges in agriculture were divided.—There was a great number of bulls, but very few heifers shown, and the ground was cleared at an early hour.

The following are the awards of premiums made by the Judges:—

For the best short horned bull, 5*l*. to Mr. H. Salkeld, of Workington; second best, Mr. Wm. Raven, of Eaglesfield.

For the best long-horned bull, Mr. J. Robinson, of Wythop; the second prize would have been awarded to Mr. Blythe Atkinson, but as he got the prize last year, he was not allowed to receive it. For the third best, the prize was awarded to Mr. T. Briggs, of Redmain.

The head prize for the Galloway Bull was awarded to Mr. J. Blackburne, of Hayton Castle; for the second best 2*l*. to Mr. Wm. Cowen, of Kelside, Dovenby.

Four heifers showing no more than four broad teeth, for the best short-horned, 3*l*. to Mr. Wm. Thompson, of Ravenglas; second best, Mr. H. Salkfield, of Workington.

For the best long-horned heifer, 3*l*. to Mr. Joshua Robinson, of Wythop; for the second best, Mr. J. Adcock, of Blinderake.

For the best Galloway heifer, the prizes were awarded to Mr. A. Nichol, of Lindsfield.

For the best heifer with no more than two broad teeth, the best to Mr. Parkin, of Mealo; the second to Mr. W. Birkett, of Papcastle.

For the long-horned the head prize was given to Mr. J. Adcock; and the second to Mr. J. Robinson.

For the best Galloway heifer shewing no more than two broad teeth, the first and second were awarded to Mr. Nichol, who had no competitors.

For the best boar the prize was awarded to Mr. Joseph Dixon, of Wythop Mill; for the second, to Mr. Robert Shepherd, of Unerigg.

The Members' Prize was awarded to Mr. Wm. Birkett, of Papcastle.

For the Sweepstakes, the best short-horned heifer to Mr. Wybergh.

The head prize for the sow was awarded to Mr. John Drape, of Kinside Hill; the second best to Mr. J. Todd, of Gale.

After the show, a numerous party dined together at the Globe Inn. John Watson, Esq., of Clifton, in the Chair; and J. Benson, Esq., vice. Among the general company were Sir F. F. Vane, Bart., of Armthwaite Hall; Wm. Wybergh, Esq., of Isell; Jos. Harris, of Greysouthen; Rev. H. A. Hervey, of Bridekirk; the Rev. C. H. Wybergh, Isel Old Park; Richard Atkinson, Esq., of Bas-senthwaite; Jno. Peile, Esq., of Whitehaven; Henry Jefferson, Esq., Whitehaven, &c., &c.

The cloth being withdrawn, the CHAIRMAN gave "The King," which was drunk with three times three. "The Queen, and the rest of the royal family," was drunk with similar honours.

The CHAIRMAN proposed "Success to the West

Cumberland Agricultural Society," which was drunk with three times three and one cheer more.

The Secretary then read over the list of premiums, as given above.

"The health of the "Successful Candidates" was then given, and Mr. WYBERGH being called upon, returned thanks in a very appropriate manner, declaring that he should hand over his premium to the Secretary to be competed for at the next meeting. (*Cheers.*) In the course of his address, he remarked, that some difference of opinion prevailed among farmers as to the best kind of stock, but, for himself, he would say that he thought short-horned the best; indeed, he remarked, jocularly, that he thought that kind the most profitable, for he had very unexpectedly received 3*l* 10*s* that day. (*Laughter.*) He was only a late candidate in the field, and should not have thought of offering his beast for a prize, but on Saturday night, his farmer advised him to send up his small short-horned, which he complied with, and the result was very satisfactory. (*Cheers and laughter.*)

The next toasts were "The High Sheriff;" and "The Members for the County."

Mr. FELL, of Workington, then proposed the health of the Chairman, who returned thanks in a very neat address.

The CHAIRMAN next gave the health of the Judges of the Show, and thanks to them for their exertions, and for the impartial manner in which they had made their awards.

Mr. RIGG, of Abbey Holme, (one of the judges), was called upon, and returned thanks at some length. He regretted that the show had been so small as compared with last year, but it had improved in one particular, namely, the black Galloways.—Mr. Rigg then expatiated at some length on the subject of this description of stock, and his observations elicited the warmest applause of the respectable company.

Mr. WYBERGH proposed the health of the "Unsuccessful Candidates" which was acknowledged by Mr. Fell of Workington.

The CHAIRMAN next gave the health of Mr. Benson, the Secretary, who, in returning thanks, complained of the remissness of some of the collectors, and said if they were not more attentive in future it would be impossible to have more than one meeting annually.

The health of Sir F. Vane was also drank, with three times three.

The party broke up about five o'clock.

CULTIVATION OF COBBETT'S CORN IN LANCA-SHIRE.—Many of our readers will remember that, some years ago, a species of Indian corn, grown in the United States, was introduced into this country by Mr Cobbett, and strongly recommended by him for general cultivation. It will also be remembered that there was, at the time, a great deal of dissension as to the real merits of the grain, and especially as to whether it would grow in this climate or not, Mr. Cobbett stating that he had grown very fine crops of it on his farm at Barn Elms, in Surrey, and other persons asserting that it had never properly ripened, and never would in this country, except in unusually hot summers. Since that time we have seen it mentioned repeatedly, sometimes as having failed, and at other times as having succeeded. Amongst the most successful cultivators of it (if we remember right) has been Colonel Napier, the military historian, who has grown it at his residence, near Devizes, in Wiltshire; but we never heard

of its having ripened so far north as Lancashire until a few days since, when he saw a number of very fine heads grown by Mr. Willis Earle, on his land at Sandfield Cottage, near Prescott, in the shop of Mr. Skirving, of this town. On inquiry, we found that Mr. Earle had grown a considerable quantity last summer, that it had ripened in the open field, and that he was so much pleased with the success of the experiment, as to be about to grow three or four times as much the present year. It was not until after trying experiments for two or three years that Mr. Willis Earle succeeded in growing a good crop of Indian corn in the open field, and he is therefore of opinion that this plant, like many others, requires some time to accustom it to the comparatively cold and damp climate of England. From the great improvement in the quality of last year's crop, Mr. Earle thinks that the plant has got accustomed to the climate, and means to try it by growing three acres this year. His practice is to sow the seed in drills, three feet from each other, the seeds being six inches from each other in the row, to plough to and from the drills frequently, so long as it can be done without injury to the plants. The ground should be clean and well manured. He believes that he has raised a greater quantity of this grain than can be raised on the same ground of any other kind whatever. The flour of Indian corn makes excellent food both for men and animals; the heads of the plant may be eaten green, and the stem and husks are applicable to innumerable purposes. As a spring corn, if it should once become completely acclimated, it is likely to be of very great value.

**THE CITY OF DORT, IN HOLLAND, PRESERVED BY MILKMAIDS.**—During the wars in the Low Countries, the Spaniards intended to besiege the City of Dort, in Holland, and accordingly planted some thousands of soldiers in ambush, to be ready for the attack when opportunity might offer. On the confines of the city lived a rich farmer, who kept a number of cows in his grounds, to furnish the city with butter and milk. His milkmaids, at this time, coming to milk their cows, saw under the hedges the soldiers lying in ambush, but seemed to take no notice; and having milked their cows, went away singing merrily. On coming to their master's house, they told him what they had seen; who, astonished at the relation, took one of the maids with him to a burgomaster at Dort, who immediately sent a spy to ascertain the truth of the story. Finding the report correct, he began to prepare for safety, and instantly sent to the States, who ordered soldiers into the city, and commanded the river to be let in by a certain sluice, which would instantly lay that part of the country under water where the besiegers lay in ambush. This was forthwith done, and a great number of the Spaniards were drowned; the rest, being disappointed in their design, escaped, and the town was thus providentially saved. The States, to commemorate the memory of the merry milkmaid's good service to the country, ordered the farmer a large revenue for ever, to recompense him for the loss of his house, land, and cattle; and caused the coin of the city to have a milkmaid, milking a cow, to be engraven thereon, which is to be seen at this day, upon the Dort dollars, stivers, and doights; and similar figures were also set up on the water-gate of the Dort: and the milk-maid was allowed for her own life, and her heirs for ever, a very handsome annuity.

A correspondent asserts that the *true* reason why London pickpockets are said to make the best shepherds in New South Wales is that they have been such adepts at *fleeing* in the mother country.

**LANDLORD AND TENANT.**—On no one branch of agricultural operations has so much money been wasted as on draining, and in no particular part of draining has so much negligence been displayed, and so much mischief committed, as in the operation of filling in the stones and covering these stones with earth. Whilst we hold that for every pound expended by a tenant on draining, the proprietor ought to expend two pounds—we also hold that for every time the tenant looks after the workmen employed to execute this nice and most valuable work, the landlord, or his agent, ought to look twice. The landlord who never looks after the operations of his tenantry, and who cares not a single straw whether improvements be temporary or permanent, so long as he receives the promised rent, may, on the expiry of leases, find to his cost, that the lands, so far from being improved, have rather been deteriorated. A good, practical, and scientific farmer, so far from viewing a minute scrutiny of his operations as indicating a tendency on the part of his landlord to lord it over him, on the contrary, hails it as a sure proof that his landlord is interested in his welfare, and disposed to reward his industry, skill, and care. We have heard much of the generosity of some landlords who have only given a deduction of a few pounds per cent. from the rent of their tenants for one or two years, whilst the generosity of those landlords who have given their tenants a permanent deduction, by draining, where they were not bound by contract, and giving lime at little more than half the market price, have been hitherto kept in the shade. For our own part we look upon the landlord who aids the tenant to go on with improvements, as being more beneficent than the landlord who gives a small temporary money abatement. The great embarrassments under which the agricultural community now labour, render it absolutely necessary for landlord and tenant to enter into arrangements, by which improvements may be made permanent and the capital expended in draining, on the renewal of every nineteen years' lease, ultimately saved. By indiscriminate per centage deduction, the man who improves, and the man who does not improve, are treated alike. That agriculture may flourish, the landlord must ever be more beneficent to the improving than the non-improving tenant; and the tenant must ever be more disposed to rent land from the proprietor who encourages the prudent, than the proprietor who is satisfied with receiving his rent, without caring whether his lands have been improved on the temporary or permanent system.

The Annual Show of the Strathmore Agricultural Association, was held on the Market Muir Coupar Angus, on Thursday the 9th April. The show of stock surpassed anything that has been seen for many a preceding year. The judges felt it a somewhat difficult task to select, from the superior animals, the horse most worthy of the prize. They, however, unanimously agreed to award it to the beautiful black horse, belonging to Mr. Robert Wilson, Frithfield, Fifeshire. The judges and members, along with a great many other gentlemen, afterwards dined in the Strathmore Hall, which was suitably fitted up for the occasion. The Right Honourable Lord Kinross ably filled the chair. The croupiers were, Mr. Archer, Coupar Grange, and Mr. Robertson, Buttergask, and several other gentlemen gave a number of very excellent speeches, and the evening was spent in the greatest hilarity.

**TURNIPS FROM THIS YEAR'S SEED.**—It has been thought by many farmers and others, that turnip seed



of two year's preserving must produce bulbs of a more proportionable shape than seed kept for a shorter period. This theory, we understand, has been often put to the test by Mr. Laurie, seedsman here, who is in the practice of proving the quality of his turnip seed immediately after thrashing it out, and he finds it to bulb equally well, grow more freely, and swell to a much larger size than seeds sown in the former year. On the 9th of July last, he sowed more than half an acre with turnip seed grown this year, of green-topped yellow, bullock, and purple-topped Swedish; and many of the bulbs produced from the former weighed more than 3½ lbs, and those from the latter 2 lbs., specimens of which may be seen at this office, and at Mr. Imrie's shop.—*Ayr Observer*

**MALTING BARLEY FOR FEEDING CATTLE.**—During the debate on the repeal of the malt duty, Sir Robert Peel mentioned his wish that the following order of the Board of Excise should be made as public as possible:—"The practice of steeping barley in water to prepare it as food for cattle having become prevalent, and as the revenue may be injured by the application thereof to other purposes, ordered, that the respective supervisors and officers endeavour to ascertain the parties who carry on this practice within their several districts, and their manner of disposing of the corn so steeped; but that no interruption whatever be given thereto, except upon actual proof or well-grounded suspicion of fraud. Attention must be paid to the situation of the premises where the corn may be steeped, as to any kiln or oven in which it could be dried, as well as to the proportion which the quantities of barley steeped bear to the number of horses or other cattle to be fed therewith; and if any suspicious circumstances shall be discovered, the matter must be fully investigated, and the particulars stated to the board."—During the debate Mr. Cobbett said, that for the purposes of feeding cattle, more nutriment was contained in two bushels of malt than in three bushels of Barley.

## AGRICULTURAL REPORTS.

### BEDFORDSHIRE.

From the middle of February to the 20th of March we had here an unusual quantity of rain, which proved most unfavourable for the young lambs, particularly upon tenacious soils, in bleak situations, and where the lambs were just falling; under these circumstances, great losses have been sustained.

The latter part of the month, however, proved very propitious for all farm purposes, especially for sowing barley, having generally dry days, with frost at night, which materially assisted the farmer in pulverising the unkind soils. The weather during the present month has also been equally favourable, so that the greater part of the barley will be pretty well put in. The wheat upon very strong land turned sickly during the wet weather in March, but has since recovered, and is now, under good management, generally looking well. Winter tares, young clovers, and the pasture grounds in general, may also be considered in rather a forward state.

APRIL 17.

Since writing the above, we appear to have had a second winter set in; yesterday we had a heavy fall of snow, and this morning every thing around us presented the most wintery appearance, and the frost was the most severe we ever remember so late in the season. We apprehend the wall-

fruit, though appearances had been most flattering, will be generally cut off, and the damage to the young clovers, where stocked, will be considerable; while to the turnip and rapeseed we anticipate still greater injury. The price of wheat continues ruinously low; and barley, though a most deficient crop, has lowered in value as the malting season has drawn to a close.

Wool is rather inquired after, and average clips sell at about 1s 6d per lb, while fat mutton and pork can scarcely be turned into money.

The new poor laws are now about to be brought pretty generally into operation; the board of guardians for the respective divisions of this county are elected, and the overseers have received instructions to discontinue relief upon the old system after the 9th of next month. The season of the year, as well as the extreme low price at which the necessaries of life may now be purchased, are considered rather favourable circumstances for bringing about this new state of things. But, on the other hand, the total inability of the farmers to employ a single labourer more than they absolutely require, will necessarily leave a large portion to be provided for in some form or other by the board of guardians. We sincerely hope that they will be able to succeed, without any serious commotion among the poor; but, knowing as we do, how deeply rooted pauperism is in some parts of this country, we must frankly confess that we shall not be surprised at any strong expression of feeling against the new system which may prevail.

### OXFORDSHIRE.

The greater part of the month of March proved wet and stormy, and altogether unfavourable for working strong lands, so that the teams had but little to do, and field work, which had previously been in a forward state, got in arrear, consequently there remains a large breadth of barley to be put in; as the land is found to require a deal of labour to pulverise it properly, the stiff soils come up heavily; and except they are harrowed just at the moment they are in a proper working state, they get baked in the sun, and the labour to break them down is immense. Turnip land (when eaten off in March) breaks up in large clods, requiring both time and work to bring them into a proper condition to receive the seed. Beans are in general come up well, but where advantage was not taken to plant them in the fine weather we had in February, the delay occasioned by the continued rain last month caused some, indeed many, not to be finished until nearly quite April; this will be found in the samples, the quality of beans being so greatly affected by late planting. Wheats have much improved since our last report, the crop in some places being too rank and forward. Winter vetches are a fine crop, and very forward, so much so that on the reporter's farm they are in start of the famed *Trifolium Incarnatum*. For the last three nights we have had severe frosts for the season, and excessively cold as compared with the preceding few days; this pulverising effect of the frost on land recently ploughed, has been astonishingly beneficial, while on the other hand it is to be feared its effect upon the fruit and early peas will be most disastrous.

As regards markets, either for corn or cattle, bad as they have long been, yet still lower prices have the already half-ruined farmers been compelled to take for their produce, and, notwithstanding this march of ruin has for years been progressing, still each succeeding administration appear totally regardless spectators. We are of opi-

nion that this will be the case until the backward and lethargic farmers will unite in defence of their just claims to a share in the sympathy felt and acknowledged by government for OTHER classes of the community when under similar circumstances. Then let (we would once more exhort them) associations, in every market town at least, be speedily formed; but those who take the lead in their formation should take especial care that while they would very properly exclude politics they are not insensibly drawn into the snare so frequently laid by some crafty agent, for the purpose of strengthening some declining interest, therefore we would advise that the association be composed of farmers, and of farmers alone; put no great man at the head as president, and, above all, guard against the nomination of a number of vice-presidents—insist on having but one—and let that one be a respectable and intelligent agriculturist, a practical man, neither squire or clergyman; you will then be able to deliberate freely and fairly as to what is best to be done in this awful crisis of our affairs. We speak and offer this advice from experience of the baneful effects resulting from a different line being pursued.—April 17.

#### STRATHMORE.

The sickly aspect which the fields of young grass and wheat exhibited at the beginning of the month has been temporary. The beans and peas were in general got in during the third week of the month; and the ground being in the finest order for working, a proportion of the oat-seed was finished by the 30th, when soft showery weather set in, and has since so frequently prevailed that it is not yet entirely brought to a close. Considerable quantities of potatoes are still on hand in various parts of the country; a rise of any importance in the price is therefore not to be expected; and many are of opinion that this department of husbandry, so beneficial to this district for several years past, will henceforth afford as little remuneration to the farmer as the cereal crops have done for some time past; and the reason assigned is simply this, that the cultivation of the red potato has lately been introduced into England upon an extensive scale, and that they bring a higher price in the London market than those from Scotland. The sheep and cattle markets have been rather duller since our last. The same may be said with regard to the corn markets, especially for wheat, which is certainly below its nutritive value, when compared with the prices of the other sorts of grain; which, taken in connexion with the present scale of rents, are evidently under anything like a fair remuneration price to the agriculturist.—April 6.

#### NORTH RIDING, YORKSHIRE.

The weather has been variable of late; we had some thunder and lightning on the 2d inst. and some rain, since which it has been fine and dry weather, though rather too frosty at nights. The lambing season is nearly over, and I believe there is generally speaking a good crop of lambs. I would caution my brother farmers against keeping their ewes that are with lamb too long on their turnips: a friend of mine had his upon some Swedes, that were grown on a field that had been pared and burnt, until they lambed; he lost 28 lambs, when he took them off the turnips, after which no more died; the milk of the ewes ap-

peared in quite an unnatural state. The turnip grazing season is now over, and a sorrowful one it has been to many; thousands of acres of as fine turnips as need grow, after having cost the farmer a great deal of trouble and expense, have not paid him one farthing in return; many have actually sold their sheep for less than the cost in the autumn—great encouragement this for farmers! Well, the land is generally sown with barley; petitions are sent to Parliament praying for a repeal of the malt tax; it is well known how that matter has ended. The very best wheat which cost 8s per bushel growing, is now not worth more than 5s 3d—fine times for farmers! Good mutton sheep that were bought in at 5½d to 6d per lb, have been selling at 5 per lb, and so on. I should think that at this rate we shall have some kind of a change; it is capital news for the radicals; they want us quiet, peaceable farmers to be completely ruined, in order that they may the more easily come at our landlords, the aristocracy.

We have been uncommonly busy with spring seed time of late; not having an opportunity of getting beans and oats in so early as is common, it throws us out all together—am glad to state that ribbing or drilling is become more general. Rape dust is too high, and produce too low, for its being much used for barley this spring. Am glad to state that the beef and mutton markets are on the advance, more so than any one expected; it appears that there had been too many hurried to market for want of keep, when the turnips were done, which caused the late low prices, but there are not so many come to market now. Beef is worth 6s 6d per stone if very good; mutton 6d per lb. There has been a greater preference shown for small Scotch mutton than in other years; large fat sheep have been the worst to dispose of. Our wheat markets are shocking:—good wheat as low as 4s 6d per bushel, best only 5s 3d. Barley has sold at from 35s to 38s per qr. Oats 23s for good Friesland. Beans about 40s per qr. In store stock not much variation; it is thought that wool will keep its price. The wages of blacksmiths, carpenters, masons, &c., are the same as when wheat was 10s per bushel.—April 16.

#### PERTSHIRE.

The stormy weather which prevailed towards the latter end of February, continued till about the middle of the month, and during that period, committing of seed to the soil was quite impracticable. Sowing of beans and peas, however, commenced in the Carse of Gowrie, about the 16th, and from that date to the present, the weather has been most excellent for promoting the labours of the husbandman at this important season of the year. Lands intended for beans and peas were generally seeded by the 24th, and this department of farm labour could not have been conducted under more favourable circumstances. Sowing of oats has generally commenced in the lower districts of the county, and, as the soil has been so finely pulverised by the winter frosts, the stiffest lands were never known to yield more readily to the harrow. Growing wheat, which appeared rather sickly during the earlier part of the month, begins to resume its former healthy appearance; and with exceptions, seems sufficiently forward in growth for the season of the year. Clover fields look fresh, and we have seldom observed the clover and rye grass plants to be in more equal proportions.



Turnips in general are nearly consumed, and will have much ado to hold out till pastures are sufficiently forward in growth for the reception of live stock. Corn markets are still languid. Wheat meets a dull sale, at from 40s. to 44s. per qr. Oats, fit for seed, have been somewhat in request, and have risen from 1s. to 2s. per quarter in price. The same remark applies to seed barley, but inferior sorts of grain are almost unsaleable. Live stock are likewise declining in price; and as we anticipated in our last, turnips in many instances have gone for nothing: which, together with many untoward circumstances, press heavily both on the farmer and feeder. Few grass parks are yet let, but high rents are not anticipated. Young calves have seldom been in more request, and are readily bought up at from 10s. to 15s. each. Large quantities of potatoes have been lately shipped at our several ports for the London market, but the late returns have been rather discouraging, something about from 5s. to 6s. per boll of 3½ stone Dutch have only been realized. Peach and Nectarine trees, on open walls, are in full bloom, and promise an abundant supply of fruit. Apple and pear trees in orchards also exhibit a fair sprinkling of fruit buds. March dust, that invaluable article, has been in great abundance for the last ten days.

### AGRICULTURAL INTELLIGENCE, FAIRS, &c.

**ALFRETON EASTER FAIR.**—This fair was not so well attended as anticipated, although the day was very fine, but most kinds of cattle obtained full as good prices as could be expected, considering the depressed state of agricultural produce.

**HEREFORD EASTER FAIR.**—There has seldom been a finer supply of stock seen at this season of the year; and we congratulate the farmer on a little improvement in the price, and considerable in the demand. Every kind of stock sold; prime fat beasts averaging 5d per lb., while barren and all other stores, though a respectable supply, were nothing equal to the number in request. A moderate supply of sheep; fat wethers averaged 5½d per lb., lambs, 7d. Supply of pigs very small. The horse fair exhibited but few good animals; good cart-horses sold pretty well, but nothing doing among the inferior sort.

**GROSMONT FAIR** was better supported than any preceding fair. The supply of cattle was good, the attendance of buyers numerous, and the whole of the Stock met with ready purchasers at improved prices; fat stock sold at from 4½d to 5d per lb.: barrens and other stores in very great demand; sheep and pigs a moderate supply, the former rather higher in price.

At **DOWNTON FAIR** the show of sheep was not great; prices considerably lower than last year. Barreners, cows, and calves, were of a middling description. Horses were in plenty, and good ones sold at fair prices.

**MALTON PALMSUN HORSE SHOW AND CATTLE FAIR.**—Only a few horses were shown. The prime ones fetched good prices, but for every other description the demand was limited. From first to last, both as to the quality of the horses and business transacted, a worse horse fair never occurred within the memory of the oldest man living.—In the Cattle Fair, buyers and sellers were numerous, and a good deal of business was done at far better prices than had been anticipated.

**ADWALTON CATTLE FAIR.**—The show of cattle to-day was very extensive, and a greater number of buyers of calves were in attendance from the neighbourhoods of Manchester, Liverpool, and Sheffield, than we have witnessed for some time. Many sales were made the night before the fair. Good calving cows sold well, and very few were left unsold. Geld cows went off slowly, and many remained unsold, the graziers not being willing to give the prices demanded. The Horse Show was but indifferent, and little business was done, except as to a few for farming purposes, which were sold at low prices.

**NORTHALLERTON FORTNIGHT FAIR.**—There was a tolerable show of fat and lean cattle and sheep. Beef sold from 5s 9d to 6s, and some very prime at 6s 3d per stone. Mutton at 5½d and 6d per lb.

**BEDALE FAIR**, was abundantly supplied with fat and other beasts, which met with prices from 6s to 6s 6d per stone. The show of sheep was small.

**DARLINGTON.**—At our fair on Easter Monday, we had only a middling supply of cattle and sheep, but it was of a superior description—prices a trifle, higher, and sales brisk: Beef 5s 6d to 6s 3d; Mutton, 6s to 7s per stone. In the Horse Fair the show was only indifferent.

**The First MUIR OF ORD MARKET.**—There was more than 1,000 head of Cattle. Those sold brought from 5s to 10s a head less than they would have done last year. Three-year-old stots brought from 5l 18s to 6l 6s; two-year-olds from 3l to 4l 10s; calving cows from 5l to 7l. For Cheviot hogs 6s to 9s were given. No ewes were shown.

**THIRSK FORTNIGHT FAIR.**—We had a fair show of cattle and sheep at this day's fair, and a number of dealers, but great depression existed in the market. Of sheep the show was large for the season, and few sales effected. Beef 5s 6d to 5s 9d per stone; mutton 5d to 6d per lb.

**TRINITY MUIR TRYST.**—The show of Cattle at this market was much under an average, particularly of drove Beasts from the northern counties. Dealing was rather dull: but from the smallness of the supply prices were fully as good as anticipated, and but very few lots left unsold. Good three year old stots, of the Angus or polled breed, realized from 9l to 13l; two year old ditto from 5l to 8l; and year olds from 2l 10s to 5l per head. Drove Cattle brought from 9l to 14l according to weight and quality. Prime fat from 5s to 5s 3d; inferior ditto from 4s to 4s 6d per imperial stone. Good Cows, nearly calving, sold speedily at fully as high prices as fat stock. Farrow Cows and Queys for grass brought about 4s per imperial stone, estimated at what they will weigh when fat. There was a poor show of Sheep, consisting chiefly of ewes, and the prices (from 10l to 15l) not corresponding with the rates in autumn last. Fat Cattle and Sheep were from five to ten per cent cheaper than at this tryst last year, and with very few exceptions, all sorts of Stock have left little for wintering.

At **CHUDLEIGH FAIR**, Mr. William Bowden of Mamhead, had a score of extraordinary fat wether hogs, which was supposed to weigh 25lb. the qr.

There was a smaller number of sheep than usual penned at Devizes Green Fair on Monday last; but the prices, on the average, were rather better than those obtained at the late Illey fairs. Some very thick mutton, however, fit for a Christmas Show, could not obtain a bidder. Milch cows sold well, but very fat beasts, a small number of which were exhibited, were unsaleable.

**SHREWSBURY FAIR**, exhibited a capital supply of prime fat Cattle, most of which were sold at 4½d to 5d per lb; the latter price, however, was only obtained for a few of the very best. A good many stores were offered, and sold with difficulty; but cows and calves sold well. Sheep, particularly large ones, were plentiful; these sold at about 5d per lb; and some rather less; but prime small Sheep were worth 6d. Some small couples of hill ewes with lambs were sold as low as 25s, and the price ranged upwards to 45s per couple. Many large Sheep went back unsold. Small Pigs were higher; large were sold with difficulty at lower prices. A good supply of butter was offered, and sold at 7d to 7½ per lb. Cheese—Skim 25s to 30s per cwt. Middle dairies 35s to 45s. Best dairies 50s to 53s per cwt. The supply of Bacon was prodigious, and not nearly all sold at 3½d to 4d per lb. Hams 4½d to 5d per lb. We heard of several lots sold as low as 4d.—At Gloucester fair, on Monday, there was a tolerably large show of fat and lean Stock. Beef fetched from 4½d to 5d per lb. Fresh barren heifers and steers were in demand, and sold at good prices considering the times. There was a pretty good sale for Cows and Calves, but at reduced prices from those of last year. Small fat Sheep were in demand, and sold from 6d to 6½d per lb; but thick heavy mutton scarcely commanded 5d; small stores also were in demand, but there was no sale for the larger sorts. There was a good show of cart Horses, but such is the depression in agricultural stock that they could not find customers at any price, although they were offered at a reduction of nearly 50 per cent. from the prices of this time twelvemonth. Very few good nags appeared, and those were readily sold at high prices.

**LINCOLN HORSE FAIR**.—During the past week the arrival of horses commenced, and on the whole we have had a good show (although not so large as on former years), however, first-rate horses sold at very high prices, while those of a secondary description were in great demand, and sold well, also those of the nag kind, and good horses of the cart kind fetched fair prices, but inferior ones were rather heavy sale. We had a great number of dealers, and a deal of business has been done. Some foreigners were observed, who made large purchases.

At the **DAVENTRY EASTER FAIR** there was a liberal supply of cheese, and a considerable number of factors, which caused a brisk trade, the prices varying from 40s to 50s per cwt; there were a very few fair dairies sold as low as 38s, whilst the favourite Warwickshire dairies obtained as high as 56s. There was also a very good supply of beasts and sheep, which went off briskly at an advance. The fair, upon the whole, was well attended, and a considerable quantity of business transacted.

**ROMSEY**, April 21.—The supply of cheese for this day's fair was considerable, and there was an unusual number of purchasers for small quantities, but the general demand was by no means equal to the supply. For skim cheese, from 18s to 30s was obtained; half caward, 38s to 42s; North Wilts and white Somerset, 44s to 52s; red ditto, 54s to 63s; prime Cheddar, 70s; prices, in general, realising the factor nearly the same as in the winter, with, however, a falling off in the sales. The sheep, in quality, were superior, and produced, at a quick sale, good prices. For the horned cattle, too, there was a brisk sale of the best stock; those of inferior breed and condition remaining unsold. The show of horses was unusually bad.

**HOWDEN SPRING FAIR**.—The show of horses at the Spring Fair at Howden on Wednesday and Thursday, the 15th and 16th of April last, was not so large as was expected; a disposition to purchase was manifested by the dealers present, of which there was a much greater number than was found horses to supply. Every description that were adapted for present use were soon bought up, but the inferior descriptions were, as usual, taken back; nevertheless, we argue from the great extent of land that is gone, and is going down into grass in this district, and the spirit that is manifested in the breeding of horses, that in two or three years it will be found in the spring, as well as it is known to be in the autumn, the great emporium for all the best kind of horses. The show of cattle in the fair on Saturday was large; the continued cold chilling winds and intense frost, more appropriate to December than April, having checked the vegetation of grass, the buyers commenced their business with great caution, but before noon the greater part was disposed of. A little improvement in prices may be quoted from a few of the recent neighbouring fairs for every description of grazing stock. Fat stock from 5s 6d to 6s per stone. The show of sheep was large, chiefly hogs half-bred, and from the North a much greater quantity than usual have been wintered upon the farms in this part, the sale of which was heavy, not leaving that remuneration for the winter keep which they had realized for the last two or three years. At twelve o'clock the show of stock commenced for the premiums given by the Howdenshire Agricultural Society, and in consequence of the increased number of premiums, it was held in a close at the entrance to the town from Howdendike, of much larger extent than the ground on which the former shows took place, and under such arrangements as gave perfect satisfaction to the supporters of the institution. The judges were.—Mr. Wiley, sen. of Bransby; Mr. Foster, of Fockerby; and Mr. Fenwick, of Rawcliffe; of whom it is only just to observe, that their decisions have given general satisfaction. The following were their awards, viz:—To Mr. Simpson's coaching stallion, Gallant, 5l; Mr. Edmund Thompson's coaching brood mare, 2l; Mr. Edmund Thompson's hunting brood mare, 2l; Mr. J. Scholfield's, jun. coaching gelding, 3l; Mr. Durham's brown carting stallion, 2l; Mr. T. Watson's carting mare, 2l; Mr. Calam's bull, 2l; Mr. Edmund Thompson's breeding cow, 2l; Mr. Edmund Thompson's two-years-old heifer, 2l; Mr. Edmund Thompson's yearling heifer, 2l; Mr. Well's fat ox, 2l. (The two latter were shown in competition for one premium, but such was the attainment of perfection in both as regard animal breeding and fatness, being of the pure short-horn breed, that upon the judges suggesting to the Committee the propriety of giving a premium to each, it was acceded to, and the result gave general satisfaction.) Mr. H. Edward's boar 1l, and Mr. Clark's sow 1l. It would only be justice to observe, amongst the unsuccessful candidates, that Mr. Cragg's horse, Mr. H. Edwards's breeding cow, and Mr. Burton's, as well as several other's elicited great credit; and great expectations are formed from the increasing state of the funds, and the feeling manifested, that the next show will prove of a more extensive character and not less satisfactory.

**CARMARTHEN FAIR**, last week, was better supplied with cattle than usual, but buyers being very scarce, few sales were effected, and those at low prices. The supply of pigs was very small, and no purchasers.



**WOODBIDGE STOCK FAIR.**—This noted shew of Market Horses, was held on Monday last, and attracted a numerous company, the weather being remarkably fine and favourable.—The number shewn was 25, being less by ten than last year. The loss in quantity, however, was amply compensated for, by excellence of quality. Those who are considered judges, expressed their opinion that, with the exception of two or three, horses in finer condition, of more perfect symmetry, compactness of frame, power of muscle, and possessing all those desirable qualities for which the Suffolk Punch is famed, never before graced the field. Taste, with regard to choice of horse stock, differs, as much as in most other things; what some may consider superior points, others may think inferior, it is a difficult matter, therefore to particularize the best, especially when all are so good. We shall, therefore, confine ourselves simply to an enumeration of those horses which came under our notice:—**CART HORSES:**—Mr. Edwards's (Sutton) chesnut, and chesnut Colt; Mr. L. Doves's (Debenham) "Young Boxer;" Mr. Martin's (Brightwell,) chesnut, "Boxer;" Mr. Fryatt's (Martlesham) horse; Mr. Rist's (Foxhall) chesnut; R. N. Shaw's Esq., "Briton;" Mr. Wright's (Barningham;) Mr. Brook's (Melton) "Briton;" Mr. C. Todd's (Otley) chesnut, "Briton;" Mr. J. Largent's (Marlesford) chesnut, "Bumper;" Mr. Brook's (Henley) "Young Captain;" Mr. Spinks's; Mr. Freeman's (Henham) chesnut, "Briton," and "Young Duke."—**RIDING HORSES,** which were also very superior:—Mr. Culum's (Ipswich) "Gameboy," & "Young Partizan;" Mr. Lines (Thorpe) "Shales," and "Spotted Cob;" "St Hubert;" Mr. Pooley's (Debenham) "Sovereign;" Mr. B. Head's (Woodbridge) 2-year-old Colt by Sir Paul;" Mr. Freeman's (Henham) bay, "Whisker."—The cattle and sheep fair in the forenoon was badly attended, and little business done.

**LOCKERBIE SHEEP SHOW.**—**STEAM NAVIGATION.**—At the show of live stock, especially sheep, held at Lockerbie, in Dumfriesshire, on the 19th of March, the attention of the border sheep feeders was drawn to the facilities which the introduction of steam navigation gave to them, for disposing of their stock in the English market, and more particularly in Liverpool. Not fewer than from 20,000 to 30,000 of the half-bred sheep (Leicester and Cheviot) of that district are every year sent to the midland counties of England to be disposed of, in the month of April, at the spring fairs; and it was strongly recommended that a part at least of these sheep, instead of being sent in one mass, by land, should be despatched by the steam-boats plying between the Nith and the Mersey to Liverpool, during the months of April, May, June, and July, as the demand and the prices might render it profitable. Should this suggestion be attended to, it will add considerably to the import of live stock into this port, and perhaps affect the price of butchers' meat in this neighbourhood. How strange a revolution that is, by which the Dandie Dinmonts of the Scottish borders are made the purveyors for the people of Lancashire. It is another of the thousand triumphs of steam navigation.

The wheat crop promises well in this neighbourhood. Barley and oat sowing are nearly completed, and we are glad to announce to our readers that those farmers with whom we have had the pleasure to converse on the subject all agree in saying that the latter grains were never better got in, nor the soil in better state of cultivation.—*Southampton Paper.*

## REVIEW OF THE CORN TRADE IN MARK LANE DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL.

The languor and depression which has now for so many months marked the character of the trade, not only in Mark Lane but at Liverpool, and all the leading country markets, precludes the chance of offering many remarks that can excite the interest either of the agriculturist, merchant, or speculator. Millers are so well supplied from the local deliveries that they have little necessity of resorting to Mark Lane, unless to procure the finer qualities of Wheat, and the pressure, so long existing on the spirit as well as the powers of speculators in foreign grain, owing to the capital already locked up in bonded corn, that the means as well as the inclination are paralyzed of ever making any casual investment in free wheat, and thus relieving the market of any surplus beyond the consumptive demand. The operations of speculators are always viewed in an envious light, and in times of excitement the parties themselves have been objects of popular odium. It is natural that a man embarking his money in the purchase of any article of grain, acts under the impression of self-aggrandizement, yet, on the broad principle of the fact, he is contributing to a public benefit, and ought to be reckoned amongst the most serviceable members of society. In foreign countries magazines or store-houses for grain are erected by government in different parts of the kingdom in order to provide for a scarcity. These institutions may be necessary in countries in an imperfect state of civilization; but that which requires the authority of government to accomplish abroad, is effected in England by the commercial and enterprising genius of our countrymen, who are induced to enter into speculative purchases, and risk their property at one period, with a chance of reaping a profit during the deficient season which may occur; and the supplies by these means of a good or failing crop are in great measure equalized to the customers, who, without these operations, must either pay an exorbitant price for their food or incur the chance of starvation, or the clumsy machinery of government be resorted to. Under most circumstances, therefore, the speculator merits the attention and assistance of government in order to relieve part of that capital, which the chance of the seasons and the acts of the legislature may have rendered unavailable. These remarks we have been induced more particularly to make, in consequence of some unreasonable remonstrances, which have been made to the French government from some agriculturists and interested parties in the Western Departments of France against the privilege of merchants and others grinding foreign wheat into flour for export to Algiers. In countries where the annual growth is barely commensurate to the consumption, it is no injustice to the home grower this mode of traffic. In England all the bearings of the case are applicable; we have no surplus wheat on an average of years, and the

prices of the raw material effectually prevent any competition on our part with foreigners in supplying with biscuit and flour the West Indies, Newfoundland, South America, and even our own foreign trading vessels. If government, therefore, were to allow flour to be made from the bonded wheat, which is now lying in granary, incurring heavy granary charges, and, in some instances, almost destroyed by weevil, and, in very many cases, much infected with this destructive insect, whose ravages daily increase, it would be no more than an act of justice in the legislature to a most useful part of the community—the *speculators in foreign corn*.

The supplies of wheat throughout the past month have been liberal, amounting to about 35,000 qrs English, and 1,800 qrs Scotch qualities. During the first three weeks, the same dullness and languor, which has so long pervaded the market, continued to exert its depressing influence on the trade; millers manifesting little disposition to purchase, even at the depreciated state of the currency, which is as low as has been experienced since the year 1786, when the annual average of the kingdom did not exceed 38s 10d Winchester measure. The finer qualities of white wheat have receded 2s to 3s per qr, red qualities 2s, and inferior qualities fully 3s per qr; towards the close, however, of the month, the supplies diminishing, and the condition of the samples having improved, caused more inclination to purchase, and the finer descriptions steadily maintained their rates, with symptoms of improvement, the low rates having, at length, created some speculative attention. In bonded wheat nothing transpiring, though orders have been transmitted abroad at the prevailing depressed currencies.

The receipts of flour have been large, amounting together to 38,000 sacks, which has much depressed the trade; and the best town made qualities have given way 2s per sack, 38s being the top currency; ship marks have also become 1s. to 2s. per sack lower, and good fresh samples have been selling, ex-ship, at 27s 6d to 28s 6d.

The alterations in the duties consist of an increase of 1s per qr. on wheat, the duty being 47s 8d, and the aggregate average of the kingdom has declined to 38s 10d. The duty on peas has advanced 3s per qr.

The importation of English and Scotch barley has much decreased, but from Ireland we have been rather more freely supplied, and from Denmark and Holstein the arrivals have been liberal. We have received about 10,600 qrs of English, 2,000 qrs Scotch, 4,400 Irish, and 15,800 qrs foreign. The foreign samples, most of which have been offering free, having paid the duty of 13s 10d, has materially influenced the market for all descriptions of British quality, particularly the secondary sorts; and though the imports of English have been limited, yet the advanced period of the season, and some of the prin-

cipal maltsters having nearly supplied themselves for the season, added to the fineness of the weather, and the anticipation of augmented supplies from abroad, have acted on the mind of purchasers, and checked their operations. Fine Chevalier barley has sustained little deprivation in value, but Norfolk and Suffolk qualities are 1s per qr. lower, and Danish and Holstein 2s to 3s, fine Holstein having realized at the beginning of the month, 38s; and being only now worth 35s to 36s. Few distillers have appeared at market, distilling qualities therefore have ruled extremely dull. Grinding barley however has remained steady, and will no doubt be in request during the summer.

The malt trade has remained in a very dull state, the brewers having evinced little disposition to purchase, and though the finer qualities have nominally suffered no depreciation in value, yet secondary and inferior samples are fully 1s to 2s per qr lower.

The supply of English oats has been very limited, consisting merely of 7000 qrs. From Scotland, the receipts, as compared with the month of March, have much fallen off, amounting only to 20,000 qrs; but from Ireland, the accumulation of supplies, which had been detained by unfavourable weather, having arrived, has increased the import to 90,000 qrs. Notwithstanding the extensive importations of Irish oats, the article has experienced a steady sale throughout the month at improving rates; and as dealers have exhausted their stocks in waiting for the Irish arrivals, they have continued free purchasers, which with a good country demand has enabled factors to realize an advance of 2s 6d to 3s per qr. Bonded qualities are also held on higher terms; foreign feed in bond being worth 13s to 16s per qr. In the free on board Irish trade, there has been considerably more activity; very high prices are now asked from the Southern Irish ports, and nearly all the oats that have been offering at reasonable rates have been taken off the market. In referring to the annexed account of the import of oats into the port of London during the first three months of the years 1834, and 1835, we find a considerable increase during this season, particularly from Ireland, where from, almost every part, the difference is great, especially from the ports of Dublin, Galway, Londonderry, Sligo, and Waterford. The demand for the British Channel ports has prevented the increase being so large from some of the Southern ports, (Youghall, and Lime-  
rick for example,) but the exports from Ireland have already so far exceeded their amount in the generality of seasons, that we infer their must be much less than usual at this period of the year left for future shipment.

| First quarter of 1834 | English. | Scotch. | Irish,  |
|-----------------------|----------|---------|---------|
| Oats qrs .....        | 68,770   | 86,557  | 95,374  |
| Do. 1835              | 26,423   | 110,839 | 190,927 |

Beans being always more or less influenced by the price of oats, have partially participated in the improvement of that article and have realized an ad-



vance of 1s to 2s per qr, with a very limited show of samples; bonded qualities meet inquiry and are held at 23s to 25s. White boiling peas have hung heavily hand, and the sales effected have been at very low rates. Grey and maple qualities have sustained little alteration in value.

The grain trade in France has sustained little alteration in demand or price, the last aggregate value of wheat throughout the kingdom having been 34s 4d. The young wheats are generally represented as assuming a promising appearance, though in some places, on the richer soils, much choked with weeds: and in other parts, particularly on the poorer lands, much in want of rain; indeed, the drought is already beginning this season, the same as the last to exert its injurious influence on the forthcoming crops, especially as regards summer corn. At Paris, holders were demanding higher rates for Wheat than purchasers were willing to accede to, and consequently little business was transpiring. The growth of lucerne has been effected in some places by the night hoar frosts. The rape plants have also suffered from a similar cause.

At Leghorn, prices remained dull and unaltered. English and Dutch white wheat was noted at 29s 1d to 31s 4d; red, 27s to 29s. Tuscan white wheat was worth 45s 2d; red ditto., 39s 6d. At Naples, some improvement had been experienced in wheat, owing to a report that an importation of the article would be permitted at Cadiz; since which, however, the currencies have relapsed to their former rates. The young crops after the rains had every promise of a satisfactory return. At Trieste, the demand for grain and pulse continuing very limited, and the prospects of the ensuing crops being favourable, prices had declined. Seeds, likewise, were lower, though the advices from Hungary and Lombardy as to the crops of rapeseed were unfavourable.

In Canada, both the wheat and flour trade are very inanimate, and few contracts have yet been entered into for spring shipment of flour. Good qualities of wheat were to be obtained at 4s 3d per bushel, and finest at 4s 6d: superfine flour, for spring delivery, was held at 22s 6d per barrel. At New York, prices of wheat were improving, owing to the short supply. Long Island quality had realized 40s 8d; inferior northern, 37s. Oats were declining, and noted at 17s 3d. Flour varied from 24s 2d to 25s 10d per barrel, as in quality. Cloverseed experienced rather an animated demand at about 5d per lb. In Boston, cloverseed was selling at 4½d to 4¾d per lb. In Baltimore, white wheat sold at 39s 7d; red ditto., 36s 8d; Howard-street flour was firm at 22s 3d per barrel.

In the Russian markets, corn at present attracts little attention, and prices at St. Petersburg and Riga remain nominally unaltered, Kubanka wheat being held at 30s 5d, Courland do, 28s. The only

article in which any business of interest is transacting is linseed, the prices of which are fully supported; Morschansky and similar qualities are worth 42s 9d; Riga ditto, 44s 3d to 48s 3d. At Danzig the supplies continued limited, but as little demand existed, purchasers would only buy on lower terms, which holders unwillingly acceded to, as at the present low currency any reduction is an actual loss to the consigners: general runs of high-mixed wheat have been bought at 28s. The chances seemed very remote of receiving Polish supplies this year from Volhynia by the Bug, as the river being very shallow, and the character of the season being dry, the water is not likely to have sufficient depth for the barges to reach the Vistula. At Königsberg, a few speculative purchases of secondary qualities of wheat have been making, white being bought at 26s, and red at 23s. Rye, barley, and peas, were meeting an animated demand for the consumption. At Stettin, prices of grain remained steady, and rather more business transpiring. Wheat was quoted at 23s to 24s; barley, 17s 6d; oats, 13s. In Mecklenburg, prices of wheat had rather receded, and quality of 63lbs could be purchased at 22s; best barley at 15s; oats of 34lbs at 11s 6d. As, however, the stocks of grain were generally much shorter than usual, the currencies were not likely further to decline. The Holstein and Danish markets were dull, and the currencies rather lower: Holstein barley might be bought at 16s 6d, Danish at 15s; oats, 10s 6d to 12s 6d; wheat at 20s 6d to 21s 6d; rapeseed had been sold on contract for delivery at 30l per last, and 40l had been paid for a small parcel at Copenhagen. In Sweden, oats were offering at 11s 6d per qr. At Hamburg, some purchases of wheat had been effected for the Channel Islands as well as English account, fine Mecklenburg of 62lbs obtaining 22s 3d to 23s. Marks and Brunswick wheat remained at 24s 10d to 26s 1d. Beans were offering at 22s to 23s. The Saale Barley which had arrived was held at 18s 6d to 19s 6d. Small tares had declined to 21s 6d to 23s.

#### CURRENCY PER IMPERIAL MEASURE.

|                                        | BRITISH. |       | APRIL 1. |       | MAY 1. |       |
|----------------------------------------|----------|-------|----------|-------|--------|-------|
|                                        | s.       | d.    | s.       | d.    | s.     | d.    |
| Wheat, red, Essex, Kent, Suffolk, new. | 36       | to 41 | 36       | to 41 | 34     | to 40 |
| Old.                                   | 38       | 42    | 36       | 40    | 34     | 40    |
| White, new.                            | 46       | 50    | 40       | 47    | 40     | 47    |
| Ditto, old.                            | 47       | 51    | 40       | 48    | 40     | 48    |
| Norfolk, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire.   | 34       | 38    | 32       | 37    | 32     | 37    |
| White, do. do.                         | 38       | 44    | 36       | 40    | 36     | 40    |
| West Country Red.                      | 33       | 38    | 32       | 36    | 32     | 36    |
| White, ditto.                          | 34       | 42    | 36       | 40    | 36     | 40    |
| Northumberland and Berwickshire Red    | 33       | 37    | 31       | 35    | 31     | 35    |
| White, ditto.                          | 35       | 40    | 34       | 38    | 34     | 38    |
| Irish Red.                             | 31       | 33    | 29       | 31    | 29     | 31    |
| Ditto White.                           | 32       | 35    | 30       | 33    | 30     | 33    |
| Barley, Malting, new.                  | 31       | 35    | 30       | 34    | 30     | 34    |
| Chevalier, new.                        | 38       | 40    | 37       | 40    | 37     | 40    |
| Distilling.                            | 30       | 31    | 28       | 30    | 28     | 30    |
| Grinding.                              | 26       | 28    | 26       | 28    | 26     | 28    |
| Malt, Brown.                           | 36       | 41    | 35       | 40    | 35     | 40    |
| Ditto Norfolk pale.                    | 48       | 62    | 47       | 62    | 47     | 62    |
| Ditto Ware.                            | 60       | 65    | 60       | 65    | 60     | 65    |
| Peas, Hog and Grey.                    | 32       | 37    | 32       | 37    | 32     | 37    |
| Maple.                                 | 38       | 40    | 38       | 40    | 38     | 40    |
| White Boilers.                         | 33       | 37    | 32       | 36    | 32     | 36    |

|                         | APRIL 1.         |                       | MAY 1. |        |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------|--------|
|                         | s.               | s.                    | s.     | s.     |
| Beans, small.....       | 36               | 40                    | 38     | 42     |
| Harrow .....            | 35               | 39                    | 36     | 41     |
| Ticks .....             | 32               | 36                    | 34     | 37     |
| Mazagan .....           | 30               | 35                    | 30     | 36     |
| Oats, English feed..... | 23s 6d           | 24                    | 23     | 26     |
| Short small .....       | 22s 6d           | 24                    | 24     | 27     |
| Poland .....            | 22               | 25                    | 24     | 27     |
| Scorea, Common .....    | 23               | 25                    | 26     | 28     |
| Berwick, &c. ....       | 24               | 25                    | 27     | 28     |
| Potatoes, &c. ....      | 25               | 27                    | 27     | 29     |
| Irish, Feed .....       | 19s 0d to 21s 0d | 21s 0d to 22s 6d      |        |        |
| Ditto Potatoes .....    | 22s 0d           | 24s 0d                | 24s 0d | 26s 6d |
| Ditto Black .....       | 19s 6d           | 21s 0d                | 22s 6d | 24s 0d |
| Brn .....               | 11s 0d           | to 12s 6d per bushel. |        |        |

## PRICES OF FLOUR,

Per Cask of 280 lbs.

|                                             | APRIL 1. |    | MAY 1. |    |
|---------------------------------------------|----------|----|--------|----|
|                                             | s.       | s. | s.     | s. |
| Town-made .....                             | 35       | 40 | 33     | 38 |
| Norfolk, Suffolk, Kent, and Essex .....     | 28       | 30 | 27     | 30 |
| Sussex and Hampshire .....                  | 28       | 30 | 27     | 30 |
| Superfine .....                             | 32       | —  | 32     | —  |
| Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and Stockton ..... | 28       | 30 | 27     | 29 |
| Northumberland, Berwick, and Scotch .....   | 28       | 30 | 27     | 29 |
| Irish .....                                 | 28       | 30 | 27     | 29 |
| Extra .....                                 | 31       | —  | 30     | —  |

## AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF THE LONDON AVERAGES,

During the Month of April.

|             | qrs.    | £ s. d. |                    | qrs.  | £ s. d. |
|-------------|---------|---------|--------------------|-------|---------|
| Wheat.....  | 30,576  | 2 2 5   | Beans .....        | 5,627 | 1 16 9  |
| Barley..... | 25,144  | 1 14 7  | Peas.....          | 1,180 | 1 15 3  |
| Oats .....  | 102,011 | 1 3 8   | Bere or Bigg ..... | 119   | 1 3 0   |
| Rye.....    | 216     | 1 9 0   |                    |       |         |

## IMPERIAL AVERAGES

|                                                                                                                                        | Wheat. | Barley | Oats  | Rye  | Beans | Peas  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|------|-------|-------|
| Weekending                                                                                                                             |        |        |       |      |       |       |
| 12th March .....                                                                                                                       | 39 8   | 32 2   | 22 2  | 29 3 | 36 2  | 37 3  |
| 20th .....                                                                                                                             | 39 11  | 32 3   | 22 5  | 30 0 | 36 3  | 36 8  |
| 27th .....                                                                                                                             | 40 0   | 32 8   | 22 8  | 28 3 | 36 8  | 36 8  |
| 3d April .....                                                                                                                         | 39 9   | 33 0   | 23 1  | 31 1 | 36 4  | 34 9  |
| 10th .....                                                                                                                             | 39 3   | 32 7   | 22 10 | 32 2 | 36 3  | 34 4  |
| 17th .....                                                                                                                             | 38 10  | 32 5   | 23 3  | 33 5 | 36 6  | 36 0  |
| Aggregate Average of the six weeks which regulates the duty .....                                                                      | 39 7   | 32 6   | 22 9  | 30 6 | 36 4  | 35 11 |
| Duties payable in London till Wednesday next inclusive, and at the Outports till the arrival of the Mail of that day from London ..... | 47 8   | 13 10  | 13 9  | 24 3 | 15 6  | 16 9  |
| Do. on grain from British possessions out of Europe .....                                                                              | 5 0    | 2 6    | 2 6   | 3 0  | 3 0   | 3 0   |

An Account of the Quantity of Grain and Flour imported into the United Kingdom during the month ending the 5th April 1835; the Quantity on which the Duty has been paid for Home Consumption, and the quantity remaining in Warehouse.

|                                       | Wheat.  | Barley. | Oats.   | Rye.    |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                       | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    |
| Quantity imported .....               | 1,238   | 14,917  | 428     | ..      |
| Do. entered for home consumption..... | 1,319   | 23,885  | 245     | ..      |
| Do. remaining in warehouse .....      | 650,012 | 156,976 | 327,417 | 5,108   |
|                                       | Peas.   | Beans.  | Brank   | Flour   |
|                                       | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | cwts.   |
| Quantity imported .....               | 4,558   | 1,025   | ..      | 6,959   |
| Do. entered for consumption.....      | 683     | 131     | 10      | 4,314   |
| Do. remaining in warehouse.....       | 6,105   | 35,207  | 23      | 349,576 |

## PRICES OF HOPS IN THE BOROUGH.

|                            | APRIL 1. |           | MAY 1. |           |
|----------------------------|----------|-----------|--------|-----------|
|                            | £ s.     | £ s.      | £ s.   | £ s.      |
| East Kent Pockets.....     | 6        | 0 to 7 15 | 5      | 12 to 7 0 |
| Mid-Kent Pockets.....      | 5        | 5 6 2     | 5      | 0 6 6     |
| Weald of Kent Pockets..... | 4        | 15 5 12   | 4      | 10 5 10   |
| Sussex Pockets .....       | 4        | 4 5 5     | 3      | 10 4 15   |
| Yearlings .....            | 1        | 1 2 10    | 0      | 18 3 3    |
| Old Olds .....             |          |           |        |           |

## BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS MARKETS.

Per ton.

|                            | APRIL 1. |                     | MAY 1. |            |
|----------------------------|----------|---------------------|--------|------------|
|                            | £ s.     | £ s.                | £ s.   | £ s.       |
| Ware, Scotch reds .....    | 2        | 10 to 3 15          | 2      | 10 to 3 15 |
| York kidneys .....         | 2        | 15 3 10             | 2      | 15 3 10    |
| Marsh Champions.....       | 2        | 5 3 5               | 2      | 5 2 10     |
| London whites .....        | 2        | 2 3 3               | 2      | 2 3 3      |
| Shaws.....                 | 2        | 0 3 0               | 2      | 0 3 0      |
| Middings, Scotch reds..... | 1        | 15 2 5              | 1      | 15 2 5     |
| York kidneys .....         | 2        | 2 2 6               | 2      | 2 2 5      |
| Marsh Champions.....       | 1        | 15 2 5              | 1      | 15 2 0     |
| London whites.....         | 1        | 12 2 0              | 1      | 12 2 0     |
| Shaws.....                 | 1        | 10 2 0              | 1      | 10 2 0     |
| Chat Potatoes.....         |          | 20s to 25s per ton. |        |            |

## SMITHFIELD MARKET.

Per stone of 8lbs. to sink the offals.

|                     | APRIL 1. |          | MAY 1. |          |
|---------------------|----------|----------|--------|----------|
|                     | s. d.    | s. d.    | s. d.  | s. d.    |
| Inferior Beef.....  | 2        | 0 to 2 2 | 2      | 0 to 2 2 |
| Do. Mutton .....    | 2        | 2 2 4    | 2      | 4 2 6    |
| Middling Beef ..... | 2        | 6 2 10   | 2      | 6 2 10   |
| Do. Mutton .....    | 2        | 8 3 0    | 2      | 10 3 2   |
| Prime Beef .....    | 3        | 6 4 0    | 3      | 6 4 0    |
| Do. Mutton .....    | 3        | 6 4 0    | 3      | 10 4 6   |
| Veal .....          | 3        | 6 5 0    | 3      | 4 4 8    |
| Pork .....          | 3        | 0 4 0    | 3      | 0 4 0    |
| Lamb.....           | 5        | 4 6 2    | 5      | 0 6 0    |

## WOOL MARKETS.

## BRITISH.

|                         | APRIL 1. |              | MAY 1. |              |
|-------------------------|----------|--------------|--------|--------------|
| Per lb.                 | s. d.    | s. d.        | s. d.  | s. d.        |
| Down Togs.....          | 1        | 6 1/2 to 0 0 | 1      | 7 to 1 7 1/2 |
| Half-bred Hoggets ..... | 1        | 7 1/2 0 0    | 1      | 8 1 1/2      |
| Ewes and Wethers .....  | 1        | 3 0 0        | 1      | 3 1 3 1/2    |
| Leicester Hogs .....    | 1        | 6 1/2 0 0    | 1      | 7 0 0        |
| Do. Wethers .....       | 1        | 4 0 0        | 1      | 4 0 0        |
| Blanket Wool.....       | 0        | 9 0 11 1/2   | 0      | 9 1 0        |
| Flannel .....           | 0        | 0 1 3        | 1      | 0 1 3 1/2    |
| Skin Combing .....      | 0        | 0 1 2        | 1      | 2 0 0        |

## SCOTCH.

Per Stone of 24 lbs.

|                                    | APRIL 1. |        | MAY 1. |           |
|------------------------------------|----------|--------|--------|-----------|
|                                    | s. d.    | s. d.  | s. d.  | s. d.     |
| Laid Highland Wool, from, 10 ..... | 9        | 11 3   | 10     | 3 to 10 9 |
| White Do. Do.....                  | 13       | 3 13 9 | 13     | 3 13 9    |
| Laid Crossed Do.....               | 13       | 6 14 0 | 13     | 6 14 0    |
| Washed Do. Do.....                 | 16       | 0 17 0 | 14     | 6 16 6    |
| Laid Cheviots.....                 | 15       | 0 17 0 | 14     | 6 16 6    |
| Washed Do.....                     | 13       | 0 21 0 | 18     | 0 20 0    |
| White Do.....                      | 27       | 0 29 0 | 25     | 0 27 0    |

## FOREIGN.

|                         | APRIL 1. |        | MAY 1. |        |
|-------------------------|----------|--------|--------|--------|
| Per lb.                 | s. d.    | s. d.  | s. d.  | s. d.  |
| Australian .....        | 2        | 2 3 0  | 2      | 2 3 0  |
| Van Diemen's Land ..... | 1        | 6 2 9  | 1      | 6 2 9  |
| German Electoral .....  | 4        | 0 5 0  | 4      | 0 5 0  |
| Primas .....            | 3        | 0 3 3  | 3      | 0 3 3  |
| Secundas.....           | 2        | 0 2 3  | 2      | 0 2 3  |
| Tertias .....           | 1        | 6 2 0  | 1      | 6 2 0  |
| Pieces .....            | 1        | 6 2 3  | 1      | 6 2 3  |
| Lamb's .....            | 2        | 0 3 9  | 2      | 0 3 9  |
| Spanish Leone-as .....  | 2        | 0 2 9  | 2      | 0 2 9  |
| Segovias .....          | 1        | 10 2 3 | 1      | 10 2 3 |
| Soria's .....           | 1        | 9 2 0  | 1      | 9 2 0  |
| Estramaduras .....      | 1        | 4 2 7  | 1      | 4 2 7  |
| Lamb's .....            | 1        | 3 1 9  | 1      | 3 1 9  |
| Portugal .....          | 1        | 1 1 5  | 1      | 1 1 5  |
| Russia Marinos .....    | 2        | 3 3 9  | 2      | 3 3 9  |
| Crosses .....           | 1        | 9 2 6  | 1      | 9 2 6  |
| Odessa Zigay .....      | 1        | 1 1 3  | 1      | 1 1 3  |
| Donskoy.....            | 0        | 7 0 9  | 0      | 7 0 9  |



# THE POLITICAL COMPANION

TO

## THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

### THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From the Times.)

The usual monthly average return of the liabilities and assets of the Bank of England, embracing the period from the 13th of January to the 7th instant inclusive, was inserted in last Friday's *Gazette*, and from which are deduced the following results—viz. that the average of the month ending the 7th instant, as compared with the average of the month ending the 13th of January, shows an increase in the circulation of 800,000*l.*, a decrease in the deposits of 4,976,000*l.*, and a decrease in the stock of bullion of 621,000*l.* Upon balance of account, it therefore appears that there is a decrease in the liabilities of 2,136,600*l.*, and this represents the decrease in the total quantity of money in the month ending the 7th instant, as compared with the month ending the 13th of January, in so far as regards the administration of the currency by the Bank of England.

The yearly comparison is as follows:—The average of the month ending the 7th inst. as compared with the average of the month ending the 6th of May, 1834, shows a decrease in the circulation of 27,000*l.*, a decrease in the deposits of 3,972,000*l.*, and a decrease in the stock of bullion of 2,457,000*l.* It therefore appears that there is a decrease in the liabilities of 3,999,000*l.*, and this represents the decrease in the total quantity of money in the month ending the 7th instant, as compared with the month ending the 6th of May, 1834, in so far as regards the administration of the currency by the Bank of England.

The preceding statements and remarks relate to differences only. The following is a statement of the actual average amount of the circulation, the deposits, and the stock of bullion, during the month ending the 7th instant:—

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Circulation . . . | £19,053,000 |
| Deposits . . .    | 11,557,000  |
| Bullion . . .     | 6,536,000   |

The following is a statement of the actual average amount of the same items during the month ending the 6th of May, 1834:—

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Circulation . . . | £19,080,000 |
| Deposits . . .    | 15,529,000  |
| Bullion . . .     | 8,993,000   |

And the following statement will exhibit the actual average amounts of the same items during the month ending the 7th of May, 1833:—

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Circulation . . . | £20,001,000 |
| Deposits . . .    | 11,788,000  |
| Bullion . . .     | 10,952,000  |

And, therefore, by comparing April, 1835, with May, 1834, the circulation is nearly the same; but there is a decrease in the deposits of about 4,000,000*l.*, and, by comparing May, 1834, with

May, 1833, there is a decrease in the circulation of 1,000,000*l.*, but an increase in the deposits of nearly 4,000,000*l.*, which is the same amount as the decrease in the period from May, 1834, to April, 1835; and so that, first, the deposits vary 4,000,000*l.* in one sense, and then again vary 4,000,000*l.* in another sense, in order to recover their former position; while the circulation varies only 1,000,000*l.* during the first year, and afterwards remains steady. Now, all this plainly proceeds from the operations of the Bank of England, which, creating a large mass of money that is not required for the regular affairs of the community, the surplus naturally overflows from the circulation, and returns to the Bank to increase the deposits, and then, after having remained a while unemployed, this money not being required for domestic purposes, is taken out in the shape of bullion, to be exported to foreign parts, and thereby the deposits and the quantity of money generally come to be diminished. Wherefore, upon the matter it appears, that the Bank, having, for purposes of its own, created a large mass of paper money that was not wanted, this paper money has been destroyed by the exportation of bullion, and now the result is, that the Bank has only 1,200,000*l.*, less liabilities than in 1833, while its power to acquit them in bullion is lessened to the extent of 4,400,000*l.* This is how the matter stands simply and absolutely, but proportionally and respectively considered it is still worse, for, in 1833, the proportion which the bullion bore to the liabilities was rather more than 1-3*d.*, whereas now it is rather more than 1-5*th* only, the absolute amount of liabilities in both cases being nearly the same.

### THE CHURCH.

(From the Herald.)

There are few occasions on which a recurrence to first principles does not advance the cause of truth and justice; on many such a recurrence is indispensable. Such is our present position on the important subject of domestic politics. Some of our public men, and unhappily among these a large proportion of the popular branch of the Legislature, are getting so wide of first principles as to be apparently in danger of losing sight of them altogether. With such persons history becomes, indeed, little better than "an old almanac."

Of first principles, to which a recurrence is at this time especially necessary, none is so important as that which should be impressed upon every one's mind—that ours is a Protestant State and a Protestant Constitution; that the Protestant religion is its corner-stone, and that upon the maintenance of which the very existence of our liberties depends. We know not to what object the two great events of our past history, the Reformation and the Revolution, tend, unless it be to this,

It was to free us from Popery, as the great enemy of public freedom and liberty of conscience, that the struggles of our ancestors, which brought about those two great events, were undertaken. We have no wish to see a religious clamour raised in the country, or to interfere in the slightest degree with those sentiments and convictions which every man's conscience is entitled to hold on that important subject. But religion has a public, as well as an individual character and influence; and, in the former the Protestant Church is as essential a pillar in sustaining the great edifice of our constitutional rights and freedom as the Habeas Corpus, Trial by Jury, or any of those other great bulwarks to which we have hitherto owed its support. But it is said that in Ireland the Protestants form by far the minority of the population, and therefore should be in effect suppressed. As well might we say that in the mother country the Catholics are to as great an extent the minority, and therefore ought not to be tolerated; than which no idea, we believe, is more foreign to a Protestant mind. But as far as the Protestant Established Church is concerned, the two countries are united, are one and the same. The united Church was so recognised at the period of the Union, and the oaths of each branch of the Constitution are the safeguard by which the existence and security of the Protestant Church, so united, is to be maintained. It is not, then, because Legislators themselves may be of a different religion, or (if unhappily such should be the case) that some of them may be of no religion at all, that the Crown, or the two Houses of Parliament are to succumb to such consequences; or that the great majority of the right-judging part of the community can be indifferent to any thing which endangers the stability of that on which the existence of the Constitution depends. That such an inroad is now attempted, he must be blind, indeed, who does not perceive; and it is the duty of those who see the danger to caution, though they may not wish to alarm.

### PAUPERISM.

(From the Globe.)

We insert in another part of our paper an estimate of the comparative amount of pauperism in the principal European States, from a work lately published at Paris by M. de Villeneuve-Bargemont.

Much attention has recently been called to the subject of pauperism in France, as well as in this country. But as the investigation proceeded on very different grounds on the two sides of the channel—the subject of complaint in France being not the misapplication, but the insufficiency, of the funds applied to the alleviation of poverty since the decay of those great ecclesiastical foundations on which this office formerly devolved—it is the more remarkable that inquiries starting from such opposite points of view have in many respects arrived at the same conclusions. A well informed paper on the state of French pauperism will be found in the recent number of the *Foreign Quarterly Review*.

It appears in the first place, that in France, as in many other countries, the most pauperised districts are precisely those in which wealth is most abundant. In the north of France property is less divided, and capital more widely dispersed, than in any other portion of the kingdom. There is, however, little or no waste land, and the peasantry enjoy few of those common rights in the forests and pastures (*droit de parcours, droit de paturage, &c.*) which form

so remarkable a feature in the agricultural economy of other provinces. Here, in the Department du Nord, the chief seat of the cotton manufacture, we find pauperism as prevalent as in the worst regulated parts of England; every sixth inhabitant is a pauper—i.e. dependent on the public charitable funds in whole or in part. In the city of Lille 22,000 inhabitants out of 70,000 are said to belong to this class; in the Pas de Calais they form 1,9th of the whole. Advancing farther from the coast, we find in the department of the Seine (Paris) 1-14th; in Meuse, Meurthe, Moselle, amidst the well-managed and orderly population of Old Lorraine, 1,50th only. Finally, in the poor, half cultivated Lozere, only 1,40th; and in Creuse, a central department, which presents an aspect of poverty almost unrivalled in western Europe—the very Connaught of France—only 1,58th of the people classed as paupers! Thus proving, that although the proportion is not every where exactly preserved, yet wealth and civilization seem generally to progress in the same ratio as pauperism.

In tracing the economical history of France, we find a distinct compulsory poor's rate established by letters patent of Francis. I. in 1544, and the ordinance renewed in 1566 and 1586; so that, after all, the famous 23d of Elizabeth, usually held so peculiarly English an enactment, was probably borrowed from foreign experience. However, the compulsory rating, as well as compulsory removal to a place of settlement (for this too was a part of the old French law), fell into disuse, although never abolished. The clergy were the only active administrators of national benevolence, and that only of a voluntary character, at the period of the Revolution.

During the Republican epoch the principle of poor laws was recognized by the Convention, when the subject was forced upon its notice by the increase of distress and vagrancy in those disastrous times, before the army had furnished an outlet for superfluous population. But its schemes were so much tinctured with extravagance, that no part of them was practicable except that which related to the abolition of former institutions. Thus great part of the hospital and other charitable property of the country was sold (perhaps, after all, an advantageous circumstance), but no plan for the employment of the funds thus obtained was ever realized. Among the fancies of the Jacobin legislature we may notice the law of June 24, 1794, by which each department was to have the right of entering about 1000 names of paupers (*patriotes indigens*) who were to have yearly pensions of from 160 to 60 francs, with increase for families above a certain amount, while honorific annuities of 120 francs were awarded to unmarried mothers (*filles-mères*) for their services in given children to the state!

Napoleon's precipitate measures did nothing towards repressing the evils of vagrancy, but they were little felt, although suspended only, during his active reign. Ever since the conclusion pauperism has been regularly and rapidly on the increase, notwithstanding the subdivision of property, which some have imagined likely to arrest it.

The principal establishments of public charity (besides the hospitals and the *hospices* or receptacles for aged and infirm persons, which all seem to possess property of their own) are the *Bureaux de Bienfaisance*. The revenues of these boards are composed—1. Of funds arising out of the surplus income of hospitals, &c., which in France are for the most part very liberally endowed. 2. Of legacies, gifts, &c. 3. Of money raised by public subscriptions, church collections, and similar means. (The two last sources of income, it will be remembered by those



versed in the economy of the poor in Scotland, constitute there the chief supply wherever rates have not been introduced.) 4. *Centimes additionels*. These are a kind of supplement or sur-charge, imposed by government together with the indirect taxes, in localities where the *Bureau de Bienfaisance* appear to stand in absolute need of such assistance. But if we may believe the writers who have examined the subject, the succour from the funds of the state is very sparingly and cautiously administered. The relief given by these *bureaux* is always in kind, except in cases of age and infirmity, and appears to be calculated on the lowest possible scale, leaving further assistance to be supplied by individual charity. Thus far the system appears well imagined, and on the whole well executed. We shall notice hereafter its defects, as compared with those of our own system.

### THE PEEL ADMINISTRATION.

(From the *Globe*.)

In accordance with that species of political optimism which yesterday led us to trace the beneficial purposes which had been served by the five months' existence of a Tory ministry, we repeat, that we are very glad the experiment has been tried thoroughly, and that we do not regret either its time or cost.

It is an excellent characteristic of political struggles in this country, that the downright English obstinacy with which they are fought out by the parties makes the ultimate victory of public opinion more signal, and matures its decisions, hearing having been given to the pleadings on both sides. The sudden triumphs sometimes gained by the popular cause in other countries have not many parallels in English history. The English people seldom can be moved *en masse*; and neither thinks nor acts in herds. As in the civil wars the royal and popular cause was contested from county to county, and the royal tenantry, under their hereditary leaders, made head for a while against the towns and the capital, so, in our more civilised recent contests, the country voters in many parts have been marched under the banner of prerogative to the poll, as of old they might have been to the field. From the duration of these territorial influences up to the present day, as well as the direct use of the powers of the purse, and of corporations, a very chequered aspect of things is presented in every political contest where the public excitement does not rise sufficiently high to flow over its ordinary bounds and enclosures. The corrupt and illicit portion of these influences we may shortly hope to see swept away. The habitual and voluntary deference to established station, which still exists in England to so large an extent, we trust will survive the less legitimate outworks which at present surround it. Our motto is not *Delenda est Carthago* with regard to the aristocratical spirit still remaining amongst us: we would provide against the compulsory or corrupt uses of wealth and rank, but leave their indirect and habitual influences to the course of nature. The mass of men cannot, as yet, at least, be governed by pure reason; in government as well as religion they must have forms and symbols; and in both old are better than new—by virtue of age, if for no other reason. Respect will not attach itself in the common mind to entire novelties.

The triumph of public opinion, as we have said, is the more complete in England, the slower its

march, the more repeated its struggles, and the harder its victory. The success of reform in Parliament was only won by protracted contests, and the carrying out the principles of that measure has met a shorter, but numerically stronger resistance. The re-action, everlastingly announced by the Conservative party, had taken place to as great an extent as it ever could be expected; that is to say, a certain degree of apathy and exhaustion had followed on intense feeling; and deferred hope (which had sometimes been extravagant) had caused disappointments. Well, the anti-reformers took their full advantage of this lull in opinion; they took advantage of all that remained of good unaccomplished since the reform; they promised to do all that remained undone. Nay, *credite posteri*! they actually made demonstrations of setting to work on more than one measure of public usefulness.

They have wonderfully cleared the way for their successors. They have, first of all, demolished the *prestige* of the pretended re-action which they proclaimed in the name of the country against further progress in liberal measures. They have, secondly, espoused reform principles on several subjects, on which they can never again utter the cry of "No innovation!" And, lastly, by bringing the contest between them and their opponents distinctly to an issue on a question of leading importance and urgency, they have chalked out for their successors a clear line upon that question; they have rendered it henceforward impossible that the principles on which the Melbourne ministry went out, and in resistance to which the Peel-Wellington party came in, and are turned out again, should fail of being carried into effect by whatever hands may now receive, or can now accept, the government.

### SMUGGLING CORN.

(From the *Comet Guernsey Paper*.)

When the right honourable Sir Alexander Baring was asked a few nights since in the House of Commons, whether the bill he was about to introduce for preventing the importation of corn into England, should extend its provisions to the Channel islands, replied "that if there were one part of the case more positive than another, it was the detection of fraud in the island of Guernsey."—As soon as such a mischievous allegation reached us, we commented upon it, in order to show its palpable absurdity. We are glad that our remarks have been inserted in several of the London journals, so that Englishmen will have had an opportunity of judging upon what shameful ground our character has been traduced before the nation.—But as the subject will again occupy the attention of the House of Commons, it may not be improper to bring before the public some additional particulars, to show into what a vortex of absurdity our accusers must have plunged themselves, before they could be brought to believe the tales of malevolence preferred against this island.

When the charge of fraud was made on the subject in question, the authors of it knew, or ought to have known, the precise circumstances under which grain is exported from this island for the English market, to justify the charge. Did they know that before a single grain of corn can be exported from this island, it is necessary that the grower should appear before a magistrate of the royal court, to swear that it is, not only of the growth of the island of Guernsey, but that it is the

produce of his own estate, and that upon such declaration on oath, he receives a certificate from the magistrate before whom he swears, and that that certificate is put into the hands of the purchaser at the time when the purchase is made, or the delivery takes place? And moreover, did they know that the shipper before he can export the quantity purchased, is under the indispensable necessity of producing the whole of the certificates of the persons from whom he has purchased the said corn, to the Bailiff of the Royal Court, and to make oath that the quantity shipped and designed for exportation, is *bona fide* the very same article set forth in the respective certificates which he then produces? Now if they knew that all these precautions were taken by the constituted authorities of the island to prevent fraud, they must have entertained the notion, and acted upon it, to justify their accusation, *first*, that the growers of corn must have *perjured* themselves in selling an article as the produce of this country, when they knew it was not; and, *secondly*, they must have believed that the shippers of corn for exportation into England, must also have *forsworn* themselves in their declaration on oath, that the quantity they had shipped was the same they had purchased of the growers, when they knew it was false! These are some of the inevitable consequences resulting from the reckless charge of fraud preferred against our islanders, but which was utterly disproved by the inquiry set on foot by his majesty's late government, not many months since.—If the accusers did not know what precautions are taken *here* by our authorities to prevent fraud, their ignorance of this matter only serves to aggravate their guilt, and clearly demonstrates the absence of every honest and honourable principle in the course they have pursued, in attacking the probity and morality of our inhabitants. So serious a charge should never have been made on slight grounds, especially when official documents were at hand to satisfy the most scrupulous and unlimited enquiry. In whatever point of view we contemplate the conduct of the accusers, nothing can justify the course they have adopted. It was a law in ancient Rome, that no man should be condemned till the accused and the accuser were brought face to face, and a fair opportunity given to the former to answer for himself; and surely, it is no more than rational and just that Guernsey men should expect the same treatment in Christian England, which never was denied in Heathen Rome.

#### THE PEEL ADMINISTRATION.

(From the Courier.)

After a troubled existence of four months the Peel administration is at an end. It was born of the agitation, got up by the Orange-Tory-High-Church-party during the last summer and autumn; and the avowed object of forming it was to uphold the Church of Ireland. On that principle Sir Robert Peel and his friends took their stand in opposition to their opponents; and to compass that object they were even lavish in their professions of reforms in other departments of the State. The announcement of measures—abating 25 per cent. on the tithes of Ireland—for making the marriages of Dissenters a civil contract—for settling the tithe question by voluntary compromises on the principle of justice—for reforming the Ecclesiastical Courts—were so many bribes to allow him to carry out his one principle of protecting the Church of Ireland. All would not do. He fought

manfully. We have always given him credit for having conducted the hopeless contest with admirable skill and great energy; but the in herent injustice of his cause was such that it bore him down, and his great talents have only rendered the defeat of his party more striking and decisive. He last night stated, that the vote of the House of Commons on Tuesday night “implied the necessity of a total change of the system of government in Ireland, so far as the church revenues were concerned.” That was, on his part, an admission, after having striven to the utmost, that the object for which he had formed an administration had completely failed, and that a change must take place in the Church of Ireland. To what extent that must go, it is not our present object to state.

We are far less surprised at the result than that Sir Robert Peel, with the good sense he has generally evinced, should have undertaken to manage the government upon the principle of maintaining the Church of Ireland. When Eldon was united with Wellington—when Grant and Palmerston sat on the same benches with Sir Robert—when the whole Tory force was united and unbroken—when the taxation of the country was thirty millions more than at present—when the generation then in existence was far more attached than this to the prejudices of the one which preceded it—when the supreme power of the government had been almost unassailed, and the charm of its invincibility was strong over the public mind—even then the Tories could not resist the pressure from without, and they were obliged, gradually, to give up taxation, to reduce the establishments, and to commence a reform in the administration of the laws. After they had commenced such a reform—after a new generation, imbued with reform principles, had grown into existence—after repeated defeats had shown that the Government had no power to resist the popular and national will—after the Government had conceded to overbearing public opinion, the repeal of the Test Act, Catholic Emancipation, and Parliamentary Reform—it does seem to us something like madness in the Tories to suppose that they could now resist the onward flood, or stop the pressure from without. The supposition argues, in them, a total ignorance of the events of the last few years. It seems probable that they learn so much in early life, that they become incapable of correct observation. They seem never to separate the precepts drilled into them, which are adapted much more to past time than present circumstances, from the rules those circumstances teach, and with all the fondness of a first love and early associations, they give more weight to the lore of books than to the wisdom taught by facts. The present total defeat of the Tories ought to teach them; and ought to teach all classes, a memorable lesson. Humiliating as it may be to those who have espoused the principle that the people are to be governed in spite of themselves, the truth that this is an impossible principle is what the present circumstances teach. The inference to be drawn from it is, that the future progress of the Government, let who will administer it, must be in conformity to the wishes of the great majority of the nation, including all classes, or the Government itself will be broken to pieces.

#### IRISH CHURCH REFORM.

(From the John Bull.)

Well do we remember when that ministry, which



has been so often taxed with a stubborn disinclination to Reform, had carried the Roman Catholic Emancipation, of which their more liberal opponents had *talked* for half a century, how we were denounced as ultra-illiberals and benighted bigots, and vindictive tyrants, for suggesting that the admission of Roman Catholics into the Protestant House of Commons would eventually subvert the Protestant Church. We were then told that the effect of such admission would be scarcely perceptible—that, perhaps, some three or four Roman Catholics *might* avail themselves of the privilege of sitting in Parliament; but that, when their claims, as they were called, had been once conceded, nothing further would be heard of them politically, and that, in fact, the Roman Catholic religion itself, deprived of the stimulus derived from oppression, would decline altogether in Ireland, so that we might look forward to Halcyon days of peace and tranquillity.

In vain did we quote the evidence of Mr. Arthur O'Connor, that "Catholic Emancipation had nothing to do with the tranquillization of Ireland," and in vain did we suggest the mischief which must result from concession. To soothe, however, our apprehensions lest any unforeseen circumstances should cause a serious influx of Roman Catholics into the House of Commons, we were satisfied by a solemn oath, to be administered to such persons, that they should so regulate their parliamentary conduct as that no mischief might arise to the constitution or the Protestant establishment. To this security Mr. O'Connell made no objection, and upon this we have to say a word or two.

It now appears that these apprehensions of ours, which we so meanly, blindly, and partially expressed, have come to be realised. Of the number who divided against ministers on Thursday in favour of appropriating the funds of the Established Protestant Church to the education of the Popish population, we find somewhere about forty Roman Catholics. Now, do not let us be misunderstood—we do not blame them for this;—on the contrary, they act precisely as we should ourselves act under similar circumstances. Mr. O'Connell and his immediate parliamentary connexions may be violent and outrageous in their demands and desires; but as far as supporting Lord John Russell's motion—brought forward, cut, carved, and contrived for the very purpose of engaging that support—we see nothing in it but what is natural and just. It is the nature and the duty of a good Papist to maintain to the utmost of his power the rights and interests of the Roman Catholic Church. He is by nature, as well as by duty and on principle, the avowed enemy of Protestantism. He therefore acts naturally, dutifully, and upon principle, when he endeavours to secure to the people of his religion advantages derivable from the means of that which he hates and abjures. It is not only the violent political Roman Catholic who will decidedly support such a measure as this—the noble and the moderate Roman Catholic will equally maintain such a point. Witness the high and honourable names of Surrey, Howard, Talbot, Bellew, and others, who not factiously but conscientiously support the interests of their Church against that, which they, upon principle consider heretical.

Now it is, that it becomes necessary to look to the securities by which the privileges granted to Roman Catholic members of parliament have been restrained—securities upon which the Protestant people of England relied for protection from innovations upon their religion—for let it be under-

stood, the attack of Popery upon Protestantism will not, in its ulterior results, be confined to the Establishment. The *Standard* has twice during the week published the oath solemnly taken by Roman Catholic members on their admission to the House of Commons, and we follow the example, leaving it to the consciences of those gentlemen of that persuasion who voted in the division of Lord John Russell's motion, but more especially of those who have spoken on the question, to reconcile the eloquence of their language, the warmth of their sentiments, and the activity of their exertions, with the terms and conditions of the following solemn obligation:

"I do swear that I will defend to the utmost of my power the settlement of property within this realm, as established by the laws. And I do hereby disclaim, disavow, and solemnly adjure any intention to subvert the present Church Establishment, as settled by law within this realm, and I do solemnly swear, that I will never exercise any privilege to which I am, or may become entitled, to disturb or weaken the Protestant religion or Protestant government in this kingdom. And I do solemnly, in the presence of God profess, testify, and declare, that I do make the declaration and every part thereof in the plain and ordinary sense of the words of this oath, without any evasion, equivocation, or mental reservation whatever."

Having read this oath, we were about to inquire by what process its conditions could be enforced, or its violation punished; but we think we have discovered the loop-hole through which the conscientious Roman Catholic has crept out of its obligation upon the present occasion. He swears "solemnly never to exercise any privilege to which he is, or may become entitled, to disturb or weaken the Protestant religion or government in *this kingdom*." Upon which three words he will defend his exertions for the advancement of Popery and the undermining of Protestantism in *Ireland*—to which kingdom his earnest endeavours are as yet confined.

How this is to be reconciled with the concluding profession of the oath, it is not for us to determine—but this we know, that so nice are the distinctions made by the Roman Catholic priesthood in the great and holy cause, that we suspect no great difficulty would be interposed in the way of accommodating the consciences of those who are disposed to act upon the accidental substitution of one word for another.

## THE GREAT FOUR DAYS' DEBATE!

(From Cobbett's Register.)

MR. COBBETT makes the following remarks upon the great debate of the week, and its all-important subject, in a letter addressed to the people of Oldham. If the fulfilment shall be as tremendous as the prophecy, it will be seen, from what follows, that the inhabitants of this Debt-devoted country are far from being the most-to-be-envied nation of the earth.

"For three nights," says Mr. C., most grammatically, "I have *sitten* from half after four o'clock till past twelve, to listen to a debate on this most important subject; namely, whether the Parliament have the rightful power to take the proceeds of tithes from the Church and all its clergy, and to dispose of those proceeds unto any other purpose that it may choose. This is the real question upon which the House of Commons has been debating. The re-

RESOLUTION INTENDED of Lord John Russell goes on to express, that it would be right to dispose of the surplus, if there be any, of the Irish tithes for the purpose of general education of persons of all religions in Ireland. But, if the Parliament can dispose of tithes in this way, it can dispose of them in any other way; so that the only question is as to the right of Parliament to take away or alienate, what is called church property. It is my opinion that this right in the Parliament is undoubted. \* \* \* During this debate I have heard more *fine speaking*, and the promulgation of *more error*, than I ever before listened to in my life. \* \* \* It is a motion intended to displace the Ministers. And I beg you to observe, that as far as I am concerned, there is no such motive existing. You have not sent me here to make or unmake Ministers; you have sent me to protect your purse as far as I am able, and to cause your rights to be restored. I am sorry, therefore, that this motive is so manifest in the proposing of this resolution; I am sorry that the great principle in the resolution is inseparable from this the object of the resolution; but the principle is there; and I must vote for that principle; unless I be prepared to abandon every opinion that I have ever expressed to you upon the subject. \* \* \* The Whigs cannot carry on the affairs of the King, without yielding to what both factions term 'destructives.' I do not mean that they must take them into the Ministry; but I mean to say this, that let who will place themselves on the Treasury Bench, they cannot long sit there, and can never have one moment's security or peace there, UNLESS THEY GIVE THEIR ASSENT TO A GREAT LIGHTENING OF THE BURDENS OF THE PEOPLE. Now I beseech you to rely upon my judgment as to this matter. The church cannot stand as it is: the monstrous wrongs which its laws do to the Dissenters must be redressed. \* \* \* A lightening of the burdens of the people is absolutely necessary NOW, in order to give any Ministry time to breathe; time to consider of the changes necessary to be made in order to preserve this present form of government. It is a strange thing, but not more strange than true, that no men in power ever appear to perceive the influence, the irresistible influence of that SILENT public opinion which, in the end, determines every thing that is of great importance. Sir R. Peel, from a relying upon the savings and the votings of those immediately around him; relying upon the co-operation of the opposite party; scorned the opinion that a repeal of the malt-tax would tend to give him security; but I venture to say, and to assure you, that, if he had yielded upon that point, he never would have heard of this present resolution. It is very likely that my Lord John Russell never thought of that matter any more than Sir Robert Peel did; but if Sir Robert had yielded upon that point, the praises of him would have been heard from one end of the country to the other; and without any process of reasoning upon the subject, Lord John Russell would have FELT that he would not have had the countenance of the country in bringing forward any motion, the manifest object of which was to turn out of his place the Minister who had assented to the repeal of a tax so severely felt by ninety-nine hundredths of the people. If, therefore, he had assented to that repeal, and with a good grace, had not urged on the horrible Poor-law Bill, he would have had time to breathe as to all other matters. \* \* \* The enormous debt and taxation must produce a very great change in the affairs of this country, and in the mode of governing it. You see that the difficulties go on increasing; and be you assured that, to collect fifty millions of taxes

a year, with wheat at four or five shillings a bushel, must in a short time, produce a state of things in which it will be impossible for all the powers on earth to prevent the occurrence of events, such as I do not deem it prudent to describe to you. It is nonsense to talk of parties, and of majorities and minorities; here is a cause at work which is not to be resisted, and not be controlled in the smallest degree, by anything short of a total change in the fiscal and the pecuniary affairs of the country; short of that or of the immediate interposition of divine Providence itself. In your huddled-up situation, with your eyes necessarily fixed on your own affairs; with your attention constantly turned to mechanical operations, and to transactions and prices immediately connected with the effects of your wonderful ingenuity and industry, it is not easy for you to transfer that attention, however quick and docile your minds, so as to have a correct idea of the situation of the millions spread all over the kingdom, and dependent, whether in villages or towns, solely upon agriculture. But let me beg you to reflect for one moment, on what must inevitably be the ultimate consequence to the whole body of farmers, nine-tenths of whom are so notoriously in a state of insolvency; of millions of labourers and their families, to whom those farmers are unable to give food and clothing, in exchange for their labour, while the land is becoming barren for the want of that labour. Think of this for one moment, and you have too much sense not to know that your fate is inseparable from the fate of these millions: think of this for one moment; wait with patience; but be prepared to act the part which your sense and your virtue have induced you hitherto to act, when these causes shall have led to these events, which must finally come, with as much certainty as the hour of your and my death. \* \* \* *3d April, 3 o'clock, Morning.*—The division on Lord John Russell's motion relative to the appropriation of the Irish tithes has just taken place. \* \* \* It would be impossible with the little time that I have before me, to convey even a faint idea of the interest excited by the proceedings of the night. A very fine speech from Mr Sergeant Wilde during the evening. Mr. O'Connell, in not a very long, but very interesting speech, preceded Sir R. Peel. At last came he, with those talents of which a nation might be proud; and in the course of two hours did every thing which it appeared possible for man to do to resist the resolution. He felt that he was defeated; and that feeling was manifest throughout the whole of his long, most ingenuous, and most eloquent speech. There was in himself every thing which could merit success; but the circumstances were too hostilely powerful for him to control. Like the Rhodian sailors, in the storm, so beautifully described by Dryden, "From the first he laboured in despair." Under such circumstances it is beyond the power of mortal man to retain the fair use of all his talents; but, he did retain them to a very extraordinary degree even to the end. When he concluded his speech by telling us, explicitly: 'If you carry your resolution, I will oppose you in going into a committee; if you go into a committee, I will oppose you there: if you persevere in proposing your address to the King, I will oppose you there, I will oppose you at every stage in this proceeding; and if my opposition be unavailing, I will quit the situation in which his Majesty has done me the honour to place me; for I will not be the instrument for the carrying the principle of your resolution into effect.' For my own part, while it was impossible for me not to hear this with great approbation; not to admire this part of the conduct of the Minister, I cannot say that I did not hear these words with pleasure, as the announcement of



the approaching end of his power; for I had constantly in my mind the recollection of his attempt to enforce the Poor-law bill, and of his most injurious opposition to the repeal of the malt-tax: and now, are not my words already come true? If he had given way with regard to those most unpopular and odious measures, not only would he not have been defeated upon this occasion, but the motion of Lord J. Russell never would have been made. He seemed to think that he had 'public opinion' with him; and that the feeling out of the house did not correspond with the feeling within the house; and thus it is to be surrounded by flatterers. Never was error more gross in this world: the country is suffering in every limb and every fibre. Two hundred thousand insolvent farmers, and, perhaps, five hundred thousand insolvent tradesmen, will suffer no minister to be popular; will suffer no man to sit upon that bench for any length of time without passing some measure to relieve their distresses. If all the church bells had been set a-ringing on account of the repeal of the malt-tax, which they would have been; if his health had been drunk, by all the men with hard hands, never would he have heard of the motion of Lord John Russell. I am for a thorough church reform. My friends did not deem it prudent that I should say how much I wanted; but, if I had seen all the hard-handed fellows with pots of beer drinking his health, I should have taken especial care to postpone any thing that I had to propose about church reform, or Irish tithes, or any thing of the sort. \* \* \* The people are sulky, and very justly sulky: they see no hope of any relief of any sort: they naturally associate the Minister and the Ministry with the causes of their discontent. Placed in this state the attack upon him was sure to prevail; for, I repeat, for the thousandth time, I verily believe, that, under heaven this church of England and this aristocracy have nothing to rest any hope upon but the good will of the millions of the people of England. Now, then, will the Whigs come again? One would think that they had now seen enough to convince them that fifty millions of taxes a year, and wheat at four shillings and six-pence a bushel, cannot be pushed along. However, the chances are that my prediction of 1817, will be fulfilled, 'that there will be an everlasting chopping and changing of the ministry; that the whole system, military, civil, and fiscal, will be attempted to be carried on with unabated vigour and unabated suffering on the part of the people, till at last, amidst the war of opinions and of projects, of interests and of passions, the whole thing will go to pieces like a ship upon the rocks.'

### SMUGGLED CORN.

(From the Mark Lane Express.)

We have upon more than one occasion called the attention of the agriculturalists, and those whose duty it is to watch over their interests, to the importation of foreign grain and flour, duty free, through the Channel islands and from the Canadas. That such a system is carried on from Canada, we are fully convinced, and up to the present moment we felt equally satisfied that to a certain extent the same contraband trade had been carried on from Jersey and Guernsey. The statements made by the late President of the Board of Trade, and the apparent necessity for correcting the evil by a special act of

legislation manifested by notice of a Bill, founded on a report, to be brought in by that Hon. Gent. on the 15th instant, tended to confirm our apprehensions. A document entitled "Observations on a Report of the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs, on the Corn Trade, in the Isle of Man and the Islands of Guernsey and Jersey," and emanating from the Deputies of those states now in London, put into our hands late on Saturday, has induced us at least to suspend our judgment, if not to altogether alter our previous view of the question. We regret that the pressing interest of Parliamentary matter has prevented our giving the "Observations &c.," in full, but we shall do so next week, and again advert to the subject. The charges contained in the "Observations" are of a serious nature, and we have no doubt will meet with the attention they deserve from the new President of the Board of Trade. It appears that a Mr. Weston had been employed by the Commissioners to go over and make the necessary inquiries as to the quantity of corn imported into the United Kingdom through the islands. This gentleman, after diligent investigation, reported that although it was the *opinion* of many persons that foreign corn had so found its way in, yet not a single instance could be adduced in which it could be substantiated, that such had distinctly been the case. Upon the information of Mr. Weston, as well as from information derived from other sources, the Commissioners made a report in which they state "that the amount of grain annually imported from Guernsey has exceeded the quantity grown in that island by 2,000 quarters, and that thence it is manifest a considerable portion of the wheat so exported, must consist of foreign wheat." The deputies in their "Observations," refer to page 3 of the report of the Commissioners, in which the annual quantity of grain exported to the United Kingdom is stated to be—

|                   | Wheat.     | Barley.  |
|-------------------|------------|----------|
| From Guernsey.... | 6,444 qrs. | 226 qrs. |
| Jersey .....      | 7,358      | 2,037    |
| Total ....        | 16,065     |          |

Whereas, the true statement, taken from Mr. Weston's own returns, at pages 10 and 12, is,

|                   | Wheat.   | Barley. |
|-------------------|----------|---------|
| From Guernsey.... | 539 qrs. | 86 qrs. |
| Jersey .....      | 1,611    | 1       |
| Total ....        | 2,237    |         |

Deducting then the amount as stated by Mr. Weston, from the previous amount stated by the Commissioners, it will leave an erroneous return against the two islands of 13,828 qrs. This error the Deputies state to have originated in reporting the *aggregate* amount of corn exported during five years, as the *average* annual exportation during that period. If this mistake has really been made it is of a nature so gross as to demand the attention of Government. We shall endeavour to enlighten ourselves further on the

matter before our next publication. The Channel islands must be considered as much a part of the United Kingdom as the county of Yorkshire, and we would protect their interests with as much earnestness, whilst we should at the same time most scrupulously guard against their obtaining any undue advantage.

#### THE NEW PREMIER.

(*From the Chronicle.*)

The *Standard* is somewhat unreasonable in demanding from Lord Melbourne that he should follow the example set by Sir Robert Peel on his return from Rome:—"Sir Robert, we are told, thought it but a due homage to the freedom of the country to announce in the most full, ingenuous, and explicit terms, the plan of his future Government, both as to what it should do, and what it should abstain from doing." The ingenuousness and explicitness of the Tamworth address and the Mansion-house speech are not so generally allowed as their craftiness. But however this may be, we would merely observe, that in the case of Sir Robert Peel it was absolutely necessary that he should explain to the nation how he, a Tory, and an opponent of the Reform Bill, could conduct the Government on Reform principles. The natural inference from the return of the Tories to office was, that they would conduct the Government on their own principles; and if Sir Robert had not told the country that he intended to give effect to Reform principles, the idea of such a thing would never have entered into any man's head. It would not, however, have answered the purpose of Sir Robert to appear in the character of a Tory; for, to have even a chance of obtaining a majority in the elections, it was necessary that he should supply renegade apostates and waverers with some pretext for joining him. The Tories would have supported the Peel-Wellington Ministry as a matter of course, and even more cordially, without Sir Robert's declaring himself a Conformer, but the object of the Right Honourable Baronet was to perplex the understandings of the weak, and to supply the unprincipled and the timid with something like a justification for what would otherwise have appeared a naked abandonment of principle. Lord Melbourne, on the other hand, has no principles to abandon, no explanations to offer, for appearing in a new character. The Peel-Wellington Ministry is merely an ugly episode in a Reform Government. His Lordship, with most of his old colleagues, proceeds in the course in which he was so unnecessarily and culpably interrupted in November last. He will give effect to the various reforms which the people are justified in expecting. They repose confidence in his administration; it is not necessary that he should issue manifestos to acquaint them with his abandonment of his former principles, or his reasons for adopting a different policy from that which they would naturally expect him to pursue. Our contemporary asks, "What pretext can Lord Melbourne offer for refusing to imitate the example set by Sir R. Peel?—the example set spontaneously and without invitation by the late Prime Minister?"

There is no refusal in the case. Sir Robert appeared in a new character, and explanation was both natural and necessary. Lord Melbourne has not changed his principles, and he thence natural-

ly supposes that no explanation is necessary. He will produce the measures which have been announced by Lord John Russell and Sir John Hobhouse, and these will be followed by others in due time. A Reform Minister has constantly present to his mind, that his dependence is on the good opinion of the people; and he will naturally be anxious to produce such measures as will promote their interests, and consequently merit their good opinion.

#### PLENIPO.

(*From the Globe.*)

We feel sure that Reformers of all denominations will unite in one chorus of exultation at Plenipo's easy victory of the Craven stakes. Indeed, next to the success of Lord Melbourne in forming an administration, the success of that celebrated horse has been the most prominent object of liberal solicitude; and the reason is obvious: Plenipo is emphatically a reform horse, and his adventures have borne a most curiously strict resemblance to the career of the reform administration. In the first place his size, his make, and capabilities presented the same magnificent superiority over the slender proportions of the old set of boroughmonger race-horses, as did the moral grandeur of the Reformers over the weakness of the old children of corruption. And then Plenipo was born the very year of the reform bill. Like the Reformers, for a long time he carried every thing before him, and his disasters began within a month of theirs. A trip to the north was alike fatal to both. Plenipo's fall was with good reason attributed to foul play. So was the fall of the liberal administration. On his return from the north, Mr. Batson turned Plenipo out; soon after their return from the north, their Royal Master turned out the Reformers. The winter rolled by, the spring approached, and within a week of each other these two events took place: Lord Melbourne's party carried the appropriation clause, and he was once more proclaimed premier of England, and Plenipo carried off the Craven Stakes, and was once more proclaimed premier of the turf. And there is this further coincidence in the two victories: Plenipo was opposed by Colonel Peel's "Nonsense," and Lord Melbourne was opposed by Sir Robert Peel's nonsense, and in both cases Peel and Nonsense were defeated.

A bright prospect is equally open now to Plenipo and the Reformers. We prognosticate with confidence a series of successes to both, and we trust that for many years to come we may be enabled to continue this glorious and faithful parallel.

#### THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.

(*From the Morning Post.*)

The accession of some of the leaders of the late opposition to power has, as usually happens in such cases, been attended by severe disappointments to many of those who have hitherto been among the most active and zealous retainers of the party. And, if we are correctly informed, the feelings incident to a disappointment of this nature are generally expressed upon the present occasion with considerably less of decorum and reserve than can be reconciled with the ordinary rules and habits of political society. A very little reflection upon the subject may suffice, however, to lead us to an adequate and very natural explana-



tion of a peculiarity which does honour neither to the complainants nor to the eminent persons whose partiality and ingratitude form the topic of angry animadversion or querulous remonstrance.

The whole system of opposition to the administration of Sir Robert Peel, from the first vote—by which the House of Commons determined to place in its chair that candidate who of the two presented to its choice had been in effect declared, by its own repeated votes, to be the less fitted for the situation—to the decisive vote by which it resolved to amalgamate two distinct and even conflicting measures into one, to blend the disputed and nicely balanced question of appropriation with a measure of public policy, the instant and urgent necessity of which no human being or any party in politics did or could affect to doubt—from the day on which parliament met, in short, to the moment when the late ministers announced their resignation, the entire course of the Whig and Radical opposition was dictated exclusively by a love of place, the most undisguised and the most intense that was ever exhibited by any political party or combination of parties in Great Britain. Why else incorporate into a measure of pressing and admitted necessity a contested principle, alien, if not repugnant, to its nature? Why else, by a series of votes not called for in the actual state of public business, and not requiring immediate decision, parade a majority composed of elements the most heterogeneous and discordant? Why else obstruct and embarrass the progress of legislative measures, the usefulness and value of which the conspirators never once ventured to call in question, by a series of motions, which those even who do not regard them as mischievous must admit were merely idle and vexatious. Why else put upon the records of the House of Commons vote after vote, to which no man throughout the country could ever attach any other meaning than this—"We have the power to force the present ministers out of office, and as we want their places that power shall not for a single moment lay dormant in our hands?"

Such as we thus describe having been the combining cement and the actuating motive of the late opposition in every step of their parliamentary proceedings since the commencement of the session, it can excite no surprise that individuals of the party who thought themselves entitled to office, and have not got it, should break through all ordinary rules of propriety or decency in the expression of their rage. The wonder, in such circumstances, would be if decency or propriety were in the slightest degree observed. Men cannot sell themselves very often. The traffickers are perfectly conscious that the commodity in which they deal is apt to acquire a taint, which utterly destroys its value. Hence it is that the non-payment of the purchase money in such transactions is of all offences the deepest and the most galling, and that the seller, who either is or believes himself to be defrauded, is sure to be of all human beings the most ferocious and ungovernable.

The above observations do not apply, it is fair to admit, or do not apply equally, to all the component parts of the confederacy by which the administration of Sir Robert Peel was driven from office. Mr. O'Connell and his immediate adherents had a motive for wishing the overthrow of the late administration, and the re-instatement of their competitors, independent of and superior to the desire of office. They wished very naturally that the administration should be essentially a base, grovelling, and sordid administration, an

administration in place merely for the love of place. This must, from their position, their character, and their objects, have been their first and foremost wish, and their second must have been that such an administration should be indebted to them for its entrance into office, and dependent upon them for the permanency of its official existence. The administration by which that of Sir Robert Peel must of necessity be succeeded was sure to fulfil both of these conditions. The first was effectually guaranteed by the course which the opposition had pursued. The second was guaranteed by the fact that, after deducting the Conservative members in the House of Commons, there is no party in that assembly which can hope for a majority upon any question without the aid of Mr. O'Connell and his crew. With a low grovelling, and sordid administration, intent upon place for the sake of place, and wholly indifferent to the interests of the country, and with such an administration dependent, as it must necessarily be, upon his support, for its existence from day to day, Mr. O'Connell knew that he should be able to work his will, without any obstruction from the executive government, and without any effectual obstruction in the House of Commons. The Melbourne ministry is precisely the ministry which Mr. O'Connell must have desired. For such a government and for no other, was it worth his while to conspire, to suppress his talents for debate, to ape humility, to retract or qualify all that he had said, protested or sworn. Why but for this conviction should Mr. O'Connell have identified himself with the Melbourne party, which he had denounced, vilified, and ridiculed without mercy six months ago? Why but that Mr. O'Connell saw, as everybody else saw, that if the Melbourne ministry returned to power now they would be wholly prostrate at his feet, whereas six months ago they possessed some independent power—some capability and will to make head against his authority? Why but for that, for his purposes, they are now a better administration than they were then, in precisely the same degree as they are a worse administration for the interests, the security, and the welfare of Great Britain?

To remove any doubt, if any doubt be entertained upon this subject, it is only necessary to cast a glance at the change of relative position which has taken place within the last six months between Mr. O'Connell and his party on the one side, and Lord Melbourne and his party on the other. At the former period they were sworn enemies; now we behold them fast and steadfast friends. It would be a contradiction in terms to affirm that this remarkable change of relative position has taken place between the parties, both of them continuing to occupy the ground which it occupied before. The single question, then, is, which of the two parties has changed its ground? Is there anybody who pretends that Mr. O'Connell and his party have changed their ground? Do they profess to have changed it? Is there any symptom that they have changed it? May not Mr. O'Connell take in his hand the King's speech, in which he was denounced, with the full approbation of Lord Melbourne, as an enemy of his country, and, reading the passage containing this denunciation, may he not boldly and proudly say, "Such as I was then I am at this moment. In character, feelings, objects, position, I am wholly unchanged. I am humoured, cherished, obeyed now, I was denounced then. Yet I, at least, am the same." This Mr. O'Connell might confidently say: and what, we again ask, could Lord Melbourne reply? What do

the people of England reply for him at this moment? They say that of all the members of his administration Lord Melbourne may be the least of a driveller, that he may be the least of a slave to Mr. O'Connell, that he may be the least of a traitor to his Sovereign and his country, but that when his present position in relation to Mr. O'Connell is compared with the position he formerly occupied, he is still a driveller, a traitor, and a slave.

It is in vain that Lord Melbourne protests there is no compact in existence between Mr. O'Connell and himself. Their relative positions amount to a compact more binding than the most express stipulations. Lord Melbourne is bound to be subservient to Mr. O'Connell under the heaviest penalty that can be imposed. Let him in the slightest degree fail in the duties of submission and obedience, and the whole fabric of ambition and venality which his friends in the House of Commons have reared at so vast an expense of character, and with so reckless a disregard to the safety and welfare of the state, must crumble in an instant into ruin, or be sustained, if sustained at all, by the generosity and the patriotism of the statesmen against whom, and against whose efforts in the service of the country, the conspiracy between the Melbourne and the O'Connell factions has been directed. In such circumstances what compact can be required? There needs no compact. There is no compact. There can be no compact. Who ever heard of a treaty between the slave and his master? And from the moment of his recent entrance into office Lord Melbourne assumes the badge, and bears the brand of bondage to Mr. O'Connell. The latter may indeed have granted terms. He may have assumed a moderation which is foreign to his nature to lure the men whom he designed to employ completely into his power. He may have fraudulently assigned a boundary to his own pretensions. But his terms will be found delusive; his moderation hypocrisy, the boundary to his pretensions such as to admit at his pleasure of an indefinite extension.

#### SIR R. PEEL'S ADMINISTRATION.

*(From the Morning Herald.)*

It is much easier to look back than to anticipate, and when events have been consummated, to point out how unfortunate results might have been avoided. Looking upon Sir Robert Peel, with one exception—the unfortunate question of the currency—to have been an almost faultless minister, we cannot contemplate his removal from office, especially in the circumstances in which it has taken place, to be any thing short of a national calamity. How that calamity might have been avoided it is now not difficult, we think, to see. The two events which have led to this untoward state of things, were, the too hasty dismissal of Lord Melbourne's first administration, and the premature dissolution of the late Parliament. With reference to the first of these we do not at all deny, but have all along contended, that there was sufficient in the state to which that ministry was reduced by the death of its principal member, by the eccentricities of another, by the secession of others, to justify an impression on the royal mind, that no patching up which it could undergo could enable it to carry on the affairs of the country with any prospect of success, and, therefore, with a promptness, a candour, and a manliness, not always to be met with in courts, the King at once deter-

mined to rid the country of an incubus, which his Majesty rightly enough imagined was on the eve of self-dissolution. Still events have proved that the act itself was premature, and that it gave to that ministry a renewed vitality, a certain degree of sympathy, on which it was fast losing all legitimate claim. In short, Lord Melbourne's government should have been allowed to die the natural death to which it was so fast approaching. The putting it out of its misery gave it the only new life it could ever have acquired. This done, however, and the new Premier placed at the head of affairs, it was not at all necessary or advisable that the Parliament should have been dissolved, till it had at least shown an equivocal disposition to thwart the new minister in his conduct of the public affairs; and such a course seems the more advisable now that it is seen what the measures of Sir Robert Peel have been. We apprehend the most sanguine among the Whig-Radicals does not imagine that if the dissolution had taken place in February, or March, instead of when it did, a very different result would not have ensued. In short, it was the obvious policy of the new ministry to place the House of Commons in the wrong before they returned them back upon the judgment of their constituents; whereas by a premature dissolution, by turning the members adrift, faultless and untried, a sympathy similar to that which the dismissed ministers were receiving was created towards them, while Sir Robert Peel and his colleagues at the same time placed themselves in a false position towards the country, by allowing it to be assumed and imagined that they meant to resort to anti-reform, instead of a reform policy, in their government of the country. We are not unaware of the arguments which present themselves on the other side; above all, of the inconvenience which would have arisen from so many of the members of the government being without seats in the House of Commons. But our view of the matter only amounts to a question of time, and as such the difficulties in this respect would have been but of short duration. We do not for a moment imagine that the late House of Commons would have suffered Sir Robert Peel's government to go on had his measures been those of an angel; but it is the factious opposition which, we believe, it would have received, which would have sealed its doom with the country, and had an effect upon numerous constituencies, who, in the absence of it, re-elected to the present house men whom they would in the other case, in all probability, have rejected. These are the views, this the conclusion, to which a retrospection of the last four months leads us to come to. If they are correct, then the inference almost necessarily follows, that had an opposite course on both occasions been pursued, the present state of things would have been widely different; and instead of seeing the affairs of the country delivered over to a ministry which, disguise it how they will, are mere puppets in the hand of one who avowedly holds the wires, we should have seen the most capable man in the kingdom manfully and judiciously wielding its destinies, supported by a majority of the representatives of the people, and enjoying the entire confidence of the other two estates of the realm.

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ENTERED AT STATIONER'S HALL.

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THE CELEBRATED PONY HUNTER.



# THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

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## THE PONY HUNTER.—PLATE.

The extraordinary animal, whose portrait accompanies the present number, was the property of Mr. Coke (nephew of the gentleman of the same name, of Holkham) and was for some years a distinguished hunter in Leicestershire, particularly with the Quorndon-hounds when they were under the direction of Mr. Osbaldiston. From the circumstance of his being under fifteen hands, he was called the *Pony*, and under this diminutive appellation was sometimes seen leading the field, and always well advanced in front; but though he reached no higher when placed under the standard than about fourteen hands three inches, he possessed great power, (as the graphic representation testifies,) and being thorough bred, few horses could live with him after hounds. His colour chestnut, a hard pulling animal, and not remarkable for good temper. His owner refused seven hundred guineas for him. The celebrated Robin Put, the property of the late Sir Harry Goodricke, was a horse of a similar description, and a similar sum was offered for him.

Much has been written respecting horses used for following hounds, generally by those whose knowledge of the subject was so superlatively superficial, that, without any alarming stretch of imagination, it might have been supposed the foundation or basis of the twiddle-twaddle was gleaned from the loquacious nonsense of their grandmamma. In this way, the mind of Mr. John Lawrence must have been nurtured and trained, at least if our opinion is to be formed from the monthly miserable farragos, which a few years since appeared in the *Sporting Magazine*, as well as from his spurious clumsily manufactured tomes which have at various times crawled into existence. This gentleman never rode after hounds in his life; I am doubtful if he ever saw a pack of hounds, or knew a coley from a bloodhound? Yet did he appear as a public instructor upon every ramification of the chase with a degree of elastic self conceit, which gave the finishing touch to his egregious, his imperturbable, his unblushing ignorance. This wretched book manufacturer has been worthily, if not pre-eminently, succeeded by a scribbler in the pay of the self-elected "Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge." In that part of the inordinate issues of manufactured rags put forth by the Society in question, called the *Library of Useful Knowledge*, appears some ill-digested, ill-arranged, and grossly-ignorant observations under "The Horse;" the author of which, or rather the manufacturer, may perhaps think my language

severe:—let him recollect, however, that, as a public writer, he is a legitimate subject of animadversion, through a similar instrumentality as that by which he contrived to appear in his motley magpie dress of black and white; further, since he has chosen to assume the office of public instructor without the requisite capacity, to lecture upon a subject of which he is profoundly ignorant, the exposition of imposture becomes a debt due to the public from the centinels of the press.

Passing over a most ridiculous, though a sort of sanctified, exordium; as well as some wordy verbiage respecting the Wild Horse and the Boots of the Gauchos; after ringing some scores of very untunable changes upon the varieties of the horse tribe, we at length arrive at the "*The Hunter*," ornamentally illustrated, in the first place, by a pictorial embellishment evidently copied from the sign of some country alehouse, and the subject is farther luminously illustrated with the following didactic apothegm:—"In strong thickly enclosed countries, the half-bred horse may get tolerably well along; but for general use the hunter should be at least three quarters bred (a sort of quadroom, I suppose?) perhaps seven-eighths. If he could be obtained with *bone enough*, and a *different action*, a thorough bred horse would form the best of all hunters." Whatever may be the effect of the lecturer's flowing oratory from the rostrum, or the presidential chair, the above quotation not only testifies his egregious ignorance of the business of the chase, but clearly shows that the nature or quality of the animal upon which he dates his professorship is very imperfectly understood by him; so much so indeed that he is evidently unaware that the action of the horse is the result of education; I will put his own case in a more lucid manner than he has presented it. He supposes, (he has perhaps been told,) that the race horse goes close to the ground, and that the action of the hunter should be more lofty; very good; such is the state of the case. But the writer in question, he who has constituted himself a public instructor, does not seem to be aware that from early life, the racer is thrown forward and taught to become a daisy cutter for the purpose of acquiring the utmost possible speed. "Train up a child," &c. "The proverb is rather musty;" thus as he is taught one system of progressive motion, and continues to be trained upon the same principle, he carries it to perfection if possible, to the exclusion of every other method. However, take the same animal, the thorough bred horse, the descendant of the little, beautiful, light, elastic Arabian, and train him to hunting, and he will acquire the requisite mode of going; if, instead of the smooth

velvet turf, he be trained across the inclosure, upon fallows, uneven, and all kinds of ground, he will not fail to substitute, for the daisy cutting action of the race horse, the loftier and more careful mode of going which distinguishes the accomplished hunter. Yet, the direct and conclusive reference to be drawn from the *instructive precepts* so forcibly fulminated for "*The Diffusion of Useful Knowledge*," is, that the action of the hunter is so unsuited to the form, the manner, matter, and motion of the thorough bred horse—so foreign indeed to his very nature and disposition, that his acquisition of it is utterly hopeless and impossible! Bah!

Had this highly enlightened and luminous demonstrator ever been in the hunting field—had he seen the Pony Hunter cross from Billesdon Coplow to Breedon Clouds, he must have altered his opinion as to the capacity of the thorough bred horse for elevating his fore feet. Had he visited Melton, he might have received the most conclusive ocular demonstration that thorough bred horses are not necessarily daisy cutters in a thousand instances; in fact, in Shropshire, Yorkshire, Cheshire, Warwickshire, Staffordshire, and indeed in all the hunting counties which I have lately visited, would have presented similar objects for his contemplative consideration; nor can anything short of full blood live with fox-hounds of the present day.

To talk about a "half-bred horse getting tolerably well along" is not the language of a sportsman, it is ridiculous nonsense; and the writer who presents such mawkish stuff to the public, particularly under the garb of a public instructor, is pre-eminently entitled to that reprehensive exposition, which it becomes our imperious duty to administer.

Again observes this spontaneous professor of "*Useful Knowledge*," the forehead should be loftier (in the hunter) than in the racer. A turf horse may be forgiven if his hind quarters rise an inch or two above his fore ones. His principal power is wanted from behind, and the very lowness of the forehead may throw more weight in front, and cause the whole machine to be more easily and speedily moved. A lofty forehead, however, is indispensable in the hunter; the shoulder as extensive as in the racer; as oblique and somewhat thicker." *En passant*, it will be an act of genuine and disinterested friendship to recommend this philosophical disciple of the seminary for the "*Diffusion of Useful Knowledge*" to study Lindley Murray's Grammar, as he is evidently unacquainted with the construction of the English language. But, as regards his comparison of the race horse and the hunter, to say nothing of the wretched verbiage in which his hobbling notions are so limpingly described, the comparison, if it can be allowed to amount to any thing, forms an absolute misprision. If, in the race horse, "the hind quarter should rise an inch or two above his fore ones," why should not a similar formation be equally applicable to the hunter? If, in the race, "his principal power is wanted from behind," surely the same observation may be applied more forcibly to the hunter; or how is the latter to make his way over a country, and in particular, to clear the fences, since, in the act of jumping, the impelling power must arise entirely, absolutely unassisted,

from the hind quarter? "A lofty forehead (says this accomplished declaimer) is indispensable in the hunter;" indeed! To which I beg leave to give the most positive, the most unqualified, contradiction. Further, I unhesitatingly state that a high forehead is directly opposed to the principles of power and speed, and that a horse thus formed, must necessarily be so slow, and so unable to get over the fences, that he would be run out of sight by modern fox-hounds in a very few minutes.

When a writer presumes to give instructions upon a subject which he does not understand, he can scarcely fail to flounder from one mistake to another: thus, in the present instance, after asserting that "a lofty forehead is indispensable in the hunter," the *Diffuser of Useful Knowledge* says, that the shoulder should be as "oblique" in the latter as in the racer; and so it certainly should: but then, he unfortunately did not recollect that a "lofty forehead" and an "oblique" shoulder are incompatible. Wherever the "oblique" shoulder is found, the "lofty forehead" cannot exist. To sum up in a few words: a horse to be powerful and swift should be well raised behind, with a great length of sweep, and much muscle in the hind quarter; his shoulders should be "oblique;" his chest low-dropping; and this form, or animal organization, is equally applicable to the quadrupedal exertions of the race course, or to those of the hunting field.

A horse that has been trained to the race course necessarily makes an awkward figure in his probationary hunting lessons; yet he learns to alter his mode of going in a much shorter time than might reasonably be expected. Tawpy, one of the best cocktails that ever appeared on the turf, after racing for several years, became a hunter, and carried Lord Wilton for several seasons. I saw his Lordship, mounted on this horse, go away with the Cheshire hounds from Waverton Gorse, and after crossing three fields, he charged a well known brook, the name of which, however, I do not at this moment recollect, and got clear over; many others attempted, and covering only part of the space, were content to receive the benefit of the bath, and make their way to one side or the other, as the case might be: but Lord Wilton was not the only person that landed firmly on the opposite bank: Lord Delamere, Sir H. Mainwaring, and several others were equally fortunate. I mention this circumstance in order to shew that a race horse may become a superior hunter. I saw Tawpy out many times, and he uniformly manifested a decided superiority in his performances: it may be said, perhaps, Lord Wilton is not a welter weight; but then, he rides long, and every inch below the girths I consider as equal to six extra pounds.

Mercury, another celebrated cocktail, became a hunter, and two years ago I saw him in the possession of Mr. Wicksted, who rode him after his own hounds, the Staffordshire: as a hunter he had a fault, he would not take water; a circumstance unpleasant enough, but which is no uncommon occurrence. Warrior, a celebrated hunter, rode for some years by the late Mr. Francis Bretherton, took water without hesitation for several seasons; but happening to fall short in one of his attempts over a wide brook, he was nearly drowned



before he could be got out, and would never face water afterwards.

The two cocktails mentioned above were unquestionably as thoroughly bred as possible, nor is there the least doubt that they raced under a fabricated pedigree. Indeed, it is not easy to define what is meant by full blood; that is, it is difficult to ascertain, in how many removes the impurity of the *black mare* is washed out by the genuine Arabian stream; nor can any doubt be entertained by those who have paid attention to such matters, that the taint would disappear sooner or later, according to circumstances—it might be manufactured into a curious zoological problem, which, however, no mathematical calculation could precisely demonstrate, and to which Sir Isaac Newton's doctrine of fluxions could be alone applied.

In going through a stable of hunters, it will frequently be observed, that such a horse is as nearly thorough bred as possible, which, on investigation, will be found to amount to this, that his sire was an acknowledged thorough-bred, but his dam, though some scores of removes perhaps from original impurity, had nevertheless a taint in her pedigree. A well practised eye is not easily deceived in regard to the degree of blood which the horse possesses; but one circumstance will uniformly place the matter beyond all doubt—if the animal can go through the exercise which is administered to the racer, and eat as much corn, no doubt can exist as to the genuine purity of his blood. In a distressing run with a fox, the basely bred creatures, though they may go well enough for a while, are always the first to tail off: thorough-breds alone live to the end of it. The best hunter I ever rode was by Champion, winner of the St. Leger, his dam was as nearly thorough-bred as possible, so at least said her owner, and when pressed upon the subject, he could only make out the remove by saying she was by a cocktail out of a thorough-bred mare; yet my hunter was said not to be thorough-bred. Two years since, when Sir Harry Mainwaring's hounds met at Tarvin, I noticed a horse upon which the first whip was mounted, he appeared as much like full blood as possible. Upon putting the question to the worthy baronet, he replied he was not thorough-bred, but had won a cocktail stake.

The hunter may be said to have been in a state of progressive improvement for the last century, as the kind of horse formerly used for the purpose, is rarely to be met with at the present day; and, even when seen, is no longer capable of maintaining a place with modern hounds. As the hound was rendered more fleet, it became necessary to increase the progressive motion of the horse also; so that, in a smart run with a fox, the old English hunter would be completely shaken off in a few minutes.

Sportsmen of the present day are of opinion, that, in the hunter, as much blood and bone as possible should be united; perfection in the horse intended for the hunting field may be thus acquired, and it can be accomplished in no other way. Yet, what we denominate blood is so anxiously desired, that the present maxim of the modern school is—an ounce of blood is worth a

pound of bone. I have heard it remarked, that small bone with large sinew or tendon is the union which gives to the animal possessing it, superior powers of speed and endurance; but such an assertion can never be the offspring of reason and reflection, since a formation of this kind is rarely, if ever met with; and, even where it may be found, inasmuch as it would form a sort of preternatural union, it would weaken, rather than add to, the powers of the animal which possessed it. Bone is the fundamental principle of strength; it is the substance to which the tendon is attached, and by which indeed, both it, and also the muscle are supported; and therefore the bone and tendon will be found for the most part, in just proportion.

Where much bone is seen, much tendon will be found also; and when it happens otherwise, I should consider it a mal-formation, a circumstance no way desirable, and consequently not to be recommended.

A notion is prevalent in the north western counties, as also in other parts of England, that Irish horses make the best hunters; and I am willing to acknowledge, that I have seen many, (and possessed some) excellent hunters which claimed an Irish nativity. But, since Irish horses are neither better bred, nor better formed, than English hunters, we must look for this superiority, if indeed they possess it, to some other cause, rather than the natural quality of the animal; and, on examination, it will be found to arise from the fearless manner in which they are ridden. A horse to become, and continue, a good hunter, must be boldly ridden; but I would have them at the same time, judiciously ridden also: in the latter quality our neighbours of the emerald isle are, in all probability, a little deficient; and hence so many of the Irish hunters will be found to have sustained injury. Many Irish hunters annually find their way into England, particularly through the port of Liverpool, few of which are free from blemish. In the field, they are (like their masters) very often impetuous and headstrong, owing to the mode in which they have been trained; but soon become tractable by a different method of treatment.

I had often been told of Irish horses clearing six feet walls, and this mentioned too as an ordinary occurrence: it seemed rather out of the common way to the notions of an English sportsman, and I was for some time doubtful of the accuracy of the report. The common height of a five bar gate will be found about four feet six or eight inches, which a hunter will clear very cleverly till he becomes distressed; but if the puff be taken out of him, it becomes an act of insanity to put him at, or expect him to cover such a jump. A wall four feet ten inches high may be justly considered a rasper, which, however, I have seen fairly cleared by an English hunter: still I was at a loss how to account for an Irish horse jumping "half a dozen six feet walls in succession!" I had seen Irish hunters jump the walls which sometimes are placed in the way of the English sportsman, and they managed the walls in the same manner as our horses, nor was I exactly aware of the mode in which the Irish nags got over the six feet walls, till a few years since, when out with the hounds of

Sir T. Stanley, I observed Ned Davis, the huntsman, put his horse (a powerful Irish horse) at a high wall: the animal approached it very deliberately, and, placing his fore feet on the top, thus drew himself over. I had frequently heard it remarked, that the Irish hunter *tipped* these high walls in going over, which I understood to be a touch with the hind feet; but the truth is, they touch or tip first with the fore feet, and drawing up their hind feet, place them on the spot which the fore feet had instantaneously quitted. Thus it would appear that a horse trained to this mode of getting over walls, would be able to jump (if jumping it can be called) any wall upon which he was able to place his fore feet.

When we consider the swift, laborious, and long continued exertion which a hunter is called upon to sustain, it is abundantly evident that his form and figure should constitute the essence, if possible, of strength and speed; and, therefore, after having met with an animal possessing a sufficient share of blood or breeding (thorough bred) for the purpose, the next object to be considered is his form, as indicative of the requisite qualities. A *knowing* dealer once remarked to me, that, in the choice of the hunter, the first point to be examined was the hock (he was shewing me a hunter he had for sale remarkable for the size of his hocks) as it was vain to expect any horse to make a good hunter, unless he possessed good hocks. This is all very well, and, beyond all question, a hunter cannot have a better recommendation than good hocks: there are, however, other points and circumstances to be considered; and, instead of the hock, I think it quite as well, like the celebrated Jock Buckle, deceased, to commence our observations at the fore feet. If there be such a malformation of the feet as to cause lameness, or to impede in any way the animal's motion: if, for instance, he was what is called *tender* (having the navicular disease) or foundered, all other qualities, however excellent, are rendered nugatory. It is true, a hunter with tender fore feet, as he goes principally on soft ground, will perform a day's hunting very well; but then, if the business should prove severe, which is very often the case with fox-hounds, the exertion which the horse has undergone produces inflammation or fever in the feet, he cannot feed on account of the pain which he endures, and will not be in a fit state to go out again for several weeks: consequently a horse with bad feet should be cautiously avoided.

Strength constitutes the most essential ingredient in the composition of the hunter; it is evident that a small or little horse cannot be well calculated for the purpose: yet there is a medium to be observed, and the extremes should be avoided. The extraordinary animal whose portrait accompanies the present number was low, but by no means a small or little horse; he was remarkably bulky, and so admirably formed for the business he pursued, his animal organization was so perfect an indication of power and speed, that look at him in all and any point, the eye became filled with his admirable and complete proportion.

Judging from long experience and a considerable field of observation, I have little hesitation in observing that, as a general standard, a hunter

should be about fifteen hands two inches high. This I would lay down as a general rule, subject to exceptions certainly, as will always be found the case. Great strength, as I have already observed, is indispensable in the hunter; and although the requisite strength will generally be found in the height I have just mentioned, yet sometimes it happens that horses of extraordinary power are to be met with considerably under that standard—of which the pony hunter is the most remarkable instance that ever fell under my observation. A grey entire horse which I saw in Leicestershire a few years since, which belonged to Sir John Lister Kaye, may be placed in the same class.

But the old hacknied observation, that a large horse will "*tire himself—his own weight will kill him*," is founded upon erroneous notions, and is consequently incorrect: it arose no doubt at a period of the old school of hunting, when the superiority of the genuine Arab blood was not well understood: and therefore, however applicable such an adage might be in days of yore, its force and truth evaporated with the explosion of the system in which it originated. It may be justly remarked, that a horse cannot be too large, if his conformation be correct, and above all, if he possess sufficient blood. On the 13th of November, 1833, I had the pleasure of going through Mr. Little Gilmour's stable at Melton, which contained ten hunters. The first which attracted my particular attention, was Snow-drop, a very handsome, a very powerful, and a very well bred grey gelding; a trifle more than sixteen hands high; an animal well calculated to carry his master, who rides at least fifteen stone, over Leicestershire. Next to him stood Mark Antony, a chestnut horse of great power and size. But when the groom had stripped Vingt-un, I was very much surprised on going up to him; he was altogether the largest and most powerful hunter I ever had an opportunity of closely examining; he was near seventeen hands high, with bone in proportion: I never felt better legs: thorough bred; and acknowledged to be equal, if not superior, to any horse in Leicestershire for crossing a country: eight hundred guineas were offered, but refused, for him. In the next stall stood Plunder, another very powerful bay gelding, as high, and as large, and I thought handsomer, than Vingt-un. They were two very extraordinary animals, whose performances clearly prove the erroneousness of the notion which was very prevalent some years ago, namely, that a large horse cannot last; since the performance of these two animals in the field (and I repeatedly witnessed them) were equal to their appearance in the stable.

Next to Plunder stood Bramah, sixteen hands one inch; Crispin followed in succession, about the same size: however, neither the deity nor the cordwainer was equal in size, power, or beauty, to their predecessors. Not a horse in the stable was under sixteen hands, all remarkable for power, breeding, and performance. A chestnut horse, which a few weeks after I saw at Shrewsbury belonging to Mr. Wynne, was of a similar description. If the form be good, and the breeding sufficiently high, a horse cannot be too large.



If we duly consider the principles of progressive motion, in reference at least to quadrupeds, and particularly to such animals as are remarkable for the celerity of their motions, we shall perceive that the fleetest of them are peculiarly calculated for speed by a combination of parts which is truly surprising, almost, as it were, in a mechanical point of view. Animals of the deer tribe are remarkable for the light, bounding elasticity of their motions, and their extraordinary speed; and their form, or animal organization will be found, on examination, admirably calculated for the purpose: they are much lower before than behind; their fore legs are short in proportion to their hind legs; and their bodies so formed that the viscera are placed forward, thus leaving a great scope for the free and extensive action of the hind legs, which of course are mainly instrumental in giving an increased impetus to the animal's progressive motion. Pursuing the same train of reasoning, let us next regard the greyhound, which offers a further and stronger confirmation of the hypothesis: the greyhound is smaller than the stag but swifter; and this superior speed arises, beyond all question, from the superior combination of his form; and if those who feel sufficiently interested in the investigation, will take the trouble to examine, they will find those greyhounds which have pre-eminently distinguished themselves, (such as the celebrated Carina, Claret, Snowball, and Major,) have been equally remarkable for a low-dropping chest, an uncommon length of hind legs, and commensurate space of their sweeping action from behind. The most striking exemplification, however, of the superiority of the principle of power and speed of which I have been speaking, of that combination of form, or animal conformation, calculated, above all others, to give celerity to quadrupedal progressive motion, as well as for maintaining it, is to be found in the hare: beyond all comparison, the fleetest quadruped in nature, when her size is taken into consideration. The hare is generally found to weigh from six or seven to ten or eleven pounds, though hares rarely reach the latter weight. Yet the hare is swifter than the stag, whose weight amounts to twenty times as much as that of the hare: she is as fleet, if not fleetier, than the greyhound, notwithstanding her diminutive form compared to that of her pursuer. Whence then arises this extraordinary strength—this wonderful celerity of motion? We must look for the cause in the striking peculiarity of her conformation. If any person will take the trouble to examine this little creature attentively, they will not fail to be surprised at the very great difference in the length of her fore and hind legs, at the oblique direction of the shoulder, and the wonderful manner in which her quarters are inserted, as it were, into the body; the amazing strength of her loins, her depth of chest, the absence of heavy viscera in the posterior part of the abdomen. From such a peculiar structure or formation, she derives a stride equal to that of the greyhound, uncommon strength, and an unrivalled celerity of motion.

Therefore, in the choice or purchase of a hunter, this hypothesis, these principles of power and speed, should be kept steadily in view. The horse is slower in comparison than either the

stag, the greyhound, or the hare; and this must always be the case, since it would be ridiculous to suppose that a horse could be met with formed precisely in the same manner as the animals just enumerated; but, in making our selection for the purpose of the chase, our choice should be regulated upon the same principle. If we have recourse to the most distinguished racers which have ever appeared on the turf, for a proof of the correctness of the principle inculcated, we shall find it amply confirmed in Eclipse, Flying Childers, Shark, Firetail, Lottery, Longwaist, Velocipede, and, above all, in Plenipo; and I hesitate not to assert, that the qualities calculated to attain pre-eminence on the turf are equally so to acquire distinction in the hunting-field: the powers must be the same, the difference results from their application.

However, let it not be forgotten, that a horse with a superior conformation for progressive motion (such as I have endeavoured to describe) is said not to be handsome by superficial observers; but it should be recollected that *beauty* is a term which, in most cases, must be applied relatively: a horse may be very beautiful as a hunter, without impressing upon the mind the idea of a beautiful hack; and, therefore, the form of the horse which we are to consider under the present head, is that best calculated for following hounds. As a hunter has to traverse spaces where jumping as well as galloping becomes indispensably requisite, the animal for this purpose should present a combination of parts suited for the double purpose. It has been already shown that speed mainly results from the strength of the hind quarters; so, on examination it will be found, that it requires more than ordinary power in the same parts to enable a horse to clear his fences in superior style, and thus to become distinguished as a hunter.

I have frequently heard it asserted that the act of jumping (*leaping*, according to the phraseology of the old school), is nothing more than an elongation of the gallop; or in other words, that jumping is merely the extension of the gallop. But this is a mistake. In the act of jumping, the horse throws himself from the ground; all his feet completely leave it, which is not the case in galloping.

In jumping the spring must arise altogether from the hind quarters; and, therefore, in a hunter, I should not only look for strong hocks, but long muscular thighs, wide spread quarters, and loins as strong as possible; moderately ribbed up; rather round than narrow in the barrel; back not too low; low dropping chest; bony and muscular in the arm; strong knee, short from the knee to the foot; strong oblique shoulders, not too fine at the top; if the neck be well set into the shoulders and finely formed, the head well set on and handsome, so much the better; such a formation contributes much on the score of beauty, and cannot operate as a drawback on the essential qualities of the animal; a bold, full, clear eye; broad rather than narrow forehead; nostrils wide. Horses, whose shoulders taper very finely to the top, are apt to become foundered, though I have seen many excellent hunters of this description.

A hunter should stand over a considerable space: he should stand straight also, turn out his toes neither behind nor before. It will frequently happen that a short-backed horse will stand over a considerable space, owing to the oblique position of his shoulders, and his quarter being well set in: horses of this formation are well calculated for the business of hunting. A leggy horse cannot be recommended for the chase: a hunter, to use the words of Tom Hewitt, the dealer, (and few men can form so good an opinion), should "*grow down to the ground.*"

"On my little blood hack, dirt and danger defying

To cover I rattle, in hopes of a run;

There fit my cares, as the summer dews flying

Vanish away from the face of the sun.

Yes, the hunt are all met, and the country is famous;

The wind in the south too, the scent should be good;

'Come, Philip, now give us a gallop to tame us,'

'We will if we can, Sir,'—'Hike into the wood.'

Not a skirter among them, but crash they go in it;

'Hark! Concubine's speaking—yoicks! Concubine!

hark!

Stand steady, don't head him; he'll break in a minute;

Tally ho! there's a halloo! he's off for the park!

Now the pack in full cry, yonder lawn streaming over,

See! the deer stand and gaze at the gallant array!

Puss steals from her form at the edge of the cover,

Where pheasants keep rising and whirling away.

'Gone away!' in sad earnest the purls are commencing—

Here a farmer and steed most promiscuously roll;

There a Leicestershire blade on a glutton for fencing,

Takes a bull finch and breaks a buck's neck in a hole.

'My lad! pull that stake out—whoey! gently; ad rat it,

(While the mare's in a fidget, the man's in a fright;)

Do just stand aside, Sir, and let me come at it'

'Forward! forward! my boys! he's away to the right!

Now across a stiff country Sir Renard's departing,

The virtue of some of his followers fails

While steeds who went off furious rampant at starting

Have soon scarce a member to wag but their tails.

Now they make for yon osiers—he's taken the river;

'See! Conqueror foremost to plunge in the tide;

Slap dash in we gallop, nor care for a shiver

Where landing is safe on the opposite side.

'Hold hark! give 'em time to make out where he went.

here,

See the vet'rans eagerly press through the throng.

Yoicks! Countess and Hesperus carrying the scent there,

Who says that these gallants cannot go along?

For yon village he makes, but no cunning can save him;

Now sneaks through the homestead in pitiful state

Ev'ry effort is over! they view him! they have him!

'Who-hoop! lads, surrounded, he yields to his fate!

Tho' the life blood of beauty with terror may curdle,

While brooding o'er risks which the sportsman must run,

Now imagine him lying in state on a hurdle,

And turns but with sighs from the trophies he's won:

Yet when England at tyrants would level defiance,

Say, what makes her sons undauntedly bleed?

'Tis the chase—'tis the study of this noble science

Gives spirit and vigor and health to the breed.'

THE SENTINEL WASP.—Some writers have doubted the assertion that a sentinel is placed at the entrance of the nest as soon as the wasps retire to rest in the evening; but I can state most positively that I have never seen a nest of either species, after about nine o'clock in the summer months, without observing the sentry at his post; and it is curious to see with what rapidity the alarm is conveyed to those within when any attempt is made to meddle with him. I have sometimes thought that I could see a second sentinel at some distance behind the outer one; and, judging from the usual distance from the entrance down to the nest (often from two to three feet) and the quickness of the communication with it, there may even be more. A lantern held near

the sentinel does not seem to give him any alarm; but on touching the ground near him, he instantly disappears for a few seconds, and the inhabitants sally out immediately. I always capture the sentinel before proceeding to take the nest, and they are invariably neuters. A considerable number of wasps pass the night upon the outside of the tree nest in warm weather, but the sentinel is always to be seen at the entrance notwithstanding. It may be as well to mention, that in the ground nests there are two apertures, one for entrance, and the other for exit,—The tree nest has usually only one, near the bottom; but in large colonies a second is often added, in which case there is a sentinel stationed at each. There is a curious fact with regard to wasps, which, though already published, it may be worth while to mention, as I have had many opportunities of verifying it from experience; viz. that if the entrance to the nest be stopped up in the day time, the hundreds of wasps which are constantly returning to it make no attempt to sting the aggressor; but if one escape from the inside, it attacks him instantly, though not with the pertinacity of the common bee. I have often suffocated the wasps in a nest with a mixture of gunpowder and sulphur in the day time, and proceeded to dig them out directly, whilst hundreds were flying about me in all directions, but I have hitherto escaped with impunity. If a common quart bottle, half full of water, is placed in the cavity, and the ground levelled up again, so that the mouth of the bottle may as nearly as possible occupy the place of the former entrance, all the wasps that were absent at the time of the taking of the nest will crowd into the bottle during the day; and I have usually found from 500 or 1500 wasps captured in it on the following morning. It is interesting to observe the young wasps eat their way through the covering of the cells when their transformation is complete. This they will continue to do for several days after the nest is taken, particularly if kept in a warm place.—*Rev. E. Bigge's Treatise.*

#### OBSERVATIONS ON A REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF HIS MAJESTY'S CUSTOMS ON THE CORN TRADE IN THE ISLE OF MAN, AND THE ISLANDS OF GUERNSEY AND JERSEY.

This report was ordered by the House of Commons to be printed on the 23d March, 1835. Notice was given by Mr. Baring, President of the Board of Trade, of a bill, founded on that report, to be brought in on Tuesday 14th April.

Before that time, the Channel Islands felt considerable alarm and excitement at the groundless charges preferred against them, and at the projected invasion of their rights. They named deputies to defend those rights, and the deputies from Jersey, arriving first in London, discovered the fallacious nature of the report, represented it to the board of trade, and communicated the same to the deputy from Guernsey. He, with the advice of the said deputies, wrote immediately to the right hon. the secretary of state, to solicit the protection of his Majesty's Government.

The deputies rely on that protection; and whatever may be the wishes and attempts of interested parties, they know it to be impossible that any government should lend its influence to the adoption of legislative measures injurious to any part of his Majesty's dominions, when known to be grounded on a misstatement.



*The deputies are ready to prove the grossest errors in the report; they can do so by means of the report itself. The quantities of corn exported from the Channel Islands to Great Britain are so very insignificant, that ridicule must have attached to any attempt to legislate on that ground; even, when erroneously magnified, as they are in the report, the amount would not warrant interference; it is only the proof of fraud that could do so. And that proof is attempted to be established by representing the quantity exported from Guernsey as exceeding by one half the whole quantity grown. No legislative interference or prohibition could be too strong for such a fraud. We deny its existence, we solemnly protest against the charge, and by this appeal to men of all parties who still prefer truth, justice, and fair play to party views of any question, we are anxious to remove the false impression left on the minds of those members to whom the report has been distributed, and to rescue the character of our country so cruelly, so unjustifiably aspersed.*

To every man able and willing to investigate the question, it will appear that on the score of fraud there is not even a shadow of suspicion; and on the quantity exported from the islands to Great Britain, proved to be so very insignificant, that a legislative measure is totally uncalled for. *De minimis non curat Lex.*

For the assistance of those who examine the report of the commissioners of customs, we beg leave to refer them to page three of that report, where the annual quantity of grain exported to the United Kingdom is stated to be—

|                   | Wheat.    | Barley.  |
|-------------------|-----------|----------|
| From Guernsey.... | 6444 qrs. | 226 qrs. |
| Jersey .....      | 7358      | 2037     |

Whereas the true statement, taken from W. Weston's own returns at pages 10 and 12, is—

|               | Wheat. | Barley. | Report. | Real Export. |
|---------------|--------|---------|---------|--------------|
| From Guernsey | 539    | 86      | 6444    | 539          |
| Jersey        | 1611   | 1       | 7358    | 1611         |
|               |        |         | 226     | 86           |
|               |        |         | 2037    | 1            |
|               |        |         | 16065   | 2237         |
|               |        |         | 2237    |              |
|               |        |         | 13,828  |              |

Being an erroneous return of 13,828 qrs. against the two islands, instead of the correct average of five years, amounting for the two islands to 2237 qrs exported. Or the produce of an estate of seven hundred, or seven hundred and fifty acres.

(Signed) T. LE BRETON, } Deputies of the  
J. LE COUTEUR, } States of Jersey.

Colonnade Hotel,  
16th April, 1835.

DANIEL DE LISLE BROCK.  
Deputy of the States of Guernsey.

Colonnade Hotel, Charles Street,  
9th April, 1835.

Sir,—Whenever absent from my post in Guernsey, it is my duty to communicate to you the cause officially. In the present case the states of that island have deputed me to London to watch over the rights and interests of the inhabitants, and I have the honour to solicit for them your protection, and that of his Majesty's Government.

Such protection was never more required than at this time, when notice has been given by the president of the board of trade of a bill tending to de-

prive the Islands of their undoubted rights, and when that notice has been preceded by assertions in the public prints attributed to the same high authority, that the proofs of fraud from Guernsey in the exportation of corn were indisputable.

My motive, in accepting the trust reposed in me by the states, was to examine and refute those assertions: many gentlemen were better qualified than I was, by their ability and knowledge, to discuss the merits of the question; but having had from my situation the making out of the returns, the passing of the certificates of produce, having, I may say, followed the whole process of cultivation and shipment of the corn exported, no other man could speak with the same precision to the facts of the case. It may well be supposed that, on my arrival here last night, I was extremely anxious to discover the grounds of the imputation alleged against us. The report of the commissioners of customs, ordered by the House of Commons to be printed on the 23d March, 1835, was however only put into my hands this morning by the deputies of Jersey, who had themselves just discovered the extraordinary circumstances connected with that report, which it is my duty, sir, to lay before you. The annual quantity of wheat grown in Guernsey is stated at 4505 quarters, and the quantity exported to the United Kingdom at 6444 quarters; after which the report is made to observe—"Thus it would appear that the quantity of wheat annually exported from Guernsey to the United Kingdom has exceeded the quantity grown in the island by upwards of 2000 quarters, and it is manifest, therefore, that a considerable portion of the wheat so exported has consisted of foreign wheat; and the only way in which the fraud could have been effected has been by the exporters making false declarations as to the produce of the wheat.

A false view of the growth and exportation of corn is taken in a similar manner with respect to Jersey and on these false views the report proceeds throughout. It is clear that the aggregate amount of the corn exported for five years has been mistaken, and represented as the average of the annual exportation during that period. If the error had been confined to one table, and to one island, it would naturally be ascribed to accident; but where the error is repeated for both islands, and the whole of the argument against them is grounded on such double error it bears a mysterious appearance difficult to be accounted for, since the subsequent tables were of a nature to remove all doubts on the subject. Those tables prove, not that 6444 quarters were annually exported from Guernsey; not that the exportation exceeded by 2000 quarters the amount of all the corn grown; but truly and simply, that out of 4505 quarters grown annually, the average exportation had amounted annually to 539 quarters.

The commissioners have been much more ready to accuse the Island of fraud than they were warranted to be; for independently of their own gross and manifested error already noticed, by which the whole country have imbibed unfounded prejudices against us, they refer to the letters they had received from Mr. Weston, a very intelligent officer, whom they had sent from Weymouth to investigate the matter: and he says, that in prosecuting his "inquiries, it appeared to be the opinion of those with whom he had an opportunity of conversing, that foreign corn had so found its way into the United Kingdom, although a single instance could not be adduced in which it could be substantiated, or even a surmise as to its probable extent, and after a strict inquiry and a close investigation of the means which must have been resorted

to by those engaged in this species of fraud, I am fully satisfied that it cannot have been carried on to any extent."

And farther Mr. Weston adds—"But on no occasion could I discover rents so paid had ever been exported as of island produce, the Royal Court, by their practice, strenuously opposing any infringement of their privileges; an instance of which was brought before me by an officer of the Court, subsequently corroborated by others, of an individual who had purchased a quantity of tithe corn, not being allowed to swear to its produce so as to entitle him to its free exportation into Great Britain, as the practice of the Royal Court, in requiring in each case the oath of the grower, could not be dispensed with." And yet in the face of such a letter, the commissioners do not scruple to accuse the Island of fraud. Mr. Weston does indeed say that it was the opinion of some that foreign corn had found its way into the United Kingdom. If the opinion of the agricultural electors all over England were asked, they would probably say the same thing, and it would be found, as Mr. Weston found in Guernsey after a strict inquiry, that not a single instance could be adduced, or substantiated.

Is it upon such grounds that persons or communities shall be deprived of their rights; and are those possessing the largest masses of property ready to give such an example of disregard to the rights of property and the first principles of civilized society by trampling, in the confidence of their strength, on the rights and property of the weak, although held by titles as valid and as sacred as the richest individual can exhibit for his own wealth?

It has been shown, from the tables in the report, that the quantity of corn exported from Guernsey to the United Kingdom is only 539 quarters. Shall such a quantity be a sufficient ground for legislation—much less for spoliation? Let us suppose a case of modern date, that of the Mauritius annexed to the British Crown by the last treaty of peace, under the compact that her colonial produce should be admitted into the United Kingdom on the same terms as the produce of Jamaica. Would England be justified in breaking that compact because of the complaints or prejudices of the Jamaica planters? Our compact with England in its origin still more sacred, has been ratified not by one treaty, but by every treaty of peace concluded since the conquest, every war that preceded such a peace having been marked by our devotion and loyalty to the British Crown, and by the performance, therefore, on our side, of the conditions under which the compact was formed, and has since been held.

It is unfortunately true, that the agricultural interest is depressed. It is wrong, it is ridiculous to ascribe any part of that depression to the Channel Islands. The four islands do not contain twenty-five thousand acres fit for cultivation—meadows, orchards, and gardens included. How can this, with any man of reflection, be held up as an object of jealousy to the landholders, many of whom are owners of estates to a larger extent! Our connexion with England can indeed in no way be injurious to her; her commodities, produce, and manufactures are freely admitted, to an amount exceeding tenfold the value of our produce which she so reluctantly takes in return. The trifling quantity of corn exported from the Islands, and which the commissioners of customs cannot make to be more than 2151 quarters of wheat and 86½ quarters of barley annually from all the Islands, on the average of five years, is not sufficient to feed one half, or any thing like one half of the persons employed in Eng-

land for the supply of the Islands. England trades with no part of the world so advantageously as with the Islands in proportion to their extent. The goods exported by her to the Islands amount to at least £500,000, while the produce she takes back does not amount to £120,000—must we receive all and send nothing back? Such a system is too barbarous for the nineteenth century, and how it could enter into the thoughts of those specially appointed for the encouragement of trade is inconceivable. Some persons are disposed to account for it by reasons unconnected with trade, and dependent only on local and agricultural prejudices; if so, it is in vain to argue: and all I must say is, that I cannot think it possible that any statesman should be found, in this country, ready to sacrifice the rights and interests of the smallest community, for the purpose of flattering such prejudices, and should venture to do so, because the community injured is weak and helpless.

Confident in the justice of our cause, and in the honour as well as justice of His Majesty's Government,

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

(Signed) DANIEL DE LISLE BROCK,  
*Bailiff of Guernsey.*  
*The Right Honourable Henry Goulbourn,*  
*&c. &c.*

Tavistock Hotel, Covent Garden,

April 14, 1835.

My Lord,—We feel it to be our duty to call the attention of your Lordship to some very important errors contained in the Report of the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs respecting the corn trade in the Isle of Man, including also the Islands of Guernsey and Jersey, dated 29th July, 1834.

The Commissioners, in page 3 of that report, say—"From the best information we have been enabled to obtain, it would appear that the annual quantity of grain grown in Guernsey and Jersey is as follows:—

|                | Wheat. | Barley. |
|----------------|--------|---------|
|                | Qrs.   | Qrs.    |
| Guernsey . . . | 4595   | 3789    |
| Jersey . . .   | 10347  | 2897    |

The above amount, as far as relates to Guernsey, is correctly stated, but we have to complain that the same accuracy does not exist in the statement of the average for Jersey, which is taken from an abstract (page 15), made from a return (page 14), signed by Major-General Thornton, showing the proportion of land then under cultivation of wheat and barley; the average produce per acre, and the total quantity of wheat and barley at that average which the island may be expected to produce from the crop of 1834. This document, which, if complete, would be underserving of attention, unless no other means of procuring correct information could be found, is very imperfect, as appears by the return itself, wherein it is said "that no statement of ground under cultivation had been received from the parishes of St. Laurens and St. Helier." Thus two very fertile parishes are entirely omitted from the calculation, the produce of which amounted in the year 1833 to 2093 quarters of wheat and 451 quarters of barley. The difference between the estimated and the real produce will be fully accounted for when it is considered that the estimated average produce of a vergée is stated at only thirty cabots, when it is a well-known fact that good lands yield generally forty, and those of an inferior description seldom less than thirty cabots per vergée. We cannot understand how the Commissioners, in their report to the Board of Trade, could have



been induced to take the average produce of the Island of Jersey, from this evidently incorrect and incomplete return, rather than from an authentic document prepared by a Committee of the States, the accuracy of which is unquestionable. This return (page 10) proves the average for five years, from 1829 to 1833, to be annually 12,499 quarters of wheat and 3227 quarters of barley, instead of 10,347 quarters of wheat and 2,897 quarters of barley, as stated in the report, thereby erroneously representing the annual produce of Jersey in corn, as less by 2,152 quarters of wheat and 330 quarters of barley. than is really the case.

We also beg to bring under your notice another extraordinary error in the report (page 3), where the annual quantity of grain exported to the United Kingdom is stated as follows:—

|              | Wheat. | Barley. |
|--------------|--------|---------|
|              | Qrs.   | Qrs.    |
| Jersey . . . | 7358   | 2037    |

We are unable to discover the source whence this amount has been obtained. It is, however, correctly stated by Mr. Weston, in another part of the report (page 10), to be, wheat, 1,611; barley, 1. It is therefore quite clear that no reliance can be placed upon a report containing such a variety of palpable misstatements.

We also consider ourselves bound to protest against the reasoning and conclusions of the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs, who, without any just or sufficient grounds, assume that frauds have been committed in Jersey, similar to those with which they charge Guernsey, although Mr. Weston, in his communication to them, says—"I could not obtain any proof of the fact, or the slightest information by which it could be corroborated."

It is not now our intention to prove, as we have the means of doing, that the measure proposed to be submitted to parliament would be a direct infringement of the rights of his Majesty's subjects, inhabitants of Jersey, and a violation of the charters and immunities granted and confirmed to them by a long line of Kings. We reserve for a future occasion the particulars of these privileges, and the foundation on which they rest.

We request, on behalf of the people of Jersey, whom we represent, that a measure founded on a report, manifestly erroneous and deceptive, may not be precipitately carried, and thereby irreparable mischief done to our Island. We trust that such a postponement as may allow of correct information being obtained and considered by the members of the British legislature will be granted to us; feeling convinced that his Majesty's Government cannot desire to proceed upon a statement so fallacious as that which is alleged to be the ground of the intended Bill.

We have the honour to be,

Your Lordship's

(Signed) Most obedient humble servants,  
THOMAS LE BRETON } Deputies of the  
J. L. COUTEUR } States of Jersey.

To the Right Honourable  
The President of the Board of Trade,  
&c. &c. &c.

**SEA KAIL BEET.**—In the culture of the common garden spinach, according to Loudon, at least twenty different sowings in one year are required to keep a constant supply; and even with all this trouble, every gardener knows that he cannot depend on having a crop, especially if the weather be dry and hot, owing to the tendency of the plant to run

into seed. All this superfluous labour, and the uncertainty of the result, may be spared by growing the Sea Kail Beet, a vegetable, though little known at present, yet well worth the attention of every gentleman and cottager who owns the luxury of a garden. The plant may be sown in March or April; and will yield an abundant and unfailing supply till Christmas. Such is the size of the leaves, that one dozen will serve a large table; the stalk of the leaf is an excellent substitute for Sea Kail, and the upper part for spinach.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "FARMER'S MAGAZINE."

Sir,—I was glad to see "Cymro's" remarks on the Malt question, and observations on Sir R. Peel's speech. The reason why less malt was made in 1816-17, and after: other wet harvests, arose from the farmers and labourers using sprouted barley in lieu of malt: *the labourers pray for a wet barley harvest; they were then enabled to brew*, and the farmers are rather benefited than injured if they store half dry.

It is estimated that we grow one-quarter more barley than is required for malting and seed. Allowing that six millions of quarters are thus consumed, there remains  $1\frac{1}{2}$  millions for feeding swine and cattle; if we were allowed to malt inferior barley one million might be used in feeding cattle; and if, (as it is admitted), that malting increase its nutritive quality, one-third such barley being worth but 24s per qr., would be worth 36s per qr., and thus increase the farmer's interests for *this portion* of their crop. A crop of 30 bushels, at 3s, gives 4l 10s per acre, but if malted for feed, 6l per acre, being 30s per acre, or equal to the rent, tithe, and rates, cattle would have been fed at 8s per week instead of 12s per week on oil-cakes.

It is observed, that the labourer pays 100 per cent. tax on his beverage whilst the rich pays but 80 per cent., or one-fifth more; but, as the labourers require four times as much beer as the rich of wine, they are taxed five times as much as the rich; a half-penny per pot seems but a trifle, but *four half-pence per day* is one-eighth of their wages, *or income*; thus they are prohibited the use of beer in a great measure. If one half-penny per pot is no object, and does not reduce consumption, by a parity of reasoning, and another half-penny would be none, and as it would cost no more to collect, a double tax would be a clear revenue of five millions, by which the National Debt might be cancelled; and if the three millions left in the maltster's hands increase the price of barley, we may presume that six millions would increase the price still more; such was the inference to be drawn from the arguments used to mystify the question, and scare honoured members from their propriety; the ghost of the property tax alarmed them, but surely the landed interest need not fear a property tax? To have their rentals reduced by the blighting effects of the malt tax, is far more injurious to them; a property tax would reach the moneyed interest, whilst now the land has to bear all the burthen, but we doubt much whether it is necessary to impose a *permanent property tax*; we think an issue of Exchequer bills would suffice, and that the revenue would suffer but a temporary deficiency from the repeal of the malt tax; that there are no means of increasing the revenue but by giving prosperity to agriculture: and that the repeal of the malt tax

would assist. The price of produce must be increased by some means, and we know of no means but by increasing consumption: the consumption of food cannot be increased but by increasing the demand for labour; and the repeal of the malt tax would increase the demand for labour, or it would *prevent a decrease*, by enabling the farmers to keep their lands in cultivation; we are aware that the price of produce cannot be remunerative from the defective nature of the corn laws. It was ascertained by the best evidence, that wheat could not be grown to profit under 8s per bushel, yet the corn bill fixed this price as the maximum; we must have a higher price occurring as well as a lower, to obtain an average, but this we cannot have; the average is between the minimum and maximum, except that the mint price of gold gives a premium of 20 per cent. in favour of the importers, and thus give us but an average of 45s per qr. All attempts to bring the subjects at issue fairly before Parliament are in vain without union of purpose, and without being discussed by a competent committee. The most rational mode of proceeding is to petition for the establishment of a Board of Agriculture, and if this is not complied with, to establish an independent Board. There must surely be a sufficient number of affluent land owners friendly to such a measure to establish a Board, or Central Association. It is evident that prices must be raised to the legitimate standard, or the farmers must reduce their expenses to meet the emergency of the case. They must grow less breadth of corn; poor light lands must be laid for sheep walk, and poor heavy soils must be laid down with grass seeds for two or three years in each course; less plough cattle will be required, less drivers, and less wear and tear; and blacksmiths, wheelwrights, collar-makers, and other tradesmen's bills will be reduced, and the cost of raising the tithe will be reduced, and rest will renovate the soil, and less artificial manure will be required, and the demand, and, consequently, the price of town manure will be reduced. This system will throw more hands out of employment, and increase the poor-rate, and *reduce the revenue*; but self-preservation will drive farmers to resort to this as their only means to save themselves from ruin; *the system is begun, is progressing, and will increase*; it is the practice in all countries where arable produce is below a remunerating price, and has formerly been resorted to in England, and never laid aside in some districts; labour wages will be reduced, and there will be less demand for goods and wares, and general economy will lead to general ruin. Mr. Foaker's Prediction will *soon* be verified, and then Tallyrand's will soon follow.—  
Yours, &c., A FARMER.

**KILLING AND PRESERVING.**—The Vedahs (a savage tribe inhabiting part of the country between Trincomalee and Galle) have a manner of killing elephants peculiar to themselves. They go out against the animals in great numbers, and drive a herd up a hill, when a few marksmen, provided with bows and arrows, the latter notched in the centre, steal close to the heels of their destined prey, and as the animal lifts its leg they discharge their arrows, endeavouring to hit the centre of the foot: when the unfortunate animal suddenly stamps on the ground from the pain, the arrow breaks off at the notch, and the head is left sticking in the flesh. Perfectly disabled by this agony, the animal is compelled to lie down, when a shower of arrows and

other missiles speedily dispatch him. These people are careful to select the tuskers, if possible, as it is for the tusks chiefly that the Vedahs hunt; for although they eat the flesh of the elephant, they do not esteem it so highly as that of deer and hogs, which they have in abundance; and when they kill more animals than they require for immediate consumption, they preserve their store by cutting the flesh into slips; and after drying it in the sun, they place it in the hollow trunk of a tree, and cover it with honey, which is soon attacked by swarms of ants, in such multitudes as to form a crust, that in a short time grows dry and hard; this protects the meat from the external air, and preserves it most completely.—*Holman's Voyage Round the World.*

### OPERATION OF THE POOR-LAW AMENDMENT BILL IN THE PARISH OF IVER, IN BUCKS.

It is particularly satisfactory to notice the good effects of the Poor-Law Amendment Bill in that county, where the old system had been carried to such an extent that the land of entire parishes had been relinquished by the proprietors and given over to the paupers.

The Select Vestry of Iver have just published their report, dated March 24th 1835, and signed by the Vestry Clerk, containing the following satisfactory account:—On the 21st of June, 1834, the vestry were appointed; and immediately began to act upon the "Improved workhouse system," which had been so successfully adopted in Great Missenden. In the year ending March, 1834, the total expenditure of the parish of Iver was 1,982l, and in the year ending March, 1835, 1,687l, a net decrease of 295l; besides which they had paid off 180l of debt, and left an increased amount of available rates. There were twenty able-bodied labourers on the parish when this Vestry took charge of its affairs, and at the date of their report *not one*. The Select Vestry, moreover, most commendably state, "That whenever it appeared that the case of an applicant for relief was such as not to require a too strict adherence to the rules, they invariably consulted the feelings of the applicant; for it was their desire not to act 'harshly.'" This is administering the law in its true spirit; and we earnestly recommend the perusal of the detailed report of the parish of Iver to such vestries as may have hitherto been deterred from adopting the amended poor-law, by the diatribes of its opponents, or their own mistaken views of humanity. Let them observe that the Select Vestry of Iver, after such a reduction made in nine months, are able also to congratulate themselves at the conclusion of their labours, that they leave the labourers of their parish generally in a *greatly improved condition*, and to express a reasonable hope that the adoption of these improved measures has given an irrecoverable blow to pauperism in their parish. The Select Vestry conclude with an entreaty (in which we cordially join) to others, "to unite for the exercise of that power in every way calculated to promote among their poor neighbours habits of industry, sobriety, and economy; and thus further the operation of the Poor-law Amendment Bill, which appears eminently adapted to improve the condition of all classes."

Such Reports (and this is by no means a solitary one) are the best refutation of those virulent calumnies heaped upon this truly benevolent plan by its mistaken or malevolent opponents.



## DUTCH AGRICULTURE.

The Dutch papers of April 18 contain an account of the debate in the Second Chamber of the States-General on Mynheer Van Dam Van Yssel's motion relative to agricultural distress. The motion was for an address to the King, praying the appointment of a commission to inquire into the state of agriculture. It was opposed by several deputies on different grounds:—1st, that the manner in which the subject had been brought forward was unconstitutional; 2d, that the proposition was unnecessary, after the notice which had been taken of the state of agriculture by his Majesty, in the speech with which he opened the session, and in the address which replied to that speech; 3d, that instead of an inquiry a specific law should be proposed, by which means opportunity would be afforded for the full discussion of the question; 4th, that there was reason to fear that the measures which might be adopted for the relief of agriculture would operate injuriously on other interests of great national importance. The motion was, however, supported by a majority of members, who, with protests against the introduction of restrictive laws, declared their readiness to concur in any measure for the benefit of agriculture, provided it did not endanger other interests. They therefore voted for inquiry. One of the majority referred to the land-tax, the excise on different articles, the duties on distillation, and various other imposts, which, he observed, indirectly affect agriculture, and which, in conjunction with the other public burdens, formed, in his opinion, the real cause of the distress. Another member, who voted on the same side, blamed the government for not leaving agriculture more to itself, and insisted that the general welfare should not be sacrificed by imposing high duties on the importation of corn. To the weight of taxation, the financial measures of the government, the inundation of some districts, and to the unfortunate political relations in which the country had now for more than four years been placed, he ascribed the distress. Van Dam in his reply observed, that his only object was to promote an inquiry, not to injure commerce. In conclusion, he also declared that he was no friend to a prohibitive system. The motion for an address was then carried by 37 to 15, and communicated by a message to the First Chamber.

**SOURCE OF ANIMAL HEAT.**—From observations lately made by Mr. Hermann, it would appear that the modern doctrine of the formation of animal heat is founded upon just grounds. According to this theory, animal heat is nothing but a chemical product resulting from a process analogous to combustion, and which takes place during the respiration. In this theory, animals who do not form any water by their respiration, ought to produce as much caloric as the carbon which they transform into carbonic acid would emit by being consumed. This proposition has been confirmed on three chaffinches on which Mr. Hermann lately experimented. In the space of 48 hours these birds reduced to a liquid, in the calorimeter of Lavoisier, 16,960 grains of ice, and 165.2 grains of carbon were found in the nutriment the birds had taken during that time. These numbers accorded very closely with those resulting from theory; for if we admit that one part of the carbon, while being converted into carbonic acid, melts 104 parts of ice, the 10.2 grains of carbon should melt 17,180 grains of ice.—*Paris Advertiser.*

## RELIEF UNDER THE POOR LAWS.

The following is the relief to the indigent ordered by the Poor Law Commissioners to be given in some of the newly constituted unions of parishes. It is understood that these orders are preparatory to the discontinuance of the allowance system, by which independent labourers have been pauperized:—

“Firstly. No relief shall be given in money (except in cases of sickness or accident) to any able-bodied male pauper who is in employment (the same not being parish work), and in the receipt of earnings; nor to any part of his family who shall be dependent on him, or for whose relief and maintenance he shall be liable.

“Secondly. If any able-bodied male pauper shall apply to be set to work by the parish, one-half at least of the relief which may be afforded to him or to his family shall be in kind.

“Thirdly. One half at least of the relief which may be afforded to widows or single women, not being aged or infirm, shall be in kind.

“Fourthly. No relief shall be given to any able-bodied male pauper by payment or payments, of, for, or on account of the rent for his house or lodging, or for the house or lodging of any part of his family who shall be dependent upon him, and for whose relief and maintenance he shall be liable, or by allowance towards such rent.

“Fifthly. Except in case of accident, sickness, or other urgent necessity, no relief shall be afforded from the poor-rates of any parish or place comprised in the said union to any pauper between the ages of sixteen and sixty, belonging to any such parish or place comprised in the said union, who shall not be resident therein: Provided always that this regulation shall not extend to any person not being an able-bodied male pauper between the ages of sixteen and sixty, who shall, on the day herein appointed for the first meeting of the guardians, be in the receipt of relief from any parish or place comprised in the said union, although not resident in such parish or place, and although such person shall continue a non-resident: but in every such case due inquiry shall be made as to the propriety of such relief being continued.”

**TRADING STOCK OF FORMER TIMES.**—In 1296 and 1301, a carpenter's stock was valued at a shilling, and consisted of five tools. Other tradesmen were almost as poor. A tanner's stock was worth 9l 17s 10d.—more than ten times any other. Tanners were principally tradesmen of the first description, the chief part of the dress at that time being made of leather. A very few silver cups and spoons were the only articles of plate in use, and those were confined to the higher classes, the mechanics and tradespeople using wood and horn.

The human brain generally weighs, according to Soemmerring, from 2lb 5½oz to 3lb 3¼oz. Professor Dewhurst has weighed several at 4lb. The brain of the late Lord Byron, without its membranes, weighed 6lb, and contained more medullary substance than ordinary, as also did that of Oliver Cromwell. That of Dr. Gall weighed only 2lb 10oz 7½drs. Baron Cuvier's brain weighed, according to M. Berard, 3lb 13½oz, and, according to M. Rousseau, 3lb 14oz 4drs. A horse's brain weighs only 1lb 4oz, and that of an ox one-fourth the weight of the human brain.

## AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "YORK HERALD."

Sir,—In addressing a few observations to the many readers of your useful Journal, on the subject of the present agricultural distress, which so glaringly prevails, and apparently increases daily (I think I may conscientiously with truth say) throughout England, I hope no well disposed person will deem me impertinent or obtrusive. I am, myself, in a great measure a disinterested person in the matter, except inasmuch that an innate feeling of regret for the suffering condition of the agricultural portion of humanity prompts me to advocate its cause, and to pen these observations that I might add my mite of support, and to draw the attention of our legislators and others who are in power to use their endeavours to alleviate, as much as possible, the distresses not only of those who are the most strenuous and laborious in their exertions to gain an honest livelihood and withstand the general shock and ruin which stares them in the face—but also of those who, combined with such exertions, have the additional and strong support of comparative wealth, which they find is fast disappearing away in supporting their farms in the present state of things. Even those farmers who are blessed with comparative wealth, the produce of many years of toil, hard working and care, find it impossible, in many instances, to retain their farms and withstand the ruin which the present agricultural distress threatens them with, or, if they do endeavour to keep their situations, in the ephemeral, but delusive, hope, *that times may soon mend*, it is by the sacrifice of their former and hard-earned savings. How many farmers are there who had saved a little money, and retained their farms in the expectation *that times would soon mend*, but have waited until all their former savings have disappeared in supporting their farms, and then they have been left in penury and debt?

It is a melancholy consideration for the elderly farmer to entertain, who, after a long series of years of laborious exertion, care, and parsimonious saving, has probably laid by a few hundreds of pounds to support and comfort him in his declining years, to find himself gradually becoming worse and worse in his pecuniary affairs, in endeavouring to meet the depressed times, and support himself and his family in his situation; and he finds he is, in his old age, again compelled to renew the toils and cares of his youthful days, in order to gain a precarious, but honest, living—at the same time, the "*little all*" he had saved dwindling fast away in supporting himself and family. And if those few hundreds which he had so saved could still keep his life and soul together for the few short years he may have to remain in this trying world, he is still assailed by one of the bitterest thoughts with which it is the lot of the honest, upright, and worthy farmer to bear, namely, that his wife, his children, the dearest objects of his life, may after, nay even before, his death, be compelled to embrace, through necessity, the offer of an asylum in the parish workhouse! the idea of which, at one time, he would have scorned, and he recoils from the unavoidable act with the deepest and most heart-breaking sensations of sorrow. The imaginary disgrace appals him; he despairs of gaining a livelihood in his native country, and either expatriates himself, or, what is more distressing to his family, he is hurried to a premature grave. Some may think I have drawn my picture too extravagantly, but many, many know it to be too true. Daily observation will serve to prove that a

considerable number of farmers and others, farmers particularly, are obliged to banish themselves, *even at a great age*, from their native country, to America and other foreign parts, to gain that subsistence there, which they are unable to obtain here. Besides, many of our wealthy farmers are constantly emigrating abroad, and of course impoverishing, by taking from this country a capital which, if they remained here, they are in the constant fear of losing; the loss or withdrawing of which capital, the amount of which I believe is immense, if not now, eventually must, be felt to be a matter of serious importance to the welfare of this country. Therefore I do think our legislators should not delay instituting the requisite inquiries, in order to discover the evil of, and the remedy for, the present deplorable condition of the agricultural interest. It is indispensably necessary, and behoves them, as a duty, to bring forward such measures as will be most likely to alleviate the distress, and support the tottering circumstances of that most useful and highly respectable portion of humanity—the Agriculturists of Great Britain.

The farmers themselves say they have done all they could, and are still endeavouring to do all they can, to stem the course of ruin which is daily spreading widely amongst both rich and poor of them, in the hope (which hope I trust will speedily be fulfilled) that the Legislators will do something material for their benefit, and stay the future progress of their distress. If these lines should meet the eye of any honourable member of our legislature, I earnestly entreat him to give the subject a serious consideration, for it certainly requires it as the whole body of agriculturists can testify. It appears to me that the distress of the farmers is much less noticed by our legislators than is that of the manufacturers. In fact, the agricultural distress is treated almost with apathy. But when distress assails the manufacturing interest, those employed in it immediately testify their unfortunate condition by large assemblies and meetings, which admit of nothing less than an actual remedy to keep them quiet. Now, the farmers cannot so easily adopt such measures, even if they were inclined to do so; because the agriculturists being so widely spread and so far distant from each other, if a meeting were called amongst them, a circuit of twenty miles at least would have to be taken to collect a numerous body like that of the manufacturers, who can always raise an immense multitude on the spot, and at a moment's warning. Besides, (and without meaning disparagement to any one,) the character of our farmers is of a different nature to that of our manufacturers—it is a quiet and peaceable disposition. Yet, if something be not done for them, and that speedily, I am afraid their peaceable and quiet disposition will no longer sustain them under their accumulating troubles; their patience will be exhausted, and no longer can or will the English lion tamely submit to be trampled upon and neglected, without making one single effort to extricate themselves from their difficulties and distress. What many of them suffer, both in mind and body, to those by whom it may not be understood, it is almost past description to conjecture, and such are their feelings that it is beyond human nature long to endure them. It is a pity that the pride of our ancestors—our strong help in times of trouble and danger—some of his Majesty's most loyal and peaceful subjects—I mean our peasantry, our yeomen, our farmers, should be so neglected and driven to want and expatriation as I believe too many of them are. And in writing these observations, my sole intention and hope is, that it may be the means of drawing the at-



tention of those in power to guard the interests and relieve the distressed condition of the Agriculturists. If they are eventually and shortly relieved, and their happiness and prosperity be restored, all that I am aiming at will be accomplished, and I shall look back with unmingled pleasure and delight on my humble and feeble efforts on their behalf. In regard to landlords, my opinion is, they are often blamed when there is no reasonable cause; for, in general, I do not believe the evil of the agricultural distress rests with, or can be attributed to them. A great tumult is often raised by many inconsiderate persons respecting the "too high" rents. They say "why do not the landlords settle their rents and make them more agreeable and less oppressing to the farmers?" This consideration, if so they may call it, but I regard it merely as an unthinking observation, although it may, perhaps, in some instances, have a good deal of reason in it. But to the practical agriculturist, to the thinking and duly considerate, and disinterested farmer, I will venture to put this question, namely—could he at the present time, according to the market prices of grain and other produce, make a livelihood on that farm, for which, a few years ago, when times were good, he was very likely paying as much as from 30s to 40s per acre, supposing he were now to have it at a reduced rent of from 1l to 30s per acre? Again; we will suppose a farmer occupied a farm prior to the commencement of this agricultural distress (we will say for argument's sake about the year 1825,) at the rate of 13s or 16s to 1l per acre, by which at that time he was enabled to make a fair and decent livelihood, pay his rent, tithes, taxes, and rates, and support his family respectably; here, I would ask, could a farmer now, as the times are, make a livelihood at all, on that farm for which he previously paid from 13s to 1l per acre, *even were he to have it rent free*? I have asked the opinion of many practical farmers on the subject, and am informed in many instances he could not. If this is credited, and I do not discover any reason why it should not be, then the landlord is not so much to blame, as it is often said he is. And what is to become of the landlord who, probably, has no other kind of land than that, which even in good times, could not be let for more than from 13s to 1l per acre? *Such farms will have to go out of cultivation*, as nothing can be made of them; and the landlord be placed in a worse situation than the farmers. I think such landlords will, at any rate, be placed in a very critical situation. Their dilemma will be serious; perhaps having a large establishment to keep up—many poor persons existing solely through their beneficence—and, yet the landlords themselves having nothing to depend on for their own subsistence, except the rents of their lands, which at this time cannot very likely be let at any price—especially if their estates consist of *bad land-farms*. For, if a bad land-farm were offered to many farmers, on condition that it were tilled, kept in good order, and all assessments, rates, and tithes to be paid by the occupier or tenant, I believe few would be found willing to undertake it, even on the tempting condition of *having it rent-free*. Then what are the owners of bad-land-farms to do? How are they to live? They must fly to such resources as the fertility of their minds may be able to invent. Therefore, I cannot think the present agricultural distress is to be attributed to the landlords. The fact is, bad-land-farms are worth nothing now. Rates, assessments, and tithes are high—labourers receive the same wages as in flourishing times—servants are not satisfied with the same kind of food as

they formerly were—(and I have heard of some instances where they were not satisfied with the same food as their master's, but have actually summoned such master before a magistrate, in order to compel him to find them better.) Besides tillage is as expensive as formerly, if not more so; the price of corn is at the lowest ebb, and money is more scarce, or it rests in fewer hands.

In regard to the *corn laws*—I once had a long conversation on this subject with a very intelligent North-Riding farmer, who was of opinion, "*that there must be a regular and fixed duty upon all corn imported, and that that duty should be paid immediately on being landed*, in order to benefit the English farmers; and that such corn should not be kept in bond, as it now is, the duty to be paid when the importers think fit, for that in a great measure was ruinous to the interests of the farmers. And that it was the candid opinion of all the farmers in his neighbourhood, (the North Riding,) as well as of himself, that the duty should be a *fixed duty* of not less than *twenty shillings per quarter*. And that the farmers must have a duty *large enough* to enable them to cope with foreigners; for were corn to come in *duty free*, he found from good authority, it could be delivered here at 24s or 26s per quarter; which naturally prompts the question, what would be the consequence? The result would be the whole of the *bad-land-farms* must instantly go out of cultivation, and then they would not be worth one shilling per acre; for as it is, they are really worth very little with corn at its present low price. And if these bad-land-farms were laid down to grass they would carry no stock whatever; therefore, the landlords for a certainty would have to take all such farms into their own hands." This farmer also made an ingenious remark, namely:—"That if the farmers could keep wheat at 8s per bushel, they then could and would make all the trades-people live—they could then purchase two or three coats for themselves and suitable clothing and other necessities for their wives and children, and also could afford such wages to their labourers as would enable them to do the same. But if times do not mend, they, the farmers, must wear out what coats they had, and afterwards do with one in a year, and be glad to get it."

After craving your indulgence, Mr. Editor, and apologizing for the length of my letter, I have further to beg for the welfare of the agricultural interest, that you will be kind enough to insert this letter in your next *HERALD*.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A FRIEND TO THE FARMERS.

Wetherby, 27th April, 1835.

SALE OF BEER LICENCES. — An account of the number of licenses granted under the Sale of Beer Act during the years 1833 and 1834:—

|                                                                              |        |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Licences granted to retailers of beer,                                       | 1833.  | 1834.  |
| cider, and perry . . . . .                                                   | 34,976 | 21,975 |
| Retailers of cider and perry only . . . . .                                  | 653    | 1,054  |
| Retailers of beer, ale, or porter, to be drunk on the premises . . . . .     | ....   | 13,654 |
| Retailers of beer, ale, or porter, not to be drunk on the premises . . . . . | ....   | 1,752  |
| Totals . . . . .                                                             | 35,629 | 38,435 |

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUFFOLK CHRONICLE.

SIR,—I am desirous, through the medium of your paper, to draw the attention of the Flock Masters and the Wool Growers, of the Eastern Division of this county, to the necessity of their attending to the condition of their fleeces at the approaching *Washing and Shearing*; and if you deem the few remarks I have offered on the subject deserving a place in your columns, I shall feel myself obliged by your inserting them.

It is generally urged against the Suffolk Wools, by the manufacturers, that the Hogget Fleeces, both Down and half-bred, are injured by *too early clipping*, and the colour and condition of the fleece is said to be less attended to in this than in other counties.

By early clipping, the length of the staple is injured and rendered of less value to the spinners, and the grower is a loser both in the weight of the fleece and its value in the market.

The colour and clean condition of the Wool is likewise a very necessary point to be attended to, as many flocks are left on hand, although of good quality, solely from want of attention to the condition; this probably arises from the washing of the Sheep being left to the men employed for that purpose, without their being sufficiently impressed with the necessity of its being carefully done; and sometimes, probably, from the Sheep being driven on improper ground after washing. I am induced to offer these hints for the consideration of the Wool Growers, from a wish to redeem the credit of the Suffolk Wools; and feeling convinced, that with the very abundant supply of Wools which are now sent to this country from almost every quarter of the globe, that it is desirable to give the growth of our own country every advantage that it can derive from attention and good management.—Your, &c.,

Yoxford, April                      EDWARD REVANS.  
28, 1835.

CURIOUS POST OFFICE.—It is well known that they have not, in those countries where the mail is carried along by swimmers, franked bushels of pamphlets and papers to send, as we have here. There are curious post establishments in this world! I knew an old woman who spent her life in walking from Berlin to Posen, and from Posen to Berlin, about a hundred and forty miles. She was called the Living Gazette. Have you ever heard of the celebrated post office of the whalers at Essex Bay, on one of the Gallapagos Islands in the Pacific? There is a cave, well secured against the weather, in which whalers deposit letters sometimes for the information of other whalers, sometimes to be taken home when a returning fellow-hunter on the deep passes by. I had heard of it by whaling Captains, and found it, afterwards, mentioned in Lieutenant Paulding's Journal of a Cruise in the United States schooner Dolphin, among the Islands of the Pacific (New York, 1831),—a little unassuming book, full of interesting items. Lieutenant Paulding found a letter there safely deposited. This insulated fact shows strikingly the existence of a common bond and trust among civilized nations; so does a letter deposited in a post office of the farthest west of Missouri, which safely arrives in a village in the most eastern part of Germany, if it only has the words "Via New York and Havre" on its direction. In the middle ages, there was a man who carried letters from Pomerania to the students of that country in the University of Paris, and when I lived at

Rome the "courier" was yet existing, who regularly carried letters from Rome to Spain. And yet we are told that the world goes back; or is it maintained that improvements of this kind belong to the industry of nations only, which is allowed on all hands to improve rapidly, while, morally, we degenerate? I would deny this; there is morality in an intercourse of this kind between nations; it requires a universal acknowledgement of certain broad principles of honour and morality. It will yet happen, within the next hundred years, that letters are directed from London to Canton (perhaps to Peking), via New York and the city which will rise at the mouth of the Columbia River.—*Stranger in America.*

## INCLOSURE OF WASTE LANDS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LIVERPOOL MERCURY.

SIR,—Your correspondent, 'James Brown,' seems to think that the peasantry and small farmers have sustained great injury, and in fact, have been driven to poverty and the parish by the enclosure of waste lands and the system of converting small farms into large ones of from 500 to 2000 acres. Having resided the greater part of my life in the centre of a great agricultural community, I feel called upon to disabuse the minds of your readers from any impression which may have been made by the insinuations of Mr. Brown. It is well known, and hardly requires confirmation from me, that there is no system more just or free from the charges of corruption made by your correspondent than the system of inclosing waste lands. Your correspondent ought to know that every landowner on the verge of the common intended to be inclosed, or within the different townships, joins in an application to Parliament for leave to inclose those lands and commissioners are most impartially chosen to see that every person's interest is protected, and wherever the poor cottager has obtained a location his right is invariably respected, and generally those very cottagers have small allotments made them, and I believe I can say without fear of contradiction that they are benefited rather than injured by the inclosures. Such, Sir, has been the case on the extensive forest of Needwood, in Staffordshire, which, before it was inclosed, was a harbour for the most desperate characters, and the cottagers were far from being that honest and respectable race they are now. To reply in detail to your correspondent's queries would take up too much of your valuable space, and I shall, therefore, content myself with stating that there are put very few farms of 500 acres, much less of 2000. I deny that the landlords generally are desirous to convert the small farms into large ones. Since the Reform Bill has passed the matter is reversed, and I am sure those stewards who have fallen under my notice are men who would not be influenced by any such motives as your correspondent suggests. Some years ago a charge was made against the agent of the late Duke of Sutherland, to the effect that he was desirous to have no farms less than 500 acres, and to see the occupier living in a fine house above his means, but I am unable to say how far the writer in question was justified in these assertions. I can, however, confidently say that no man in the counties of Cheshire and Staffordshire has a right to say there is a difficulty in taking a small farm even from ten to one hundred acres, and the generality of farms in the former county are from eighty to one hundred acres. I deny that where spade cultivation exists it is adopted mainly to profit the owner. The views I am sure of those gentlemen that



I know are dictated by a pure philanthropy, and a desire to better the condition of their poor neighbours. The instances are happily few where the small industrious farmer has been driven to the parish or labouring work by the grinding disposition of his landlord, or the loss of common rights. No, Sir, I am glad to say there is a different feeling abroad amongst the landed gentry, who, from my own personal knowledge, are bettering the condition of the industrious farmer by lowering rents and enabling him to manure and till the land in a way profitable to both. I admit there is much distress, but this is owing to extreme low prices, and even this is compensated to a certain extent by the very superior and abundant crops with which Providence has lately blessed us. Taking matters, however, on the whole, there is less cause of complaint than your correspondent would fain suggest.—I am, Sir, Yours, &c.

THOMAS BAKEWELL.

Manchester, March 3rd, 1835.

### IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURE.

From "*The Emigrant's Tale*," a Poem, by JAMES BIRD.

Britain! thy children are the free and strong  
In soul and form; to thy bright name belong  
Undying glories! In thy people dwell  
The might of mind, the virtues that excel.  
Thy arts, thy commerce, flourish and extend,  
They know no limit, may they know no end!  
Yet other springs of boundless good are thine—  
Let but thy sons in wisdom work the mine:  
Whence drew our fathers wealth? Whence did their  
toil  
Diffuse the gems of plenty?—From the Soil!  
On what firm basis can thy credit stand  
Amid the shock of nations?—On the Land!  
What spreads in peace unnumbered blessings round,  
Supporting life to all that breathe?—The Ground!  
What gives in war thy greatness, glory, birth;  
Sustains thy brave and countless hosts?—The Earth!  
Yes, my lov'd country! may thy peasants still  
Toil with delight in valley and on hill;  
May yet the tillers of thy land be blest  
With wealth for labour, with content in rest;  
May those who govern, and the govern'd, learn  
That Nature's laws are ever kind, not stern;  
That, from the Earth, our common mother, springs  
The life-blood of thy people, and thy Kings!  
That all which food, and health, and raiment yields,  
Flows from the riches of the garnished fields;  
And, as the dews of heaven impartial fall,  
They smile, and bloom, and bear their fruits for all!

### TO THE FARMERS OF DEVON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "EXETER AND PLYMOUTH GAZETTE."

Sir,—The burden borne by the Agriculturists for the support of the poor has become so great, that the subject has awakened the attention of most of those who know or feel the pressure. The Legislature, also, urged by the magnitude of the evil, has attempted to remedy the same. Many writers on political economy have also thought it of the highest importance to investigate the causes which have operated to produce a state of society so different from that which was contemplated by the benevolent framers of our original Poor Laws. But the mass of evidence on this subject, the conclu-

sions come to by political writers, and the opinions of all political men agree in this—*That while there was something wrong in the Poor Laws themselves, there was, and is still, something worse in their application.* And no inconsiderable number are of opinion, that if the laws, before the late Poor Law Bill, had been rightly acted on, they would have been found sufficient for nearly all the purposes for which they were originally intended. Society, most certainly, is different from what it was nearly three hundred years since; and yet it is astonishing how well the spirit of the laws then framed, would, if carried into effect, answer our present wants. As to the new Poor Law Bill, no person seems to understand it. Other Acts of Parliament take effect immediately on their being passed, but this seems a law which may, or may not, be put in force. Lawyers may understand all this: I, as a farmer, cannot. But I will say nothing now as to the new Poor Law Bill; for, however it may operate, much will depend on the ability of those who have to carry its provisions into effect.

That there are evils, every payer of rates knows: for, while farming capital has been reduced one-third, and in some cases one-half—while the percentage profits on the reduced capital is incalculably less than it was twenty years since—yet the expenditure for the poor is as high, in many places, as it was then, and in some places higher. Then wheat was from 100 to 110 shillings a quarter, now it is less than half that sum. It is not, therefore, to be wondered at, that those who support the poor, feel the expense a burden.

The next questions are—how did those evils originate? and by what means might they have been partly avoided? and what measures should be pursued to avoid the increase of those evils in future? The returns from the different parts of England show a great difference of expenditure: in some places as high as twenty shillings a-head, according to the population, in other places not more than four shillings—and the difference is mainly to be attributed to the good or bad administration of the Poor Laws. I here quote the words of a widely circulated publication:—"That the difference in the amount of rates arises chiefly from the difference of management, we have the testimony of numerous able writers, and of several reports of Parliamentary Committees resting on evidence. Abuses of various kinds have been introduced, in many of the Southern counties especially, productive of serious injury to the landowners and the peasantry." After going on to state the manner in which the overseers of the poor of most parishes are generally appointed,—it says, "If a parish be sincerely desirous to lessen their expenses, and duly administer the law, their first step should be to appoint a permanent overseer, paid by the parish, answerable to the vestry, and removable for misconduct. It will be the business of this person to acquaint himself with the law, and his duty to execute it: he must devote himself to this object, and he will soon become acquainted with the characters of applicants, and the best mode of dealing with them." There is no difficulty whatever in appointing such an officer. It may be done by the parish in vestry, and the magistrates will confirm the appointment, as provided by the 59 Geo. III. cap. 12. "In above two thousand parishes, such permanent overseers are now employed; and are, almost without exception, found highly useful. The amount of their remuneration is generally saved over and over to the parish, by the diminution of other expenses." There-

fore it is shown that the present heavy expenditure has been partly occasioned by the manner in which overseers have been appointed, and the consequent mismanagement attending such appointment; that it would have been avoided, in part, by a different appointment, and a stricter attention to the provisions of the laws; and that the only way to lessen the expense in future—or, perhaps, to keep it from still increasing—would be to adopt the measures recommended by those who have tried and found them successful.

I know that many persons who have not thought seriously about this question will not believe that any benefit can be obtained by the appointment of assistant-overseers. But every thinking and intelligent person knows, that the present manner of appointment is liable to many objections: the bad management of parish officers, under such a system, is proverbial. A man who has to remain in office one year only, generally takes up the affairs of a parish as he finds them, gets through the business in the easiest manner he can, and transfers the future management to another, who goes on in the same wrong way. Under such a regulation all sorts of evils creep in and accumulate; and it is too much to expect that any individual so appointed should undertake to reform abuses, even if he should have the knowledge or ability to do so. Some will think of the expense of a paid overseer; but they should reflect, that the present expense is far from being inconsiderable, though little thought of. In some parishes that I know, the plan here recommended has been tried with all the success that could be desired; in one, with a population of about 2,000 persons, there was an appointment of this kind for many years. It answered well, and was discontinued because the person who had done the office for a series of years would do it no longer, on account of the improper interference of others: the consequence has been, a great increase of expenditure, and even of discontent among the poor. Many like instances might be produced, but not one to the contrary—except where the parish had made choice of an improper person, or had not taken the necessary precautions and securities.

The object of those who have the management of the parish funds should be—the *keeping down or lessening the Poor Rate, without lessening the comforts of the poor*; and no inconsiderable share of tact, firmness, and ability, is required to do this; and in large parishes, nothing but a permanent and respectable overseer will do this successfully.

The periodical publication of *all* parish accounts is a matter of great moment, and would be of essential service: it would prevent fraud, by giving all the parishioners an opportunity of detecting it. It is well known, that many an expense and imbursement have been brought on parishes by the ignorance of overseers, and to the want of caution in giving relief. A permanent overseer would be likely to avoid those evils. Such an overseer would become acquainted with the wants and peculiar circumstances of every individual applying for relief, and the very knowledge of this would prevent the attempt at imposition.

It is the duty (as I have said before) of the overseer to keep the expenses as low as possible; but it is no less his duty to see that the really necessitous poor—the persons intended by the legislature to be relieved—should be properly taken care of. And here I cannot but observe that, independent of mismanagement, bad policy has reduced many a poor man to be a pauper against his will. It

would be a good plan to encourage *Benefit Societies*, and to see that they are properly managed. Encouragement should always be given, and rewards distributed to the deserving. Foster in the honest and industrious man an independent spirit; let him know and feel that it is worth while for him to exert himself; let him have something to look forward to; and by such excitement he will be stimulated to keep himself from the degradation of applying for parochial relief. The thing will be good in itself, and will operate powerfully as an example. Though it is the duty of every man, however poor he may be, to take care of himself; yet it is the policy of others to assist, encourage, and enable him to do so.

The force of all I have said tends to shew that the present system, as regards the management of the poor, is bad; and that unless some other plan be adopted, the evils will increase, even in defiance of the new Poor Law Bill. I have also shewn, from the example of those who have tried, from the recommendations of Parliamentary reports, and of other writers on this subject, that the first step towards a remedy is the appointment of permanent assistant-overseers. We trouble ourselves greatly about Parliamentary affairs—talk much of the waste of the public money—of the mismanagement of this, that, and the other—busy ourselves about reform, &c.—but if we were to look to ourselves, if we would but reflect that the business of a parish and the appropriation of its funds are much of the same kind, and require the same diligence, talents, and integrity, as the business and management of the funds of the State, we might find much amongst ourselves to watch over, revise and reform.

The time is near at hand when the parishioners in every parish must appoint their overseers of the poor for the year ensuing. Let them also think it worth while to have the now complicated and onerous business of their respective parishes well done. A reform of this kind would be worth their attention, and would do something towards the relief of agricultural distress; aye, and independent of its immense moral good, afford more relief than the remission of all the direct taxes on agriculture.

A DEVONIAN.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHAMPTON MERCURY.

SIR,—As several very intelligent correspondents have stated their sentiments, through the medium of your useful paper, on the subject of Agricultural Distress, and on the best means of arresting its progress, I take the liberty of making a few observations on those communications.

In former letters I stated that agriculture might be relieved, if government would take the management of the poor into their own hands. This appears to be the opinion of Mr. Skene, and also of Mr. Green, whose letters recently appeared in the Mercury. Your correspondent on "Agricultural Distress," whose able remarks appeared in the Mercury for Feb. 21st, is of a different opinion. He thinks "the idea ought to be abandoned." With deference to one of whose remarks I in general approve, I must in this particular be allowed to express my dissent from his conclusions. I admit, that, if tenants are for ever doomed to bear the burdens of supporting the poor, &c. then, by committing the management into other hands, evils might creep in that would increase those burdens. Your correspondent must be aware that, by the enactment of the New Poor Laws, government have to



a certain extent taken the management of the poor into their own hands, as in the appointment of superintending commissioners. If they would abolish the laws of settlement, divide counties into districts (each district containing eight or ten parishes,) establish a poor-house in each district for the support of the poor (as stated 43 Eliz. c. 2, s. 1,) appoint guardians to act under the direction of the commissioners, &c. &c. and assess all property for the support of the poor and defray the county expenses, important benefit would be conferred on the agricultural interest.

Mr. Skene objects to a property tax, lest it should drive property out of the country. This I apprehend is not likely to be the case to any great extent. The property of this country is immense, and if fairly rated the tax would be easily borne. By the present plan of levying rates upon tenants, the burdens become insupportable, and great inequality and injustice prevail—a very painful feeling is excited in the minds both of those who give and of those who receive relief—until, in many instances, the security of persons and of property has been in danger. If the management of the poor were committed into other hands, and their necessities provided for by other means, these evils to a very great extent would cease to exist.

Your correspondent on "Agricultural Distress" is favourable to a property tax, as an equivalent for the malt and other assessed taxes, which he thinks ought to be taken off. My opinion is, that a tax on property should be levied exclusively for the support of the poor, and to defray county expenses. If once a property tax gets into the national revenue, it may be applied to pensions, sinecures, and other purposes. Your correspondent states that, "poor-rates are always considered in the rents." Again I must beg leave to differ from him. I know many cases in which they are not sufficiently considered; and it would be impossible for adequate allowance to be made unless the rents were abandoned; and would it not be an act of great injustice to compel landed proprietors, whose property lies in populous parishes, to sacrifice it for the support of the poor, &c. whilst other property is exempt?

Your correspondent further states, that "in populous parishes, where rates are high, great savings might be made if the occupiers of land were always unanimous as to the employment and good management of the poor." This may be true; but how few parishes which are heavily burdened are unanimous! One person thinks he is burdened more than others,—and this feeling will continue as distress increases. Thus by one individual the best-concerted plans may be frustrated. Although I advocate a property tax for the support of the poor, &c. I think it would be impolitic to confine taxes too much to property, for vast numbers of operatives and others who have large incomes, can afford to indulge in luxuries to as great an extent as many who possess property.—While therefore property should support the poor, &c. luxuries should be taxed for government purposes, and thus the burdens as much as possible removed from industry and the necessities of life.

With reference to the malt tax, I think it ought to be reduced one-half. It appears to me that government can do this without an equivalent. Would not such a reduction be followed by a very greatly increased consumption? Forty years ago the consumption of beer was as great as at the present time, although the population was then nothing like its present extent. Every additional duty upon malt has produced a decrease of consumption. From 1784 to

1801, in consequence of duties, the decrease of consumption in malt was 12,000,000 bushels, as compared with four years last century. In Scotland and Ireland the decrease was still greater. By reducing the duties on malt one-half, is it unreasonable to suppose that the increase of consumption would give an additional million of revenue, making the total revenue, after the reduction, three millions; especially presuming a sufficient check to be put upon the sale of spirits. The flourishing state of the revenue, as admitted by Sir R. Peel—the pressure on agriculture—and the claims of justice, imperiously call for a reduction of half the malt tax. In a communication I have lately received from a skilful arithmetician, he calculates that, by relieving the land from parochial charges, and the farmers from the employment of the surplus labourers, would relieve the farmer upwards of 30/100 per cent. upon his rent; and by taking off the malt tax he would be relieved 5/100 per cent. It is just to state that this gentleman pleads for the removal of the former only.

A question may perhaps be asked—if provision is to be made only for the necessitous poor, what is to be done with able-bodied labourers? Should the burdens of supporting the poor be laid upon property, and the laws of settlement be abolished, farmers would possess the means of employing a greater number upon the land, and labourers would reside where they could obtain the best employment. I would further suggest, whether it would not be to the interest of government and the country in general, to rate and let the crown lands to the most deserving labourers, at a moderate rent? Colonies might be formed at home as well as abroad, instead of advancing money for emigration. Land proprietors might with advantage let inferior land, with cottages, to industrious labourers for the employment of themselves and families. In the parish where I reside, half a dozen able-bodied men, with large families, have offered to support them without assistance from the parish, if they could obtain at a fair rent, about six acres of land for each family. Two of them occupy about two acres each, but this will not furnish employment for the whole year. If government should see fit to take the management of the poor and provide for their support by taxing property, philanthropic individuals have in contemplation to purchase inferior land, to let out in small lots to honest and industrious labourers. If such a plan were adopted there would be no necessity for applying to foreign nations for provisions, as a sufficient quantity would be produced at home. By this stimulus to industry the morals of the lower orders would be improved.

Before I conclude, I beg to suggest to certain gentlemen whom I wish by no means to offend, the impropriety of uniting small farms to make large ones. Those gentlemen perhaps consider it necessary. But would it not be much better in the first place to remove the causes of this necessity? That such a plan may for a short time be to the interest of a few individuals, I will not deny. But will it be conducive to the general good? Is it not probable that those who occupy large farms will in the course of time wish to divide them, in order to place their sons in business? Then the expense incurred by making large farms convenient will be lost. By enforcing this plan a most honest and respectable class of the community who have brought up families to habits of morality and industry, from not possessing sufficient capital to stock large farms, are deprived of the means of support, and numbers are driven to take their place amidst

the crowded ranks of paupers. I feel confident that the prosperity of agriculture in particular, and the country in general, will not be increased by making paupers, but by raising honest and industrious labourers to a state of independence.

Your's, &c.

C.

## RECORDS OF GENERAL SCIENCE.

By ROBERT D. THOMSON M. D., Lecturer on Chemistry in the Blenheim Street Medical School. With the assistance of THOMAS THOMSON, M. D. F.R.S. L. and F. F. L. S. F. G. S. &c. Regius professor of Chemistry in the University of Glasgow. Number IV. April 1835. London:—John Taylor.

The contents of this number are varied and interesting. The following is an extract.

### I EMPLOYMENT OF GYPSUM IN AGRICULTURE.

"Gypsum has been employed in Switzerland, Germany, England and North America for many years as a manure, but it was only brought into France about forty years ago. At present it is very generally used in that country, with the exception of the departments of Gard and Hérault (*Ann des Mines* vi, 193.)

For the purposes of Agriculture, it is sometimes calcined, which deprives it of its water of crystallization, which in the hydrous Gypsum amounts to 2 atoms. This preparation is attended to in France, where the expense of the process is less than in other countries. In England, Germany, &c. it is generally employed in the crude state. The effect which calcination produces, is to render the Gypsum more rapid in its operation, though the beneficial effects are less durable. In France it is formed in a kind of lime kiln by means of coal, after being reduced to powder.

In can be obtained in this state in Gard, for one shilling the 110lbs. averdu., and it costs double the expense in Alais. Extensive natural deposits occur in England, in the neighbourhood of the Humber, from whence it is brought to Glasgow and Manchester, for the use of the bleachers, who now employ it in considerable quantities. Its purity may be negatively tested by vinegar, which if it causes no effervescence, shows that there is no carbonate of lime present. If it swells up when water is thrown on it, and then assumes consistence, it is a sign that it has been properly calcined. The best plaster will absorb the greatest quantity of water. It is chiefly on artificial meadows that we observe the best effects from its application, more especially on Clover, Lucern, Sainfoin, and in general on the luginous tribe of plants possessing large and thick leaves. It has a powerful effect also upon natural meadows which contain much clover, vetches, and other analogous plants; but upon the grasses the effect of Gypsum is trifling. It acts according to *M. Thibault*, by extracting the moisture from the air, and stimulating the vital action of plants.

It sometimes doubles the product of Clover, Lucern and Sainfoin. In France it is "sowed" like Corn with the hand, about March, or April, when the plants are a few inches above the soil, so as to allow the Gypsum to fall on the leaves. It should be done previous to rain, but not during the fall of rain, or the existence of wind, or during frost.

The quantity of Gypsum applied to the land must

vary of course with the nature of the soil. In the course of fifteen or twenty days the good effects resulting from its use are visible, if circumstances have been favourable. The benefits of one application last for two or three years so that it is unnecessary to spread every year. In Gard and Hérault sainfoin is principally cultivated for pasture, and seems to thrive well in dry soils, especially in strong calcareous situations. About Alais, for the cultivation of this plant in artificial meadows, the ground is first "plowed" in November, then again in December, and the seed is sown in the beginning of April.

In Provence, and in the southern parts of Languedoc, when the effects of frost are less dreaded, it is sown in autumn. The sainfoin thus cultivated in inferior soil affords one or two crops in the year, and lasts for four or six years; then it is "plowed" up, and corn is substituted for it. It is worthy of remark, that lands which previously could not produce corn has, by the use of Gypsum, in the manner described, been able to raise good crops in the midland parts of France. The agriculturists of Alais may procure Gypsum, from Anduze, Salle, Rochebelle and Blauvès, to Drome it may be carried from Gard, and Ardeche. It is extensively employed in Canada, with the most happy results. It was tried in Yorkshire by Lord Dundas without any benefit, but the soil upon which it was spread was ascertained to contain a quantity of Gypsum. It might be employed, there can be little doubt, with great advantage in the border counties when the *trifolium pratense* has in many places failed. This plant necessarily from its strong and luxuriant nature, obviously must require a considerable quantity of the manure. If it be deficient in quantity the plants may vegetate, but must speedily perish from the effect of the first frost on their delicate structures."

## THE FLOWER SPIRIT.

BY AN AMERICAN POET.

I am the Spirit that dwells in the flower;  
 Mine is the exquisite music that flies,  
 When silence and moonlight reign over each bower,  
 That blooms in the glory of tropical skies.  
 I woo the bird, with his melody glowing,  
 To leap in the sunshine and warble its strain,  
 And mine is the odour, in turn, that bestowing,  
 The songster is paid for his music again!

There dwells no sorrow where I am abiding;  
 Care is a stranger, and troubles us not;  
 And the winds as they pass, when too hastily riding,  
 I woo, and they tenderly glide o'er the spot!  
 They pause, and we grow in their rugged embraces;  
 They drink our warm breath, rich with odour and song:  
 Then hurry away to their desolate places,  
 And look for us hourly, and think of us long!

Who, of the dull earth, that's moving around us,  
 Would ever imagine, that, nursed in a rose,  
 At the opening of Spring, our destiny found us  
 A prisoner, until the first bud should uncloze;  
 Then, as the dawn of the light breaks upon us,  
 Our winglets of silk we unfold to the air,  
 And leap off, in joy, to the music that won us,  
 And made us the tenants of climates so fair!



May 5, 1835.

Sir,—Having carefully perused the article on the Malt Tax in your paper dated 20th April last, and signed, Cymro, I beg you will allow me to make a few remarks on his observations, not intending to follow him through the whole. I shall only notice those in which your correspondent has thought proper to stigmatise the brewers, and those wherein the beer trade is more immediately concerned. He states “the habits and tastes of the lower classes were changed by taxing that beverage which had ever been the boast and favourite of Englishmen, advancing the quart of beer to 6d and 7d, which held forth such temptation to adulterate the article, that the community, after being compelled for many years to drink the most noxious liquor, composed of deleterious drugs as a substitute for malt and hops, gave it up in disgust.” Now sir, I must beg leave to state, that it was not the above reason that reduced the consumption of malt liquor, it may be traced to the tax on the beer after being brewed as well as the enormous tax on the malt during the war. I would beg to ask why such heavy taxes were imposed when it cannot be denied but the article is and ever will be the favourite of Englishmen, the fact may be stated that beer not being an article of consumption amongst the higher classes the beer tax was imposed by men who cared little about it, but the only luxury of the labourer it was suffered to be burthened until it was nearly out of their reach, and those persons (farmers) who ought to have been encouragers of the consumption of malt—were in fact the first men, as tradesmen who put a stop to allowing it to their labourers, and in process of time most other trades were obliged to follow the example, from the article being so heavily taxed as to amount nearly to 1d per quart. Independent of the heavy pressure of the malt tax during the war, being 34s 8d per qr., and at the rate of 3 barrels of beer from each quarter is nearly 1d per quart more, these causes were quite sufficient to deprive the poor man of even tasting his favourite beverage, the high price of wages and the pressing demand for labourers alone gave them the chance to enjoy it; now that labour is become a drug in the market, wages are so reduced that beer is more out of his reach than before. The chief reason of the present price of beer is the high price of barley, the malt duty bearing on each barrel of beer at the statu quantity of 3 barrels from a quarter of malt, is 6s 9d nearly, or a fraction above a  $\frac{1}{2}$ d per quart. Now, Sir, the statement is incorrect, when it is said there were only eight millions of barrels of beer consumed with a population of fourteen millions; the quarters of malt paying duty ending October 1833, was 5,020,599 $\frac{1}{8}$  quarters, or 40,164,793 bushels; taking 3 bushels of malt to each barrel of beer the number of barrels is 13,388,264. Now, Sir, the above number of barrels of beer from the stated quantity of malt is at the average of 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per quart in value. At the present price of beer sold at retail, it is well known that many thousand barrels of beer are sold much under the above quality, therefore the population cannot be considered to enjoy less than one barrel of beer annually each, though it must be acknowledged it may not be so strong in quality as in oldentime. That deterioration can be attributed only to the price of barley and some few other causes arising from the increased taxation, which most articles are subject to in the present day; the decrease of the quantity of malt is therefore more owing to the price of the barley

than to the tax on malt; [in former times the farmer had no such opportunities for the sales of barley as the last fifty years have given him. Ardent spirits had scarcely come into notice as a home manufacture; beer therefore was the chief source for the consumption of barley, and the low price enabled every one to allow a good quantity to every hogshead of his malt drink. Since the above time the manufacture of malt has very much improved as to its quality and produce, but how much indeed has the brewing trade improved during the last 50 years? it was then only a trade—a kind of rule of thumb business—now it is grown rapidly into a Science, and one which will be as long in being fully developed as any of the sister sciences. I should be very glad if your correspondent “Cymro” would have the candour to state the reasons for the insertion of his list of drugs; does he mean to tell us that they are used by the brewers, or to what other class of individuals does he refer to in his observations? Such an inference is as totally void of truth as his statement respecting the price of beer and malt and barley to which they are attached, and the fallaciousness of the greater part of his arguments do not in the least prove that if the Malt Tax was repealed that either himself or the farmers in general would again allow beer to their labourers as in former times. The statement copied from Sir R. Peel’s pamphlet or speech is also founded in error; where, I ask, is the farmer of 300 acres consuming 3 barrels of beer weekly? none I say, not one can be found in the three kingdoms; it is a fact well-known, that farm-houses, generally speaking, are without beer; as to the supply for workmen, let me see or know the farmer of 300 acres who can show a malt bill for such an amount as 150 barrels of beer yearly, even at 1 bushel of malt per barrel, this would be 19 quarters of malt at a cost above 25s per week for beer; it cannot be borne out, therefore, all arguments founded thereon are in error; the fact is, when during the war, corn sold high, and bank notes were in hand like songs, the farmer could hold his grain from the consumer till he could realize an enormous price; this opened the door to luxuries of all kinds; now we have none of the old-fashioned yeomanry—the former boast and pride of England—we have a degenerate race of farmers looking more to high prices and large farms than their forefathers, and expecting the produce of the soil to keep pace with their wishes and luxuries. Let them confine the extent of their farms to  $\frac{2}{3}$  of their capital and have the other  $\frac{1}{3}$  to work with; let the dairy, fowls, small pork, and veal furnish the household, then I will expect to see comfort return to the labourers and a kindly feeling towards their servants, both as regards their habits of industry, their morals, and how their leisure hours are passed, not as now driven to a cold comfortless cottage, but to sit smiling in their masters chimney corner after the toils of the day. Alas! those days are long gone by—never I fear to return to the peasantry of Old England. In conclusion, I beg to state, that malt cannot be manufactured at a less cost than 3s per qr.; the present year has proved that malt has averaged from 63s to 65s per qr., and good malting barley 38s to 40s; chevalier, 40s to 42s, with the malt tax of 20s 8d per qr.; where then has been the profit to the maltster, where is he to look for his delivery expenses, or his own and family’s maintenance, and as to the brewer who has all the fitting of an establishment and the charge of delivery of so bulky

an article,—where, I say, is the man who can show but that the price of beer is more ruled by the price of barley than any other cause, the malt tax as before proved being little above  $\frac{1}{2}$ d per quart? If the farmers would wish to reduce their burthens, let them join heartily in establishing cottage allotments in every parish in the kingdom; let no relief after a proper time (say one year) be given to any able-bodied labourers where he has had sufficient time to bring his little allotment to maturity, the poor-rates are far more burthensome to the land than the malt tax; and do not let the landed proprietor again delude the farmer by holding out the hopes of seeing the malt tax taken off unless it can be shown the expenditure of the country does not require it; begin reform in those things within your own controul and do not let that sweeping monopoly encroach all the land into farms, but leave a little plot to every agricultural labourer.

A CONSTANT READER.

### AGRICULTURE AND GARDENING IN JAPAN.

There is, perhaps, no country in the world so highly cultivated, nor any in which so much food is raised, on the same space of ground, for the subsistence of man, as in Japan; but unfortunately, the jealousy of the government is so great, as nearly to exclude strangers from the country, and render our knowledge of their modes of culture very slight and imperfect, from which, otherwise, much might be learnt, as they are conducted with much ingenuity, industry, and skill.

The land in Japan, as far as it has been seen by Europeans, is not, in general, remarkable for its natural fertility; it consists chiefly of clay or sand, but of course in so large a country there must be many varieties of soil. The land is cultivated by the spade and hoe; the plough is, however, sometimes used, and is either drawn by horses, oxen, or cows; even the steep sides of the hills and mountains are cultivated to their summits, which all travellers in that country agree, has a most pleasing and extraordinary appearance. They have no meadows, and very few fences to the fields, as the small number of cattle which they have are always kept the whole year in yards. The Japanese have no sheep, and but few horses, oxen, or cows, as they do not eat animal food, or use milk. The wheat and barley is sown in beds of about a foot in width, and the same space is left between each bed. The corn is either sown in drills the length of the bed, or in rows across it: when the young plants are from eight inches to a foot high, the earth is dug out of the space between the beds, and laid between the rows of corn, so that the fields have the appearance, when the corn is young, of cabbageseed-beds, with renches between them. The wheat is sown in November, and is ripe in June;—the barley is sown in Oct., and is ripe in May. As there are so few quadrupeds kept in Japan, every possible care is taken of whatever will form manure. The economy in this respect often rendering the country disagreeable, and even unhealthy. All the refuse of the houses is saved, either in large earthen jars, or in holes; this mixture is formed into a liquid hodge-podge manure, which is carried in pails, and poured from a laddle on the corn when it is about six inches high. This operation is performed twice to each crop of corn. The Japanese weed the crops of corn with the greatest industry; so much so, that Thunberg, who was a botanist, and

visited Japan in quest of new plants, complains that in a long journey in which he expected to collect many plants, he could hardly discover a weed in whole provinces.

Rice being the principal article of subsistence in Japan, the greatest pains is taken with its culture. There are several modes of cultivating it, according to the nature of the ground. The most common method is, in April, to turn over the ground with a hoe, then, by means of raised borders, the land is laid under water. The rice is sown in beds, and when the plants are six inches high, they are taken up in tufts or small clusters, containing several plants. These are planted in the rice-ground, about six inches between each tuft; this work is always performed by the women, who wade about in the water at least six inches deep. The rice is ripe in November, it is then mown, bound up in bundles, and carried home. The mere striking the ears against a band or any hard body, causes the corn to fall from the ears; but before the husk can be separated from the grain, a second thrashing or stamping is necessary; this is performed by placing the corn in a hollowed block of wood, forming a kind of mortar, and pounding it with a wooden pestle.

Besides the great use of the grain of rice, the straw is of much importance, as the Japanese make their shoes of plaited straw. A pair of these is often worn out in a day, if they are much walked in. When the weather is wet, and the ground muddy, they are most uncomfortable to wear. Their large hats are also made of plaited rice-straw.

Barley, wheat, and colaseed, are all thrashed in a plain and artless manner, on straw mats, in the open air, and frequently before the doors of the houses, with flails which have three swingles. Buckwheat is cultivated, and of this the meal cakes are made, which are boiled, and frequently coloured; these are sold very cheap in the villages, to travellers. Several kinds of beans, peas, and lentils, are cultivated in abundance. Turnips are cultivated, and they grow very large, but from the nature of the manure, they have a very rank and strong taste, and strangers do not like them, though the natives eat them in great quantities, both dressed and raw. The carrots are of a yellowish cast; only a few potatoes are grown. Among the esculent roots, batatas is the most cultivated. Melons, both white and red-fleshed, are grown, and pumpkins which are used for soup. Cucumbers, which are eaten both raw and pickled. Conomen for pickling; calabashes, or bottle-gourds for flasks. For seasoning, they cultivate a new species of ginger, and the pepper-shrub, of which both the leaves and fruit are used. Various sorts of mushrooms are in great request, and occur commonly in the shops, dried for sale, and are in daily use for soups and sauces. The buds of the yellow water buck-bean are steeped in brine, and used for pickles. They also cultivate the red beet, fennel, radishes, dill, anise, parsley, asparagus, leeks, onions, black radish, lettuce, succory, endive, and many kinds of esculent vegetables not known in our gardens. The Indian kale is cultivated to a considerable extent, out of which the Japanese express oil for their lamps; in April, when it is in flower, the fields have a most pleasing appearance from the yellow blossoms. The sesamum is grown in many parts of Japan, and from the small seed an oil is expressed, used there, as in India, for dressing the food. The cotton or tea plants are cultivated to a great extent; also the varnish-



tree, the camphor tree, the mulberry for the numerous silk-worms, and many kinds of forest-trees, some of which are peculiar to Japan. The desserts in Japan consist of many kinds of well-tasted fruits, which are cultivated in the gardens. Shaddocks, Seville and China oranges, pears, apples, plums, cherries, medlars of a very delicious taste, figs, grapes, pomegranates, Spanish fig, chestnuts, walnuts, nuts of several sorts, some of which are peculiar to these regions; two sorts of barberry, and several fruits not known in Europe.

Most of the natives of Japan take great delight in their gardens, and cultivate with much care, many kinds of flowers, and plant flowering-shrubs before their houses, and also form hedges of shrubs about their farms, on account of their beautiful blossoms. Nothing can exceed the beauty of the hedges of the maples indigenous to this country.

Like their neighbours the Chinese, the Japanese are very fond of double flowers, and have an endless variety of double-blossomed peach, cherry, plum, and many other varieties. They also plant dwarf trees in flowerpots, often with pumice or other porous stones, instead of earth. It would be endless to enumerate their favourite plants; of the Azalea and Chrysanthemum, they have numerous beautiful varieties.—*Abridged from Paxton's Horticultural Register.*

### AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE CHRONICLE.

Sir,—At a time when the whole country is anxiously waiting to see the formation of the new ministry, I fear the interests of the Agricultural population will be forgotten, and as the rent days are at hand, and we hear not of any relief which may be afforded to the suffering tenant, may I beg again a corner of your columns for a few observations? Surely, Sir, the landlords should look down upon us from their exalted state, and viewing their own interest interwoven so closely with ours, extend in time that aid which we so much need and which they alone can impart. Is it not cruelly tampering with us to repeat the existence of our distress in speeches from the house, put into our most gracious Majesty's mouth, and lead us to expect something in mitigation of our overwhelming calamities, and yet suffer us to continue increasing difficulties, and to grapple with warrents whilst wheat makes 35s. 36s. or 37s. a quarter!

I don't know whether you are acquainted, or whether our landlords are acquainted, with the fact, that it is the practice of farmers in general, particularly those of old standing, to make the "wheat-hovel" at harvest to meet the rent day in May. This wheat-hovel or farmer's sign-post is just at the present moment being removed, some have threshed it, some are in the act, and others are preparing for it. Now, Sir, if I could prevail upon those noblemen and gentlemen, clergy, and others, who, perhaps, even whilst I write, are fixing the time for receiving their rents, just to stop a moment and reflect upon our condition:—"the hovel," containing fifty quarters, should pay the half-year's rent of a tolerable farm, but at 36s. per quarter, and 2s 6d a quarter threshing, makes a little over four score pounds! How is it possible, therefore, to meet the rent of 200 or 250 acres of land at 28s. an acre? Why, I don't fear the jeers of any who may be pleased to call me a prophet when I declare, that eight out of ten of the tenant farmers can no more pay their rents after this rate, than they

can measure the moon, and that, notwithstanding the deaf ear to all remonstrance which appears to be turned towards us, the time is speedily coming when the land must be occupied by other hands than the present race of farmers, and we must (most or many of us) be the inmates of the poor-houses which are about to be erected under the new poor law bill.

What then must the landlords do if tenants cannot be found for their farms? Would it not be far better for all and every class to meet the case by a timely reduction of rent, and not persist in the abominable practice and unprincipled subterfuge of returning the paltry ten per cent., merely to keep a sort of flattering prospect to the already half-ruined tenants? Would to God! attention were drawn to this subject before the dreadful crisis appears but too vividly before our eyes.

I am, Sir, yours very truly,  
April 18, 1835. AN OLD FARMER.

### ON THE COCKSCOMB.

This is the season to commence the culture of this exquisite stove annual, which, if conducted under very favourable circumstances, may produce flowers of surprising magnitude. We have read of specimens (indeed, the descriptions are now before us), one of which was stated to be "thirty-six inches over, fourteen inches in length, and eight inches and a half in width;" of another whose stem was only thirteen and a half inches high, which bore a flower twenty-eight inches long from point to point, twelve inches broad, "measuring the convolutions," that is, if opened out flat, would extend to "ten feet and a half." Such giants have not come under our own observation, and we hesitate not to assert that none of our readers will ever succeed in an attempt to produce them, or any flower of extraordinary dimensions, unless seed of peculiar quality be obtained, and raised with extraordinary care and judgment. One fact, however, we must adduce, to dispute which would be to "doubt truth to be a liar." Mr. Knight, the President of the Horticultural Society, sent a cockscomb, a drawing of which is in the rooms of the Society. "The flower was eighteen inches in length, and eight inches in width. It was grown in a compost of chopped turf, of the rich alluvial soil of a river side, mixed with wholly unfermented pure horse-droppings, and a small portion of the ashes of burnt garden weeds. These general directions will lay the foundation of successful practice. The cultivator may begin by sowing the best seed in a shallow pan, containing chiefly the earth of decayed leaves, and a little fine sand, and placed in a damp pine pit, or frame, over a good common dung-bed, earthed over. The young plants, when an inch or two high, should be removed singly into pots two or three inches wide, containing a similar soil, enriched however with one-third of good loam. The pots must be kept in close, moist heat, and the plants shaded till they have established their roots. Water of the temperature of the bed is to be supplied cautiously, but regularly; and when the plants have filled the pots with roots, they are to be transferred to pots of a size larger. In these the plants may remain till the flowers be formed, when they should be removed to the soil employed by Mr. Knight, placed in pots six inches across, inside measure. If kept in the moist heat of a pine pit, regularly supplied with tepid water, and once a week with liquid manure, prepared by steeping a peck of sheep's dung in six gallons of boiling water, holding an ounce or two of chrystallized soda in solution, and suffering it to cool

and settle, fine flowers will assuredly be procured. Gigantic specimens may remain a rare curiosity, but plants of handsome growth, with short stems, large leaves, and gorgeously tinted flowers will be supplied in abundance.

#### METHOD OF DESTROYING MICE, &c., IN THEIR LURKING PLACES.

M. Thenard, in 1832, submitted to the Academy of Sciences a plan for destroying noxious animals, when they have taken refuge in their hiding places. The instrument of destruction is sulphuretted hydrogen, which he had remarked to be peculiarly deleterious to animal life. Animals when allowed to breathe the pure gas fall down as if struck with a bullet. Even when considerably diluted with atmospheric air, the effects are deadly. A horse dies in less than a minute, in air containing 1-250 of this gas. A dog of moderate size is speedily killed in air containing 1-1000, while a greenfinch expires in a few seconds in air possessing 1-1500 of sulphuretted hydrogen. Influenced by these facts, the French chemist proposed the employment of this gas to several individuals for the purpose of extirpating noxious vermin, but his suggestions being treated with indifference, he determined to put the method in practice by his own experiments.

His first trial was in an apartment infested by rats, which showed themselves occasionally during the day, and at night were actively engaged in plundering a chest of oats, to which they had access through an aperture of their own formation. The holes by which they retreated amounting to eighteen in number, Thenard adapted to each of them in succession retorts capable of containing half a pint measure, by introducing the beak of the retort and filling up the interval round its neck with plaster. Sulphuret of iron was deposited in the retort, formed from a mixture of iron filings, sulphur, and water, and dilute sulphuric acid was introduced by means of a tube placed in the tubulure. The sulphuretted hydrogen was disengaged with great rapidity, and in a few minutes not a rat remained alive in the building. His next experiment was in an old abbey where he was equally successful, and having opened up part of the wall he found many dead rats. He recommends the application of this method to the destruction of moles, foxes, and all animals which cannot be extirpated by the usual means. Thenard then gives popular directions for the formation of the materials required to produce the gas.

Mix four parts of iron filings, three parts flowers of sulphur in a mortar with a pestle. Place the mixture in a convenient vessel, and moisten it with four parts of boiling water, stirring it with a piece of wood or glass. Add gradually afterwards four parts more of water, and introduce it into the retort. Pour upon the mixture common oil of vitriol diluted with five times its volume of water, and continue to add it gradually till the effervescence ceases. Should any of the gas escape into the apartment and occasion inconvenience, it may be removed by dropping a little sulphuric acid upon bleaching powder. The holes should be closed immediately, to prevent the disagreeable effects of the putrefaction of the carcasses of the animals which have thus been destroyed.—*Translated from the Annales de Chimie, in Dr. Thomson's Records of Science, No. 1.*

#### THE RUSSIAN SERF.

The bonded peasant is bound to pay undeviating obedience to his lord, to render due service to him, (which service the law has fixed at three days in the week for each married couple,) and to pay the tribute which his lord imposes upon him. The public authorities are bound to lend their aid to the lord at all times. The bondsman is not, however, compellable to obey any orders contrary to law which his master may require him to execute. He cannot marry without the consent of his master, nor can he be forced to marry against his own inclination. If there be any want of marriageable females on an estate, or the whole peasantry are allied by blood, and a neighbouring lord be possessed of such females, in such case the purchase of females may be effected; and in cases where neither the lord nor his peasants have sufficient pecuniary means wherewith to make this purchase, the buyer may agree with the seller to place an unmarried female at his disposal for every female he may deliver to him. Both the lord and his peasantry are responsible to the government for all public imposts, and the peasantry are personally liable for the poll-tax, for all burdens imposed on the land, and for the furnishing of recruits. The lord is bound to provide for the maintenance of his peasants, and cannot exact greater service from them than three days' labour per week. Grown-up children, so long as they are single, are not legally liable to do service; but this regulation is not in general much regarded. In case of need, the lord may compel his peasants to dwell under his own roof, or on his own farm, and employ the whole family in working for his support. The peasant cannot enter a complaint against his lord; nay, all his acts become null and void if the lord appear or plead in court; but he may denounce his lord for high treason and false returns of the numbers of his serfs. Though there may be no express law giving the lord a right of disposing of his peasants' property, the denial of a hearing before a public tribunal and the ancient laws respecting slavery are bars to any remedy which the peasant may seek. The head of every province is bound to prevent or punish the commission of any acts of tyranny, and may place the affairs of the lord in trust. It is not lawful for a peasant to change his place of residence; runaways must be delivered up to their masters; the lord has power to punish the peasant, but neither with starvation, maiming, nor death; he can make a recruit of him, send him to the house of correction, and compel him to settle on his estate wherever he thinks proper, if he be not fit for service. Compensation is due to the lord for every peasant slain by design or accident. The lord may emancipate his peasant and also sell him with or without any land; but he cannot separate him from his family, nor dispose of him publicly to the highest bidder. Custom, however, has gradually modified many of these oppressive enactments; and the harshest treatment to which the serf is exposed takes place on the estates of small proprietors.—*Treatise on the general Laws of the Russian State. St. Petersburg, 1833.—Translated in Journal of Education, No. XVIII.*

TRIFOLIUM INCARNATUM.—(From Cobbett's Register.)—Much interest was excited last spring by an account that had been published of the excellence of the *Trifolium incarnatum*, or Italian clover. It was represented as a thing to be sowed after wheat,



and as yielding a fine crop fit to cut up for horses, in the month of May. I had some seed from Liverpool, for which I did not pledge myself, and which proved to be of a good-for-nothing sort; but I had also some seed of the true *Incarnatum*, which I gathered from the plants in the Isle of Wight; and the interesting questions were first, whether the *Trifolium Incarnatum* would stand the winter in England; and next, whether if it did stand the winter, it would produce a greater crop to be cut up for horses in the month of May, than the broad clover. We heard of very fine crops of the *Incarnatum* last summer; of beautiful fields of it; and, I dare say, that they were beautiful enough; for the plant has long been cultivated in the flower-gardens for its long stalks of beautiful red flowers. But, it was for the fields, and for the horses, that we wanted it; and, I have given it a full and fair trial against the broad clover, and against other grasses, the result of which trial I am now about to state. On the 19th of May last, I sowed, in good and clean ground, a patch of the *Trifolium*, one of broad clover, and one of *Lucerne*. The *Lucerne* I cut four times last summer each time about two feet high; the broad clover I cut twice; but those two cuttings exceeded the four cuttings of the *Lucerne* in weight. The *Trifolium* I suffered to get to its full height, and be in bloom. It did not yield in weight a fourth part of the weight of the broad clover; and the plants died at once, proving the plant to be an annual as much as wheat is an annual; while the broad clover, after its two cuttings, went on to shoot again, stood the winter and is now (8th of April) very flourishing, and about four inches high; and as to the *Lucerne*, it is, at this time, eighteen inches high; will be in bloom by the first week in May, with a prodigious weight of crop. Gentlemen will perceive that my ground is good, warm and early; but they will also perceive, that the *Trifolium Incarnatum* had the same ground as the other plants. It was precisely the same, for the *Incarnatum* stood between the two others. But the *Incarnatum* was to be sown after wheat; that is to say, in the month of August, or September. Now on the 28th of last August, I sowed in clean ground, without manure, but very good ground, twenty-six sorts of plants called grasses, the first four of which were, the broad clover, the *Trifolium Incarnatum*, White Dutch clover, and *Lucerne*. At this moment the broad clover, and the White Dutch clover, are five inches high, and exceedingly flourishing; the *Lucerne* is a foot high, and rather more; the *Trifolium Incarnatum* hardly rises boldly up from the ground; and, if cut, would not weigh a sixth part of either of the other three. Here is same time of sowing, same ground precisely; same winter to stand; same spring to start in. I shall let all these plants stand as they are until the first week in May; and then cut them and weigh them; but I need do nothing more and see nothing more than I have already done and seen, to convince me that this plant will not be cultivated in England, except in the flower gardens. This experiment convinced me, that to sow broad clover in clean and good land, after wheat, is the way to have abundant crops of green food to cut up in May. However, this is another matter.

#### TO THE EDITOR OF THE HEREFORD TIMES.

Sir,—A friend of mine has forwarded me your valuable paper, to answer a letter of "J. W." dated "Ledbury, March 25," which you inserted, and to which I ought to have replied before this.

It is known to all parts of England, that Sussex management of sheep is not excelled, which, perhaps, may be attributed to the talent of the late celebrated breeder, John Ellman, Esq., who raised the character, through the best of management, of our Southdowns, to an extent unequalled. Just before the death of that gentleman, a publisher, at Lewes, was assisted in an agricultural work by him, and the public were furnished with a perfect treatise on the Raising and Breeding of Sheep, and Means adopted in General Management. This treatise is published in that valuable work, entitled "Baxter's Library of Agricultural and Horticultural knowledge," and from which I take the following extract, in answer to "J. W." The recipe is excellent, and my shepherd invariably adopts it.

#### THE FLY.

Price, speaking of the fly, says, "it may more properly be termed an injury than a disease, as it may in general be prevented by moderate attention."

"There are two or three sorts of flies that are said to strike sheep, viz., the black, the white, and the greenish fly. The maggots generated from the ava of the first, or black fly, are deemed the most destructive to sheep; this fly is later in making its appearance than either of the others. I have heard it asserted by an experienced breeder, that a considerable difference is observable in the appearance of the maggots:—those from the white and green fly being white, while those of the black fly partake of a black colour. Sheep that have been once struck with the fly are more liable than others to be attacked on the following year, as are also such as have a foul skin."

"This injury may sometimes be discovered from the marks left on the skin by the blows of the fly, but when such marks are not present, it is readily discovered by the motion and appearance of the animal."

"A sheep troubled with maggots betrays constant uneasiness; it hangs down its head, and appears in a listless posture; it moves its tail in a peculiar manner, draws up its body, stamps its feet, runs a short way, and then suddenly stops, and frequently attempts to tear or bite the injured part."

"As soon as the symptoms shew themselves, the wool should be removed from the part with the shears, and, afterwards, the maggots carefully picked out; this, and rubbing a little grease on the wound, is the only method had recourse to at Romney-marsh. In very bad cases, spirits of turpentine, white lead, train oil, and assafœtida, have all been recommended, and, I have no doubt, all prove noxious to these vermin."

"Some graziers recommend gouldard water as a wash for the affected parts, and others, a mixture of train oil and brimstone; but the best remedy I am acquainted with, and that which proves least injurious to the wool, is an ointment composed of the flour of sulphur and butter, or lard, a sufficient quantity of which should be well rubbed in with the hand."

"It is my opinion, that a sheep once struck should never be kept to breed from, as they are nearly certain to be struck again with the fly the next year. I would not even save a lamb from a ewe that had been struck, as it originates, I believe, generally, from a foulness of the wool attracting the fly. By attention and close watching, I rarely had a sheep struck with the fly at Glynde; and I am persuaded it always prevails to a greater extent in those where little at-

tention has been paid to breeding, and especially from sheep once struck.

"In enclosed situations I have known sheep affected with the fly, and particularly those which are not well covered with wool between the ears. Having got rid of this and other defects by breeding, few of my sheep have been attacked."

Such are the opinions of this celebrated man, and upon these opinions I have regulated my management, with great satisfaction to myself. If sheep are properly dipped with the sheep mixture, there is but little to be apprehended from the fly. The washing appears to me to be the great preventive; and if "J. W." is unacquainted with this, I must refer him again to "Baxter's Library of Agricultural and Horticultural Knowledge," p. 579 of the third edition. I would extract this recipe, as it is valuable; but space is wanting. Trusting the above observations will be of equal advantage to "J. W." as they were to me, I remain  
A SOUTHDOWN FARMER.

Goreing, Sussex, April 15, 1835.

## HOW TO THICKEN THORN HEDGES AND PRODUCE BRANCHES ON TREES.

The objects of the experiments related in the following paper, (which we have gathered from the Transactions of the Highland Society of Scotland,) was to procure lateral branches from the bare stems of thorns, and other ligneous vegetables; and the result being stated as satisfactory, it is only necessary to explain the manner in which it has been effected. The sap, in circulating or ascending, naturally moves along the bark of a bare stem of an even surface, without any tendency to develope lateral shoots; but the temporary interruption of the course of the sap in thorns, as it is known to do in other plants, seems to give an impulse to inactive germs, by which lateral branches are produced; and therefore, in point of beauty and utility, the discovery is important.

A thorn hedge, when properly managed, surpasses in appearance and durability any ordinary fence. But they never succeed in situations where they are exposed to too much moisture, or where the soil is arid: and in cold exposed situations their stems become covered with grey lichens, indicative of an unhealthy condition. When such cold soils are not trenched previously to planting, hedges and trees make slow progress, especially where the ground is stiff, and opposes the shooting of the roots. Very light gravelly soils are also unfavourable to the growth of thorns. But the greatest error usually committed in rearing thorn-hedges, is the neglect of keeping them clean and properly trimmed when young, so that at last the hedge becomes as broad as it is high, or looks like a canopy supported by bare sticks, on account of being choked at the roots by weeds. No hedge looks so neat or lasts so long as one kept nearly in the form of a stone wall, the proper dimensions being from three to four and a half feet in height, from one to two feet in breadth or thickness at the base, inclining upwards, until at the top its diameter is only a few inches.

But when neglected, as already said, it has hitherto been considered an irreparable evil attendant on thorn-hedges, as respect their bushiness at the root, that they are scanty and bare, and not to

be remedied but by cutting the whole close to the ground, and training it anew, which though efficient is a slow style of amendment. On a farm near Stirling a farmer tried a new method of renovating his hedges, where many of the thorn stems were almost entirely destitute of lateral branches within two feet of the ground. This he accomplished by making horizontal and semicircular incisions in the bark, by which from a quarter to half an inch in breadth of both layers of the bark was removed fully half way round the stem. In a few weeks after, buds appeared and shot forth, usually close under, but sometimes over the incisions. This simple operation, performed by a hedge-bill or a pocket knife, early in spring, does not seem to injure in the least the thorns, for the cut being clean and not deep, no canker ensues, and it soon closes up again, leaving only a slight scar in the place; care must be taken, however, that no shred of the inner bark remain to continue the circulation. The partial interruption merely causes a lateral exertion in the sap vessels to overcome the obstruction, and the sap thus accumulated gives rise to the new branches, so that the stem may be cut at two or three places if necessary. The artificial branches seldom failed to appear where the stems were healthy, and have sometimes attained a length of two feet the first season. But as such tender twigs are apt to be hurt by frost, if cut too young, they were not touched till the first or sometimes the second spring after, when such as required it were cut off a few inches from the stem, which caused an immediate subdivision of each branch. Thus, the ragged ill-filled hedges of this gentleman have been continued at the regular height, and at the same time trained into a uniform breadth and thickness, not attainable by any other method, in the same space of time.

Having succeeded so well with the thorns, he tried afterwards an experiment on a few forest trees, about six inches in diameter. The incisions were made about six feet from the ground, and, in some instances, immediately above slight swellings, which indicated a tendency to shoot forth branches. The consequence was, that a new branch sprang forth the same season, from almost every one of the trees. In the thorns, however, no search was made for these eyes, and few or none were observed. The object in these last experiments was to ascertain whether a tree, intended to be ornamental, but which had been forced up by close planting to a long pole, might be made to assume a luxuriant appearance; and, so far as this gentleman has proceeded, it appears that his attempt has been followed by the desired effect.

## BANK OF ENGLAND.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF NOTES CIRCULATED, IN ENGLAND AND WALES, BY PRIVATE BANKS AND BY JOINT STOCK BANKS AND THEIR BRANCHES, DISTINGUISHING PRIVATE FROM JOINT STOCK BANKS, BETWEEN THE 27<sup>TH</sup> DEC. 1834 AND THE 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 1835.—FROM RETURNS DIRECTED BY 3 AND 4 W. IV., c. 83.

|                         |            |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Private Banks .....     | £3,251,206 |
| Joint Stock Banks ..... | 2,138,954  |

£10,420,160

JOHN WOOD.

Stamps and Taxes, May, 1. 1835.



## ON IMPROVING THE BLOOM, AND PRESERVING OF CERTAIN FRUITS.

Mr. Robert Gauén, gardener, at Milbrook, near Southampton, some years ago published a method of improving the bloom of certain fruits, which is worthy of the notice of those who have an interest in ornamenting, preserving, and packing such articles, and to which we beg to renew attention. Ten years' experience, and the award of many prizes for show fruits, have conferred on Mr. Gauén singular skill in this branch. The delicate bloom of the cucumber, its length, girth, and straightness, are, as is well known, important considerations, among florists and growers of prize fruits. For these purposes the cucumber must be protected from the drip of the lights, from the period of its blossoming, and from the damp of the soil by two pieces of glass, about four inches wide, and from eight to a dozen long; the one placed under the fruit, and the other supported on pegs over it; both having a slope to one end, to carry off any condensed damp.

To procure the straightness of a gun barrel, a slender and lengthy form of the cucumber, instead of supporting the upper glass on pegs, lay on the under glass, alongside the young fruit, two pieces of wood about the length you suppose the cucumber may grow to, about two inches square, and with the upper inner angle of each piece bevelled off. The solar heat is increased by these pieces of wood throughout the day, and by close confinement during the night, the fruit is conducted to considerably more than its natural length. The mode of securing elongation is attended with small prickles placed at greater distances than is desirable in a handsome specimen.

To ensure shape, prickles, and bloom, the foliage of the plant must be kept moderately thin. Never wet the fruit in watering the plants. Before cutting it, be careful that it is perfectly straight, at least a day previously, for this operation can never be so well conducted as when the fruit is on the plant. In straightening warped fruit after it is cut, let it be kept in a cool dry place, and excluded from the change of air. Mr. Gauén merely kept them in their show-box, in a cool, dry room.

His straightening process is thus:—Take a flat board, half an inch thick, four inches broad, and the length of the cucumber: bore holes at intervals of half an inch across the board, and within one inch of each end. Provide two strips the length of the board, one-half inch wide one-fourth inch thick; place one strip on edge, supported by a peg placed in one of the holes outside the strip that is on edge, and put the board under the growing fruit, with the two ends of the arc formed by the crooked fruit against the upright strip; place a bit of cotton wool or moss between each end of the fruit and the upright strip, to prevent bruising. Then take the other strip and bring it within a peg placed at one end, with a bit of wool or moss placed against the outer arc of the crooked fruit as before. Proceed to straighten the fruit with one hand, straining it by the strip (keeping the whole steady with the other), towards the fixed upright strip, so as to bring it in a straight direction, and fix another peg. In ordinary cases the cucumber may be made perfectly straight at the first operation; but in some instances it requires two or three. A fruit may be straightened at any period of its growth, but it requires to be left one night under training, after the operation, to prevent its return to crookedness.

The bloom of the fruits, which suffers by this

operation, may be restored; which Mr. Gauén accomplishes by the use of a box with sliding and false bottoms, a common powder-puff and some finely calcined and perfectly dry magnesia. In packing, if there are more tiers of cucumbers than one, they must be kept apart by these false bottoms, being supported so as not to injure the sub-jacent fruit.

To preserve bloom on the grapes, complete the thinning of the berries when they have gained half their size, and do not dash water violently against them, or subject them to a current of steam. Abundance of sun and air are favorable for the production of bloom, neither will a moderate degree of shade injure them. When grapes with delicate bloom are gathered, they should be placed in a basket of well threshed moss, taking care not to bruise any of the berries. To restore the bloom to them, work the puff at intervals of an hour or two, in the blooming box.

Grapes require more care in packing than any other species of fruit. Mr. Gauén recommends moss and cotton wool, the former well threshed and picked; place a layer of moss at the bottom of the box; on this a layer of cotton wool; and next the bunches, side by side, within half an inch of each other; fill the interstices with cotton wool, place a layer of the same material over the fruit, and finish with moss. A false bottom supported by the sides of the box, may next be introduced, and the operations repeated. When the bunches are very large, it is necessary to interpose splints of whalebone through the heavier parts of the bunches, to support them on the sides of the box, or on the interstices of cotton wool.

Of grapes it may generally be said, that the berries of the best flavor and color are those of the first ripened bunches (of the bunches at the root end of the vine,) and of the lower extremity of the bunch. Unlike many other fruits, they do not improve in flavour after gathering, and unripe bunches do not become riper after they are removed from the vine. In selecting bunches, avoid those where any, or even one of the leaves have been removed near the bunch from the tree, because the berries will there be of inferior flavor.

Plums, peaches, nectarines, apricots, and figs—indeed every fruit which has a bloom—may be treated, in such a box as Mr. Gauén describes, with the puff and calcined magnesia. We should have before mentioned, that the false bottoms in his box consist of fine wire gauze, and by a particular process, which cannot always be conveniently followed, he raises a cloud of the powder, which most delicately covers the fruit. It seems remarkable that a white powder should give bloom to fruits of different colors; but the color resides in the skin, and the bloom is merely a semi-transparent colorless powder. Mr. Gauén considers magnesia as merely a powerful antiseptic, and being preferable to any other article, because it is neither offensive to the taste nor deleterious in any shape.

**GRAFTING APRICOTS.**—At the last meeting of the Horticultural Society, Dr. Lindley, the Secretary, read some observations "on grafting apricot trees." In the cases in which grafting fails, it is owing to young scions being used, and the tree being highly excitable, the principle of vitality is exhausted before proper adhesion has taken place. This result does not occur when wood of two, three, or four years old is employed; and in this case the proper adhesion always takes place. In wood of

three years old the best result is always produced; and by using that of this period the grafting of apricots will produce as certain results as that of any other tree.

### FEMALE EMIGRATION.

Mr. Parker, in a new edition of his work upon Van Diemen's Land, says:—"Colonel Arthur, the Governor of Van Diemen's Land, in a despatch to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated 26th September, 1834, says—'I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the circumstance that the females who have arrived on this occasion (the Strathfieldsaye) are of a very superior class. Two-thirds of them were provided with situations in one week after their landing; and it is believed that the whole of them would have obtained employment before the expiration of a fortnight, but for the occurrence of an interval of unfavourable weather.' The Ladies' Committee speak of the young women who arrived by this ship in similar terms of approbation, and add, 'that both the emigrants themselves, and the persons who have engaged them, are alike mutually pleased with their several services and situations.' The Governor has transmitted a list of the wages and salaries of 160 young women who arrived in this ship, and from this list it appears that—

|                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 4 obtained £6 0 per an. | 7 obtained £16 0 pr an. |
| 14 ..... 8 0            | 3 ..... 16 16           |
| 1 ..... 8 8             | 2 ..... 18 0            |
| 25 ..... 10 0           | 2 ..... 20 0            |
| 3 ..... 10 10           | 3 ..... 21 0            |
| 1 ..... 11 0            | 3 ..... 25 0            |
| 49 ..... 12 0           | 2 ..... 26 5            |
| 4 ..... 12 12           | 3 ..... 30 0            |
| 5 ..... 13 0            | 1 ..... 31 10           |
| 16 ..... 13 10          | 1 ..... 40 0            |
| 2 ..... 14 0            | 2 ..... 75 0            |
| 8 ..... 14 14           | 2 ..... 75 0            |

Of these seventy-one were servants of all work—the youngest of which class, fifteen years of age, obtained 6*l*; whilst the highest wages obtained, by one thirty years of age, amounted to 30*l* per annum. The wages of house-maids and nursery-maids varied from 8*l* to 21*l*; of cooks, from 12*l* to 16*l*; of laundry-women, from 12*l* to 14*l*; of needle-women, from 10*l* 10*s* to 20*l*. Several young ladies from this ship obtained situations as governesses, their salaries varied from 20*l* to 40*l* per annum. The sudden influx of so many young people into a small community would, naturally, have the effect of depressing wages for a limited time: emigrants may, therefore, feel confident that wages will not fall below those above mentioned.

### RUTLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Spring Meeting of this Society (for the show of cart stallions) was held on Monday, the 6th of April, in the Riding-house, Oakham. The attendance of horses was large, many having come from different counties to compete for the liberal premium offered. To the best cart stallion that shall attend at Oakham once a week during the season of 1835. The premium was awarded to Mr. Daniel Housin's horse, Oxford, and Mr. Billing's horse allowed to be the second, and succeeding horse, in case the winner should neglect the restrictions laid down by the society. The judges, Mr. John Wright, of Halstead, Leicestershire, and Clark Morris, Esq., of Oakham Grange, Rutland, also

commended the following:—Mr. V. Stapleton's chesnut horse; Mr. Berridge's black horse; R. W. Baker's, Esq., Suffolk horse, Rutland Plough-boy; and Mr. King's black horse; all of which were of a superior kind. Several others were shown in addition to the above. After the business of the day was gone through, a large party dined together at the Crown Inn, John Painter, Esq., in the chair. It is an important fact to state that the premiums of the above society for the present year, 1835, amounts to no less than *one hundred and fifty pounds*; there are three classes open to all England, namely, class 1, 7, 11, under certain conditions, contained in the society's bill of 1835, which may be obtained by any person applying to the Secretaries, at Oakham, Rutland, on or before the 16th of November, 1835, the day all certificates are required to be sent in.—Class 1, for oxen or steers of any breed or weight, under five years old, without restriction as to feeding; a premium of fifteen sovereigns to the best. Second best, ditto, seven sovereigns.—Class 7, for long woolled fat weather sheep, one year old, without restriction as to feeding. To the best pen of three, under twenty-two months old, a premium of seven sovs. To the second best, ditto, three sovereigns. Class 11, for pigs of any breed or age, weight above twenty stone. To the best fat pig, a premium of five sovereigns. To the second best, ditto, two sovereigns. The following sweepstakes are also open to all England, which close on the 16th November, 1835:—A sweepstakes of two sovereigns for the best beast, of any breed, age, or weight. A sweepstakes of one sovereign, for the best pen of three sheep, of any kind, breed, or age. A sweepstakes of one sovereign for the best sheep, of any kind, breed, or age. A sweepstakes of one sovereign for the best pen of five breeding ewes, of any breed or age, that have suckled lambs up to the 1st July, 1835; and that have been fed on grass and seeds only, for six months previous to the time of showing.

Mr. Editor,—The cultivation of Indian corn has for a number of years been, with me, a subject of great and increasing interest, and the season is at hand when the crop of the year must be committed to the soil. I feel confident that the introduction of this important plant ought to be general, and therefore I hasten to address you. I have read many arguments *pro* and *con* upon the question—have heard and read many a bold assertion; but as I am identified with it, have cultivated the vegetable for a series of years, have brought it, by a process of impregnation, to a greatly improved state, I rest my cause upon decisive facts, which admit of no appeal; and some of these I shall, without further preface, intrude upon your notice, and that of your very numerous horticultural friends.

*Indian corn*, or *maize*, has long been grown in England, the recorded year of its introduction from America being 1596. It is mentioned (as having been successfully grown in Essex) in that useful miscellany, *The Family Receipt Book*, published about forty years since. M'Phail gives directions for its culture in the early editions of his *Gardener's Remembrancer*; and other authorities might be quoted; but till Mr. Cobbett announced the variety which has since borne his name, it had not been thought of as a grain crop. My object, now, however, is not to recommend it as such. No one injures a cause more than he who endeavours to prove too much. As a succession crop of the farm, and a most profitable one, I know it



could be grown in four seasons out of five. But as the farmer would find himself on new and untried ground—as the ears, or cobs, become mature in succession, and cannot be pulled or cut at any one time, I shall not urge it, in the present state of our experience, as a staple farm product, but confine myself to those operations and results which admit neither of question nor doubt. Indian corn is in a state of progressive acclimatization. It is capable of manifest improvement: its constitution can be regulated and rendered more hardy, and its product abundantly increased. These are points which my experience has established; for, by four successive annual sowings I have effected the crops, I have effected the (at least partial) hybridization of three *distinct* varieties, have more or less hardened the constitution of one of them, and have so increased the yield of the other two, that, in lieu of from 150 to 220 small, or medium-sized grains in each year, I have now from 200 to 300 grains, of increased size.

As a garden vegetable, this grain is really an acquisition, and, for the food of pigs, turkeys, and fowls, it is invaluable: I have, within an hour's walk from my residence, an evidence of the fact, of a most conclusive character: this I published in the last number of the "British Farmer's Magazine." The corn on an acre and a half, in an open field, had fed, to repletion, 40 or 50 turkeys, had fattened and brought to the most perfect condition several porkers, and yet retained such a vast supply of ripe ears, that the cultivator has resolved to raise double the quantity during the present season, for the uses of his farm and poultry-yards.

Its mode of culture may be described in a few lines. Let small trenches be dug, a yard apart, about nine inches deep, and a foot wide, in a plot of sandy loam (as for celery), and if these be laid out so as to point due north and south, it will be all the better. Bury in the bottom of each trench three or four inches of good spit dung, then return the soil, and the plot will be ready. The period of sowing is according to the climate, from the 21st of April to the 15th of May. Soak the seed for 24 hours if the season and soil be very dry; and then strike a drill with a hoe, along the centre of each trench. Water the drills thoroughly, and drop in a seed at every six inches; cover with fine mould, and when the plants rise, and have become three inches high, hoe the ground about them. As they advance draw earth to the stems; and when they have thus been moulded up to the height of six inches, dig the central ground a spit deep, in which it would be very advantageous to bury as much manure as was employed for each trench in the first instance. If hybridization of three varieties be aimed at, vary the mode of sowing by dropping three seeds in a small triangle, one at each point, five inches from its neighbours: the triangles ought to be eighteen inches asunder, centre from centre. In the drill-planting, if the seeds rise well, the plants must be thinned out, so as finally to stand a foot from each other; and to secure the seed, it would be prudent to sprinkle soot over it, before the fine earth is added. Enough has been said to assist the inexperienced grower during some weeks; and I hope to recur to the subject.—I am, Sir, respectfully yours,

THE AUTHOR OF THE "DOMESTIC  
GARDENER'S MANUAL."

April 21.

## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE WOOL AND SHEEP.

The commercial advices received from the Cape of Good Hope refer to the incursion of the Caffres with the more regret, independently of the loss of life and property that has taken place, as it will tend considerably to retard the very active exertions which were in progress for improving the growth of fine wools in the Colony, to which the attention of the agriculturists has recently been directed with the greatest earnestness. In order to increase the character of the wool at the Cape, several investments had been made in the purchase of the finest Merino and Saxony sheep, importations of which had occurred in the Colony just previously to the incursion of the savages. The great success that had attended the breeding of sheep in New South Wales, where the recent advices from thence state the flocks were rapidly improving, had increased the desire of the flock masters at the Cape to improve their sheep. The arrival of the consignments of fine woolled sheep at the Cape from New South Wales and Saxony had created much satisfaction, and a confident feeling existed that fine wools would soon become the staple article of export from the Colony. The rams and sheep imported into the Cape had been most carefully selected by the best judges. In order to promote the production of fine wools, the Cape of Good Hope Agricultural Society had resolved that a cup, of the value of 50*l*, should be given to the proprietors of sheep who produced the finest sample of wool from sheep lambled in the Colony. A second cup was to be given for the second best sample of wool, the quantity of wool sent in was not to be less than 100*lb*. The information received by mercantile firms relative to the state of the flocks in New South Wales represent that, at the latest date, the heavy rains had been fatal in some places to the young lambs. In Bathurst, however, the flocks were in a healthy state. The value of stock in the colony was increasing rapidly. A large sale of improved flocks by sheep had taken place and averaged 2*l* 10*s* 4*d* per sheep, rams selling at 3*l* 4*s* each. About 2000 sheep had been sold of mixed breeds, at an average of 1*l* 2*s* 6*d* each. Some of the flock masters in the Colony were realizing from 2,000*l* to 5,000*l* a year from the produce of their sheep. In Van Diemen's Land, the flocks were going on favourably. Contracts had been made to deliver the wool of this year's clip at Hobart Town in the present month, at 15½*d* per *lb*. There had been many robberies committed of sheep in the Colony.

LEECHES LIVING ON TREES.—One of the greatest curiosities with which the woods of the Island of Luçon (near Manilla) offers, says the writer of "Meyen's Voyage round the World," quoted in Richter's *Foreign Quarterly Review*, is the leech which we meet with in the region of the arborescent ferns. It forms a new species which we call *sanguisuga tagalla*, smaller than our official leech, broad, of a yellowish brown colour, and the upper part marked with small irregular spots, and a black stripe running lengthwise down the back. This leech is blood-thirsty, but its bite leaves very small marks, on which account it would be much preferred in Europe to those now in use. Before we had observed them they got into our boots and began biting us: we felt the pain, but thought we had been bitten by ants, till at last our boots being filled with blood our attention was aroused. We brought home two of them in spirits of wine. However fabulous this account of leeches living on trees may appear,

it is nevertheless correct; and we must learn to believe that there are leeches which can live in damp air, just as well as that *confervæ* may be generated in a moist atmosphere, a circumstance which the celebrated Swedish writer on *Algæ* could not comprehend, and was uncourteous enough to declare to be a falsehood."

### BRECONSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At a Meeting of the Subscribers held at Brecon, on Friday, the 24th April, the Premiums awarded at the last Autumn Show, were paid, and the following prizes were awarded:—To Mr. Thomas Watkins, of Fforddvaur, the Society premium for the best field of turnips in the county; also the silver cup, presented by Lloyd Vaughan Watkins, Esq., of Pennoyre, for the best field of Swedish turnips in the county; and also the silver cup presented by Major Gwynne Holford, of Buckland, for the best field of Swedish turnips within the hundreds of Penkelly and Talgarth; to Mr. John Williams, of Abercynrig, the silver cup presented by Major Gwynne Holford, for the best field of common turnips in the county; to Mr. Wm. Powell, of Pantycorred, the silver cup presented by Lloyd V. Watkins, Esq., for the best field of common turnips in the hundreds of Merthyr and Devynnock.—At three o'clock, a large party sat down to a most excellent dinner, at the Swan Inn, John P. Wilkins, Esq. (in the unavoidable absence of the Member for Radnorshire) in the chair. After dinner, a Silver Tankard, purchased by subscription, was presented by the Chairman to Mr. Robert Bright, butcher, Brecon. It is extremely splendid, and has on it the following inscription:—"To Mr. Robert Bright, butcher, this Tankard is presented, as a token of respect for his spirited and upright conduct in business, by the Agriculturists and Tradesmen of Breconshire."—In the evening, a subscription was entered into to continue the ploughing match. It will take place at the Autumn Show, and it is intended that the successful ploughmen should be rewarded in the same manner as last year, viz.—the best, a coat, waistcoat, and breeches, with the Society's buttons, which are very handsome, having upon them a plough, and the words "Breconshire Agricultural Society;" to the second, a coat and waistcoat, with the Society's buttons; and to the third, a coat, with similar buttons. And for the purpose of stimulating young men to the proper management of the plough, it was suggested that a suit of clothes, with the Society's buttons, should be given to the best ploughmen under eighteen years of age.—In addition to the usual premiums by the Society in respect to live stock, &c. &c., the following Silver Cups have been kindly offered for the year 1835:—Lloyd Vaughan Watkins, Esq., a silver cup for the best crop of Swedish turnips, not less than six acres, cultivated in the county of Brecknock; also a silver cup for the best crop of common turnips, not less than six acres, within the hundreds of Merthyr and Devynnock; Major Gwynne Holford, a silver cup for the best pen of three years old mountain wethers, not less than ten in number; likewise a silver cup for the best three years old cart colt or filly, to be shewn at the Autumn Meeting; Joseph Bailey, Esq., M.P., a silver cup for the best cart stallion, to cover within twenty miles of the town of Brecon, in 1835; W. R. Stretton, Esq., a silver cup for the best thoroughbred stallion, kept solely to cover in Brecknockshire.

### POPULAR EDUCATION.—AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

It will doubtlessly be conceded that the rural population of this country is both morally and physically in an extremely destitute and degraded condition. If proof of this be required, none more convincing can be afforded than the general absence of the spirit of enterprise, by which the rural districts are characterised.

The evil is to be traced to previous moral neglect. Much, indeed, has been done in the way of instruction; but in too many instances by ill-directed, uncertain, and fluctuating efforts. The main question, however, is, whether the general mode or system of education, hitherto adopted in this country, has proved practically correct. It is believed that the testimony of experience will decide this in the negative.

The main feature of all education should be its adaptation to the class for which it is provided: a principle which appears to be strictly observed with respect to all classes excepting that which, from its dependent situation, is more immediately thrown on the benevolence of the public. Destined to fill a station in life most important to the general well-being of the community—the working classes have the fewest facilities of preparation afforded them. The necessary result is not only that the son follows the profession of the father, but, that his limited knowledge fixes him to the identical branch of that profession; nor does he ever dream of the possibility of earning a livelihood, or of improving his condition by his own exertions, in another line.

To compel, or at least propel, this exertion, appears the main object of the existing Poor Law. An object, at once, just in principle, and certain, in the event, of proving practically beneficial. But, at the same time, no man of sense or feeling can deny the necessity of adopting some auxiliary and preparatory measures.

Among others which might be proposed, none appear to be of such pressing importance as that of Industrial Education. It is not a new and untried system, but from its local success, as well as from the acknowledged correctness of the principle on which it is founded, it has, at the present moment, a peculiar claim to universal adoption and support.

Agricultural schools, and what are generally known as schools of industry, conducted on the Hofwyl system, in which the scholars are instructed in various branches of manual labour, would supply the radical defects of the present mode of popular education, by enlarging the knowledge and capacities of the poor; and by bringing their intellectual and physical energies into active exercise, prepare and fit them for the grand object of obtaining an honest, independent, and comfortable subsistence.

These schools, with good masters, and a sufficient quantity of land attached, might be so contrived as to merit, to a certain extent, the designation of self-supporting. It has been proved that the scholars enter into the plan of manual labour with infinite pleasure, and will work for their education. The value of the produce will, of course, vary considerably, according to the nature of the soil, and the facilities of sale; so that the probable amount of clear profit per acre cannot be accurately ascertained. But from the reports which have been received from various land allotments, it may be calculated as likely, under every disadvantage, considerably to exceed 6l.

Six acres of land, attached to a school, would, therefore, be an important assistance towards defray-



ing the expenses of education. Any number of boys, not less than 25, of the age of nine years and upwards, would be sufficient to cultivate the soil; and these receiving their education for their labour, would unite, at the same time, healthy recreation with the most useful and pleasing employment: whilst the annual expense of their instruction would be so considerably reduced, as to render the system available in many situations where the support of a school would be otherwise difficult, if not impossible.

In every institution of this kind, however, a considerable outlay would be required, in the first instance, in erecting a school-room and adjoining cottage for the masters; though it is probable that a sum of 400*l.* might prove sufficient for each rural parish of moderate extent. Some persons may start, even at that sum, but the just view in which the matter should be considered, is, whether a parish would not, in a single year, derive benefit to the extent of the amount expended.

The object of these remarks is to rouse the public attention to a due consideration of the subject at a period when it is proposed to make a national provision for the education of the lower orders. It seems reasonable to suppose that such a provision would be best applied in furtherance of the acquisition of habits of enterprise and industry, which are the chief means of wealth and happiness. And if one-third, or one-fourth, only, of the first cost of the erection of suitable buildings were provided by the government, such a stimulus might be given to local exertion as would soon suffice to supply every rural parish in the kingdom with the means of useful instruction. The stimulus thus afforded would soon give rise to more extended measures. In a few years, well-instructed teachers could easily be obtained; and, as the facilities of education were multiplied, the peasantry would become more and more anxious to avail themselves of its advantages.

It is therefore proposed—1st, To establish a school by voluntary contribution, in some rural district, with six or seven acres of land attached, for the purpose of making the experiment how far such an institution may be made to support itself,—and, 2nd, to petition the Legislature to make some provision for the cost of such establishment, in the building of a school-room and the purchase of land.

The friends of education are earnestly requested to unite their efforts to assist in carrying the proposed plan into effect; and especially, by their petitions to the Legislature to prove the strong and general feeling which exists on the subject.—*Bucks Gazette.*

### LEWES HORSE FAIR.

This fair took place on Tuesday, May 5th, on the slope of the hill leading to the Race Course;—it was numerously attended; but we regret to state that the show was exceedingly limited, and the horses and colts, if not of an inferior description, had any thing but a showy appearance—a circumstance attributed by many to the time of year, when the farmers are not able to keep their horses high enough. We hope more attention will be paid to the breed of horses for the next fair. Further particulars will be found in the proceedings that took place at

#### THE DINNER.

At three o'clock about eighty gentlemen and

yeomen sat down to an excellent dinner at the Star Inn, provided by nine hostess at a very moderate rate. J. Ellman, Esq. (of Glynde) was in the chair, and — Molyneux, Esq. was the vice-president. Among the company were C. Craven, G. Darby, T. W. Scutt, J. Thomas, — Tourle, — Ingram, Esqrs., Captain Richardson, Captain Willard, &c.

After the removal of the cloth the healths of "The King" and "The Queen and the Royal Family" were drank with great applause.

The CHAIRMAN then said that although they had just drank the health of the Queen and Royal Family, he should beg to propose the health of the "Princess Victoria and the Duchess of Kent," and he hoped that they should have the honour of receiving them again at the next East Sussex Hunt Races. (*Cheers.*)

The healths of the "Earl of Egremont" and the "Duke of Richmond" were then drank, and received with the warmest applause.

The CHAIRMAN had now the honour to propose the health of a gentleman whom he considered almost entirely the founder of the Show,—the health of "Thomas Ingram, Esq., and success to the Colt Show and Horse Fair. (*Loud applause.*)

Mr. INGRAM returned thanks. He did not assume much credit to himself, as he had merely taken a leaf out of the Earl of Egremont's book; and as long as gentlemen supported him, he would never relax his exertions to establish this Show. It was an excellent thing, and ought not to be given up. Gentlemen entertained different opinions upon the subject, and some desired to alter the time of the Show; but these are things said out of doors, whereas it ought to be arranged at a meeting, and then business might be done. He repeated that he never would leave them while he had the support of the gentlemen and yeomen whom he saw around him. (*Cheers.*)

The CHAIRMAN then said, as they had drank success to the Show, and it was now his turn to retire as steward, he should have the honour of nominating a successor. It so happened that when the Show was held in August, the gentleman he was about to propose could not attend. He was one, whose suavity of manners and high respectability had converted what might be termed a hostile country into one of friendship and unity. He had only to name Mr. Craven. (*Loud cheers.*)

Mr. CRAVEN felt very much obliged for the compliment paid to him. It had not been convenient to him to attend the previous show, as he always selected August for his holidays; otherwise, he would have had great pleasure in attending the meeting. He was most happy to have it in his power to attend now, as it gave him an opportunity of expressing his extreme pleasure at meeting so respectable a company, whose friendship and good will he valued and esteemed. He came from London last night to attend this show, and he hoped it would go on and flourish. Independently of his advocating the promotion of the breed of horses, his inducement was to establish a spring race. If farmers could not get 10*l.* a load for their wheat, he conceived that it would pay them better to breed colts. (*Cheers.*) This show was also calculated to bring together landlord and tenant, the aristocracy and the yeomanry. (*Cheers.*) If he had been a humble instrument in effecting this object in the county of Sussex, he was rewarded by the expressions of kindness which had been shown to him. He hoped and trusted that this institution would ever thrive; and

he now begged to drink "Success to Agriculture." (*Cheers.*)

The VICE-PRESIDENT said that the worthy chairman having nominated one steward, it was now his duty to nominate another. He had much pleasure in proposing a gentleman to that office, who was a great friend to the landed interest and to the farmer,—the Hon. Gen. Trevor. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. COLEGATE (steward of Gen. Trevor) said that the General was absent, but that he had no doubt that he would accept the office with great pleasure.

The CHAIRMAN, in introducing the healths of their two former stewards, J. Thomas, Esq., and Captain Richardson, said he was obliged to the gentlemen who attended here this day, for he quite agreed with Mr. Craven, that an union of the aristocracy and the middle classes was most essential now. These were not times to keep aloof. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. THOMAS, in returning thanks, said he had accepted the office willingly; first, from respect to Mr. Ingram and those gentlemen who immediately followed up the benificial and meritorious plan which he suggested; secondly, from the feeling of interest he individually entertained for the institution itself; and, thirdly, for the reason suggested on his left, that every landowner would best promote the interest of agriculture, by associating with the different ranks of society connected therewith. (*Loud cheers.*) He wished it was in his power to congratulate them this day, as he was able to do last year, on the successful progress of this Society. He was sorry to say the reverse was the case; for, instead of proceeding as did the first year, they were retrograding. But let them look at the cause of this retrogression. They must recollect that they took a strong course last year upon what was considered the best advice,—he alluded to the change of time in holding the meeting from August to May. Now, as the committee met frequently, it would be for that committee to consider whether it would not be right to retrace their steps; and hold the meetings again in August, making such alterations as might be thought advisable. (*Cheers.*)

Captain RICHARDSON thanked the meeting for honour they had done him, and said he should follow his friend, Mr. Thomas, in expressing his sorrow that they had not a better show. He should propose that the matter should be referred to a Committee.

Mr. THOMAS thought that a meeting would be more advisable, at which all the subscribers should be requested to attend.

Captain RICHARDSON hoped they would have a full meeting, and that they would bear in mind what they had been told by their dealers,—that the hunters and coach-horses should be shown at an age fit for sale: the show, he had no doubt, would then be attended by London dealers.

Mr. LENEY was satisfied that the autumn was the best time for the show, when horses are in good condition. Most people looked to a fat horse; and at this time of the year the horses were not kept high enough to show. Judges were frequently deceived in the quality of a horse in lean condition.

After considerable discussion as to the day on which it would be advisable to hold the meeting, it was ultimately agreed to hold it on the 16th of June, and in the mean time to issue advertisements.

The CHAIRMAN then made a statement of the finances, from which it appeared that the Society

had a disposable balance of 33*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* Under these circumstances they had no occasion to despair.

The Chairman, before he proceeded to read the awards of the Judges, took occasion to state that every one must feel the office of Judge to be by no means an agreeable one, as it was impossible to please every body; but he was sure that the Judges had given satisfaction, as was proved by the fact of their having filled the office two successive years. He begged to propose the health of the Judges, Messrs. Chatfield, Putland, and Turner.

Mr. PUTLAND, in returning thanks, said he was sorry that the Judges had not more to do to-day; they had decided to the best of their judgment, and hoped they had given satisfaction.

Mr. TOURLE, jun., proposed the health of Mr. Shackell, who had passed judgment upon the hunters and carriage-horses.

The CHAIRMAN said that a great deal of the interest attached to the rewards he held in his hand was unfortunately gone, in consequence of the successful candidates having been made known in the field. It was desirable that they should be kept perfectly secret till after the dinner, in order to ensure a good attendance, (*hear, hear,*) and he requested those who were appointed Judges for the ensuing year not to divulge the successful competitors in the field.

Mr. ELLMAN then proceeded to read the award of the Judges, and to those successful competitors who were present he delivered the premiums.

To the owner of the best cart gelding or filly, two years old, £15.—Mr. Lewis, of Ringmer.

The CHAIRMAN said it was scarcely necessary to observe that the system of numbering the horses was adopted, in order that the public might not know to whom they belonged. He hoped that Mr. Lewis was present to receive the prize, but being told that he was not, he said he thought he ought to forfeit it (*cheers.*) At all events, it would have been better taste to be present; and he should propose that the award be detained till the ensuing meeting, when Mr. Lewis be requested to attend. (*Cheers.*)

This proposition was agreed to.

£15. to the owner of the best black filly, bred by himself, was awarded to John Ellman, Esq., of Glynde.

£5. to the owner of the second best cart gelding or filly, two years old.—To Mr. Woodman, of Falmer.

To the owner of the best cart stallion, £10.—To Mr. Hugh Simmons, for his chestnut stallion "Rodney."

The CHAIRMAN stated that this premium would not be given till it was ascertained that the stallion had covered a certain number of mares. The Chairman had had mares covered by this stallion, but they had not proved in foal; he had heard, however, that others had been more successful with the same horse: and he should, therefore, waive that consideration.

The CHAIRMAN said he felt unwilling to mention the fact that the Judges did not consider any stallion shown them to-day, bred in Sussex, worthy of the other premium.

Hugh Simmons, the owner of Rodney, was then called up to hear the award of the Judges; and the Chairman having stated to him that he doubtless knew the rules, Mr. Craven presented Simmons with a glass of wine.

SIMMONS drank the healths of the gentlemen present, and wished that every gentleman who



employed Rodney might have good luck. (*Applause and laughter.*)

£15. to the owner of the best gelding or filly, four years old, fit for a hunter or roadster.—To Mr. Chas. Goring, of Newick.

£15. to the owner of the best gelding or filly, fit for a carriage horse.—To Thomas Richardson, Esq.

The CHAIRMAN then gave "Liberal landlords and honest tenants." (*Cheers.*)

The CHAIRMAN begged, as some gentlemen were about to retire, to propose one more toast, and as he attached very great importance to and advocated the great principle of landlords associating with their tenants, he gave "May every industrious labourer meet with a kind and indulgent master." (*Cheers.*)

The VICE-PRESIDENT then proposed the health of "The Committee of the Show." (*Applause.*)

Mr. INGRAM, on behalf of the Committee, returned thanks. He always felt interest in the prosperity of the show. After a few remarks, he proposed the health of their excellent Chairman. (*Cheers.*) Drank with three times three.

The CHAIRMAN said that, as far as he was concerned, the trouble had been taken off his hands by the exertions of Mr. Tourle, jun. After drinking the Vice-President's health, he had no doubt that Mr. Tourle's health would be drank with pleasure. (*Applause.*)

The VICE-PRESIDENT said if he possessed the eloquence of Mr. Ellman, he should be induced to make a lengthened speech; but, as it was, he should merely observe that he hoped a close union would take place between landlord and tenant.

Mr. TOURLE's health having been drank, that gentleman expressed great disappointment at the wretched show of horses on that occasion. He was perfectly at a loss to account for it. It was true that Mr. Leney had given a reason; but other gentlemen with whom he had conversed, told a very different story. He was persuaded that if the time was altered to August, cart colts would be shown, and nothing else; and from enquiries he had made among some eminent London dealers, he was confirmed in this opinion. When the hunting season commenced in September, he rode a carriage-horse, and sold it for a gentleman for 60*l*. A dealer said "Show that horse in the spring, and he will fetch 10*l*. or 15*l*. more." A horse four years old could at that time hardly be purchased in Yorkshire and the great horse districts. If they had the show at all, it should not, he thought, be later than May. It appeared that there was no want of money to induce persons to show:—to what, then, must the failure be attributed, but negligence in the breed of horses? The only inducement was to offer such premiums as would hold out benefit to the farmers; and if that availed nothing, he did not know what could be done. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. RICHARDS gave "The memory of the late Mr. Ellman."

The VICE-PRESIDENT then gave the health of Mr. Darby. (*Loud cheers.*)

Mr. DARBY, in allusion to some words that had fallen from the Vice-President respecting his (Mr. D.'s) experience in farming, was quite sure that he had received no profit from wheat, and he was obliged to console himself with being able to grow a few hops. The condition of the farmer was as bad as it could be. He should be most happy to come from town to attend the next meeting. He hoped it would not be given up; if there was only one subscriber remaining, he was ready to be the second; and if there were no horses, he should be

for having a dinner. (*Laughter.*) It ought not to be given up for one bad show. He knew cattle shows at the lowest ebb, which by perseverance had rallied, and were now going on well. He was sorry that he had not been able to bring a horse; but he intended to bring one next time. If the subscriptions were carried on with spirit, they must inevitably bring good horses.

Mr. TOURLE said it had been stated that Sussex could not breed good horses; but he would mention the names of some excellent horses, which would completely refute the assertion. Mr. T. then mentioned Waxy, Priam, and Camel. The latter, which belonged to the Earl of Egremont, was now covering at 20 sovereigns a mare. Did not this prove that the county of Sussex could produce good horses? If from thorough-bred horses they came down to hunters, he would mention his friend Mr. Thompson's horse, which was successful at the East Sussex Hunt Races; although a great deal had been said against him, Mr. Thompson was bid 150 guineas for the horse the other day. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. DARBY then proposed the health of the "Earl of Chichester." (*Applause.*)

The "Secretary's" health was then drank.

Mr. DARBY then proposed the health of "Mr. Craven, as master of the East Sussex Fox Hounds."

Mr. CRAVEN felt flattered at the unanimous expression of favour towards the East Sussex fox hounds. He was called upon to promote their amusement;—it was not voluntary on his part, for he assured them that it was no sinecure. (*Hear, hear.*) He was called upon eight years ago, in this very room, by Major Cater, to prevent the East Sussex fox-hounds from going to Tattersall's. He came a stranger into the county of Sussex, possessing no property in the county, nor any influence whatever, when he was called upon—he did not know why—to manage these hounds. He undertook to do it; and if the support and unanimous expression of thanks which he had received showed that he had succeeded, his reward was their approbation. The pleasure and pride of his life were to mix with the yeomen; for he did not like the exclusive system. (*Cheers.*) They must be aware that his temper was often tried, and grievously tried (*hear, and laughter*); but all the time he met with their support and approbation he should continue his exertions to procure them a good gallop. (*Hear.*) When he looked around him, and saw so many of the yeomanry, whose good opinion he valued beyond every thing upon earth, he hoped that his conduct would always merit the esteem which they had so liberally expressed. (*Loud cheers.*)

Mr. THOMPSON proposed the health of "Lord Gage and the various landed proprietors who were absent from the meeting."

Mr. CRAVEN stated that Lord Gage was in town. He dined with him on Sunday, and he knew that his lordship would have been here, if he had been in the county.

Mr. DARBY could not forbear alluding to a subject which nearly interested all the gentlemen in the Eastern district, and in fact every person in this county; he meant the diabolical acts of some malicious persons who had destroyed so many sheep. Mrs. Dray, of Alfriston, had been a great sufferer from the destruction of live stock. He feared that things were come to a bad state, for on Sunday night his friend, Mr. Ellman, of Glynde, had had some sheep destroyed. Within his own district he had said to the labourers that although he was willing to better their condition, and would

resort to the best means to do it, still if those horrible practices of destroying sheep and other property were resorted to, he would do his utmost to bring the offenders to justice; but how that was to be done, it was difficult to say. If means could be adopted by a subscription to prevent such a wicked destruction of property, he should be happy to put down his name at once for 5*l*. In his own neighbourhood he did not apprehend any outrages of this description; but it was the duty of every man to endeavour to put down such a horrible practice. He ought perhaps to apologize for introducing this subject, but he thought that no time should be lost in suppressing, if possible, these crimes.

Mr. PUTLAND agreed in the propriety of raising a subscription, and stated that he had just seen an influential gentleman who was of the same opinion, and who was about to enter into a subscription. He hoped the noblemen and gentlemen of the county would support it.

Mr. ELLMAN was very much obliged to Mr. Darby for mentioning the subject, and the only reason why he had not named it himself was that he did not wish to do anything to mar the conviviality of this meeting. He had done his utmost to conciliate the labourers in his parish; they were all employed; and he did not believe that he had injured any man in the parish. The Union had done him the honour to elect him as Chairman, to which alone he attributed the destruction of his property. He believed, however, that this feeling had its origin in some distant quarter, where the idle and dissolute urged others to acts of outrage. A public reward should be offered to bring the offenders to justice; the reward should be ample.

Mr. DARBY said he was also Chairman to the Guardians. He had set his face against the Poor Law Bill before it passed into a law; but since it became the law of the land, he had endeavoured to carry it out in the best manner he could. As far as the Union was concerned, he had told the poor that everything should be done to consult their comforts, but the idle and bad must expect to be punished. The poor were acting foolishly, and driving the Guardians to do that which, otherwise, they were not at all disposed to do. Mr. Darby then said he was inclined to enter into subscriptions forthwith, but this was objected to; and it was agreed to hold a meeting on the following day.

A gentleman here observed that Mrs. Dray's son had been called to fill the office, and having shown a bold front, this had no doubt occasioned the destruction of Mrs. Dray's sheep.

## THE RELIEF OF AGRICULTURE.

(FROM THE BRIGHTON GUARDIAN.)

Before the Parliament adjourned for the Easter holidays, which it did on April 20th, the Marquess of CHANDOS gave notice that he would on May 18th bring the distress of the agriculturists under the notice of the House of Commons. But the agriculturists, as well as all other classes, must now be convinced from long experience that nothing is ever to be got from the legislature as long as the people themselves are indifferent. To make the House of Commons listen to the complaints of the farmers, the farmers must remonstrate earnestly and determinedly with the House of Commons. By resisting the law, the Irish have put an end to tithes; by numerous meetings and

petitions, the inhabitants of towns got the house tax removed and the shop window tax reduced. The Dissenters by their own exertions procured the repeal of the Test Act; and the Catholic Association compelled the legislature to pass the measure for Catholic Emancipation. The strenuous demands of all classes at the close of the war forced the unwilling ministers to abolish the property tax. At all times and in all countries the legislature has only conceded what is just and right to the wishes of the people when the people have shewn themselves determined to have it. The maxim is universally true which is expressed in the lines

Hereditary bondsmen, know ye not,

Who would be free, himself must strike the blow.

In plain and humble prose we have told our readers over and over again that they must help themselves; and we can now tell the farmers that the time is come, when they must help themselves or be content to die like beggars in a ditch.

The agriculturists, we are afraid, do not regard us as their staunch friends because we have always spoken against their favorite Corn law. They ought however now to be convinced that this law is of no benefit to them. In fact it serves no other purpose than to make them expect higher prices than they can realise, and to promise in consequence higher rents than they can properly pay; and as the result, the corn law makes them ruin themselves for the benefit of the tithe and land owners. Another purpose this law does indeed serve, and a very injurious purpose it is. The corn law makes the inhabitants of towns look upon the agriculturists as opposed to them; and they now regard the deep distress and decay of their bread-growers not only with indifference, but in many cases with exultation. This is for us very sorrowful. It is as if brothers were to quarrel and fight, instead of mutually assisting and aiding each other. That we have always been opposed to this law,—not from aversion to the farmers, for we prize them highly,—but from a deep conviction that it is quite as injurious to them as to any other portion of the community,—should now recommend our observations to favour, for their present condition must prove to them that this law is no friend to them. Supposing therefore that present circumstances may give weight to our words, we once more address ourselves particularly to our agricultural readers, and call upon them to embrace the opportunity to be supplied by the motion of the Marquis of CHANDOS of forcing their interests upon the attention of the legislature and of strengthening his hands. They must meet and they must petition Parliament. Between this and May 18th there is plenty of time; and if they exert themselves, they may yet be saved from the ruin which threatens to engulf them.

## THE NECESSITY OF PETITIONING.

They cannot want for causes of complaint. By a reference to our last week's journal, they will see that the price of wheat in the London markets varied between 33*s* and 48*s*, or was on an average 40*s* 6*d* per quarter. Now no agriculturist that we have ever met has admitted the possibility of growing wheat under the present burdens for less than 50*s* per quarter. None of the skilful men who have at several times given evidence before agricultural committees of the House of Commons have stated it so low. In general, their estimate of a remunerating price varied between 56*s* and 65*s*; but if we suppose that some little subsequent reduction of taxation and fall in the price of the articles which the farmer has to buy have some-



what reduced his necessary expenses, we cannot possibly suppose that he can grow wheat for less than 50s the quarter. But he receives only 40s; and it cannot be expected that he should both labour to feed the rest of the people and pay 10s per quarter for the privilege of labouring.

In a pamphlet recently published by Lord WESTERN, who, though a Whig and a reformer, and therefore turned out of the representation of Essex by the influence of the parsons and by the neglect of the ungrateful farmers, has ever shown himself a steady friend to the agriculturists, this statement is made.

I suppose a farm of one hundred acres of fair, good arable land, well cultivated upon the four-course system, the produce of wheat at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  qrs per acre, barley 5 qrs, beans and peas  $3\frac{1}{2}$  qrs. Wheat during near a quarter of a century, from 1797 to 1819, had averaged 80s the quarter; 15 years preceding 1819, 85s: the rent founded upon these data, I take at 35s. per acre; the moment the Bill passed, the markets fell 30 or 40 per cent., and in the 15 years succeeding, the average price, as near as may be 55s.; it has subsequently fallen still lower, and is, I believe, now only 40s. I therefore consider the price of wheat to have fallen, on the average, 30s per quarter; barley, 20s.; beans and peas, 20s. Upon these grounds I estimate the reduction of the money receipts of the farmer upon 100 acres to amount annually to 325*l*. The reduction of price upon clover, tares, and turnips, is loosely estimated, but moderate. I take no notice of the change of price of various minor articles, the produce of such a farm. This aggregate and enormous difference in his return, I think, I clearly establish upon the following calculation: *I take the produce on the four-course system to be as under:—*

|                 | Acres.                                                                        | Qrs.                    | Diminution.           |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Wheat           | . 25                                                                          | $3\frac{1}{2}$ per acre | —30s per qr. £131 15s |
| Barley          | . 25                                                                          | 5 ditto                 | —20s ditto . 125 0s   |
| Beans & Peas    | $\left. \begin{array}{l} 12\frac{1}{2} \\ 12\frac{1}{2} \end{array} \right\}$ | $3\frac{1}{2}$ ditto    | —20s ditto . 42 0s    |
| Clover          | . 12 $\frac{1}{2}$                                                            | —                       | . 15 0s               |
| Turnips & Tares | $\left. \begin{array}{l} 12\frac{1}{2} \\ 12\frac{1}{2} \end{array} \right\}$ | —                       | . 12 0s               |
| And Fal- low    | . 12 $\frac{1}{2}$                                                            |                         |                       |

Acres 100.

£325 15s

The extraordinary change here exhibited, and I may say proved, surely calls for the most serious consideration of those who direct the Councils of the Kingdom. It will hardly be now denied that this change, which was, at all events, coincident as to time to a moment with the passing of the Currency Act, was caused by that measure. If this is not to be altered, our Statesmen should, at all events, show the means of restoring the financial equilibrium of the country so rudely shaken. First, what reductions are necessary to the farmer? I will touch upon rent,—to begin:—

If the landlord reduces 15s. per acre, or, in other words, reduces his rent from 175*l*. to 100*l*., the tenant has 75*l*. to set against 325*l*.; if the landlord sinks his rent 20s. the acre, and instead of a rent of 175*l*. puts up with a rent of 75*l*., the tenant has 100*l*. to set against 325*l*. I will not stop to comment upon the situation of the landlord under such circumstances—it must be too obvious to need any observations. I will go on to suppose the entire rent done away: the tenant will still be under the necessity, singular as it must appear, to reduce his expenditure in other ways to the amount of 150*l*., to make up, with the rent 175*l*., the

loss of 325*l*., to put himself upon the footing on which he stood prior to the year 1819.

Now making a considerable allowance as we must, for the higher price which up to 1819 the farmer had to pay, and which ought to be deducted from the sum he received for his crop before 1819, enough remains to show that no possible reduction of rent can save him from ruin. In fact, it is well known that many of the small freeholders in this and the neighbouring county who have no rent to pay find it difficult, if not to say impossible, notwithstanding the utmost parsimony, to make both ends meet. They can but barely subsist in the most frugal manner; but as to saving any thing, that is hopelessly impossible. We quite agree therefore with Lord WESTERN when he says—

The circumstances of this particular moment do with unprecedented force call upon the landed interest to instruct Government as to their actual situation,—they ought to explain to Government that such is the state of the corn and meat markets, that no landlord, whose lands were let at any thing like a fair value twenty years ago, can look to more than *half* the amount of the rent that was then *cheerfully* paid; and the tenant so relieved of *half* the rent is comparatively, *after* such reduction, in a very poor, instead of a flourishing state; that at the former period he could employ his men and could hardly find hands enough—that *now* he cannot make up his Saturday night's payments if he engages the same complement with any tolerable wages.

Upon this ground we tell the farmers of Sussex that they ought now to pour in petitions on the Parliament, to aid the Marquis of CHANDOS. They ought to state their case openly and clearly, and they ought to instruct every representative they can influence to support the prayer of their petitions on pain of forfeiting their confidence for ever.

#### CAUSES OF THE PRESENT CONDITION OF THE AGRICULTURISTS.

There can be no doubt of the distress of the agriculturists; nor is there, as we believe, any doubt as to its causes. The various expenses to which they are necessarily liable, such an interest on all the capital sunk in their land or employed in erecting buildings on its surface,—and it is of no consequence to our view that the farmer owns all this capital, for in that case he ought to get interest for it and does not,—taxes, tithes, rates, and fixed burdens of all kinds, together with the wages of labour, are not replaced by the price at which he can dispose of his crop. The expense has not diminished in proportion to the fall of price, and the farmer cannot sell his crop for what it costs him.

The causes of the fall of price are twofold,—the change in the Currency and the free importation from almost untaxed and untithed Ireland, which possesses an amazingly fertile soil, many millions of acres being now for the first time only cultivated with any thing approximating to skill. From whatever causes however the discrepancy between the farmer's expenses and the price at which he can sell his crops arises, it is quite impossible it can continue. He cannot continue to sell his produce at a loss without first ruin to himself, and afterwards starvation to the people. The latter, however, will be checked by importation from other countries long before the price rises so high as to repay the farmer for all his losses and encourage him again to till the ground. Remotely the whole nation will be prodigiously injured by this state of things, could it continue; but the prodigious injury will be mainly effected through the ruin in the first

instance of the cultivators of the soil. The national evils, though contingent and remote, are certain; the present injury to the farmers is tremendous: the remedy or the means of preventing complete ruin is however by no means evident. We confess that in recommending the agriculturists to complain of distress and to worry the legislature with petitions, we are almost at a loss to say, except as to one point, what they ought to ask as a means of relief.

#### PROPOSED REMEDIES.

The two causes of the fall of prices are the free importation from almost untaxed and untithed Ireland, and the alteration of the Currency; and in our opinion the farmer can look for no effectual relief from any change in either of these. It is clearly impossible to impose taxes and tithes on Ireland at all equal to those paid in England. The present tithes are to be given up in Ireland because they cannot be levied. Neither can the produce of Ireland be prevented from coming freely into England. It is as much a part of the empire as Kent; and we might as well seek to establish custom houses and prohibit a free trade between Kent and Norfolk as between Limerick and Lancashire. There are sources enough to dispute between the two countries without adding commercial restrictions; and if we wish to dismember the empire and bring about that Repeal of the Union, the talk of accomplishing which is considered a great crime in Mr. O'CONNELL, we shall prohibit the free importation of corn and other provisions from Ireland. Such a prohibition would at the same time strike a blow at our commercial prosperity never to be recovered. Thus it is impossible either to subject Ireland to rates, taxes, and tithes equal to those borne by England, impossible to prohibit the corn grown there under the most favourable and the cheapest circumstances from coming freely into our markets, and impossible therefore to give our agriculturists relief by any change to be wrought by the legislature in the condition of Ireland.

Lord WESTERN and his friends expect that great relief would be obtained by a change in the Currency. Our opinion is directly the reverse. If our readers have done us the honour to remember our opinions, they will know that we have no partiality for the gold standard, that we have no aversion to country bank notes however small, that we do not advocate the monopoly of the Bank of England, and that we are for a perfectly free trade in money; yet we must say that we do not believe that any alteration of the standard of value or any permission to issue small country bank notes would be of any advantage to the farmer. The only advantage which we can possibly conceive that he would derive from any alteration whatever would be a small one of betwixt four and five per cent., or not more than 2s. in the price of a quarter of wheat, by substituting silver for gold, or allowing the community to use both indiscriminately in their payments as they pleased. Paper, whether issued by the Bank of England or country bankers, cannot possibly again circulate in this country unless payable in the precious metals on demand. To issue it, therefore, in any quantity can never lower the value of the currency for more than very short periods below the value of silver, the cheapest precious metal. The difference between that and the present currency is between four or five per cent.; and to that extent, and no more, would the most unlimited issue of paper, unless it were paper not payable on demand, which is a lie and a fraud, debase the currency. Connected as Great Britain is with all the commercial countries of the world, being

in fact the great heart of trade, her currency must be very nearly on a level with that of surrounding nations; and the circulation of money, which is the life-blood of trade, cannot be impeded in the heart without throwing the whole system into ruinous convulsions. But if our currency must remain, as long as we are at peace with them, nearly on a level with that of other nations, and as all nations use gold or silver for currency, no issue of paper could raise prices beyond the substitution of silver for gold, or could be of advantage to the farmer beyond, as already stated, four or five per cent.

Those who, like Lord WESTERN, reason differently, seem to us to mistake the cause of the phenomena which so forcibly arrest their attention. Although it must be admitted that the various Acts of 1819, 1822, 1823, and 1826 have done a great deal to perplex and confuse the consideration of this subject, yet it is clear that the return to a metallic currency was imperatively necessary; and the necessity was caused by the circumstance we have just alluded to, of our country being, as it were, the heart of the great social and universal system of trade. It was not only England that felt this necessity, all the nations of the world connected in any manner with the general system of trade have found it necessary to re-establish the metallic standard. We have formerly in this journal endeavoured to explain in what manner, because all bargains are made according to the money prices of different countries, the adoption here of a more valuable standard in gold than in other countries where silver is the standard has given them an advantage in our markets, and has consequently made them buy largely in our market, extending our trade, though making it little profitable, if not profitless. The adoption of a valuable standard less than that which is in use in other countries would have the reverse effect. It would give us an advantage, it would increase our profits as far as we could sell, but it would drive foreigners from our markets. Open as all the markets of the world now are to competition, and succeeding as most of the countries of the Continent do in manufactures almost as well as Great Britain, we have not the smallest doubt that to have preserved our debased standard such as it existed before 1819, or now to return to it, would infallibly ruin the trade of the country, cause its population to become stationary or decay, and more effectually ruin agriculture, at no distant period, than even the present system. What could be borne when Great Britain had, as during the war, a monopoly of the trade of the world, would infallibly ruin her when all the markets of the world are open to competition; and the debased paper currency which under that monopoly did not quite bring about our destruction, would irremediably accomplish it now.

There is another most important consideration which ought to weigh with the agriculturists. To debase the currency in any manner would have the effect of raising prices of all kinds, the price of what the farmer would have to buy as well as of the wheat he would have to sell. He must give higher money wages to his labourers. He is a great purchaser of labour, and he would suffer in proportion. But when his produce rose in price proportionally to the debasement of the currency, the corn law would come into operation, importation would take place, his produce would in fact, unless there were a new corn law increasing the import duty, which no legislature collected under the Reform Act will ever pass, be prevented from rising in price in proportion to the debasement of currency. Other produce not regulated by a Corn law, would rise proportionably to the debasement; but the



farmer's produce would not, and he would have to pay the full rise on all he purchased while he would not have the benefit of the full rise on all he sold. We conclude, therefore, that the farmers cannot get any substantial and permanent relief or benefit by any alteration in the currency, beyond four or five per cent., alluded to by substituting silver for gold. Neither can he get relief by any alteration as to Ireland; and to us, we regret to say, his condition seems almost hopeless.

### ABOLITION OF TITHES.

It cannot however be expected that the farmer should lie down and die, or seat himself at the church door and beg for bread. Manhood forbids it; and the brave yeomen of England who were for many centuries their country's pride, will never submit to it. What then is to be done? The present price of the farmer's produce does not pay his expenses. There is no expectation that the price can be raised or can rise adequately; and he therefore must reduce his expenses. One of his outgoings is for labour. That cannot be lowered; for the condition of his labourers is already poor and degraded in the extreme. He cannot do without labourers; it is misery to live surrounded by them in distress and pauperism, and he had better quit the land of his fathers while he can yet establish himself in a country where he may flourish, than make himself the agent of a system of grinding extortion, by which the labourers are demoralized and degraded. We will not however advise him to emigrate.

Another of his outgoings is rent. It has already been reduced; and Lord Western says if it were wholly abolished, the farmer could not succeed. We do not agree to his Lordship's opinion: but while we admit that rent has been lowered, while we assert that it must be lowered still more, it is not to be expected that the landlords will give it up altogether. They would struggle hard for it, they would fight for it, and we do not want to see contests. Besides, the farmers voluntarily agree to pay rent, and if they cannot fulfil their agreements, they must make the best compromise they can.

Another outgoing is the payment of Taxes. There is but little chance at present of that payment being much further diminished. They might get, we believe, a good deal of relief by the abolition of the Corn Law which would assure every body that prices would rise no more, which would be followed by a reduction in the price of labour, cheapening those things the farmer has to buy, and not cheapening the corn which he has to sell; for that cannot be well cheaper. There remains only the Tithes from which he can hope for any relief. They are not a payment in advance, but they are a part of his produce. If the produce of his farm be 100 quarters, and only 90 of them belong to him, while the other 10 are given to the tithe-owner, it is clear that, to cover his expenses, he must sell the 90 quarters for as much as he could afford to sell the whole 100 for, if they were all his own. He will, for example, be in no worse situation if he sell 100 quarters for 45s than if he sell 90 for 50s. To say nothing of the immense annoyance caused by Tithes, it is clear that the total abolition of them would go a long way to place the farmer in a condition, at least to live, if not to flourish.

Tithes are a payment imposed by the law on the farmer. The law, then, can relieve him from this evil; it can cease to act. The tithes exist but by the law;

and while wages, and profit, and rent, grow out of natural circumstances, the mischievous Tithes are altogether the result of ruinous legislation. As the legislature does not create rent, it cannot middle with rent; but it creates tithes; and, in this season of distress, it ought to be called on to abolish them. That will not wholly place the agriculturists in a fair position; but it is the only means by which the legislature can give them any substantial and permanent relief. We recommend the farmers, then, to complain to the legislature of their present deep distress, and to demand the instant abolition of this odious and detestable impost.

"Would you, then, at once," it may be asked, "injure and ruin the tithe-owners?" We have no wish to injure a single individual in the world; but when the question is, whether the farmers or the tithe-owners shall be ruined, we say, let the tithe-owners be ruined. They are fewer in numbers than the farmers; and merely to receive tithes is to confer no benefit on other men. Without the consumers of tithes, the community can prosper; without agriculturists, it must starve or turn pirate-robbers. As the tithe-owners themselves have by their obstinacy brought the question to this issue, it is better, we repeat, that they should perish than the farmers. The produce of the farmer will no longer suffice to nourish the owner of the farm, his tenants, and labourers; and no portion of that produce can therefore be any longer distributed to priests. We would press this subject seriously and earnestly on public attention, because it is quite clear that with the present prices the farmers cannot go on; and there is neither chance nor hope of prices rising. On this subject the danger is immediate, great, and pressing. The little discontent, just though it be, caused by the want of regulations for Dissenters' marriages, by bribery, and intimidation at elections, by a short franchise or an imperfect system of registration, is as dust in the balance compared to the danger arising from the price of agricultural produce not remunerating its growers. We are afraid, if the legislature does not take up this matter in time, and take it up with a view of relieving the farmers from the necessity of resisting the law, that the law will be resisted and scenes similar to those which have been witnessed in Ireland will transform the once happy valleys and smiling hills of England into seats of civil commotion and bloodshed. The land-owners, the tithe-owners, the tenants, and the labourers, can no longer be supported by what the produce of the land will fetch in the market; and the first who ought to suffer should be the tithe-owners. They deserve to suffer, too, from other considerations. For the sake of tithes, they cherish malice, they foster strife, they provoke bloodshed; they have obstinately, unjustly, and cruelly resisted all attempts at a compromise; and the farmers therefore ought now in the midst of their own distress to cry, "Down with the food of all these iniquities,—Down with the Tithes." That should be the chief topic on which they ought to demand redress of the legislature; and they ought no longer to ask for commutation, but abolition, of tithes. Why should they starve—why should they perish—why even should they suffer the slightest injury or inconvenience, in order that the priesthood may continue opulent? It is consistent with justice, with honour, and honesty, for the cultivators of the soil now to demand that the legislature should relieve them from an impost which is alike destructive of religious feeling and national prosperity. Farmers should therefore petition for the instant Abolition of Tithes.

## THE EFFECT OF THE PRESENT PRICE OF GRAIN ON THE AGRICULTURE OF THE COUNTRY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "FARMER'S MAGAZINE."

SIR,—In this letter I propose to confine myself to the mention only of those causes—within the jurisdiction of parliament—which I think to be the chief operating causes of the present agricultural distress, namely, the effects of Peel's bill—the want of poor laws in Ireland—the tax on malt—and the constant attacks made by a certain section of the house of commons on the corn laws. The "Debt" I know is by many persons ascribed to be the sole cause of the present depressed state of things; and this is quite true, the "debt" is the main-spring of the whole, but as it appears to me to be impossible to modify to any considerable extent this great moving cause, provided a due regard be paid to national honour and faith, it is better I think to turn our attention to such collateral matters as may bear directly on our separate interests, than it is to be satisfied by the vituperative mention of the "debt," for in the end it can amount to no more than reflection and complaint, whereas, on the contrary, the mind of the nation directed to "Peel's bill," poor-laws in Ireland, and the malt-tax, and the petitions of the people calling the attention of the legislature to those subjects alike vital to the interests of the community, and capable of being effectually dealt with, may at least be attended with some good result. I am led to the above observations by having the other day heard an intelligent reader of your Magazine, assert that it was impossible essentially to relieve the present depressed state of agriculture so long as the "debt" existed.

In order to inquire into the object I have now in view, the effect of the present low price of grain, or the agriculture of the country, I will divide the land into four classes of rental: the first class at forty shillings per acre; the second at thirty shillings; the third at twenty shillings; and the fourth at ten shillings; and then proceed to examine how under present circumstances each of these different soils is likely to be affected. It may be as well perhaps to premise the following observations by explaining that I mean the above scale of rental to apply to leases entered into in 1830 for seven years, and that in fixing a data of rental value by which my views on this subject will be regulated, it must of course apply generally, and not in partial instances, or in particular situations by which the rental value of land may be either increased or depreciated, and although I have not mentioned in the above scale, land of a higher value than forty shillings per acre, or of less value than ten shillings per acre, still the principle will apply with the exceptions only I have before explained.

We will take first into consideration the poor heavy clay soils in the wealds of Sussex and Kent, or the 10s. per acre land. This description of land will not detain us long in our enquiries of the effect of four or five shillings a bushel for wheat. It must immediately go out of cultivation, and it requires no calculation to prove this beyond an estimate of the expenses of a clear fallow to produce five sacks of wheat, and the charges attendant on harvesting and bringing those five sacks to market. The farmer, on wet and poor land, depends entirely on his wheat crop to pay his rent, labour, and poor-rate. From the heavy and adhesive nature of the soil he is obliged to keep a great proportion of horses to the number of his acres, these horses consume his oats, and his ground will not produce barley or carry

stock, consequently it is his wheat, and his wheat alone on which he depends, and if this grain fail him, either in crop or in price, he has no other resource to depend on. I should, perhaps, except from this total dependence on the wheat crop, those particular districts of country in which the land is of the exact nature described above, but where the cultivation of hops is attended to. Now, here of course, the low price of wheat will not have the direct and immediate effect of causing the cultivation of this land to be abandoned, that it will where hops are not grown. But, although the cause, (viz., the low price of wheat,) in hop counties, may not be quite so direct, still it may be equally rapid and ruinous in its effects, for I am satisfied in the event of a failure of the hop crop, unprecedented ruin and distress would follow in those districts, where from situation and other circumstances, the speculation of hop farming is adopted. The truth is, that the low and ruinous price of wheat for the last three years, has been the means of completely withdrawing both the *attention and manure* from the fallow for wheat to the hop garden, and the farmer has now consequently but one *string to his bow*, instead, as formerly, of having a two-fold dependence: if his hops failed, he had his wheat; and if his wheat failed, he had his hops, because then the manure from the fold-yard was taken to the fallow for wheat, and lime, rags, &c., being purchased for the hop-garden. Now, by the low price of grain, the means of purchasing manure for the hop-ground is destroyed, and consequently the farm-yard dung is taken to the hop-garden as the resource most to be depended on.

The twenty shilling per acre land I will identify as the thin high land or flock farms, and to be understood as to the soil I now allude to, I will just state that a fair proportion of down must be included—without rent—in order that the arable and pasture may produce a rent of twenty shillings per acre. Farms of this nature are usually sown in five lays, or wheat once in five years. Now I think I may affirm in the whole, that land in this class, and under the above circumstances, has made its way since the autumn of 1832, better than any one of the other classes of land I have mentioned, and for the following reasons. The harvest of 1832, although generally abundant, was especially so, in reference to the annual average growth, on soils of this description. In order to instance a fact corroborative of this opinion, I will mention a circumstance which occurred within my own knowledge. A light and poor field of a calcareous nature, forming part of a flock-farm, in the harvest of 1832 produced a load of wheat, of forty Winchester bushels to the acre; subsequently to that time a valuation of the parish has occurred, and this field was estimated to be worth 8s. per acre to rent. The wheat grown on this field in 1832 was sold for 12l. per load. Now, calculating thirty years purchase on the rental value of the land, the crop of corn grown on it in 1832, exclusive of the straw, was worth a sum equal to the fee simple of the land itself. Then also the high price of sheep since 1832, and the high price of wool since 1833, have been advantages almost exclusively enjoyed by the flock farmer or breeder, and have, in a great degree, compensated him for the low price of his wheat and his short crops—in 1833 and 1834—of spring corn. But the late high and unnatural price of sheep—I mean unnaturally high relative to the price of wheat—must have an end, in fact I may say it is fast coming to an end, for tegs and couples are now fifteen per cent. reduced in value from this time last year. This change in the price of sheep is undoubtedly brought about by the flocks being now pretty generally renovated from the destruction of the rot,



which occurred about six years ago. It was at that time computed that the stock of sheep in England amounted to thirty-two millions, and that eight millions were prematurely destroyed by the disease. If this calculation be nearly correct, it is no matter of surprise that sheep for the last few years have been in demand at a high and remunerating price. However, as I have before observed, this exclusive advantage to the flock farmer must and will have an end, and now let us consider his situation when deprived of this advantage. He feels the shoe begins to pinch, for he finds he has to sell his wheat at from five to six pounds a load less than he calculated when he took his farm. Lent corn perhaps may be a good price, but then his crop will be short, for, unless the crop of Lent corn be bad, and so reduce the supply below the demand, it is folly but to suppose the price of oats and barley will be regulated by the price of wheat. This has been exactly the case during the past year; entirely mistaken is the notion that the farmer has benefited by this circumstance, or, perhaps, I ought rather to say the notion is a mistaken one which supposes the farmer has not been minus in the same proportion in the sum derived from his Lent corn of the last two years, that he has been minus in the sum derived from his wheat, and, consequently, he feels it would be futile to attempt to sow more spring corn and less wheat—as some wise heads have suggested, and if we take it for granted, as I surely think we may, that the price of sheep will be reduced in the proportion of other agricultural produce, it would, in such case, be no advantage to make any sacrifice of corn in order to supply sheep feed. Now this last expedient has been much resorted to for two or three years. Five shillings, or less than five shillings a bushel for wheat, will destroy every alternative to the farmer but to sacrifice immediately his capital, or else to sacrifice the high cultivation of his farm, by sowing to the extent of the terms of his lease. Thus he may protract his ruin for a year or two, and if he depends entirely on his capital invested on his farming stock, his destruction, with the present price of wheat, cannot be delayed beyond that time. Here, where the rape should be luxuriantly growing, we shall find a meagre looking corn-field, stunted barley or oats. Here, where the tares should be ready to afford an afternoon repast for the sheep coming from the down, oppressed with heat and thirst in a hot June day, to enjoy themselves with this succulent provision, we shall find the foul and unhealthy looking peas or beans, or else worse than either, the tares saved for seed, and the sheep themselves huddled together on the down, and by their high hips, long necks, sharp back-bones, and every now and then “complaining tones of voice,” speaking volumes of the poverty of their owner, and the destructive effects of five shillings a bushel for wheat.

The thirty shilling land comes next on the scale, and this I shall divide into very different descriptions of soil; that is to say, the best shraives and sands on good turnip land, and the strong wheat soils, being generally a mixture of clay and decayed vegetable mould capable perhaps of producing as much wheat as more valuable land, but less prolific of clover, barley, and turnips. The first I have mentioned, the best shraives and sands, or good turnip soil, is usually called good four lain land, or sown with turnips once in four years, thus, keeping a great deal of stock to prepare for the butcher. On this description of land, of late years, the happiest combination of stock with corn has been adopted; in fact, as regards the pursuit of farming, as a means of exercise and recreation, this soil affords by far the preference to any other description; but as our object

now is any thing but recreation, I will not enlarge on the peculiar advantages land of this nature affords under ordinary circumstances, but pursue the enquiry as to how it will be affected by five shillings a bushel for wheat. A person who had suffered both from gout and rheumatism, was once asked which of the two diseases he thought the most painful. Put your finger into a vice was the reply, and screw, screw, screw, as long as you can bear it—never mind your distorted countenance and dancing feet—but screw as long as you can by possibility bear it, there, that is the rheumatism; now, one screw more than you can bear, and that is the gout. Just so is it now with the flock farmer on the twenty shilling land, and the “four lain” farmer on the thirty shilling land. The flock farmer has the rheumatism, the “four lain” farmer the gout. The late high price of sheep has been but comparatively little worth to the “four lain farmer,” because the price of lean sheep has been much higher in proportion than the price of mutton, and as the “four lain” farmer buys all his stock, it is obvious the benefit must have been peculiarly the breeders. The “four lain” farmer calls in a friend, the lease is produced and examined to ascertain if by the covenants it is possible to pursue a harder course of sowing in order to meet the present necessity. Perhaps it may now be found that the tenant is not absolutely tied to the four lain course of husbandry, and that he can sow somewhat more than a half of his farm with corn, and a greater proportion with pulse than he had lately done, and by chance he may also discover that he is not restricted from planting potatoes; all this is pointed out to him by his sagacious friend, accompanied, however, with the observation, that although these expedients may relieve him for a time, they will eventually increase his difficulties in a ten-fold degree. Future difficulties, however, form no part of a man’s present distress, who is in imminent danger of his life, and thus it is with the impoverished farmer—all is sacrificed to the necessity of the moment. The other description of soil I wish to recognise as thirty shilling per acre land, is, as I have before stated, strong wheat land, but by high cultivation, draining, &c., &c., capable of producing good crops of turnips. This land, when under the best system of cultivation, is sown in four and two lains, or wheat once in three years; turnips once in six years, and spring corn sown only after turnips. Now this peculiar rotation of sowing land is but of recent introduction, and it is admirably calculated to improve the fertility of the soil. The different appearance brought about in land of this quality by the above plan of farming, is quite astonishing, and for a period of years I know of no system of management by which a farm of this nature can be made to produce so much money. But, as I have before observed, this excellent plan is comparatively of recent date and consequently there are but few leases which provide for its observance, and where a tenant is not compelled to continue this or any other system of management, which although it may be unquestionably the best and most profitable for a term of years, still is far from being the method by which the most money can be derived for the present, and perhaps succeeding year or two, he will decidedly give up the former and adopt the latter as his only alternative from immediate ruin. Thus, during the last two months, I have seen five shillings a bushel for wheat destroying the system of the “four and two lain” course of husbandry. Under that system, this field which should have been fallowed for turnips, I have seen badly prepared and sown with barley, and where oats have this spring been sown after turnips, and by the above rotation, seeds should also have

been sown with oats, this has been omitted to be done in order that the ground may be sown with wheat next autumn, and the dung mizen which stood in the former field I have mentioned—I mean the field sown with barley, which should in due course have been prepared for turnip, and for which crop the dung would have been necessary—removed to the gate place of the oat-field for the purpose of being used there for wheat. Now the practical man will immediately detect the eventual destructiveness of this necessity on the part of the farmer. The field which should have been turnips to have taken the ewes and lambs during the winter, is in the course of producing about half a crop of barley, and the oat field, where the seeds should have been sown to have kept the couples during the summer, is to have the dung mizen originally intended for the turnip crop, and to be sown with wheat. As there is no provision made for sheep in the autumn, the farmer will not have occasion for an outlay for stock, and consequently stock to him next year can form no source of profit, and thus will difficulty engender difficulty, until five shillings a bushel for wheat has ruined the tenant, and in respect of his situation in society, the landlord also.

There now only remains for our consideration soil of the best description, rich grazing and arable land of the first quality. "*Whip the horse that will draw,*" is an old adage which will be fully exemplified here. As regards the pasture land where the tenant is not restricted from selling hay, the scythe will be used continually, and if he be not allowed this privilege, cattle and sheep to graze must be procured as long as the money to buy them can be found; but the power to command money to buy stock, if wheat remain at its present low price, will soon be destroyed; for although grass land it is true does not produce wheat, the effect of a depreciation in the price of this grain much below the actual cost of production, will have its due effect on pasture as well as on arable land, and this proposition will soon be destroyed as a speculation, and be demonstrated as a fact, provided the price of wheat does not speedily rally, and the result will prove that the grazier will be no more able to keep his footing, than the arable farmer will be able to maintain his—when one slips, the other will soon follow. To the best arable land the whip will be applied without mercy—for *this horse will draw* when all the rest of the team have given it up, and on the best land, of course, a driving system of sowing can be continued longer than on land of an inferior description; but even here it must have an end, at least it must have an end as regards an average production calculated on past years. The most profitable plan of farming *the best arable land*, is, I think, the "three lain system," or wheat once in three years, and only half the proportion of turnip sown, and nearly double the proportion of Lent corn that would be by the "four and two lain system," thus there would be two-thirds of the whole with corn, except a twelfth of the whole sown with turnip, and the remaining third clover, rape, &c., &c. Now the effect of the price of wheat here will be to lose the turnip preparation for potatoes, a most improving root, and the clover and rape; the former which produced the hay to be fed in the yards in the winter, and the latter being fed off with sheep on the land during the summer, will be sown with peas, beans, and tares for seed, and every shilling that it is possible to save either in manual labour or in farming implements, will be saved for the moment,—a wretched economy indeed, fraught with future evil, and that, too, at no very protracted period. On the whole, then, I think it cannot be questioned but that the present low price of wheat

will seriously affect the agriculture of the country, or, in other words, it will eventually reduce our means of production. How far this is to be considered a national evil I leave to the consideration of others, with the hope that the above observations may have some effect in dispelling the fallacious notion that agricultural distress is *partial* and not *general*, or that the low price of wheat does not affect all soils about in the same degree.

I cannot conclude this paper before I have mentioned an extraordinary instance of observance and industry. The fact was related to me yesterday by a neighbour, whose father was an eye witness of the proceeding. Mr. George Pittis, of Wymering, near Cosham, Hants. A highly respectable farmer, about a fortnight since undertook to draw every ewe with her lamb throughout his flock, consisting of two hundred and eighty ewes and three hundred lambs. This he accomplished much to the surprise of his friends, apparently without effort, and certainly without one mistake. I am, Sir,

Your obedient and very humble Servant,  
Sussex, May 10th, 1835. AGRICULTOR.

**SOUTH AMERICA.**—It is a remarkable thing, that the whole of the water found in the Pampas is brackish; and in hot weather it is most annoying, for drinking it only serves to increase the thirst of the traveller; but it is not unhealthy, and most probably is the contrary in its effects on the Gauchos, who pass entire months without any other nourishment than beef newly killed, without any salt to it, which, like bread, is considered a luxury on the Pampas. When rain has failed for a long period together, many spots become uninhabitable, and the settlers are obliged to remove; the lakes gradually dry up, and a growth of rushes overspreads their bottoms, serving as lairs for the pumas, who lie in wait for the cattle, that, perishing of thirst, with mournful lowing seek the remnants of green stagnant water which lie on the marly surface, thick as refuse oil, and swarming with miriads of mosquitoes. Yet it has ere now been to the writer a sensation of extreme pleasure to dismount from a jaded horse, with his rude companions, and taking the handkerchiefs which shaded our heads from the scorching sun, to spread them on the surface of such a glided puddle, scarce an inch in depth, and thus suck away the moisture, whilst the whizzing insects buzzed around, as if in anger at our thus drying up their fishing waters. As the water becomes gradually more scanty, the rushes wither—the dry pasture catches fire from the smouldering horse dung, left burning by some chance traveller: the flame sweeps along, and, fading as fast as it advances, resembles a fiery knife-edge mowing the wide plains. As it passes by, the rushey oases are kindled, and fierce flashes mount upwards, with each breath of air, like the blasts of volcano. The wild animals rush forth before the destroyer, and seek for a bare spot, or the intersecting line of a stream, which may afford them shelter. But it is a fearful race for life or death, for the flying flame over the parched level mocks the speed of the swiftest horses of the plains. On some occasions a caravan of the straw-thatched waggons of the interior provinces is overtaken, and waggons, oxen and drivers perished together. We once beheld four drivers still living, who had thus been roasted alive. They had been laid in a shed with their burnt garments shrivelled into cinders on their skinless bodies, to live or to die according as the vital energy might conquer or succumb, for there was no help of medical skill to avail them.—*London Review.*



## ON LONDON DRAUGHT PORTER AND ALE.

The London ale and porter prepared for pot-houses are very different in quality, and infinitely more deleterious in their effects than the same description of liquor made for private families; although malt, hops and water be employed to form a very strong fermented liquor, still it is mild to the taste, while the pot-house ale and porter are harsher and stronger than could possibly be made by any quantity of malt, hops, and water. This harshness, therefore, of pot-house fermented liquor must be caused by some other admixture than malt, hops, and water. Some have been of opinion that such harshness and stupefying effects, as uniformly result from the profuse use of these liquors, cannot possibly arise from the spirit imparted to them by the malt, but from the admixture of *coccus indicus*, *nux vomica*, and other deleterious substances. That some sort of improper substances are mixed with them, either by their manufacturers or vendors, is evident from the circumstance of the cheapness of the articles in question. Besides, their effects on the constitution are always different from what is produced by home-made porter and ale. None who have been accustomed to use the latter but on substituting the pot-house ale and porter have almost immediately suffered a derangement of their digestive organs. Again, we find those who constantly habituate themselves to the use of pot-house liquors are involuntarily led to the use of other substances to counteract their bad effects on the stomach. It is a curious circumstance that such measures are generally adopted without the individual employing any sort of reasoning on the subject, but only because they feel them of use. The most common of these habits are smoking tobacco and drinking gin. I have made strict inquiry at various houses where great quantities of ale and porter are sold, and have ascertained that scarcely any one who indulges freely in the use of such draught liquors but at length becomes a dram-drinker, or learns to smoke tobacco. Another curious circumstance which I have ascertained adopted by those who indulge freely in the use of those liquors, is that those who are subjected to hard labour, such as coal-heavers, are not so apt to indulge in smoking tobacco and drinking gin as those who remain in a state of inactivity during the time that the porter or ale exert their effects on the stomach. It would thus appear that great exertion of the body is somewhat equivalent to the action of the tobacco or gin in obviating their bad effects on the stomach, and consequently it is evident that the free indulgence in their constant use is inconsistent with the healthy functions of that organ.—*The Oracle of Health.*

**DOCILITY OF OXEN.**—My man in Long Island used, in summer time, to go out with his yoke and his bows just at break of day; that is to say, as soon as he could see the oxen at fifty or sixty yards from him; for there it is a great thing to get the main of the work done before ten o'clock, and after five, in order to avoid the burning heat of the day. As soon as the man got a sight of the oxen, for the space was large, he used to call out '*Haw Boys!*' At the second call, somewhat more loud than the former, the oxen used to rise up and look at him, and then look at one another. When he approached them near enough for his words to be distinctly heard, he used to call out, '*Come under!*' upon which the oxen began to walk off slowly towards him. The next words were, '*Come under! I TELL ye!*'

pronounced in a very commanding and even angry tone, upon which the oxen set off to him at full trot, bringing their heads up close to his body; and, putting the yokes round their necks, each fastened at the top with a little piece of wood, away he walked, and they after him, into the field, where a single plough-chain hooked on to a ring in the yoke sent the plough along in a minute.—*Cobbet's Treatise on Indian Corn.*

## SUGAR-MAPLE TREE.

Maple is the common name of the *acer* genus of plants, of which there are thirty-four species. Nine of these belong to North America, twelve to Europe, six of great beauty to Japan, and the rest to different parts of Asia. The timber of the maple is not adapted for works of durability and strength; but, from the beauty of its texture, it is peculiarly fitted for ornamental purposes; and the variety called "curled maple" is, on this account, held in great esteem. It is capable of being highly polished, and is sometimes employed with good effect in inlaying; but is most commonly used for the stocks of fowling-pieces, for work-boxes, and other articles in which it is desired to combine utility with ornament. Its lightness occasions it to be also frequently used in the manufacture of musical instruments. The sap of the maple contains a certain quantity of saccharine matter; but two of this genus (*acer saccharinum* and *acer nigrum*) yield so abundant a supply as to have obtained for them the general designation of the sugar-maple. The former of these trees is found in North America, between the 42nd and 48th degrees of latitude—that is, in the northern parts of Pennsylvania, the western portion of New York, in Upper Canada, Nova Scotia, and the northern parts of New England. The *acer nigrum*, or black maple, flourishes in rather a warmer climate, and is most abundant on the banks of the Ohio and the great rivers of the western states of America. These trees furnish excellent fuel, and the ashes are manufactured into potash. The maple is not surpassed by many trees in the variety of purposes in which it may be usefully employed.

The 'Encyclopædia Americana' states, that maple-sugar could be manufactured in sufficient quantities to supply the consumption of the United States; but, of course, without any intention of insisting upon the advantage of affording national encouragement to this domestic manufacture. In the newly-settled parts of the United States, and in Canada, where the inhabitants are often placed at great distances from each other, and the opportunity of effecting exchanges is very imperfectly enjoyed, domestic manufactures of various kinds may be wisely undertaken, to engage in which would obviously be mere waste of time in a different and more advanced state of society. Accordingly, we find that, even in those districts of America where the sugar-maple abounds, it is only in remote parts of the country that its manufacture forms a regular branch of rural economy, and where a reserve is made by settlers of from 200 to 500 maple-trees for a "sugary."

The sugar is said to equal the common brown sugar of the West Indies, and, when refined, to yield to none in purity and sweetness. The produce of a single tree appears to vary considerably—by some it is said to amount to five or six pounds, and by others it is estimated as high as thirty-three pounds per tree; but this amount can probably be obtained only under a concurrence of peculiarly favourable circumstances, and in the southern states of America; for in Canada the average produce of the season for one tree is stated by Evans, in his 'Emigrants' Direc-

and Guide to the Canadas,' to be not more than two pounds. The sugar is worth from fourpence to sevenpence halfpenny per pound. Two men can attend to 300 or 400 trees. A family may even make 1,000 lbs. of sugar in the course of a season, which commences towards the end of March, and lasts a month; and fortunately happens at a period when agricultural labours have not resumed their activity.

The following account of the process of sugar-making is taken from Evans's 'Emigrants' Directory,' quoted above:—"A large gouge, or hollow chisel, should be provided, and a piece of dry pine or cedar got, and cut into lengths of about nine inches each. These pieces should be split into bolts, about half an inch thick, the breadth of the gouge; and these bolts again split up with the gouge about a quarter of an inch thick, by which they will become hollow spouts, like the instrument with which they are cut, for the sap to run in: they should then be pared with a sharp knife at the end, to the shape of the edge or point of the gouge, so that when it is driven half an inch or so into the tree, the spout also may be driven into the incision, and fit it tightly. Troughs, to receive the sap as it falls from the spout, are made of pine, fir, or ash, and being split into two, each half piece is hollowed out with an axe, so as to contain about two gallons. Each tree of ordinary size will require one, and very large trees two troughs. Buckets, which cost about tenpence each, save much more of the sap than the troughs. A tree will run about a bucket-full per day, on days succeeding frosty nights with a moderately warm sun to thaw the sap.

"After all these have been prepared, one or two of the troughs being placed under each tree, the person holding the spouts, gouge, and an axe, makes with the corner of the axe a small sloping notch about an inch and a half long, and deep enough to penetrate into the wood of the tree about half an inch; the under side of the incision being cut sloping down into the tree, so that the sap may run to its lowest point: if fit to tap, the sap is seen immediately to ooze from the cut. About an inch under that, the gouge is driven in for the spout as before directed, through which the sap is conveyed down till it drops into the bucket or trough at the foot of the tree, the cut being almost two feet from the ground: one man can thus tap about 200 trees or more in a day. One tapping generally answers for the season, and the trees, if not greatly hacked, will do for a sugary many years."

The sap is collected daily and carried to the boiling-place, when it should be put into puncheons or barrels; or large logs, hollowed out, will, in case of need, serve the same purpose. Mr. Evans gives the following directions to be attended to in the process of boiling:—"Two stout crotches are fixed upright in the ground eight or ten feet asunder, and on them is placed a cross stick from which pots or kettles are hung; a crook to hang them by being made of a crooked piece of wood. The fire is made underneath of split or small wood between two larger logs rolled on each side. The sap should be strained into the boilers, and when boiling down, one boiler should be kept filled from the other, and that again supplied from the others till the liquid be boiled down to the consistency of syrup. It is then taken up and strained into a deep narrow vessel, where it is left to settle for a day or two. When about being sugared off, it is carefully poured from the sediment into a small boiler, and again hung over a slow fire; a little milk, or a couple of eggs beat up, being put in to clarify it: as it boils it is skimmed, and, after boiling about an hour to a proper consistence, it is poured

into vessels to cool, and stirred occasionally till cold. The best mode is not to boil it too dry, but to pour it into a barrel after boiling sufficiently, and when cold the sugar begins to crust on the surface in a day or so; after which, by having a few gimlet-holes bored in the bottom of the barrel, the molasses will run off, and leave after it a clean fair sugar. To prevent the sap or syrup from boiling over, about an inch square of fat pork should be thrown in once or twice a day, and it will be found to have the desired effect. The scum, sediment, and last run of the sap from the trees which is not good for sugar, should be boiled together, one-half down, and, being barrelled, will, by allowing it to ferment, make good vinegar."

## HISTORY OF THE COTTON MANUFACTURE IN GREAT BRITAIN.

By EDWARD BAINES JUN., ESQ.

London: Fisher, Fisher and Jackson.

The author of this work, who is the son of the distinguished Member for Leeds, has displayed great ability in its execution. He has produced a book which is not only of infinite value to those who are engaged in the manufacture of which it treats, and those who devote their attention especially to the political economy and commercial affairs of Great Britain, but is also highly interesting to the general reader. In tracing the history of the cotton manufacture in every country in which it has existed, and giving a complete account of its present state, he has introduced many curious details which enliven his subject while they illustrate it. The work contains a full and comprehensive view of the rise and progress of this manufacture in England; of the series of inventions which have brought the spinning and weaving machinery to its present state; of the manner in which every branch of the manufacture is carried on; and of its influence on the prosperity and social state of Great Britain. An ample and interesting account is also given of the state of the cotton manufacture in the East Indies; and the work concludes with a description of its situation in those nations which are now endeavouring to compete in it with this country.

In his preface Mr. Baines gives an astounding idea of the rise of the cotton manufacture within these last sixty years:

"Sixty years since our manufacturers consumed little more than three million lbs. of raw cotton annually; the annual consumption is now two hundred and eighty million lbs. In 1750 the county of Lancaster, the chief seat of the trade, had a population of only 297,400; in 1831, the number of its inhabitants had swelled to 1,336,854. A similar increase has taken place in Lanarkshire, the principal seat of the manufacture in Scotland. The families supported by this branch of industry are estimated to comprise a million and a half of individuals; and the goods produced not only furnish a large part of the clothing consumed in this kingdom, but supply nearly one-half of the immense export trade of Britain, find their way into all the markets of the world, and are even destroying in the Indian market the competition of the ancient manufacture of India itself, the native country of the raw material, and the earliest seat of the art."



The following passage is still more striking; and we recommend the conclusions he deduces from the facts stated by him to the attention of those who lament the increase of machinery:—

“Of the fifteen hundred thousand individuals whom the cotton manufacture now supports, the greater number are in the county of Lancaster. In the year 1700, Lancashire numbered only 166,200 inhabitants (about the present population of one of its seaports, and less than that of its manufacturing metropolis;) in 1750, the population was 297,400; in 1801, it had grown to 672,565; and in 1831, to 1,336,854; being an increase of more than eight-fold in 130 years, of four and a half-fold in the last eighty years, and of two-fold within the last thirty years! The population of Lanarkshire and Renfrewshire, the principal seats of the manufacture in Scotland, has increased in an almost equal proportion. The parish of Manchester has increased from 41,032 inhabitants in 1774, to 270,961 in 1831 (the date of the last census;) Liverpool, from 31,050, in 1770 to 165,175; Glasgow, from 28,300, in 1763, to 202,426; Paisley, from 17,700, in 1782, to 57,466; Preston, from 6,000, in 1780, to 33,112; Blackburn, from 5,000, in 1770, to 27,091; Bolton, from 5,339, in 1773, to 43,396; Wigan, from 10,989, in 1801, to 20,774; Ashton, from 5,097, in 1775, to 33,597; the parish of Oldham, from 13,916, in 1789, to 50,513.

“Such are the amazing creations of the cotton machinery. At the beginning of the reign of George III. (in 1760,) probably not more than forty thousand persons were supported by the whole cotton manufacture: machines have been invented, which enable one man to produce as much yarn as two hundred and fifty or three hundred men could have produced then—which enable one man and one boy to print as many goods as a hundred men and a hundred boys could have printed formerly; and the effect has been that now the manufacture supports fifteen hundred thousand persons, or upwards of thirty-seven times as many as at the former period! Yet so profoundly ignorant, or so blindly prejudiced, are some men, even authors and members of Parliament, that they still publish solemn lamentations over the growth of machinery! It might have been supposed that the history of the cotton manufacture would have for ever put an end to the complaints against machinery, except on the part of the workmen who were immediately suffering, as some generally will for a time, from the changes in manufacturing processes. The 150,000 workmen in the spinning mills produce as much yarn as could have been produced by 40,000,000 with the one-thread wheel; yet there are those who look on it as a calamity that human labour has been rendered so productive! these persons seem to cherish secretly the preposterous notion, that, without machinery, we should have had as many hands employed in the manufacture as it would require to produce the present quantity of goods by the old processes; not considering that the population of all Europe would have been quite inadequate to such a purpose! and that, in reality, not one-fifth part of those now employed as spinners ever would have been employed under the old system, because there would have been little or no increased demand for the coarse and high-priced goods then made. If a spinner can now produce as much in a day as he could last century have produced in a year, and if goods which formerly required eight months to bleach, are now bleached in two days, surely these are the very causes of the

amazing extension of the manufacture, and are therefore subjects of rejoicing, not of lamentation.”

The work is illustrated by a number of engravings and wood-cuts, consisting of portraits, and representations of buildings, machinery. &c., executed with great beauty and spirit.

### A CHALLENGE.

[We insert this, in the hope of its being answered by some of our readers.—Ed. M. L. E.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HEREFORD TIMES.

SIR—I trust the present depreciated price of wheat will open the eyes of the farmer, to the end that he will abjure the fallacy of supposing that Corn Laws can protect *him*. The gazette price of wheat may now be taken at 40s the quarter (too high a quotation;) the duty on imported wheat is, therefore, about 46s. Now, the average price of Baltic wheat in London may be taken at 30s per quarter; add to which, the duty, and then we have a total of 76s as the price of North European wheat in England. Is not this demonstration, that agricultural distress would exist if our scale of import duty were double or treble what it is at present; that distress cannot possibly have any thing to do with the English farmer competing with the foreign grower?

Where, then, is the cause of the English farmer's distress?—where, but in his cost of production being too great relatively with that of the Scotch, but more especially with the Irish farmers. This is a wide subject, and I will not trespass upon your space by entering upon it, further than to call upon any Tory, Whig, or Radical, to point out where the English farmer can look for effectual relief, except to the following sources:—a reduction of rent to the point it was at when wheat was in the last century sold, in the Hereford market, at 5s the bushel;—a commutation of tithes, so that tithes shall be completely merged in rent;—a considerable relief in the county rates, by a release from the performance of the statute duty, and the prosecution of criminals;—the imposition of poor-laws in Ireland, and such an administration of government in that country, that the Irish people may be enabled to consume more of their own produce at home, and thus be raised from a state of wretchedness to one of comfort, and be spared the horrible slavery of wearing out their bones and muscles in the production of the means to support an absentee gentry and a sinecure plethoric Church, in order to *undersell* the English farmer.

A HEREFORDSHIRE FARMER.

Near Hereford, May 4, 1835.

HANTS.—At Cuffnells, near Lyndhurst, there is a celebrated Rhododendron ponticum, considered the largest in England. Although the plantations of the American garden at Cuffnells are of small extent, and do not contain any great variety, they are laid out with great taste, and there are some fine specimens of the commoner rhododendrons and old azaleas. In the shrubberies are some four or five fine specimens of *Halesia diptera* and *tetraptera*; but they are so overgrown with other trees, that they would be useless as portraits. There is also in a small sheltered garden, a fine *Edwardsia microphylla*, which, having been originally planted against a low wall, has grown many feet above it, and has no protection whatever.

It flowers freely, and produces fertile seeds, plants from which have been given to several people, in hopes that the individuals proceeding from seeds ripened in our climate may prove more hardy, and perhaps succeed as standards. In the same garden is a very large plant of a species of *Metrosideros* with white flowers, which has grown for years without the least protection, and flowers most abundantly, *Maurandya Barclayana* is perennial with us; but commonly dies down in the winter, shooting vigorously in the spring. *Acacia armata* has been against a wall (north west aspect) for two winters, and is now covered with abundant bloom, just bursting into flower. This plant has a mat in frosty weather. In the conservatory we have some fine old plants of *Acacia armata*, *Acacia scolopendron*, and some fine old conservatory plants.—E.P. (*in Gardner's Mag.*) Feb. 5, 1834.

## SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

(*Ry Willis, an American Poet.*)

I love to look on a scene like this,  
Of wild and careless play,  
And persuade myself that I am not old,  
And my locks are not yet gray;  
For it stirs the blood of an old man's heart,  
And it makes his pulses fly,  
To catch the thrill of a happy voice,  
And the light of a pleasant eye.

I have walked the world for fourscore years;  
And they say that I am old,  
And my heart is ripe for the reaper, Death,  
And my years are well-nigh told.  
It is very true; it is very true;  
I'm old, and "I 'bide my time;"  
But my heart will leap at a scene like this,  
And I half renew my prime.

Play on, play on; I am with you there,  
In the midst of your merry ring;  
I can feel the thrill of the daring jump,  
And the rush of the breathless swing.  
I hide with you in the fragrant hay,  
And I whoop the smothered call,  
And my feet slip up on the seedy floor,  
And I care not for the fall.

I am willing to die when my time shall come,  
And I shall be glad to go;  
For the world, at best, is a weary place,  
And my pulse is getting low:  
But the grave is dark, and the heart will fail  
In treading its gloomy way;  
And it wiles my heart from its dreariness,  
To see the young so gay.

THE HUNTER.—On calm and deliberate investigation it will be found that, in summering the hunter, we should be guided by circumstances in regard to the constitution or the diseases of the horse. I am no advocate for a summer's run at grass in the general sense of the term; where, however, the horse happens to be foundered, vulgarly called groggy, but more elegantly and more scientifically expressed by the *navicular disease*, there is no system of absolute stable management from which the afflicted animal can derive so much benefit, as from the cooling grass, and particularly from the evening dews. Hunters, from being shod short before, are very liable to corns,

which are more likely to disappear from a summer's run at grass, than from summering in the stable. Further, a delicate feeder, an animal that requires the administration of an occasional diuretic ball, will enjoy better health in the open air, than amidst the effluvia of the stable. But, where the animal possesses a thorough good constitution, and is free from organic or less serious disease, though I would suffer him to enjoy a few hours daily in the open air, from the middle of the month of May to the latter end of June, I would by no means expose him to the danger of an unrestrained summer's run. Nature and art should go hand in hand; let us adhere as strictly to the rules and guidance of the former as circumstances will allow, but endeavour to assist her operations according as the semi-artificial system to which we have subjected the horse, seem to render essentially necessary.—*Sportsman and Veterinary Recorder.*

THE BRIGG AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION held their first anniversary meeting at the Angel, Brigg, on Thursday the 7th May. The report of the committee was read—the President and Vice President were requested to continue their services the ensuing year—the other officers of the society were chosen, and the vacancies occasioned in the committee by the retiring members, who were removed by lot in accordance with the sixth rule of the society, were filled up. After the business of the meeting was disposed of, upwards of fifty gentlemen sat down to dinner. Thomas George Corbett, Esq., M.P., President of the Association, in the chair; supported on his right by the hon. C. A. W. Pelham, M.P., who came from town for the express purpose of being present on the occasion. On the cloth being drawn several loyal toasts were first drank—afterwards those which the occasion called for. Several gentlemen addressed the meeting. The report of the committee was again read (of which we subjoin a copy), and much commended by the two hon. members of this division, for its temperate and judicious statement of the condition and prospects of the farmer. They both evinced their anxiety to promote in any way they could the interests of agriculture, and expressed their regret that so much apathy should exist in the agricultural body, and so much want of union. Mr. Pelham observed that in the petitions to parliament for the relief of agriculture, almost as many plans were proposed as petitions were presented, which caused their opponents to say that the farmers did not know what they wanted. This was contrasted with the zeal and activity of the manufacturers, who were united to a man in their endeavours to obtain any particular object they might have in view.—The chair was most ably filled by the President, and many important subjects connected with agriculture brought forward by him, Mr. Pelham, and other gentlemen. The formation of a Central Agricultural Association in London, was considered by the meeting very desirable, which both the members undertook to promote as far as they could.

### [REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.]

"Gentlemen,—Your committee exceedingly regret their inability to congratulate the Association upon the improved condition or prospects of the agriculturists. On the contrary, they have to lament their increasing difficulties, arising from the low price of produce. During the last year wheat has been gradually decreasing in value, and has now reached a lower point than at any time during the last fifty



years: the average for this county, on the week ending the 21th of April last, being 35s. 9d. per quarter.

"Your committee also lament that all the expectations they had entertained of relief have been disappointed—they cannot also but deeply deplore the continued excitement in public affairs which (they conceive) prevents their situation receiving that serious consideration from the legislature which it so imperiously requires.

"Your committee fear that a large portion of the manufacturing, commercial, and moneyed interests (notwithstanding the low price of food) continue to entertain the desire of introducing foreign corn into this country at a nominal duty, and that they are only waiting for a favourable opportunity of effecting their object: they therefore urge upon the members of the Association, and agriculturists generally, the necessity of union and watchfulness, and entreat every member to do his utmost to strengthen this Society by obtaining additional members.

"Your committee naturally and anxiously look for some ray of hope to cheer the gloomy prospect, and much would they rejoice to be enabled to point you to it; they feel bound, however, in candour to admit their hopes are faint; notwithstanding, they do not despair, and whilst they would caution you against the vain hope of obtaining adequate relief by a remission of taxes, they do trust that the legislature will be enabled so far to alleviate your condition, by a remission of taxes, by increasing without depreciating the circulating medium, by elevating the condition of the cultivators of the soil in Ireland, and by such other measures as in their wisdom they may devise, as will enable you, with the considerate assistance of your landlords, to maintain your station in society, and share with your fellow-subjects the blessings of peace and prosperity."

## THE WOOL TRADE.

Odessa, April 10, 1835.

Of wools, in the course of 1834 there have been exported to England, 34,500 Poods; to Belgium 4300 Poods; to Holland 1000 Poods; and to the Mediterranean 29,000 Poods; being much the same quantity as in 1833, but considerably more than in any preceding year. It is a remarkable fact, that the violent fluctuations which this article has experienced during the last eighteen months in most other markets, have not been felt here in the same degree; neither the advance that towards the close of 1833 took place, nor the subsequent decline, having been so great as elsewhere. The independence which in this manner our market has shown, may partly be explained by our extensive home consumption, partly by the large vent which our Wools find in the Mediterranean; the predominant influence, however, of the British market, particularly with regard to fine Wools, can by no means be denied. Least of all has been subject to the late decline, our Common Washed Land-wool, the demand for which since several years has been steadily increasing, and has last year considerably exceeded the production. The causes, by which in the expired year the latter has been diminished, and which for some time to come will prevent its regaining the former extent, have been explained by us on a former occasion; we therefore need not again advert to them, suffice it to say, that the opinion expressed in our report of the 1st August ult. has been fully borne out. The demand last spring was very extensive, and long before the clip actually took place,

more had been sold than it eventually yielded. A competition now arose, for the purpose of covering earlier engagements, and the price was enhanced from ro. 17, which in the beginning, and ro. 18, which afterwards had been paid, to ro. 18½ per Pood. Nothing being left for disposal, the market remained in a state of inactivity for the last quarter of the year. The operations for the ensuing clip commenced early; a few contracts were made at ro. 16 to ro. 16½ per Pood, or 5¼d to 5½d per lb, but owners, in proportion to the increased demand, raised their pretensions; at present, no safe sellers are to be found under ro. 17 per Pood, or 5¾d per lb. for delivery in July and August, with three-fourths cash; and the numerous orders in hand render a similar turn of the market to last year very probable. Perevodnoy Wool has been steady throughout last year, at ro. 22½ to ro. 23 per Pood, or 7¼d to 7½d per lb., and continues to be held at the same prices. For Zigay Wool the demand was not brisk, and prices which towards the time of the clip had advanced from ro. 35 to ro. 37 per Pood, since then have become more easy. For the new clip, little has as yet been done; offers are freely making at ro. 34 per Pood, or 10¼d per lb., and ro. 33 to ro. 32 per Pood or 10¼d to 10½d per lb. probably will be accepted, until our home manufacturers come into market, who may raise the prices. A prejudice against this article has been repeatedly observed to exist, but after a few trials this prejudice has always disappeared, as the intrinsic value of the article is proved by the continued and extensive use by our own manufacturers. Of Metis and Merino Wool the greater part of last clip had been early secured on British account. Upon the reverse turn of that market, a good deal was again disposed of here, and even at a profit to inland manufacturers; and it probably may be attributed to these purchases, that prices here have not declined in the same proportion as abroad. Transactions for next clip have not yet been numerous; a fine flock of Merinos was bought for Italy, at ro. 29 per Pood, in the grease; and by a Turkey house some purchases were made at ro. 25 to ro. 25½ and ro. 31 per Pood, but the buyers not being in the Wool trade, no just criterion is furnished by these purchases; and from the less wealthy class of proprietors an abatement may be obtained of 20 to 25 per cent. upon last year's prices; say, Metis at ro. 20 to ro. 24, and Merinos at ro. 25 to ro. 28 per Pood in the grease.

## FEMALE EMIGRATION.

The Emigration Committee has received, in the course of the month, accounts from Sydney, New South Wales, of the arrival there of the David Scott, which left London in July last, with free emigrant females, who had received the Government bounty of 12l. The report of the superintendent of that ship is a highly interesting document, well worthy of perusal by those interested in promoting the benefit of their fellow-creatures in this, as well as in the other hemisphere. It is now almost universally admitted that emigration, conducted in a steady manner, will benefit not only the pauper parishes and the paupers themselves, but also the colonies to which the individuals may proceed. This has been clearly demonstrated in the county of Sussex, where emigration was scouted as a visionary scheme, until within the last five or six years, when it was first encouraged by the Earl of Egremont, who has chartered, at his own expense, several vessels, in order to convey labourers

and their families to colonies where they would find employment at a fair and liberal remuneration. The letters those emigrants have sent home from time to time have been truly encouraging to their friends, who are now as anxious to follow them as they were before sorrowful at parting from them. Painful, however, as it is to witness the depressed state of the male labouring population, how much more so is it to contemplate the deprivation poor females must undergo who depend for their subsistence upon the labour of their hands. In London alone it is reckoned that there are upwards of 6,000 young women, gaining a livelihood by the needle, and the privations they endure must be evident to those who are aware that the wages they generally earn do not exceed 7s a-week, and that too without being provided by their employers with food, lodging, or raiment. In various parts of the country the labour of the female portion of the community is equally depressed. The condition of these classes cannot scarcely be worse in this country, and can it be wondered at that they should avail themselves of the Government bounty, which has lately been increased to a free passage, in order to proceed to colonies where they cannot fail to obtain liberal remuneration for their labour, and where the prospect of a comfortable settlement in life is almost certain, and where their presence alone must improve the social condition of the inhabitants.

The report of Lieut. Marshall, the superintendent of the David Scott, is dated Sydney, Dec. 1, 1834, and is addressed to the Chairman of the Emigration Committee. The very first sentence conveys to the reader a sense of the difficult task which he had undertaken, and shows that, notwithstanding all the care human judgment may bestow upon an undertaking, the working out of the principle on which it is conducted brings to light what could not have been anticipated. The sentence alluded to is as follows:—

“Agreeably to the instructions received from the Committee, I have the honour to inform you, for their information, of the safe arrival, by the blessing of DIVINE PROVIDENCE, of the David Scott, at this place, on the 26th of October, after a fine passage of three months and nine days, not having communicated with any other vessel on the voyage; and although I shall be compelled to state some facts which will give great pain to the Committee, I think on the whole they will have cause to congratulate themselves on the result of their laudable undertaking of transmitting females to this colony, and it is much to be lamented that all on board should not have proved themselves worthy of the parental care of the Committee in providing so amply for their comforts.”

The report then adverts to the misconduct of the chief mate, an officer whose conduct belied every word contained in the excellent recommendations which were given of him to the Emigration Committee, who, not content with the testimonials of Captains of vessels with whom he had sailed, required that he should produce vouchers for his sobriety and morality. The report, however, shows that he was not a person whose presence could promote good conduct on board an emigration ship, or a person likely to be ever employed again by the Emigration Committee. If the first mate behaved in such a manner, how can it be expected that the second mate should not follow his example? This he took care to do, and the result was, that, on arriving at Sydney, tutor and pupil were both incarcerated in the common gaol on a

charge of mutiny, and that too no less grave than striking the Captain. It is to be hoped that the Authorities there will not be induced to show them any leniency. When two of the officers of a ship misconduct themselves so grossly, it is not to be wondered at that any evil lurking in the minds of any of the passengers should display itself, and accordingly we find a statement in the report that about 20 in number did not behave with that regard to decorum which the excellent characters they had received justly warranted the Committee in anticipating. Lieut. Marshall, speaking of the passengers, observes—

“I have had no serious reason to complain of the general conduct of the great majority, although the comfort and happiness of the well-disposed has been so much affected by the conduct of a few abandoned women who have contrived to elude the vigilance of the Committee.

“Of the male emigrants and their families, I cannot speak sufficiently well—better or more useful members of society could not be landed in any colony; and I am proud to bear testimony of the uniform good conduct and content of all of them during the whole time they were under my charge, and it will be a satisfaction to the Committee to know all were well provided for shortly after landing. I cannot close this part without taking the opportunity of saying how much I am indebted to Mr. Croaker for his great assistance to me personally, as well as to the emigrants generally, on the voyage; the good example of his excellent family was also of much service.

“In speaking of the provisions, I have much pleasure in saying they were not *only excellent* in quality, *but ample in quantity*. The bread allowed was certainly never taken up by the parties; and, if I may be allowed to make a suggestion, it is that the allowance of bread be reduced to half a pound, and I am sure that even that quantity was never consumed by the women, as very much was daily thrown overboard when cleaning the decks. Perhaps it would not be amiss to allow an ounce of pork extra in lieu of the reduced quantity of bread; to allow so much is only devoting to waste.

“The ship and her fittings up are two well known to the Committee to need any remark from me—a finer vessel could not be found, to which circumstance I attribute the excellent state of health of the passengers on the passage, having only lost three by death;—one, Mrs. Macnamara, aged 75, who died of dysentery; the second, a young woman, named Mary Ann White, aged 21, who was far gone in consumption when she embarked, died of palpitation of the heart; the third, a boy eight years of age, named Hill, who was in a dying state when he embarked with his mother: a few mild cases of measles among the children closes the account of sickness—indeed, I can confidently assert that the health and appearance of all were much improved by the voyage. I am most happy to say that I have the sanction of the Government for stating that notwithstanding the few abandoned women that got in amongst us, we have landed a greater number of more useful women than any previous ship, the whole of which have been well provided for in a few days after they landed.

“A large and commodious building, with good provisions and every domestic comfort, free of expense, for the accommodation of the emigrants, was instantly provided on our arrival by the Colonial Government, whose extreme kindness, solicitude, and attention to their welfare, is far above any praise that is in my power to bestow; and the Committee will hear with pleasure that their own



care for the future good of the females whom they send out, is nobly responded to by the Ladies' Committee in this colony. Never before did I witness such indefatigable attention, kindness, and affability as was daily shown by them to these friendless women, and not one was allowed to take a place without the applicant undergoing the strictest investigation from some of the ladies as to their fitness to take a servant, a circumstance of no small advantage to females in a strange land; but none had occasion to be in a hurry, as the comfort of all were so well taken care of for the present, and there are plenty of good situations for hundreds more than we brought out. The young ladies who came out as governesses were all engaged within twenty-four hours after their arrival; they are a class of persons much wanted in the colony, 30 more than we brought out would readily have found situations, and many of superior attainments, I have no doubt, would do very well. If so humble an individual as myself may venture to give an opinion, I should most respectfully urge the Committee not to relax in their efforts to forward as many free women as possible to this place; and although, with all the circumspection that can be used, some bad characters will undoubtedly get in, yet I feel persuaded that if as many good ones as the David Scott brought can be found for each ship, the benefit will far outweigh the evil: and I have been long enough here to be satisfied that he who is most instrumental in sending free women of all classes to this colony, will best deserve the thanks not only of the present inhabitants, but, in a tenfold degree, will acquire the blessings of generations yet to be born in New South Wales.

"I should be wanting in justice if I were to close this without expressing to the Committee how much I am indebted to Mr. William Gilmore, the purser of the ship David Scott, for the good example which he set to older men, and for the readiness with which he did every thing in his power to contribute to the welfare and comfort of the respectable and well-disposed of the passengers."

The recommendations of Lieut. Marshall are well deserving of consideration by the Committee, who, there is no doubt, will endeavour to put the emigration business on the best footing. The names of Mr. Foster, Mr. Lushington, the Member for Ashburton, Sir Edward Parry, and the other gentlemen on the Committee, are a guarantee for these recommendations being attended to. There is one observation, however, which particularly requires consideration, and that is, that "the captain and mates should be put under proper bond to render the superintendent every necessary assistance for the suppression of vice and irregularity."

Such are the principal contents of the report of the superintendent of this emigration ship, and, upon the whole, it must be considered satisfactory to the friends of the young women who sailed from England in her.

**FERTILITY OF AFRICA.**—Sir Grenville Temple states that while halting near Bysacium, in the territory of the Bey of Tunis, to refresh his horses in a field of barley, he counted one plant of that grain with 97 shoots or stalks. But this is far short of what Pliny states of the produce of the same corn, of which a plant was sent to Augustus, containing nearly 400 stalks, and another to the Emperor Nero with 340. To prevent the seed falling too thickly the Arabs mix it with a quantity of sand.

## WORKING OF THE NEW POOR LAW ACT.

The following petition was a short time ago circulated for signature amongst the leading authorities of the town of Potton, in Bedfordshire, and after having obtained the signature of a number of the shopkeepers and smaller rate payers, in addition to the parish officers, was transmitted to the Poor Law Commissioners. The immediate answer of the Commissioners is subjoined.

"To the Honourable the Poor Law Commissioners. The humble petition of the inhabitants of the parish of Potton.

"Showeth,—That your petitioners having received the rules of the union of certain parishes called the Biggleswade Union, observe with dismay that the said union, as now set forth, includes numbers of parishes which are accustomed to attend the parish of Potton for the purchase of goods and provisions of all sorts.

"That your petitioners have heard with regret that all the parishes named in the list, called the Biggleswade Union, are to be provided for at Biggleswade, and that such provisions are to be obtained at Biggleswade, which will *greatly injure and oppress* the present trade of Potton.

"That your petitioners respectfully represent to your consideration, that the parish of Potton contains a commodious house for the reception of the poor, and three roods of grounds adjoining, which will allow of a great addition to the present one, and also another house capable of holding several persons belonging to the parish, for the use of the poor.

"That the inhabitants of the following parishes are contiguous to and generally trade with the parish of Potton, that is to say, Cockayne, Hatley, Eyeworth, Everton, Sandy, Sutton, Tempsford, Wrestlingworth, and Duntun.

"That by taking the said trade from the parish of Potton it will greatly reduce the *consumption and profit of the present tradesmen and inhabitants, which they feel themselves* justified in representing to your due consideration.

"Your petitioners therefore most respectfully request that the above named parishes be united to Potton, instead of being forced to join the union called the Biggleswade Union, or else be permitted to manage their own poor without loss to the trade of the town of Potton, or how otherwise as you shall deem fit.

—  
"Poor Law Commission Office, Somerset House,  
3rd April, 1835.

"Sir,—The Poor Law Commissioners for England and Wales have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, together with the accompanying petition from the parish of Potton.

"In answer to the statements of the petitioners, the Board wish to observe that the main object of the poor law amendment act which they are to administer, is to cause proper relief to be provided for the indigent; and it will be the duty of the Board, in the formation of unions, to take care that such relief shall be provided at the lowest cost to the rate-payers. In the exercise of their other functions the Board will look solely to the general improvement of the administration of relief, and cannot act with a view to the profit of any particular class.

"With respect to that part of your memorial in which you state that you 'have heard with regret that all the parishes named in the list called the

Biggleswade Union are to be provided for at Biggleswade, and that such provisions are to be obtained at Biggleswade, which will greatly injure and oppress the present trade of Potton,' the Commissioners wish to assure you that no such arrangement has been made in favour of the tradesmen of Biggleswade.

"The Commissioners have further to observe that it is their intention, in the performance of their duty of reducing the burdens of the rate-payers, and improving the condition of the poor, to require that all quantities of goods consumed by the indigent shall be purchased by contract on open tender. If, therefore, the tradesmen of Potton are enabled to supply goods for the use of the paupers of the Biggleswade Union, at a cheaper rate than the tradesmen of Biggleswade or any other place, it will be the duty of the Board of Guardians at Biggleswade to act upon the tender of the tradesmen of Potton.

"With reference to that part of your memorial in which you state 'that the parish of Potton contains a commodious house for the reception of the poor, and three roods of ground adjoining, which will allow of a great addition to the present one; and also another house capable of holding several persons belonging to the parish, for the use of the poor,' the Commissioners wish to state that those advantages will be still available to your parish in common with the other parishes comprehended in the union.

"The Commissioners lament that the abusive modes of administration which have spread pauperism, discontent, and immorality amongst the labouring classes, often for the profit of a few at the expense of the great body of rate-payers and of the community at large, should have prevailed to the extent of implanting the notion set forth by the petitioners, that a profit derivable from the relief of the indigent is the privilege of any class in any place, and that the relief might properly be governed with a view to maintain or enhance such profit.

"By order of the Board,  
"E. CHADWICK, Secretary."

## AGRICULTURE IN PORTUGAL.

LISBON, APRIL 18.—It has been reported that large sums from England have been sent to Lisbon for the purpose of speculation in the purchase of national property. I shall endeavour to give you an outline of the nature of these properties and the terms on which the Government propose to dispose of them.

There are 714 convents of friars suppressed, and the whole of their lands and houses are confiscated. In round numbers these convents were in possession of a million of acres of the best lands in Portugal, which are situated on all the rivers, with the advantage also of the best springs of water, fine aspects, woods of the largest growth of timber, cork, and fruits of every kind; and in addition large tracks of mountain, &c., with unlimited right of common for sheep-walks, at present of little or no use, as sheep-farming is little known in this kingdom: and although the Merino sheep are common in Portugal, yet for want of selection and care, both in wool and carcase, they are very inferior, and wool is never sold for more than sixpence the pound. By proper management immense quantities of wool of the finest quality might be raised, and the sheep made available for producing a large quantity of barley, which is the only grain used here for horses, mules, &c., and

of which at present a large quantity is imported. Barley sells at present at 30s per quarter in Lisbon. The quantity of wheat imported is immense, and now sells at upwards of 60s the quarter. For Portugal to grow her own wheat would require the cultivation of 50,000 acres, in addition to the wheat cultivated at present. It is highly probable that, even supposing the extraordinary prejudice which exists in Portugal against the profession of an *agriculturist* could be removed, it would be an age before the country could produce grain for her own population, without the aid of foreign farmers and foreign capital. No British farmer has ever yet made the attempt on the British system. Some few foreigners have attempted to cultivate lands on the Portuguese system, which is known to be the worst in Europe, but have not succeeded. I may, however, safely say that any man who may purchase one of these estates, and tenant it with industrious *British farmers and labourers*, on the *British system*, would meet with every degree of success he could desire. The only estates that have yet been sold have not exceed 5½ an acre, including buildings, timber, fruit-trees—as orange, lemon, fig, olive, vine, &c., which alone will pay 5 per cent. on the capital of the purchase-money. This is accounted for upon the principle of the population being so small in proportion to the quantity of land, and money being successfully employed in other pursuits more suitable to the taste and genius of the people. All the native farmers have as much land as they can cultivate. It is evident, therefore, that any immediate augmentation must be by the introduction of foreigners. The terms proposed by the Cortes are very liberal—viz., to pay down 20 per cent; the remainder to be paid in sixteen annual payments, subject to 2 per cent. on the balance in hand until the whole is paid up. At present there is no tax or tithe on the land or fruit of any kind. The price of labour, both of men and oxen, is very light. Men can be hired in harvest at from 1s to 1s 6d a day, no food; a pair of oxen to plough or lead manure, about 5s a day. The prices of produce vary little, and are now as follow:—beef and pork, 5d per lb; mutton, 4d; veal, 6d; fowls, 2s 6d; ducks, 3s per couple; turkeys, 4s to 8s; geese, 4s to 6s each; pigeons, 6s per dozen; potatoes average 8d per peck; at present they are 1s; turnips, in Lisbon, 1s the peck—in the country seldom to be got, or vegetables of any kind, though much in demand.

## THE SHEEP.—SPECIES AND VARIETIES.

FROM "LOW'S ELEMENTS OF AGRICULTURE."

The origin of the domestic sheep has been sought for by agriculturists in various wild races:—

1. *Ovis musmon*.—The Musmon.
2. *Ovis ammon*.—The Argali.
3. *Ovis tragelaphus*.—The Bearded Sheep of Africa.

The Musmon of the Mediterranean islands is yet found wild in Corsica and Sardinia, in the mountains of European Turkey, in Crete and other islands of the Archipelago. It does not differ greatly in its characters, but it differs widely in its habits, from the domestic races of Europe.

The Argali or Wild Sheep of Asia, inhabits the mountains of Central Asia, and the elevated plains of Siberia northwards of Kamchatka. It has horns of great length; its colour is gray, and it is covered with wool beneath a close hair.



The Bearded Sheep of Africa is found in Barbary and the mountainous parts of Egypt. A variety introduced into East Friesland, and crossed by the common breed, is said to have produced the large prolific sheep of the Texel.

To these wild races might be added *Oris Montana*, the Rocky-mountain Sheep of America, an animal of great size, and inhabiting the mountainous parts of North America. But it is believed that the Rocky-mountain sheep of America is the same as the argali of Asia.

These are the wild animals of the race of sheep that have been yet discovered. Which of them, if any, has given rise to the domestic races has been matter of dispute. In different countries different kinds of sheep are domesticated, and may have been derived from the wild races in the countries where they are found, and in some cases produced by intermixtures which cannot be traced.

The domestic sheep of Europe is usually termed *Oris aries*. The female goes with young twenty-one weeks, and generally brings forth her young in spring. She produces one, and often two, but rarely more than two, at a birth. She yields milk in quantity sufficient to nourish her young. Her milk produces little cream; but the quantity of caseous matter which it yields is comparatively large. This, when made into cheese, is wholesome, but strong-tasted.

The sheep appears to attain his most perfect state as to size and form in the temperate zone. He is there covered with wool, whereas in warmer countries he is more covered with hair, as he also partially is in the colder countries, where his size is likewise diminutive. The wool of the sheep falls off and is renewed every year; and the period of its falling off is early in summer.

In its natural state the sheep has horns; but in the domesticated races the horns frequently disappear, and the most valued breeds of them are entirely destitute of them. The sheep is a very hardy creature, with regard to the effects of temperature, its thick coat of wool defending it well from cold and moisture. It has been known to live for a long time under snow. It is a harmless and timid creature, and in its domesticated state is dependent upon man for protection and food. In mountainous countries, however, where it is less domesticated, and must trust greatly to its own resources, it manifests its instinctive powers of self-protection. It scratches up the snow with its feet in search of food: it is conscious of an impending storm, and takes the means to secure itself from its violence: it is wary and vigilant, and numbers have been known to combine for defence against beasts of prey. But though, under these circumstances vigilant, and in cases of necessity bold, all the habits of this creature lead it to submit to the dominion of man, and from the earliest times, accordingly, it has been the subservient instrument of our race.

Whether the wild race of sheep be all of one species, as some naturalists suppose, or of different species, as others maintain, the domestic races with which we are familiar in this island are believed to be of one species; and what we term breeds are merely varieties produced by different conditions of situation, food, and culture.

These conditions, however, produce a great diversity in the size, characters, and economical uses of the animal. Judging from general aspect only, we might believe that the diminutive creature of the Zetland islands, of the size of a little dog, is a distinct species from the large sheep of the Romney marsh; yet the species are believed to be the same.

The sheep, like the other animals necessary for human support, is fitted to adapt himself to the physical circumstances with which he is surrounded. In a country of heaths and scanty herbage, he is small, agile, and hardy. In a country of plains and rich herbage, he becomes of great size, unfitted for active motion, and less capable of providing for his own wants.

In the British islands, attention has long been paid to the culture of the sheep. In many parts it remains almost in its natural state; but in others it has been brought to all the perfection with respect to form, early maturity, and disposition to feed, which appears to consist with the nature of the animal.

Besides the properties of size and form, sheep are distinguished from each other by the nature of their wool. Sometimes it is short and fine, and fitted for the making of cloths; and sometimes it is long, and suited to the making of worsteds and coarser fabrics.

The main divisions of what are termed breeds in this country are into the sheep of the mountains, lower moors, and downs,—and the sheep of the richer plains. The varieties of the former class have sometimes horns, and are sometimes destitute of horns; they have sometimes short wool and sometimes long wool: the true sheep of the plains are all destitute of horns, and have long wool. The following may be enumerated as the principal breeds of this country:—

1. The Zetland Sheep.
2. The Dun-woolled Sheep.
3. The Black-faced Heath Sheep.
4. The Moorland Sheep of Devonshire.
5. The Cheviot Sheep.
6. The Horned varieties of Fine-woolled Sheep of Norfolk, Wiltshire, and Dorset.
7. The Ryland Sheep.
8. The Southdown Sheep.
9. The Merino Sheep.
10. The Devonshire Notts, the Romney-marsh Sheep, the old Lincolnshire, Tees-water, and Old Leicester.
11. The New Leicester, and improved Teeswater Sheep.

The Zetland sheep exist in the islands whence they take their name, but with some change of characters, extend to the Faroe islands and the remoter Hebrides. They are the least of all our races of sheep. They are generally without horns. The wool is adapted to the making of the finest fabrics, and forms a fine fur. Mixed with the wool, however, is a coat of coarse hair, which, when the wool falls off, forms a covering to the animal. The like character is possessed by some other sheep in the extreme north of Europe; and it is probable that it is from this source that the fine-woolled sheep of the remoter Highlands has been derived. These little creatures are very hardy, and may be suited to the scanty pastures where they are reared, but they are not deserving of more extended cultivation.

The Dun-woolled variety of sheep seems to have been once very generally extended. There is more or less of a dun colour of the wool, sometimes on the face or legs, and sometimes in patches on the body. Remnants of this original race are yet found in Scotland, in Wales, and in the Isle of Man. A similar breed extends to Normandy and other parts of Europe. The wool is soft and fine, and the mutation good; but in other respects the breed does not deserve cultivation.

The Black-faced Heath sheep are the natural inhabitants of a country of mountains and heaths,

Their wool, though shaggy and coarse, is light, weighing from 3 to 4 lb. the fleece. They are of the smaller class, but they are the hardiest, boldest, and most active of all our sheep; they have horns, and their legs and faces are black; they feed readily when brought to good pastures, and their mutton is in great esteem.

This race of mountain sheep is found on the highlands of Yorkshire, on the mountains of Cumberland and Westmorland, on the mountains in the south of Scotland, in Argyllshire, and all northward through the western and central Highlands. The best examples of the breed are usually found in Tweeddale and the adjacent districts.

For an elevated and rugged country, where the chief pasturage is heath, this breed is exceedingly well suited. The objection to it is the little value of the fleece, which is the coarsest of the wools produced in this country. This circumstance has, in many districts, caused a substitution of the Cheviot for the black-faced breed. But although the Cheviot breed is superior to the black-faced in weight and value of the wool, it is not possessed of the same hardy qualities; and the black-faced may, therefore, be cultivated with advantage in situations to which the Cheviot is unsuited.

The black-faced breed, though well defined, loses many of its characters when naturalized in a low, marshy, or less healthy district. Its wool becomes less coarse; the darkness of its colour diminishes; its legs and face becomes spotted or gray; and its horns sometimes disappear. Hence this breed is in some places so changed in its external characters, as to have lost much of its resemblance to the parent stock.

The Moeland sheep of Devonshire, termed the Exmoor and Dartmoor, derive their names from the districts of Devonshire where they are found. They have horns, white legs and faces, and long wool; they are hardy, and supposed to be suited to the wet undrained country which they inhabit: their wool weighs about 4 lb. the fleece: they are of the smaller class of sheep, and their form is bad.

The next mountain breed to be mentioned possesses very distinct characters. This is the Cheviot, so termed from being reared on the mountains round Cheviot, whence it has been very widely extended to other elevated districts.

The Cheviot sheep are heavier than the black-faced; they are without horns; the wool is fine, and the weight of the fleece is about 3 lb. and upwards. The sheep, like those of other mountain breeds, are light in the fore-quarters. They are hardy, active, and well suited to an elevated country.

The mountains where this race of sheep is indigenous, though high, are mostly covered with a green sward, and thus differ from the heathy mountains of other parts. The nature of this range of pasturage may have contributed to give its peculiar characters to this breed, though it is probable that some cross of which the history is now lost, may have added to the effect. The Cheviot sheep have been greatly improved, but the breeders having directed attention more to the form and size of the animals than to the quantity of wool, the latter has diminished in fineness, though it has increased in quantity.

The properties to be desired in a mountain breed are, that it shall be hardy, of good form, of sufficient size, and with good wool; and, for a combination of these qualities, the mountain breed of the Cheviots has not been equalled in this island.

The horned varieties of fine-woolled sheep, though reared in a comparatively low country, are allied to the sheep of the mountains, lower moors, and downs.

Of this class of breeds the Norfolk prevails in the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk. The sheep of this breed have large spiral horns and short wool. They differ from the black-faced heath sheep and the moorland sheep of Devonshire, in having short wool, and from the Cheviot, in having horns. They are tolerably suited to the dry pastures where they are chiefly found, but they are of a bad form, having thin bodies and flat ribs: they are of about the same weight as the Cheviots, and the wool is about 2 lbs. the fleece: they are of a restless disposition, and are considered to be slow feeders: they are generally giving place to the Southdown, which are in all respects a superior breed.

The Wiltshire sheep are distinguished by large spiral horns, but the legs and faces are white, and they are heavier than the Norfolk. Their wool is fine, weighing about 2½ lb. the fleece, and they are the largest of our fine-woolled sheep. The county of Wilts, where they are naturalized, consists in a great part of downs, and this breed was regarded as hardy, and well suited to the nature of the pastures; but it has been gradually giving place to the Southdown.

The sheep of the Dorset breed have small horns, with white legs and faces. Their wool is heavier and less fine than that of the Wiltshire sheep, weighing from 3 to 4 lb. the fleece, and more. They are a hardy race of sheep, being chiefly bred on the open downs of this part of England. They are remarkable for the ewes admitting the rams at an earlier period than any other sheep, and on this account they are valued for producing lambs for winter consumption.

The Ryland breed is so named from a district in Herefordshire. The sheep are very small, white-faced, and without horns. The wool is very fine, weighing about 2 lb. the fleece; the ewes, when fat, weigh from 12 lb. to 14 lb.; and the wethers from 12 lb. to 16 lb. the quarter; their flesh is delicate, and they may be said to be suited to the stunted pastures on which they are reared.

This breed has been crossed with the Spanish Merino, and the produce brought into extensive notice under the name of Merino-Ryland, or Anglo-Merino. Great exertions were made to extend this cross; but though it produced good wool, it has altogether declined in favour. There are other breeds allied to the Ryland, which, like it, have fine wool, and are bred on soils yielding light herbage.

The Southdown is a breed of fine-woolled sheep, now greatly esteemed, and extensively diffused on the light soils and chalky downs of England. They are without horns; their legs and faces are gray, and, like the sheep of the mountains, they are light in their fore-quarters. Their wool is fine and short, being from 2 to 3 inches in length, and weighing, on an average, about 2½ lb. the fleece. Their flesh is of excellent flavour; they are a hardy class of sheep, kindly feeders, and well suited to the species of pasture on which they are chiefly reared; they are about the size of the Cheviot sheep, the wethers, when fat, weighing about 18 lb. the quarter.

These sheep have been reared from time immemorial upon the chalky soils of Sussex; they have spread into other districts of light soils and downs, and also into some to which they are not well adapted.

Much care has been bestowed on the cultivation of this breed, and it has accordingly been greatly improved; but attention having been mainly directed to the form and fattening properties of the animals, the quality of the wool has declined, though its quantity has increased.

In the class of fine-woolled sheep is the Merino or Spanish breed, now partially naturalized. They are originally natives of the northern provinces of Spain,



and were introduced into this country in the year 1788. In the year 1792, the rams were made to cross the Ryeland, the Southdown, and other fine-woolled breeds of England. His Majesty King George III. had introduced rams of the Merino breed from Spain, and cultivated it with care. In the year 1804, the sales which then began of his Majesty's stock attracted great attention to the breed; and, in the year 1811, a society was formed for the purpose of encouraging and extending it.

The result of the crosses with the native sheep has not in any degree fulfilled the expectations formed. The wool of the native sheep has indeed been improved in quality; but this has been accompanied by defects in the characters of the animals themselves not to be compensated by the increased value of the fleece. The sheep of the mixed breed have nearly all proved defective in their forms, slow feeders, and less hardy than the parent stock.

Flocks, however, of the pure Merinos have been preserved, and the progeny of these has remained superior to the new or cross-breeds. The naturalized Merinos retain their natural characters, though the wool becomes longer and heavier than in Spain, and the body more large. But the entire form of the Merino as a feeding animal is bad, the animal small, and the return in mutton deficient both in quantity and value. It is vain that some breeders still contend for the superiority of the pure Merinos; the general judgment of farmers is against them, and with perfect reason.

Could the breeders of this country look more to the fleece than the weight and value of the animal, as in Spain and the parts of Germany where the Merinos have been naturalized, the culture of the breed might become profitable. But the breeder in England finds it his interest to direct attention mainly to the weight and value of the flesh; and while this is so, it will be more advantageous that this country import the wool of other countries than that the feeders either adopt an inferior animal, like the Merino, or sacrifice the more essential properties of the native sheep.

The races of sheep that have been mentioned may be said to be proper to mountains, lower moors, and chalky downs. The sheep of the lower plains are of a larger size, and more productive of flesh and wool, and they are all, it has been said, destitute of horns.

The first of these breeds to be mentioned is the Devonshire Notts, of which there are two varieties. The first, the Dunfaced Nott, so named from the brown colour of its face, is a coarse animal, with crooked back and flat sides: it bears a fleece of 10lb of wool, and is supposed to average, when fat, at 30 months old, about 22lb or more the quarter. The other variety is the Brampton Nott, which has a white face and legs, but in other respects resembles that last mentioned, producing, however, less wool and being a better feeder. Both of these clumsy breeds have been improved by crosses with the New Leicester.

The Romney-marsh breed has existed from time immemorial in the tract of rich grazing land on the southern coast of the counties of Kent and Sussex. The sheep of this breed are very large, have white faces, and yield a heavy fleece of long wool of good-quality of its kind. These sheep are favourites with the London butchers; but their breast is narrow, their extremities coarse, and in other respects their form is defective. They have been crossed by the New Leicester, which has had the effect of diminishing their size and lessening the quantity of their wool, but of improving their general form, and giving them a better disposition to fatten. Some

breeders of experience, however, question the good effects of this cross, maintaining that, besides the decrease of weight and deterioration of the fleece, the cross is less suited to the cold and open pastures of the marsh.

The Old Lincolnshire sheep, where they yet exist without intermixture, are a large coarse class of sheep, with hollow backs, flat ribs, and a hanging belly. They are slow feeders, and their mutton is not esteemed. But they yield a very heavy fleece of long wool.

The Teeswater breed was formerly the stock of the part of England near the river Tees. It is now, however, so entirely changed by crossing with the Dishley breed, that the old unimproved race of the Tees is scarcely now to be found. They were a very large race of sheep, arriving at the greatest weight of any other breed, and, like all the large kinds, being very prolific of lambs. The wool they produced was long and heavy to the fleece.

The old Leicester is a variety of the coarse long-woolled breeds which still exist in several of the midland counties. The sheep of this variety feed to a great weight on rich pastures, but they are coarse slow-feeding animals, and have generally either given place to improved kinds, or had their own characters changed by crossing.

The improved Dishley breed is very generally termed the New Leicester, from having been formed by Mr. Bakewell of Dishley, in the county of Leicester. This gentleman was the son of a considerable farmer; and, about the year 1755, had begun to turn his attention to those improvements in the form of feeding animals, by which he became so distinguished. The precise steps which he followed in the forming of his breed of sheep are not known, as he chose to observe a species of mystery upon the subject. He is supposed to have derived his first sheep from Lincolnshire; but however this may be, it was by a steady breeding from the best-formed animals, until the properties aimed at had been acquired, that he gradually corrected the defects, and improved the form of the animals. He was well aware of the external characters which indicate a disposition to feed, and, by a steady course of selection continued during a lifetime, he obtained animals of superior feeding properties to any that had been before cultivated. By constantly breeding, too, from individuals of his own flock, and consequently near of blood to each other, he gave a permanence to the characters of his breed which it retains to the present hour. Mr. Bakewell adopted the practice of letting out his rams for the season, and this contributed to the general diffusion of his breed. Successors to Mr. Bakewell have continued the same system, and bestowed the utmost care in maintaining the purity of their flocks; and thus from the county of Leicester as a centre, this breed has been spread to every part of England, where the breeders have thought fit to receive it; and it has entirely changed the character of the greater part of the long-woolled breeds of this kingdom.

The sheep of the new Leicester breed are inferior in size to the other varieties which they have supplanted. The wool is but of moderate quality, and in weight it falls short of that of the larger breeds; it weighs from 7 to 8lb and has a length of pile of from 5 to 7 inches. The value of the breed, therefore, does not consist in the size of the individuals, or the quality or abundance of their wool, but in early maturity, and aptitude to feed. In this latter property, the New Leicester has not been surpassed or equalled by any other breed of cultivated sheep.

The improved Teeswater is derived from the old

breed of the Tees. The sheep are smaller than those of the older race, but still they are a weighty class of sheep. They are the largest of all the improved breeds, yield a good fleece, and, like the breed from which they are derived, are very productive of lambs. The Teeswater breed owes its improvement chiefly to crossing with the new Leicester: but the same long-continued care has not been bestowed upon it as upon the other, and therefore, although feeding to a greater weight, the animals are not so complete in their form, nor so well adapted for general cultivation, as the improved Leicester.

The breeds of sheep, then, of this country, may be divided into two classes,—the sheep of the mountains, lower moors, and downs,—and the sheep of the plains.

The sheep of the first class have sometimes horns and sometimes want horns. The finest of them have no horns, namely, the Cheviot and the South Down. One of them, the blackfaced heath breed, has coarse wool: one of them, the moorland sheep of Devonshire, has long but not coarse wool; and all the others have short and fine wool.

Of the moorland and down breeds, as they may be called, the hardiest is the black-faced heath breed, and this property points it out as the most suitable for a high and rugged country, where artificial food cannot be procured.

The breed next to this in hardy properties, but surpassing it in the weight of the individuals, is the Cheviot. Where the pasture contains a sufficiency of grasses, this breed deserves the preference over any other known to us for a mountainous country.

The next breed deserving of cultivation is the Southdown. This breed is suited to the chalky and sandy downs of the south of England. It is in this respect a very valuable breed, but it is unsuited to the more rough and elevated pastures, to which the black-faced and Cheviot are adapted.

These are the moorland and down breeds, which appear to be the most deserving of cultivation in this country. Of the larger breeds of the plains, the New Leicester is the best adapted to general cultivation; and wherever an improved system of tillage is established, this admirable breed may be introduced.

## THE LARGE FLOWERING SENSITIVE PLANT.

This splendid shrub grows wild, both in the East and West Indies. It is frequently found in the mountains of Jamaica, and was introduced into our gardens in 1769, by Mr. Norman. It belongs to the same tribe as the common sensitive plant, but does not possess the power of closing its leaves at the approach of danger, in nearly so high a degree as its less-splendid companion. We must all have noticed the folding back of the leaves, and the rolling up of the flowers, of many well-known plants, in the evening, or at the approach of rain, and their subsequent expansion in the morning, or after the passing by of the shower. But the sensitive plants include within themselves, a power of motion far exceeding this, and approaching, in appearance, the voluntary movements of an animal. The origin of this singular power has never yet been discovered, although numerous experiments have been made, to ascertain the fact. These experiments all tend to demonstrate the infinite variety of ways, in which the Creator of all things has furnished every object of his creation with the means of self preservation.

We have already alluded to the periodical closing of the leaves of plants: the same motion takes place in the sensitive plants, but the wonderful fact in the history of the latter is, that this movement can be produced at any time; and by merely touching the leaves gently, they will instantly recoil, and fold themselves together, as if for self-protection; and at the same time, the small twig which sustains the leaves, approaches the main stem. If the touch has been forcible, not only the twig supporting one series of leaves is affected, but the same effects take place in the compound leaf, on the opposite side of the stem, and this motion is sometimes communicated to the whole plant.

It is very difficult to touch the leaf of a healthy sensitive plant so lightly as not to make it close: after the leaves are closed, some time elapses before they regain their original position, and the duration of this interval depends on the time of day, the season of the year, and the more or less healthy state of the plant. It seems, however, that light is an agent necessary to the production of some of these movements.

In the month of August, a sensitive plant was carried in a pot from its usual situation, into a dark cave; the motion it received in carriage, caused it to close its leaves, and they did not open until four-and-twenty hours afterwards: by this time they had become moderately open, but were afterwards subject to no changes at night or morning, remaining three days and nights with their leaves in the same state. At the end of this time it was brought out again into the air, where the leaves recovered their natural periodical motions, shutting every night, and opening every morning, as naturally and strongly as ever: but although while in the cave, their periodical motions were suspended, they shrunk from the touch with almost as much power as when in the open air.

Although a sensitive plant is, as we have seen, easily affected by the slightest touch, and closes when subjected to a heavy fall of rain, it remains unmoved if only exposed to a gentle shower. If the leaves are touched with sufficient force, the branches are also affected, but it is possible, if the experiment is carefully performed, to cause the branch to move towards the stem, the leaves still remaining in their original position with reference to each other; thus proving, that the power of motion belonging to each part of the plant is independent of that possessed by any other part.

The same species of irritability has also been noticed in many other plants; one instance occurs in the flower of the common barberry. The experiment was made on a bush in full flower (it was about one o'clock, the day was bright and warm, with very little wind,) and is thus related by Dr. Smith.

"The stamina of such of the flowers as were open were bent backwards to each petal, and sheltered themselves under their concave tips. No shaking of the branch appeared to have any effect upon them. With a very small bit of stick I gently touched the inside of one of the filaments, which instantly sprung from the petal with considerable force, striking its anthera against the stigma. I repeated the experiment a great number of times in each flower, touching one filament after another, until the tips of all six were brought together in the centre over the stigma.

"I took home with me three branches laden with flowers, and placed them in a jar of water, and in the evening tried the experiment on some



of these flowers, then standing in my room, with the same success.

"This irritable power appears, however, to reside only in the inside of the filament, as when touched in any other part it remained unmoved."

## ON THE DANGER OF BLEEDING, AND THE ADVANTAGE OF ADMINISTERING EMETIC TARTAR IN STAGGERS (VERTIGO) IN THE HORSE.

By M. PHILIPPE, M.V., MILITAIRE.

(From the Veterinarian.)

The frequent occurrence of vertigo (stagers) in the horse, and (whether from the serious character of the disease, or the nature of the treatment which is employed, or the difference of opinion which exists as to what that treatment ought to be) the frequency with which it bids defiance to all the resources of art, induce me to relate some facts that have occurred in my practice.

At the commencement of my career, fully imbued with the doctrines which I had learned in the schools, I employed venesection, emetic tartar and aloes, setons or vesicatories, and lotions of cold water on the head. From the absolute failure of success in the cases in which I had seen this mode of treatment adopted, I ought to have foreseen that such means could have little good effect; but, seduced by the brilliant illusions of theory, I persisted in the employment of them, and in the space of ten years I thus treated twenty-three horses, twenty of which died, and the three others remained in a comatose, debilitated state, to which farcy or glanders soon succeeded.

It was not until 1833 that I changed my plan of treatment. A mare named La Fortune, belonging to the 11th regiment of artillery, eight years old, and exceedingly fat, was, on the 13th of May, attacked with vertigo. She was continually in motion, knocking and pressing her head forcibly against the wall, and had thus already wounded her head in various places. She was led with difficulty to the infirmary, which was only a little way from the place in which she had been standing. The pulse was full, hard, and slow—the conjunctiva highly injected—the pupils dilated—the dorso-lumbar portion of the spine inflexible, and she was perfectly unconscious of surrounding objects. I was about to bleed her, when, reflecting upon my former experience of the inadequacy of this measure, I determined to adopt other means. A few days before I had been talking of this disease with my intimate and valued friend M. Crepin, and he had informed me of the success which had attended his adoption of the plan first recommended by M. Gilbert—abstaining from bleeding, and giving emetic tartar. Encouraged by his advice, I gave La Fortune an ounce of emetic dissolved in a pound and a half of the infusion of the flowers of the Linden tree. After having cast the animal, and inserted a seton on each side of the chest, and injection of an ounce and a half of aloes was thrown up, and the animal was restricted to water whitened with oatmeal. After that, an ounce of the sulphate of soda was administered daily, and some injections given, and the animal, to my great surprise, was completely well in the space of fifteen days. She was then sent to grass, and in a little while fully regained her condition. Four days afterwards she was taken up, and put violently on dry food, and on the 6th day fresh symptoms of vertigo appeared. I employed the same means, with the exception of the setons, and with

the same success. She is now at hard work, and in perfect health.

Two other cases of vertigo presented themselves in the months of March and April, 1834, and in both of which it would have been thought that bleeding was plainly indicated. Both the horses were very fat—there was great redness of the mucous membranes—fulness, frequency, and hardness of pulse—dilatation of the pupil—all the intellectual functions suspended or confused—the power of motion disordered—it seemed like a state of drunkenness: they pressed their heads against the wall, and, in fact, exhibited all the symptoms of well characterized vertigo.

As soon as I saw them I ordered them to be cast, and inserted setons on each side of the chest. I then administered an ounce of emetic tartar in a pound and a half of hot water. On being liberated and led to their stalls, an injection containing an ounce and a half of aloes was administered to each. The restricted diet of white water was ordered for each, with an ounce of the sulphate of soda daily. Success crowned my efforts, although in July one of them had an appearance of farcy in the course of the seton; and they now are free from every symptom of a disease which I regarded as mortal, and, at least, in which I had previously been unable to render any service.—*Journal, Feb. 1835.*

IMPORTANT DECISION TO AGRICULTURISTS.—It will be recollected that at the last Assizes for Bedfordshire, in the action "Palmer v. Armstrong," a nominal verdict was taken for the plaintiff for the sum of 1,000*l.*, and the case referred to an arbitrator, F. Pym, Esq., who accepted that office. The case has since been discussed. Messrs. Pearce and Sons, for the plaintiff; and Mr. Sharman, for the defendant.—It appeared that defendant occupied a farm in Goldington, and that the action was commenced against him by Mr. John Palmer, his landlord, for damages on account of dilapidations and mismanagement of the land. The defendant lately occupied, as yearly tenant, and without any agreement as to cultivation, a farm of the plaintiff's at Goldington. The principal ground of complaint was that the defendant, during the tenancy, had cross-cropped the land, by growing in each year, a certain portion of wheat after barley, and barley after wheat, and that in the last year he had grown too large a quantity of wheat. The course of cropping adopted by the defendant, including to a certain extent the above-mentioned system, was admitted by the defendant; and on behalf of the plaintiff several witnesses were called to give evidence that in their judgment the system was a bad one, and that it was contrary to the custom of many parts of the country. On the part of the defendant it was proved by a very strong body of evidence, including farmers and agricultural labourers, that it has been the custom immemorially for all the farmers in the parish of Goldington, which is an inclosed parish, and farmed upon the three course system, to grow wheat after barley, and *vice versa* to grow barley after wheat, and that the plaintiff himself adopted this plan when he occupied land in the parish. It was also proved that the defendant had farmed the land in all other respects in an excellent manner during his tenancy, and the following farmers, Mr. Bennett, of Beckerings Park; Mr. Lyon, of Elstow; Mr. Clayton, of Cople; Mr. Anderson, of Oakley; and Mr. Stimson, of Marston, gave evidence that they had viewed the farm, and that it was left in a very capital state of cultivation, and that no farm in the parish was in better condition. It was

proved, too, that the farm had been re-let at Michaelmas, 1834, when defendant left it, for precisely the same rent as he gave for it when he entered, at Michaelmas, 1831, and for the three succeeding years, although the price of agricultural produce had in the mean time considerably diminished.—The arbitrator has lately given his award for the defendant, and has adjudged the plaintiff had no cause of action whatever against the defendant, and that the plaintiff shall pay the costs of the reference and award, in addition to the costs of the action.

**HOW TO STOP A STARTLED HORSE.**—Dr. De Chemant has suggested the following means of preventing accidents from high mettled horses:—"The muscular strength of the horse being greater in the flexors than the extensors, a small chain, of about three yards long, covered with leather, and contrived to fall, at pleasure, a few inches below the joint of the knee, would slacken the horse's pace, or stop him at will. To accomplish this, the chain must be fixed to the harness by the two ends, about the middle of the body; and for greater security, a small piece of copper, one or two inches wide, could be placed on that part of the chain which would fall on the horse's knee, so as to embrace the narrow part of the leg, and which would prevent the chain from sliding upwards. When not in use, the chain may be suspended round the neck of the horse, or be attached to the centre of the collar by a small cord which would pass behind the ears, and be fixed on the harness at the top of the head. Then, by means of a spring, made for that purpose, the chain could be let down at the will of the driver, or of those persons inside the carriage. To this invention may be added the following simple means of depriving the horse of his sight in an instant:—A pair of leather winkers, made concave, may be fixed to the harness on the forehead with a spring, and which, on pulling the same cord that lets down the chain, would also close over his eyes."—*Atlas Newspaper*.

**A BRACE OF "FINE OLD COCKS."**—We some months back inserted an account of a hale old man named Hunter, residing at Holbeach, carrying a sack of flour weighing 20 stone, a short distance on the day he attained his eightieth year; we have now to record that Mr. James Oliver, miller and baker, of the same place, reached "fourscore in years" on the 13th inst., in the afternoon of which day he carried across his bakehouse with the greatest ease 20st of flour. Mr. Hunter, who will soon score his "fourscore and one," enjoys at the present time an excellent state of health.—*Lincoln Mercury*.

**SALAD.**—The intercommunity which now subsists between England and that truly "salad-eating nation, France," has been the means of increasing the use of salads so extremely amongst us, that it is now become almost a necessary appendage to the table. Still, however, many persons are disinclined to introduce it not only on account of the trouble of getting together the numerous articles required to make a good salad, but also from the nicety which is requisite in mixing that just proportion of ingredients without which excellence cannot be attained. This difficulty may be altogether removed by using "Batty's Salad Cream," a mixture with which a salad, which will challenge the criticism of the most fastidious gastronomist, it being prepared from a genuine receipt of the celebrated Dr. Kitchener, can be prepared in one minute.

## ON DRILLING CORN, &c.

We earnestly invite the attention of all practical Agriculturists to the "NORFOLK AND IMPROVED LEVER DIBBLE DRILLS," the particulars of which will be found in our Advertising Sheet, as well as to the subjoined explanation of the operation of Drilling.

Nearly every objection against the superiority of drilling over other modes of sowing has been satisfactorily rebutted by the original inventor; any lengthened discussion, therefore, within the limits of this paper, would be as impracticable as it would be unnecessary. Nor is it intended, here, to enforce the row culture in every situation or in every variety of season; the writer's object is simply to recommend its more general adoption, and with this view to show, by statements founded on actual experience, that, in the growth of wheat, barley, beans, and turnips, there would, under favourable circumstances, even at the present extreme low price of corn, be a saving in the first expense, and often a more abundant crop afterwards.

Corn and other crops, no matter how they have been sown, are frequently overgrown with weeds, which, if not destroyed, must take that nourishment from the soil which is required for the corn; now, to effect this, the land must either be hoed or hand-weeded: and it can easily be perceived, that much less damage is done to those crops which have been drilled than those sown broadcast, inasmuch as the workman can use his hoe between the rows with greater ease to himself and far less injury to the plants which have been drilled, than must inevitably be the case where sown broadcast.

In sowing any sort of seed, these four circumstances must be carefully attended to. For want of heat, seeds will not come up during frost; for want of air, they will not come up if too deep in the ground; and, if not duly covered, they will not come up from having too much light. A few will germinate in the light. It is of the utmost importance, therefore, to the success of any kind of crop, that the seed be placed at the proper depth in the soil. If it be too thinly covered,—if, like that in the parable of the sower, it have, "not much earth," it will, "when the sun is up, be scorched," and will "wither away because it had not root." If, on the other hand, it be buried too deep, the stem is weakened in its efforts to get through the soil to the light, and even when it gets above ground, it continues slender and does not recover its vigour, which is spent on the production of a second set of root fibres, and as soon as this is effected, the first set dies off.

This, says an able writer, furnishes a good practical lesson to the farmer, never to sow *before* he harrows; or if he drills corn, never to allow the shares to go deeper than one inch into the ground; or, at least, to see that the seed be not covered more than one inch." Now, no method of depositing seed secures these advantages so certainly as drilling.

The principal objection urged against drilling, (and what perhaps will sufficiently account for its being so rarely practised,) is the difficulty of getting it well performed. It is too frequently entrusted to the management of labourers who do not understand the machinery, and who, if any part get out of order, are unable to rectify it on the spot; by proceeding, the work is rendered imperfect, the machine is thrown out of repute,



and thus the real merits of this invention become greatly undervalued. On due care, however, being exercised in selecting a proper person to superintend the execution of the work, the following advantages, compared with other modes of sowing, will be obtained.

#### LIGHT SOILS.

**TURNIPS.**—Drilling for turnips is very much to be preferred, and appears to give general satisfaction, especially in dry summers. In one season, many farmers, by way of experiment, sowed their turnip-seed in two different ways; first, by manuring and sowing broad-cast in the usual manner, and secondly, by drilling the seed with a little moist tillage. Those which were done in the latter manner proved, nine times out of ten, to be by far the best turnips. Drilling hand-tillage (particularly recent and moist manure) directly with the seed is perhaps one of the most important and economical methods that can be adopted for obtaining turnips; and this advantage, combined with the ready convenience of regulating the plants to be left on the ground, entitles the row culture to a decided preference. The seed, as well as the manure, can be deposited at any depth, and less seed will be required than if sown broad-cast; but it is much better to drill too much than too little, since the quantity can only be regulated by the state of the weather.

**BARLEY.**—It is very seldom that the season is so wet as not to admit of barley being drilled after turnips have been eaten off the ground; on this account the row culture should nearly always be adopted for barley. Upon taking an average, for a number of years, of the quantity of seed required for one acre, it is ascertained that four bushels is necessary for broad-cast, whilst three bushels and a half is sufficient for drilling. There is very little difference in the labour of these two methods of sowing barley, for it is quite necessary to harrow the land well in either case; and although the drill requires three horses to draw it, it must be observed that the coulter of it divide and pulverize the soil as much as one harrowing, not to mention the increased facility it affords for weeding, stone-gathering, &c.

**WHEAT (AFTER CLOVER LEY.)**—Drilling wheat after clover ley does not appear to have gained ground, on account of the extra trouble required in sufficiently pulverizing the soil for the use of the common Norfolk drill, but this inconvenience is considerably removed by employing the dibble drill.—The necessary quantity of seed depends both on the time and the state of the weather, and sown early requiring less seed than if sown later. But on an average of a great number of years it has been found to require for broad-cast six strokes and one peck, while drilling needs only five strokes and one peck per acre, making a difference of one stroke.

#### STRONG SOILS.

**WHEAT (AFTER SUMMER FALLOW.)**—Drilling fallow-wheat at Michaelmas with a little hand-tillage, provided the season will permit, is a very economical and advantageous plan, both as it regards the expense of seed and the opportunity afterwards afforded for entirely eradicating all the weeds between the rows either by the horse or hand hoe. The average quantity required to sow one acre broad-cast is six strokes, and five strokes are quite sufficient for Drilling, leaving a saving of one stroke by adopting the latter mode, beside all other advantages.

**BEANS (AFTER WHEAT).**—To show that the Row Culture for beans is thought to answer, we need only mention that several farmers drill beans who do not drill any thing else.—When drilled, from the manner in which the plants grow, (the pods being placed on the stem from the root upwards,) they must of course derive essential benefit, while filling, by the admission of air through the open space left between the rows; for it is well known that beans and all other green crops which carry their seed from the bottom of the stalks to their tops, require to have free access to the atmosphere. The ears of corn, on the other hand, are so placed as to have always accession to the air while they are standing, the stalks being nourished from the ground, and not (like green crops) from the atmosphere. By this mode, moreover, the weeds, in hoeing, are more easily destroyed. The saving of seed is always very considerable, and fully repays for drilling, their being required for broad-cast seven strokes, and for drilling five strokes. But with respect to saving of seed here, and in every other case, it may, perhaps, be safely laid down as a general rule, that seed must be increased in proportion to the poverty of the land, from which cause so many kernels always perish for want of nourishment, whereas in a rich soil nearly every individual seed vegetates.

**WHEAT (AFTER CLOVER LEY.)**—Under proper management, the heaviest crops of wheat are generally obtained from clover leys. This points out the necessity of adopting the best and easiest mode of sowing. Until the dibble drill was invented, it was impossible to drill wheat upon strong land clover leys. To reduce a strong soil to the requisite degree of fineness, would require much additional labour, and is at the same time impracticable in unfavourable seasons; for while this labour is going forward, or perhaps nearly completed, and the soil ready for the seed, the fall of a few hours' rain would, by again rendering the surface adhesive and lumpy, make all this labour useless. The change of weather that often takes place in October and November supplies a further reason for adopting the dibble drill; at this season it is not a matter of choice, *but of necessity*, to put in the wheat with the least possible delay. The saving of seed and the advantage of depositing it at one certain depth are the same here as mentioned under the head of Wheat after Clover Ley on "LIGHT SOILS."

Having shown above under what circumstances the row culture may be carried on to the farmer's benefit, it now remains to give a brief description of two of the most improved drills, as being best adapted to ensure those advantages which may be derived from this mode of sowing when properly managed.

#### THE NORFOLK OR IMPROVED LEVER DRILL.

This drill, which requires three horses to draw it, is found equally applicable to light and strong soils, provided they can be made friable to the depth of three or four inches; and where lands or ridges are 4 or 4½ yards wide, it is so contrived that *the horses may always walk in the furrow without setting a foot on the land*,—a circumstance which is very advantageous in wet seasons. It will drill about twelve acres a-day of any required quantity of wheat, barley, beans, and turnip-seed per acre, at any depth, and the rows at any distance from each other.—By employing this drill to deposit hand-tillage along with the seed, the use of manures is economized in a two-fold degree; it

diminishes the quantity necessary, and increases its power by bringing it into immediate contact. The charge for the use of this drill and a man to conduct it, is 1s 6d per acre when seed only is drilled, and 2s when tillage is required to be deposited with the seed.

#### DIBBLE DRILL FOR WHEAT OR BEANS ON THE SOLID FURROW OF GRASS OR CLOVER LEY.

This drill, on a simple and small scale, was invented by Mr. J. S. Bayldon, about the year 1820, was improved, enlarged, and put on the lever principle eight years ago, and has been used with uniform success every season since. It is found to answer both on light and strong heavy soils, and is of sufficient breadth to sow a 4 or 4½ yard land at two movements. Any quantity of hand tillage may be deposited with the seed if necessary. It is capable of being used in any season that is fit for broad-cast, and is recommended as a substitute for dibbling, being performed much quicker, and the seed sown more regularly, than is done by children, who very often drop twice the quantity of seed in one hole than they do in another. Indeed it combines all the advantages of the dibble and the pressing-machine, while it is free from many of their defects, and is also performed in considerably less time, being capable of sowing nine acres per day. Dibbling requires a great number of hands to get the seed sown in proper season; and in tenacious soils it is very objectionable, inasmuch as the dibble forms a cup for the water, in which the seed may perish. On the contrary, the cutters or pressers of this drill make a continued narrow niche on the solid furrow, the seed being deposited at one certain depth, and the water draining off in the cracks of the ploughing; while the narrow niche in which the seed is firmly wedged, is more easily harrowed up than the round hole made by the dibble. A further and very material advantage attending this machine, is the little trouble that is required previous to the seed being sown; in making use of the Norfolk drill, for instance, it is always necessary that the soil be well pulverized for the reception of the seed; whereas, by employing this drill, the seed may be placed in the soil of the *toughest* furrow,—the only needful preparation (after ploughing) being, that the land be rolled and harrowed a few times over to prevent the skiefs of the drill from following the niches of the furrows. Six horses will certainly be required to draw this drill; but the superior manner in which it deposits the seed, in giving it a *firm hold* of the ground, and placing all of it at a more exact depth, by which the frost is prevented from throwing out the plants in spring, completely overbalances the charge for the horses.—Should the clover crop prove but indifferent, an opportunity will also be afforded of lodging any quantity of hand-tillage with the seed, which in some cases may be of very great benefit.

RICHARD BAYLDON.

Barnsley, 4th May, 1835.

THORN'S TALLY-HO SAUCE.—Having had by no means a trifling experience in British Field Sports of every description, as well as catering for the enjoyment of the table, when the perils and fatigues of the day are over, we take upon ourselves the full responsibility of asserting that neither the gorgeous sideboard in the Squire's dining room, nor the ham-bler Wadett packed for the excursion to the hills on the Moor, can be complete without a bottle of the "TALLY-HO SAUCE."

Lincoln, May 13th, 1835.

Sir,—In your paper of the 11th instant, I observed a letter from "a Nottinghamshire Farmer," requesting some of your correspondents *who have used* "Finlayson's Patent Harrow" to give information how it may be worked with most advantage, and the kind of land on which it is most useful.

Perhaps, in absence of a more able penman, you may think my letter worthy of insertion; more particularly, as I have used the implement every year since 1827, on rather a large scale. In the first place then, the Harrow is entirely made of iron, supported by three cast-iron wheels; and when complete, weighs a little more than five cwt. It covers a space of six feet in breadth, has nine tynes, four of which are placed in the first row, and five in the second.

The depth at which the Harrow is intended to work is adjusted by means of two racks behind, and a lever extending from the muzzle of the implement, to the hand of the conductor, two feet behind the machine. By aid of this lever, the conductor is enabled to throw the tynes out of the ground in turning at the land's end, or when any obstacle comes in their way in their progress through the soil. Now with regard to the best method of using the harrow; no doubt it may be used in many different ways, but I shall give my own plan. This year for instance, I have fifty acres of land designed for *green crops*. In the Autumn of last year, I ploughed this land in the usual way, and suffered it to remain in that state till the 1st of March, when I put four horses to the "Finlayson Harrow" and completed a field of ten acres in one day. In this day's work, the machine was dragged across the furrows, the conductor taking care that the tynes went to the bottom of the furrows but no deeper. On the second day, I put two horses to the implement, and went over the same ten acres in the longitudinal direction of the furrows. After those harrowings, the field was left to its repose and the influence of the atmosphere till the 20th instant, when the field was again gone over by the common harrow at a *quick step*. It may be necessary here to mention, that the Finlayson Harrow acts in the double capacity of plough and harrow. Like a plough in stirring the soil, and like itself only, in *extirpating* the root weeds, and leaving the land in an open and pulverized state to the influence of the atmosphere. The common harrow on the other hand, is only used as a *surface pulverizer* to separate the root weeds from the clods; and in order to do this most effectually, the horses should be driven at full speed. This is of vast importance, as it breaks down the soil and leaves the weeds separated on the surface, which can afterwards be raked off with great facility. But to proceed,—before making my land into *drifts* for *turnips* or *potatoes*, my practice is, to employ the "Finlayson Harrow" again: first *across*, and then *longitudinally* as before followed by the common harrow and rakers; when this is completed, I have no hesitation of saying that my field will be in a fitter state to be made into drills, than if it had got three or four ploughings at no more than half the expense of the common method. But what is yet of more importance, I have always been of opinion, that my crops were better after the harrowing than the ploughing system. Whether this arises from the more complete extirpation of weeds,—the better exposure of the soil to the atmosphere,—or by the tread of the horses' feet being entirely removed by the following harrow, or from a combination of all, I am not prepared at present to state. But, I must not trespass further on your



columns, and have now only to state, that this harrow has saved me the keep of a couple of horses, since 1827. So well is the utility of this implement known in Lincolnshire, that every considerable farmer has one or two on his farm. This may satisfy the inquiry of the Nottinghamshire farmer.

I am, Sir, your most obedient Servant,  
A LINCOLNSHIRE FARMER.

## TO THE AGRICULTURISTS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING CHRONICLE.

Manchester, May 19, 1835.

Sir,—Much has been said about your distress, yet still no one can point out what will relieve you. At this time flour and other grain are about the same price they were at the commencement of the war. I used to pay for the load of twelve score of seconds, 24s, or at utmost 26s; after the war commenced it kept advancing until I paid 6l 18s for the same, and before this load was finished it sold at 7l, and 7l 10s. What was then the distress of the poor? At this time potatoes were 20s and 21s the load. Now, as these articles got up, land kept advancing, and the farms began to be let by ticket, and at each letting there were three biddings—the highest price was declared, then it was put up again, the highest declared again, and at the third highest bidding it was let. Now, there was no distress with the agriculturists before these high rents took place. I find that Osgood Hanbury, of Holfield-grange, in Coggleshall, is letting his farms at the rents which he had before the French war. This, my good friends, will relieve you—and this only.

I remain yours,

An Old True-born Englishman of 72 Winters.

|                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| In 1722 it was                 | But in 1822 it was          |
| The husband to the plough,     | The husband tallyho,        |
| The wife to the cow,           | The daughter piano,         |
| The daughter to the sow,       | The wife silk and satin,    |
| The son to the mow,            | The boy Greek and Latin,    |
| And your rents will be netted. | And you'll all be gazetted. |

**DIRECTIONS FOR USING CARY'S CATTLE GAUGE.**—The gauge is a slide-rule of box (or ivory,) accompanied by a measure of tape, marked in feet and inches, with which the length and girth of a beast are first to be carefully taken. The length is to be measured from the foremost upper corner of the shoulder blade bone, along the back, in as straight a line as can be taken, to the hindmost point of the rump, by the side of the tail. The girth is to be taken close behind the fore legs. These measures are sufficient, by the assistance of the slider, to tell the dead weight of the four quarters, either in the London stone of eight pounds, or in the country stone of fourteen pounds. For instance, with a length of five feet, and a girth six feet four inches, if the London weight be required. Place the mark of 8lb. on the lower edge of the slider to five feet on the rule, and then, opposite to six feet four inches on the slider, will be found 34 stones, London weight. Or, if the corresponding country weight be sought, place the mark for 14lb. on the slider opposite to five feet of length and then opposite to six feet four inches of girth, will be found forty-eight stones, country weight.—N. B. If the slider be drawn out of the rule, care must be taken to return it rightly to its place; so that the side for greater girths may correspond to the greater weights.

## IMPROVEMENT BY THOROUGH DRAINING:—FRUITS OF THE DISCOVERY.

We have much pleasure in being able to state, on the ground of reports from various districts of Fife, as well as other counties, that the success attending the adoption of Mr. Smith of Deans-ton's system of draining is complete. Practical farmers assure us it is the greatest improvement made in the art of agriculture in our times, and, in fact, that one of its earliest and surest results will be to destroy in a great measure the existing distinctions and gradations of soils. This does not by one wit surpass our expectations, for what is *outfield*? Is not the expression applicable to all soils, which, whatever their inherent qualities, are barred from the farmer and the community, by the impossibility of drying them—by an unwholesome coldness which kills the seed, and their liability to have their whole manure or vegetable mould run off by superficial currents of water? To every one of these evils, Mr. Smith has supplied a complete remedy; and his system farther enables the farmer to improve or in any way modify the earthy texture or consistency of his soil, by placing at his command ten or twelve inches of formerly unavailable subsoil, which he may at any time bring into action by a course of deep ploughing.

It is impossible to refer to the immediate and more obvious consequences of an improvement of such moment as this, without extending our views still farther, and going into various reflections.

There may be seen in it, in the first place, a fine illustration of the action of principles, which are always opening to a thickly-peopled and apparently exhausted country, new and unexpected resources. What an extent of fresh soil is thus, as it were, created for us,—as if called into existence by a charm or a word! And how strikingly should this intimate to the class of thinkers still inclined to draw *practical* conclusions from Malthus's law of population, that the *modifying circumstances* may often become sufficiently great to cause a virtual annulment of that law? It is not too much to allege that the improvement we are alluding to contains a power of procuring supplies of food, which will offer free liberty of increase to our population for at least half a century to come; and who shall say that before the close of that half century, or during its progress, other principles will not be unfolded prolific with equal or greater benefits? In fact, it is precisely when a Society becomes *dense*—when men are spurred on and enlivened by the intercourse, competition and diffusion of knowledge, incident to a state of crowded population, that the tide of improvement flows rapid and strong.

But it is of more immediate interest to contemplate the changes likely to be thus superinduced on agriculture; considering it as a *trade* it cannot escape the notice of the most superficial, and must, we think, ere long force itself on the convictions of the most prejudiced,—that farming affairs have recently *turned a point*—that they have taken a *set* towards a particular direction—and that the late downward tendency of prices is no fortuitous or temporary occurrence, but the

commencement of a new and permanent state of circumstances which it becomes prudent agriculturists to prepare for, and in reference to which it behoves the whole of us to provide. Nothing can be more evident than that recent low prices have their origin in the *augmented produce of our home harvest*. Of *importation* for the last three years there has been comparatively little, and therefore the conclusion is not to be evaded, that the growing prosperity of Ireland—the release of English agriculture by commutation of tithes—and last, though not least, that complete recovery of *outfield*, which Mr. Smith has just demonstrated not only possible but easily attainable, will all combine to give intensity to the foregoing effect, and if not to bring down the scale of prices still farther, at all events to fix and settle it at its present low point.

Now we maintain—and it is no paradox—that this state of circumstances will not only soon cease to be matter of hardship and complaint with the practical farmer, but that it may and certainly *will* become the means of rescuing him from that condition of uncertainty, fluctuation, and consequent embarrassment, under which he and his family have been labouring since the war. In the first place, it will effectually reduce the Corn Laws to a dead letter, and thereby permit the *easy* re-establishment of that perfectly free commercial intercourse between Great Britain and foreign countries which has been our heaviest national misfortune. When price has settled at the point referred to, the change in question will supervene without disturbing existing contracts or relations; because on account of the *previous* declension of price, these must all have been *previously* adjusted. The removal of restrictions on the corn trade will then appear to agriculturists purely what it is—the only attainable means of delivering price from the capricious influence of the seasons; and there is no doubt that the most valuable, though long and absurdly dreaded reform, will, as if by common consent, be accomplished. Bring us to such a condition, and farewell to our harassing *ups and downs*—these charges which no man can foresee, and against which no human prudence can provide. With a price of produce as stable as Nature will permit the price of any thing to be, how easy, comparatively speaking, may be the farmer! how accurately might he make calculation as to the rent his land can afford, and how seldom would he require to appeal to the mercies and depend on the voluntary reductions of the landlord.

We are not so far as some persons think from this state of things. A few years at the utmost will bring us close upon it; and we do hail and rejoice in that prospect as one which promises a yet unknown and incalculable addition to the sum of human happiness. What happiness will accrue from the single circumstance of agriculture having arrived at the close of its fluctuations, and become one of our securest, instead of the most hazardous investment for capital, they alone can tell who have had experience of it *as it is*, and felt the keenness of the iron of embarrassment and dependence! But of fully as much moment are the *collateral* consequences of the withdrawal of this bone of discord—the rooting out of this bane

of British society. It has long been our solemn conviction that of all obstacles to the course of reform, to the establishment over this empire of rational administrative institutions, and therefore to the full and careering development of the physical and intellectual energies of Great Britain—none now existing can be compared to that bugbear, the Corn Law. The vast proportion of small and moderate proprietors have no personal interest in misgovernment, or in the retention of cumbrous and expensive fabrics, distinguished only by their power to repress national and individual enterprise—their irrationality and mischievousness. The spoil collected and distributed under authority of such institutions, falls into the hands but of a few great proprietors; and the multitude of our possessors of the soil are at present united to this truculent Aristocracy by terror about the Corn Law alone. Remove this cause of sinister and distorting influence, and pure reason will triumph—THESE MEN ARE OURS! They will evince once more the free spirit of the yeomen of England.—they will remember what they contended for of yore.

The same circumstances will lead to the effectual enfranchisement of the tenantry. What prospers their condition, will assure their moral and political independence. Our views in regard to the Ballot are well known; but we do not hesitate to state that the circumstance in the present condition of the franchise which seems to render it chiefly necessary is the pecuniary thralldom under which in consequence of a long period of deepening depression, so many farmers find themselves in regard of their landlords. Let Agriculture become *stable*, and all this will grow well!

Mr. Smith of Deanston is contributing potently to the production of these far-stretching results: most cordially do we acknowledge his services, and rejoice in his co-operation.

The trade in hides in England, as well as France, forms now an important branch of commerce, furnishing in the manufactured state of the skins not only articles of luxury, but of the greatest utility; in the workshops, in the manufactory, in agricultural occupations, in fact, in the houses of all grades of society it is found disguised under a thousand shapes, always necessary, and often indispensable. In England a capital of 14,000,000*l.* to 15,000,000*l.* is vested in the raw and manufactured state of the article, and employment afforded to 290,000 to 300,000 people, who are paid in wages about 9,000,000*l.* The tanning business has of late years made rapid progress in this country, in consequence of the theoretical experiments of chemistry superseding the usually protracted mode of preparing the skins. France has kept pace with our improvements, and the tanneries at Pont-Audemer, Chateau, Kenaud, and Blois, produce leather fully equal to the best samples in England. In Paris, however, the leather is inferior, principally owing to the extent and activity of the demand compelling the tanners to hasten too expeditiously the manufacture, to accomplish which, they make free use of acids among the ingredients, causing the article to become prematurely hard, and of course not so durable; but in France the leather fabrication of sporting articles is much sought after, and it is calculated that upwards of one hundred million pairs of shoes are frequently turned out of



hand in a single year, for which not less than 300,000,000 francs are expended in wages; an enormous sum, when we recollect that the material has cost at least double the amount. The French saddlery is likewise much esteemed, particularly in South America, and since some English manufacturers have established at Ponte-Audemer, the art of varnishing the leather has been considerably improved, the article even possessing more suppleness than that made in England, and commands a preference in foreign markets.

### THE SEE!

Appointed to be sung or said in all Churches or Chapels throughout England and Wales, and in our good town of Berwick upon-Tweed, before the sermon.

The See! the See! the Bishop's See!  
That ever wealthy Bishop's See:  
Its wealth and powers without a bound—  
It feeds on all the country round,—  
It grinds the farmers, eats the tithes,  
And like an incubus it lies.  
I'm in the See! I'm in the See!  
I am were I would ever be;  
With the rich above and the poor below,  
The farmers sigh where'er I go;  
However hard their lot may be,  
What matter? I'm in the Bishop's See.

I love, oh how I love the tithe,  
To see the church and clergy thrive—  
To loll at ease from morn till noon  
Within my splendid drawing-room;  
Whilst the farmers plough and sow  
To make my coffers overflow:  
I never see the starving poor,  
But I love my Bishopric more and more,  
And firmly cling to its well lined nest,  
As a child would cling to its mother's breast,  
For a mother it is, and has been to me,  
Since I have held the wealthy Bishop's See.

The sky was black, and wet the morn,  
In the noisy hour when I was born:  
The tithe pig squeal'd, the thunder roll'd,  
The cattle bellow'd in the fold,  
And never was heard such a hubbub wild,  
As welcome to life the tithe-fed child.  
I've lived since then amidst care and strife,  
Full fifty years a lazy life,  
With wealth to spend, and power to range,  
But never sighed for things to change,  
And death, when'er he comes to me,  
Shall find me in the wealthy Bishop's See.

TIMOTHY FLAIL.

COURTNEY'S CATTLE MEDICINE. — Dear Sir,—In reply to your letter I have much pleasure in informing you that I have used your Balls for the scour in lambs with very good success. My shepherd informs me he has given the contents of eight boxes to 110 lambs with success in every case except one, and in this case the disorder had made too rapid a progress before it was observed for the medicine to have the desired effect; I will further observe that in every case in which we succeeded, the Balls were given in an hour, or two hours at farthest, after the disorder had commenced, and if that had been

done in the case before alluded to, I have no doubt the lamb would have been saved; time, therefore, is a great point to be noticed, because when given on the first appearance of the disorder two Balls were sufficient, if longer time had elapsed, and the scour continued, two more were given in about six hours, but in no case did we give more than three doses or six Balls. Wishing you success, and thanking you very sincerely for the benefit received,

I remained your obliged and obedient Servant,  
JAMES ROBERTS.

Northington Farm, Feb. 27th, 1835.

### JERSEY AND GUERNSEY—FOREIGN CORN.

It will be remembered that a charge of fraudulent importations of foreign corn, to the injury of the revenue and of the fair trader, was made against the Isle of Man, as well as against those of Jersey and Guernsey, from various quarters, and in Parliament in the course of the present Session. At a public dinner, which took place more recently at Hertford, that charge was renewed, and the two last-mentioned islands (Jersey and Guernsey) have defended themselves in a letter to the Noble Lord who presided on that occasion, which was forwarded to us, accompanied by the following note. As we think it but fair towards those islands, even if it were not important to the whole trading community, that the question should be thoroughly sifted and understood, we do not hesitate to comply with the request by giving their communication publicity.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE MORNING HERALD."

On the 4th instant, an account of an agricultural dinner at Hertford, appeared in the *Morning Herald*, at which the Earl of Verulam presided, and is reported to have accused the inhabitants of Jersey and Guernsey of fraudulently importing foreign corn into England.

This speech being founded on a misstatement in a report of the Customs, the deputies of those islands are anxious to remove the false impression caused by the speech, and have written to Lord Verulam.

They wish to know if the Editor will do the islands the justice to insert their letter.

"Colonnade Hotel, Charles-street, May 6, 1835.

"My Lord,—Having seen, in the *Morning Herald* of the 4th instant, the report of a speech at an Agricultural Dinner at Hertford, attributed to your Lordship, and charging the inhabitants of Jersey, Guernsey, and Man, with fraudulently introducing foreign corn into England, we take the liberty of intruding upon your Lordship's attention, with a view of making you acquainted with the true state of the case.

"Your Lordship is reported to have said, 'that to prevent entirely this surreptitious introduction of corn from Jersey, Guernsey, and Man, Mr. Baring had drawn out a Bill; that he was now out of office, but the present Government would, you had no doubt, prosecute it, because it could not benefit any Government to enable the rogue to enrich himself at the expense of the honest man.' In this last observation we perfectly agree, trusting that your Lordship will equally agree with us, that it cannot benefit any Government to commit an injustice on the weak and innocent, to take from them their good name, and then, on false pretences, rob them of their rights and property.

"Now, my Lord, first separating Jersey and Guernsey from the Isle of Man, between which there is no connection whatever, either geographical, agricultural, or commercial, we claim for the Channel Islands which we represent—we claim for the inhabitants, who find themselves in the position of the weak and innocent above described, the common justice due alike to every part of his Majesty's dominions—due not only from the Government, but from the Members of both Houses, and, therefore, from your Lordship.

"In common with many other distinguished supporters of the agricultural interest, your Lordship has been deceived by the report of the Commissioners of his Majesty's Customs, laid before the House of Commons by Mr. Baring, as the ground for his Bill. And by your Lordship's speech at Hertford, your Lordship has mainly, though innocently, assisted in propagating the groundless charges of fraud against the islands which that report exhibits. We have the honour to enclose our observations on the said report, such as they have been submitted to his Majesty's Government, proving every part relating to the Channel Islands to be erroneous.

"The islands, my Lord, are free from blame. As their Deputies, well acquainted with the facts of the case, we positively deny the existence of fraud. If a Bill be persevered in, it must be on different grounds, it must rest on the fact that, during the five years preceding 1834, the average amount of corn of all sorts imported annually from the islands, as of their growth, into Great Britain, has been 2,237 qrs. And be it well understood that the islands have, and always had, the undoubted right to make such an importation.

"Is it to be believed, that in a country consuming from 40 to 50 millions of quarters annually, three, four, five, or six thousand quarters should be supposed by any man as likely to affect the price of corn, or the interest of the agriculturists? Many of the latter, however, entertain an idea, that all this may be very true, but that prices could never be reduced so low as they are, if there were not, in some way or other, great illegal importations of corn or flour.

"No flour is shipped from the islands of Great Britain, and there can be but two ways in which foreign corn can be illegally conveyed from the islands to Great Britain.

"The first, by making foreign corn pass in England for Jersey or Guernsey corn.

"The second, by the clandestine introduction, foreign or smuggling of foreign corn from the islands into Great Britain.

"The first mode is rendered impossible by the insular regulations and practice. It is not by one general certificate taken at the time of shipment that the corn is cleared out as being the growth of the island; every grower, of the very smallest quantity, must himself appear before the magistrate to swear that he is the grower of corn by him sold to the merchant, or shipper; and as the estates are very small, it requires the oaths of 20, 30, or 40 growers to attest respectively the growth of each man's part of the general shipment; after which the shipper himself must certify that his shipment is composed of the same corn as that purchased from the several growers whose names are on the back of the general clearance, and whose certificates before sworn to are then deposited with the Magistrate. The growers and the extent of their lands being well known, no fraud could be practised without the certainty of detection. The trifling quantities of corn entering the

ports of England free of duty, show that no fraud is committed that way.

"Here it must not be said, that in matters of smuggling, no reliance is to be placed in Custom House returns; this maxim, which is true in ordinary cases of smuggling articles subject to high duties, such as spirits, tea, or tobacco, and where the object is to avoid notice, and to evade, by stealth, the payment of duty—this maxim, true in those cases, will by no means apply to articles which, like our corn, are entitled to a privilege of exemption from duty on importation, and which privilege can only be enjoyed and usefully exercised by means of Custom House clearances and returns. It is idle, therefore, to pretend that large quantities of foreign corn are, or can be introduced into England under the denomination of corn grown in the islands; none can be so introduced, and the quantity of island corn itself imported, can never exceed the amount stated in the Custom House returns, for it is only through these that the corn can be exempted from duty.

"The second mode—that of landing the corn on the coast of England clandestinely, in the same manner as smugglers land spirits or tobacco, must appear, on the least reflection, to be impracticable from the islands. There is no temptation for the engaging in such a traffic. Corn bears no price in England that would by any means compensate for the risk and expense of transporting so bulky and so perishable an article.

"Supposing a difference of 10s, 15s, or 20s per qr., in the price of Wheat in England, over the price in the Islands, the risk and charges would absorb the greater part of this difference; but suppose it all profit to be divided between the eight bushels of 60lbs., and compare the profit of 2s per bushel with the profit of 2s per lb. on tobacco, fine tea, or other goods that might be smuggled, and judge if it be likely that corn will be thought of by the smuggler as an eligible article for him to traffic upon.

"No, my lord, it is not from the surreptitious introduction of corn from the islands, that danger can arise. If any introduction could be effected clandestinely, it would take place, not from the islands where the corn must be brought at risk and expense from Germany, Holland, and Belgium, and when arrived, not be so conveniently situated as before; not, therefore, from the islands, but from the ports of the countries themselves in which corn is at the lowest price, and which ports lie so advantageously for introducing it on the whole of the Eastern coast of England. The proximity of these ports, the price at which corn may there be purchased, so much lower than in the islands, or even in France, all the circumstances of the case must make it evident that it is not from the islands that any fraudulent importation of corn can be apprehended.

"The depression in the prices of agricultural produce may be ascribed to various causes; pretty certain it is, however, that neither legal nor illegal importations of foreign corn are of the number; and still more certain it is, that the Channel Islands can have no connexion whatever with any of those causes.

"We have the honour to be, my lord,  
"Your Lordship's most obedient, humble servants,  
(Signed) "DANIEL DE LISLE BROCK, Bailiff of  
of Guernsey,  
"THOMAS L. BRETON, Attor. Gen. of Jersey,  
"J. LE COUTEUR, Jurat of the Royal Court of Jersey.

"To the Right Hon. Earl Verulam."



## DEEP FIRING FOR CHRONIC LAMENESSES OF THE HOCK AND LEGS.

By MR. J. COOMES, V.S., BENGAL HORSE ARTILLERY,  
NOW AT PERSHORE.

(From the Veterinarian.)

The following case is extrated from my registry of sick and lame horses. If approved of, it shall, at no great distance of time, be followed by others.

Dec. 10th, 1832.—An aged troop horse was admitted into the hospital stable this morning in consequence of severely injuring both hind legs by entangling them in the wheel of a gun carriage while at practice. There were slight contusions on the near leg: the off one was dreadfully bruised, and the horse could not rest the least portion of his weight on it. When held up, it appeared as though the tibia was fractured, the hock and leg having an exceedingly rotatory motion. On minute examination I ascertained that the gastrocnemius muscles were ruptured where they become tendinous. Six quarts of blood were taken from the femoral vein, and a patten shoe applied. Repelling lotions and fomentations were ordered, and a purgative administered.

11th.—Patient in *status quo*. Fomentations continued.

18th.—No perceptible amendment. It is very strange that no swelling has taken place. The parts must be roused into action; therefore let a blister be applied.

20th.—The blister has produced a violent inflammation, and an enormous swelling. Treatment, fomentations and physis.

27th.—Inflammation abated; swelling less. He can now bear a little weight on the feet. Apply a charge to brace up the injured parts.

Jan. 6th, 1833.—The patient improving slowly; but when the foot is elevated from the ground, the leg has still a sort of rotatory motion. Continue the charge.

20th.—The injured muscles are extremely weak and relaxed. Patient very lame. This morning I adopted my favourite remedy for all long existing cases of lameness in the hock and legs, viz., the actual cautery, deeply and extensively.

30th.—Inflammation diminishing from the effects of the cautery.

Feb. 10th.—I had him led out; he walks much better. The patten shoe was removed, and a thick heel then applied.

15th.—Lameness going off rapidly.

20th.—The firing has had a very excellent effect: he can now trot tolerably well. The firing produced a deep-seated inflammation and effusion, which united the ruptured parts together.

March 7th.—Discharged fit for duty. I attribute the cure to the effects of the cautery, as it very soon made the horse a fit and proper subject for a species of military duty which is sometimes particularly laborious.

AMERICAN COURTSHIP.—Davy Crockett thus describes his first courtship:—Sally and I were left sitting a good yard apart, honest measure. For fear of getting tongue-tied again, I set right in with a steady stream of talk. I told her all the particulars about the weather that was past, and also made some pretty cute guesses at what it was like to be in future. At first, I gave a hitch up with my chair at every full stop. Then growing saucy, I repeated it at every comma, semicolon, and at last it was hitch, hitch, hitch, and I planted myself fast by the side of her. "I swow, Sally, you looked so plaguey handsome

to-day, that I wanted to eat you up." "Pshaw, get along you," said she. My hand crept along, somehow, upon its fingers and begun to scrape acquaintance with her. She sent it home with a jerk. "Try it again"—no better luck. "Why, Miss Jones, you're gettin' upstropulous, a little old maidish, I guess." "Hands off is rair play, Mr. Beedle." It is a good sign to find a girl sulky. I knew where the shoe pinched. It was that Patty Bean business. So I went to work to persuade her I had never had any notion after Patty, and to prove it, fell to running her down at a great rate. Sally could not help chiming in with me, and I rather guess Miss Patty suffered a few. I now not only got hold of her hand without opposition, but managed to slip an arm round her waist. But there was no satisfying me; so I must go poking out my lips after a buss. I guess I rued it. She fetched me a slap in the face that made me see stars, and my ears rung like a brass-kettle for a quarter of an hour. I was forced to laugh at the joke, though out of the wrong side of my mouth, which gave my face something the look of a gridiron. The battle now began in the regular way. "Ah, Sally give me a kiss, and ha' done with it now." "I won't, so there, nor tetch to." "I'll tak it, whether or no." "Do it if you dare." And at it we went, rough and tumble. An odd destruction of starch commenced. The bow of my cravat was squat up in half a shake. At the last bout smash went shirt collars, and, at the same time, some of the head-fastenings gave way, and down came Sally's hair in a flood, like a mill-dam broke loose, carrying away about half a dozen combs. One dig of Sally's elbow, and my blooming ruffles wilted down into a dish-cloth. But she had no time to boast. Soon her neck tackling began to shiver. It parted at the throat, and, whorrah, came a whole school of blue and white beads, scampering and running races every way about the floor. By the hokey, if Sally Jones isn't real grit, then there's no snakes. She fought fair, however, I must own, and neither tried to bite nor scratch; and when she couldn't fight no longer, for want of breath, she yielded handsomely. Consarn it how a buss will crack, of a still frosty night. Mrs. Jones was about half way between asleep and awake. "There goes my yeast bottle, says she to herself, burst into twenty hundred pieces, and my bread is dough again." The upshot of the matter is I fell in love with Sally Jones, head over ears. Every Sunday night, rain or shine, finds me rapping at Squire Jones's door, and twenty times have I been within a hair's breadth of popping the question. But now I have made a final resolve; and if I live till next Sunday night, and I don't get choaked in the trial, Sally Jones will hear thunder.

LUSUS NATURÆ.—We have been much pleased with the sight of a most extraordinary *lusus naturæ*, at Mr. Mellor's, barber, in Fisher-gate, who is so justly celebrated for his skill in preparing animals. It consists of a black kitten, with two bodies, eight legs, and one neck and head. The position of the two bodies is that of two animals fighting, and standing upon their hind legs. It is altogether the most singular animal mal-formation that we have recently seen.—*Nottingham Review*.

SEA-WEED MANURE.—Fleets of boats, to the number of 60 or 70, are daily arriving at Galway with sea-weed for manure from Cunnamara, Arran, and the county of Clare, which is purchased with avidity, and conveyed in carts all over the country in various directions, even to the distance of 40 or 50 miles into the interior.

## REMARKS ON THE MODE OF HARNESSING HORSES ON THE CONTINENT.

(BY THE AUTHOR OF 'BUBBLES FROM THE BRUNNENS OF NASSAU,')

Many years have now elapsed since I first observed that, somehow or other, horses on the continent manage to pull a heavy carriage up a steep hill, or along a dead level, with greater ease to themselves than our English horses. Let any unprejudiced person attentively observe with how little apparent fatigue three small ill-conditioned animals will draw, not only his own carriage, but very often that overgrown vehicle, the French diligence, or the German eil-wagen, and I think he must admit, that somewhere or other, there exists a mystery. But the whole equipment is so unsightly, the rope-harness so rude, the horses without blinkers look so wild, that far from paying any compliment to the turn-out, one is apt to condemn the whole thing, and not caring a straw whether such horses be fatigued or not, to remark that in England they would have travelled at twice the rate with one tenth of the noise. But neither the rate nor the noise is the question I wish to consider. The thing I want if possible to account for, is, how such small weak horses *do* manage to draw one's carriage up hill, with so much unaccountable ease to themselves.

Now in English, French, and German harness, there exist, as it were, three degrees of comparison in the manner in which the head of the horse is treated; for, in England, it is elevated by the bearing rein; in France, it is left as nature placed it, (there being, in common French harness no bearing rein); while in Germany, the head is tied down to the lower extremity of the collar, or else the collar is so made, that the animal is by it deprived of the power of raising its head. Now, passing for a moment the French method, which is the state of nature, let us consider which is best, to bear a horse's head up, as in England, or to pull it downwards, as in Germany. In my humble opinion, both are wrong; yet there is some science in the German error, while ours goes directly against all mechanical calculation.

In a state of nature, the wild horse has two gaits, or attitudes. If man or beast come suddenly on him, up goes his head, and as he first stalks and then trots gently away with ears erect, snuffing the air, the feelings of doubt, astonishment, and hesitation seem to rein him, like a troop horse, on his haunches; but attempt to pursue him and how completely does he alter his attitude! Down goes his head, and from his ears to the tip of his tail, there is in his vertebrae an undulating action which seems to propel him along, and the privation of which would manifestly diminish his speed. Now, in harness the horse has naturally the same two gaits or attitudes, and it is quite true that he can start away with a carriage, either in the one or the other, but the physical powers which he calls into action are essentially different, for in the one attitude he works by his muscles, in the other by his weight. In France, and particularly in Germany, horses do draw by the weight, and 'tis to encourage them to raise their backs, and lean downwards with their heads, that the Germans, with a degree of rude science, tie down the horse's nose to the bottom of his collar; and that the postillion at starting, speaking gently to him, allows him to get himself into a proper attitude for his draught. The horse, thus treated, leans against the resistance he

meets with, and the balance of draught against weight being in his favour, the carriage follows him without much more strain or effort on his part, than if he were idly leaning his chest against his manger. It is true the flesh of his shoulder may become sore, from severe pressure, but his sinews and muscles are comparatively at rest. Now, any one who observes a pair of English post-horses dragging a heavy weight up a hill, will see at once that the poor creatures are working by their muscles, and that 'tis by main strength the resistance is overcome: but how can it be otherwise? for their heads are considerably higher than nature intended them to be, even when *walking*, unincumbered, and at liberty. The balance of their bodies is, therefore, absolutely turned *against*, instead of leaning in favour of their draught, and thus cruelly deprived of the mechanical advantage of weight which everywhere else in the universe is appreciated, the noble spirit of our high-fed horses induces them to strain and drag the carriage forward by their muscles; and, if the reader will but pass his hands down the back sinews of any of our stage-coach or post-chaise horses, he will soon feel (though not so keenly as they do) what is the fatal consequence. It is true that in ascending a very steep hill, an English postillion will occasionally unhook the bearing reins of his horses, but the poor jaded creatures, accustomed for years to work in a false attitude, cannot in one moment get themselves into the scientific position which the German horses are habitually encouraged to adopt; besides this, we are so sharp with our horses—we keep them so constantly on the *qui vive*, or, as we term it, in hand,—that we are always a driving them from the use of their weight to the application of their sinews. That the figure and attitude of a horse working by his sinews are infinitely prouder than when he is working by his weight, I most readily admit, and therefore, for carriages of luxury, where the weight bears little proportion to the powers of the two noble animals, I acknowledge that the sinews are more than sufficient for the slight labour required; but to bear up the head of a poor horse at plough, or at any slow heavy work, is, I humbly conceive, a barbarous error, which ought not to be persisted in; for laughing, as we all do, at the German and French harness, sneering, as we do at their ropes, and *wondering out loud*, as we always do, why they do not copy us, it is rather mortifying to find out, that, in spite of our fine harness, for slow heavy draught, it is better to tie a horse's nose *downwards*, like the German, than *upwards*, like the English, and that the French way of leaving them at liberty is better than either.

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EMIGRATION FROM HOLLAND. — The *Groningen Courant* says that a M. R. Benke, a farmer at Zuurdijk, with his whole family, had left his farm, which is considerable, to emigrate to North America, and ascribes his emigration to the continued depression of agriculture. Without discussing at present the question whether agriculture really is so depressed as the *Groningen Courant* believes, we find it difficult to suppose that this depression induced the farmer in question to abandon his country with his family, since he might easily have known that all the farmers who have latterly emigrated to the United States give no very flattering description of their situation, and that most of them would be happy to return to the country they have forsaken, had they not lost the little property they carried with them, and are therefore unable to defray the expense of their passage back.



## AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

## SUFFOLK.

Since last report we have had rather cold chilling weather, chiefly, some rain, and some thunder storms and frosty nights, but nothing to injure the crops much; some of the barleys are not looking healthy; others much injured by the wire worm, but altogether we may say thus far, alls well.

Grasses of all species have not pushed forward rapidly, but the tares, lucern, and saintfoin, is being cut for soiling. The clovers are a failing crop over a great space, and the pastures will not produce an average crop probably, thus we must be short of provender during another winter.

The young layers have planted well, a great breadth of mangel wurzel is planted, and well up, and much land is nearly ready for Swedish turnips, and the fallows are in a forward state.

Lucern and tares were being cut here and there for soiling during the first week in the month; and generally by the second week, some fields of trifolium might have been began as soon, but we suppose it will be chiefly saved for seed. It certainly is a plant of great promise—we should be glad to be informed whether it has been known to stand through a sharp winter—if so we predict that a new era in agriculture has arrived.

Stock of all kinds is rather dull sale, horses are very low in price; thousands have been imported of late years and over stocked the country. Barley, oats, peas, and beans continued to be imported into our sea ports, and also several ship loads of potatoes, and this has brought down the price in these towns to 1s per bushel, and some less. All garden produce is very cheap.

Wheat does not rise in price, and calculating the condition, we may say it is even lower. Things cannot go on thus for any length of time; we cannot continue to pay 2 bushels of wheat or 3 sacks of potatoes per week for labour wages; nor can blacksmiths, wheelwrights, and other farm-tradesmen's charges be sustained—every charge will be driven down to the lowest limit, and trade and the revenue will fail.

There have been several meetings of unemployed labourers of late, but no indication of riot, nor scarcely any apparent bad feeling towards the farmers. They are greatly to be pitied, they have no means of earning a livelihood; the farmers cannot find employment for the men, and the women and children have no profitable employment. A correspondent has put the following questions in the Ipswich papers, which he proposes to consider next week.

1st. Are the poor an evil at all to the rest of the community?

2dly. Supposing them to be so, what is the cause?

3rdly. Supposing them to be so, will the unions and big workhouses and the migration scheme remedy the evil?

4thly. If those measures would remedy the evil, can they in fact be carried into effect, and might not other and less harsh measures attain the same end?

I am heartily glad to see that the cause of the poor is taken up by a person who seems able and willing to state their case clearly, and if I do not mistake the writer, the subject will be handled fearlessly and honestly; in fact its taken up from patriotic motives, as, if I am correct, the writer is *not a farmer, does not occupy any land*, and of a fraternity who thrives most when the community is least prosperous. We are in no difficulty but what may be remedied; we should not have one able and willing labourer wanting employment if the price of produce

was remunerating, a just and equitable law passed to secure the tenantry, remuneration for out-lay of capital not reimbursed, (as advocated by the Author of the Rights of the Farmer) and security from the effect of the present unjust, impolitic laws. There are many other matters that require attention, but these are the vital questions which apply to the whole community. The repeal of the malt tax would be the greatest benefit to the tenant farmers and labourers, and without its repeal the nation never can prosper; nor never ought;—but 'tis in vain to attempt to enter into detail as to the baneful effects of this tax; I hope Cobbett is prepared with documents to show the falacious opinions which prevail on this subject and combat the *unanswerable arguments* of Sir Robert Peel; I hope every friend to the repeal will furnish him with some local effects that he may select cases in point. If he succeeds in obtaining the abolition of this tax he will deserve the thanks of the entire farming community, of the labourers and their posterity for ever; but I hope and trust that Mr. Cayley will succeed in obtaining a select committee to consider what can be done to give prosperity to agriculture; there are no other means on earth of coming to right conclusions on the subject; relief from local taxation is desirable, but unless a radical measure of relief is adopted it will avail us little; mere politics will not suffice. We do not advocate the repeal of the malt tax from "*being impatient of taxation*" generally, but from very different motives; we well know that whilst the debt remains we must have taxes to pay the interest, but the debt and taxes are no absolute bar to prosperity—a judicious and equitable mode of taxation is all we ask; all that is requisite. I am glad to find that an attempt is making to establish a committee of deputies, from the several counties to watch the interests of agriculture, but after the failure of the gigantic exertions of the late Mr. Webb Hall we can scarcely hope for success; however conviction has reached a different class since that period, the landowners begin to shake in their harness, and the fundholders are a little alarmed, save and except a few blind and infatuated large foundholders and sin-courists. An anonymous writer (pamphleteer) asks, "What the farmers will do now?" to which I reply, *nothing, but grumble*. They are beset on all sides; their case seems hopeless. The numerous sales of stock, &c. preparatory to giving up, and the foreclosing mortgages, is a sure sign of the state of the farming public.—May 25.

STATISTICS EXTRAORDINARY.—There is iron enough in the blood of 42 men to make a ploughshare weighing 24lbs. The quantity of brass in their faces it is not so easy to calculate.—*Buffalo Paper*.

THE TEETH.—Many publications have appeared from time to time professing to give directions for the preservation of the teeth. We have, however, not met with any work in which Dental Surgery has been so systematically treated, and that too without destroying its practical utility in the hands of the unprofessional reader as in Mr. Mallan's "*Practical Observations on the Physiology and Diseases of the Teeth*." The rules which he lays down for the preservation of the teeth, are so simple and so easily adopted, that we feel confident all who study cleanliness, and value beauty and durability of the teeth, will lose no time in making themselves acquainted with them, and adopting them.

## AGRICULTURAL INTELLIGENCE, FAIRS, &c.

**NEWARK MAY FAIR** was abundantly supplied with cattle of all descriptions, which were eagerly sought after, at considerably advanced prices. Fine fat beasts made full 7s per stone. In the sheep fair all the pens were filled at an early hour, which sold well—especially lamb hogs. Horses were an indifferent show, there being very few good ones.

**CHIPPENHAM FAIR** was the largest that has occurred within the memory of the oldest person in that town. The number of young oxen, heifers, and horned cattle in general, was immense; fat beasts not so numerous. Considerable business was done; and, upon the whole, good prices were obtained.

**KESWICK SPRING CATTLE FAIR.**—The second Spring Cattle Fair was held on the 21st inst., the goods exposed to sale were not numerous, and were mostly sold at what were considered fair prices.

**EGREMONT SPRING FAIR.**—The number of cattle exhibited at this fair was greater than at the spring show of last year, but the quality, generally speaking, was inferior. Good milch cows brought tolerable prices, as also did geld cattle of the best quality, but the sales were slow, and the prices something less than at last year's fair. The short-horned breed are in the greatest demand, and bring the best price. A great number of beasts remained unsold.

At **WHITSUNBANK FAIR**, the show of fat and grazing cattle was considerable, but the demand was indifferent. Fat sold from 5s to 5s 6d per stone, and two-year-olds realised from 8l to 10l, according to quality. The supply of hogs was also considerable, and more than the demand, hence sales were dull. Full-bred hogs were sold from 32s to 36s. Half-bred ditto, from 22s to 26s. Although there was a great number of horses of all descriptions in the market, yet those only of superior quality were in request, and brought fair prices to the dealer.

**TREDEGAR FAIR.**—The fair held here, passed off much to the satisfaction of the inhabitants, and of the dealers in general who attended. Horses, particularly strong draught ones, sold exceedingly well; cattle were in good demand, and fetched remunerating prices, and very few returned unsold; pigs were eagerly purchased at good prices;—indeed, the disposition *buy* appeared to prevail,

**ALNWICK WOOL FAIR.**—An annual fair for the sale of wool, is to be held in this town, in the month of July—to commence on the 11th of July next.

At **DENNY SUMMER FAIR** the ordinary number of cattle were brought forward. The market was what is termed a stiff one, but a good deal of business was done. Cows near the calving were in demand, and brought tolerable prices. One very fine cow of this description was sold for 12l, but the general average of prices was much lower, varying from 6l to 9l. Farrow cows for the grass were sought after, but the prices obtained were not great. There were few good cattle in the market, and for them also the sales were far from brisk.

**KNIGHTON FAIR** exhibited but a small and indifferent show of fat and other beasts, owing to the late scarcity of grass; there were, however, many buyers, and the sales effected commanded better prices than has been obtained at some of the recent fairs, and on the whole quite as much business done as could be expected. Pigs were very briskly sought after.

**MILNTHORP FAIR.**—The quantity of beasts offered for sale was very large. Prices were considerably lower than what had been anticipated by the farmers, and but few were sold, even at the reduction. It was to all intents a dull, heavy fair.

**HANDFORD HALL CATTLE SHOW.**—The attendance of graziers and others was very numerous at this fair. The show on the whole was considerably larger than that of last year, and as regards sheep, the number was doubled. There were upwards of 4,000 hoggetts in the field. The sales were very flat in the early part of the day; but between 2 and 3 o'clock many lots were sold. For the better sort, there was a good demand, and prices may be quoted from 30s to 40s. Inferior stock met with a slow sale. Fat sheep out of their wool sold at about 6d per lb., and the demand was pretty brisk. A lot of hoggetts, out of their wools, sold at 34s 6d. Fat beasts were in great demand, but of the whole brought to Ipswich, the greater number were sold before they arrived upon the ground. There was a tolerably good supply, and prices may be quoted at from 6s to 7s per stone. The arrangement for holding this Fair, on the third Tuesday in May, has given universal satisfaction.

**THE HIGHLANDS. — LAMING SEASON.**—The spring has been a backward one. The heavy snow storm in March, followed by a continuation of cold dry biting winds during the month of April, and often accompanied with snow, proved rather unfavourable to the flocks—grass made very slow progress particularly on the moors upon which they so much depend, consequently sheep had a crimped appearance. Holders of high exposed farms complain of loss in ewes and lambs to a extent their brethren, in snug low and sheltered situations, can scarcely credit. There is an average crop of lambs, but they have not, generally, that fresh and plump appearance, that naturally follows a right flow of milk from the dam. Excepting on principal good farms, pairs are not so numerous as last season.—The good effects of the showers since May commenced, had been considerably counteracted by the cold dry winds so immediately following—on the 13th and 14th instant the hills had a thick coating of fresh snow.—Owing to the great demand for great ewes at the House of Muir and other markets in the south, sheep stocks to be transferred by valuation at this term, are expected to bring good prices—any reference to the prices of the Falkirk Trysts must, of course, be regulated by those. Wool has declined a little since the close of last year, but is now, it is hoped, at the turn, the stock on hand being considered light. Excepting for Amulree market, or grass parks, little business is done in the cattle trade during spring, the principal breeders of stock hold extensive grazings, and seldom effect sales till harvest. Upon the whole, if the prospects of the store-farmers are not so very promising as at this time last year, they are far from being gloomy or desponding.—May 16.

**SALE OF STOCK AT FOSS.**—On Tuesday last, the celebrated stock of Highland-bred cattle, reared by the late Mr. Stewart Menzies, were sold in presence of a very numerous and respectable company. Some queys, a cross betwixt the Ayrshire and pure Highland, fetched from 18l to 20l; two and three year old stirks from 12l to 18l a-head. The quality of the breed was the great enhancement of their value, for in some cases the price fetched was at the rate of about eighteen shillings a stone Dutch! A few lots of Leicester ewes were also sold at high rates.

There were upwards of 2000 beasts at Uppingham market on Wednesday—a larger number than known for some years.



**EXETER FAIR.**—We scarcely know when we saw a less quantity of fat bullocks: indeed, of good bullocks we may say it has been a very thin fair; it has had this advantage, however, and we have no little pleasure in stating it, that in this respect it has been a selling fair, these articles having been taken off freely at from 7s 6d to 8s 6d per score, and very nearly all if not the whole will be sold out. There has been a large supply of lean Stock, and not only a good many East Country men here to take them off, but our own graziers have been dealing also. Still we must not be understood to say the sale in this way has been brisk, as it will be nearer the truth if taken to be of a medium character. Neither can it be said there has been any advance in this description of stock from recent market quotations; undoubtedly the best bred poor heifers have made freely 6s or near upon that price per score, but generally speaking the quotation must be confined witium from 5s to 6s per score. Cows and calves have been numerous but on dull sale, and the greater proportion of these will be driven off unsold. The quality of them too has been very varied, those in which business has been done, having been at from 8l 10s to 13l, or from 7s 1d to 8s 3d per score.

**HEREFORD FAIR** exhibited a very good show of cattle, for which there was a brisk demand—fat animals experienced a small advance, and sold from 5½d to 6d per lb; steers and stores went on rather better terms than at last fair, and all were disposed of. Fat shorn sheep sold from 5½d to 6d per lb. The horse fair contained a large number of animals, but few good ones—fine animals were in request, and commanded good prices. At Leominster Fair there was a full supply of stock, which sold readily and at good prices. Cheese as follows:—Best making from 50s to 36s; two-meal 55s to 49s; family 20s to 25s.

**AUCHTERARDER MAY MARKET** was much better attended with stock and purchasers than we ever saw it.—Prices were five per cent. higher than two months ago, though perhaps still seven or eight per cent lower than they were at this market last year; and good judges are of opinion that graziers will stock their parks even yet ten per cent cheaper than last year. Grass parks have let from three to four cent higher in this neighbourhood than last year.

**MUIR OF ORD MARKET.**—At this tryst a great number of cattle dealers, both from the Highlands and from the South of Scotland, were present, and much business was done. The cattle were in good condition, and the prices were considered rather higher than could be obtained at the May tryst last year. Three-year-old stots sold at 4l 10s to 8l 10s, and some superior lots fetched 10l odds. Two-year-old stots brought from 3l to 5l; a few excellent two-year-old stots sold so high as 5l 15s. Few milch cows were shown: those on the muir were readily disposed of at prices varying from 4l 10s to 8l 8s. Several lots of sheep were offered for sale: for black-faced wethers, from 13s to 19s were asked, but few sales were effected. Some horses were shown, but scarcely any changed owners.

**AN EXTRAORDINARY-SIZED HEART.**—Mr. Palmer, of Clapham, butcher, on Tuesday last killed a heifer weighing only 62 stone, whose heart was of a very uncommon size, and without the least appearance of enlargement from disease. It measured 27½ inches in circumference, and when trimmed up ready for the spit, weighed 12lbs. The ordinary weight of the heart of such an animal is from 3lbs. to 4lbs. The heifer, when killed, was in perfect health, and in good condition.

**PROSPECTS OF THE HARVEST IN FRANCE.**—The *Mémorial de la Scarpe*, a Douai Paper, states "that the oldest agriculturists in that part of the country are of opinion that there never was a finer prospect of a good harvest than this year, and that if no unforeseen event occurs, it will exceed in abundance that of 1833."

**CURIOUS BREED OF SHEEP.**—Mr. J. Hammond, of Scarborough, has now in his possession a certain cross of ewes, which have lambed three times in twelve months, namely, in November, 1833, and again in May and November, 1834. These ewes are at present upon the eve of again bringing forth; therefore, judging from what has already taken place, there is every probability that they may lamb five times in two years. So much attention has the circumstance already excited, that we learn it has already reached the ear of his Majesty, who has been pleased to desire that one of the lambs may be sent alive to him, at the Home Park, Windsor.

**STATE OF THE CROPS.**—Throughout the southern part of the West Riding of York the crops present a most luxuriant appearance. The young wheat is strong and healthy, and though it has in many places suffered from the recent frosts, yet it appears to be fast recovering from the attack. In Derbyshire also, and in the south and east of Staffordshire, vegetation has assumed a similar aspect, and there is every reason to hope for a very fair average, if not an abundant harvest. The fruit-trees in the north not being so forward as those in the more southern districts, have not suffered so much by the cold and wintry nights of last month.

**ROMNEY MARSH.**—Notwithstanding the recent refreshing rains, the disastrous effects of the long drought are still felt by the graziers in this extensive district. The supply of water in the ditches for some months past has been kept up by admitting the sea; and this, with the great want of natural food, has proved highly pernicious to the stock which has been suffered to winter there. Immense numbers have died; and many of them in apparent health, have dropped down in a manner surprisingly sudden. It is not unusual to see bullocks that have necessarily been taken from the pastures, slung up in the lodges to enable them to feed. The fall of lambs is calculated at not more than 65 to the hundred of last year; and some idea may be formed of the general mortality from the circumstance of one grazier having within a short period, sent to the tan-yard upwards of 300 skins of animals of every class, that have fallen victims to the fatal epidemic.—*Maidstone Journal*.

On the 6th inst., Mr. John Bird, butcher, of Stroud, Gloucestershire, slaughtered an ox, bought of Mr. Haines, of Stratton, near Cirencester, whose weight was 46 score, with a kidney weighing 117 pounds, the dimensions of which were 56 inches round, and 18 inches across.

Mr. Richard Bagshaw, of Newton, near Kettering, had a number of pigs poisoned the other day, in consequence of their having eaten some autumnal crocuses, which had been dug up by his gardener and unthinkingly thrown to the dunghill.

## RETROSPECT OF THE WOOLLEN TRADE.

*Leeds.*—Some quarter of a century ago the establishment and progress of the factory system in the manufactures of this district gave rise to serious alarms for the independence and comfort of an important class in the community. Not that the ad-

vantages of that system were not clearly seen and correctly appreciated; on the contrary, it was the very distinctness of those advantages which produced the gloomy forebodings, for it was naturally, although hastily, concluded that as none but large capitalists could possess the means of concentrating and subdividing labour to the extent required; of erecting masses of buildings and stocking them with machinery of the best and most expensive kind, for the purpose of ensuring the greatest amount of produce from that labour; and finally, of commanding and conducting a trade of such magnitude as to absorb that produce, so the small domestic manufacturers, who had hitherto maintained the character of masters, and had brought up their families in comfort under the paternal roof, with such prospects as the paternal example afforded, would never be able to stand a competition so powerful, but must sooner or later, one by one, or in the mass, sink themselves and their families into a state of servitude; go forth from their hitherto cheerful and busy homes to seek a precarious subsistence in the crowded mill, uncared for, unrecognized, undistinguished, and without hope of distinction, save such as one machine may possess over another, and, amidst the contagion of spreading evil, must yield up the exercise of parental care and control into the hands of some mercenary hireling, the sole connecting link between them and their monopolizing employer. Such was the prospect which presented itself to the mind of the philanthropist. The premises seemed to be correctly laid down, and the conclusion, therefore, seemed irresistible; but there was one little element in the calculation of chances which no one thought of at the time. No small manufacturer with limited means could hope to bear up single-handed against this formidable competition, but it was found that a number of them combined might not only maintain their position, but actually advance that position, by availing themselves of every advantage presented by the improved system. The operation was very simple: shares of small amount each were taken by a number of manufacturers with the object of building and stocking a mill for their own district. As far as the mill is concerned, all the shareholders are, of course, partners, but no farther; each one carries on his individual business as before, but is bound, not more by contract than by his own interest, to take his work to that mill. It is only in certain stages of the process of manufacture that the advantage of the mill system is experienced, and these are precisely the most profitable of the whole operation. After the wool is ready for the spinner's hands all it requires further at the mill is well thumping in the fulling stocks to convert the raw web into a thick cloth; all the intermediate operations are performed just as well in the cottage as in the factory, and so the manufacturer continues to have employment for his family and dependents on his own premises, and under his own immediate eye. The numerous company mills thus constituted in our neighbouring villages may lay claim to some important advantages over those of private partnerships. It rarely happens that all the shareholders of the former are deficient of employment at the same time; if one fall slack, another may be busy, and, hence there is a greater chance of regular and constant work for the mill. In management and economy they enjoy another advantage. Wherever the immediate control may be vested, there is still a continual vigilant supervision exercised by each shareholder whilst looking after his own work, and he will not fail to detect an instance of mismanagement, or improvidence much sooner than could be done by an individual owner, possessing, probably, little practical know-

ledge, but obliged, therefore, to trust all to servants. In the event, again, of bad markets, and inadequate prices for his goods, the mill shareholder has still the consolation of deriving some profit from the mill work, and thus redeeming at least part of his loss by that which would else have gone into other pockets.

Such may be termed the physical advantages of these establishments. The moral advantages may be considered no less prominent. The crying evil charged upon the factory system has been its encouragement of vicious propensities by the promiscuous assemblage of individuals under no efficient moral check, the employer and the employed being separated by an interval so wide that no community or sympathy of feeling exists between them, but all is resolved into a mercenary consideration of labour and pay. This objection loses much of its force, if it be not altogether obviated, in the constitution of the Company Mills. The employers and the employed stand in much nearer relation; they are but little removed from each other in point of station; their habits and feelings scarcely differ; they mix too much in the character of friends and neighbours to allow that which is esteemed as decent and proper by one to be treated with reckless indifference by the other.

It is probable that had the factory system been applied in this manner only, we should have heard little of the want of a factory bill to regulate any monstrous abuse of infant labour, which is here too much controlled by the natural feelings of parents and friends to afford room for the exercise of tyranny or abuse, and we are therefore not surprised that in such quarters official interferences, and the imposition of sixpenny fees, excite feelings of indignation.

So far, then, have the fears for the result of the factory system proved groundless in this instance, that if we were required to point out one single cause to account for the gratifying prosperity at present enjoyed by the domestic manufacturers, we should assign just this one. Inconvenience has been felt it is true. Some inconvenience and suffering are inseparable from any state of transition. At first the great manufacturers attempted too much; they would do everything; but as the capabilities of the system became developed it was seen that there was yet room for all. The parties are at the present moment in a position somewhat reversed; the country mills are so overstocked with work that they are obliged to seek assistance, and are actually giving employment to less fortunate private mills here in the town.

Generally speaking, we regard the activity of the country mills as the sign of a good and a sound state of trade; there may be exceptions, but we think this may be taken as the rule. At the same time we repeat our conviction that there is yet room for all. The town mills may not be able to deprive the country mills of employment, but there is a distinct field open to them, if they will but cultivate it, in the production of the finest cloths, with which, we have no doubt, they may have the supply of the world if they like. But there must be no more halting between two opinions; a flimsy, showy article may suit the dishonest purposes of a London swindler, and so long as they supply it to him they may expect to be treated by him with bullying insolence as if they were partners in crime. Such an article will not command the trade we speak of, and we are the more free to pronounce so unreserved an opinion on the subject because we have the means of knowing that our real capabilities have been tested, and have proved us competent to produce an article which, in spite of all opposition, will command any market.



## REVIEW OF THE CORN TRADE IN MARK LANE DURING THE MONTH OF MAY.

During the past month the aggregate average price of wheat throughout the kingdom, has not exceeded 38s 10d, which, according to the Winchester measure, would be equivalent to 37s 8d, being lower than the average of the last 55 years, when in 1779 and 1780, the rates were 33s 8d, and 35s 8d. In reviewing the averages of the kingdom for the last four weeks, we find that in the home counties the prices have ranged the highest; for instance in Essex, the quantity of wheat returned, as sold, has amounted to 10,491 qrs, at an average value of 41s 11d; in Kent, 5501 qrs, at 41s 7d, and in Suffolk, 17,466 qrs at 40s 4d. In other principal counties the currencies have been lower. In Yorkshire, 47,646 qrs have been sold at 38s 5d, in Lancashire, 21,330 qrs at 37s 14d, in Norfolk, 19,670 qrs at 37s 7d, in Lincolnshire, 23,855 qrs at 36s 9d, and in Cambridgeshire, 15,594 qrs at 36s 1d. The most depressed prices realized, have been in Oxfordshire and Huntingdonshire; in the former county, 1067 qrs have averaged only 34s 7d, and in the latter 1676 qrs at 34s 8d. This pressure on the trade at most of the leading markets, attracted at the beginning of the month, some little speculative attention, and the London as well as the country markets exhibited more disposition to rally, and assumed a more encouraging aspect, than had been experienced for many weeks, prices advancing fully 1s per qr, and it was thought, that the reaction was at length about to take place, which always sooner or later operates on a market, after the prevalence of any violent depression or excitement. Some speculative purchases were effected on the coast; heavy samples of wheat, weighing 63lbs, were bought in Lincolnshire, Suffolk, &c., at 36s 6d to 37s 6d, and some orders were transmitted abroad, where the inducement for the investment of capital is considerable, the article, as in this country, bearing a lower relative value, than any other species of grain; especially when it is recollected, that the superiority of the quality and condition of the last crop, causes the article to command a preference of all the old wheats now in granary, the bulk of which is of secondary and inferior descriptions. In Holstein wheat of 62lbs to 63lbs, remarkably fine in colour and condition, may be bought at 21s 6d to 22s; in Mecklenburg at 21s 6d to 22s 6d. High mixed Danzig wheat was offering at 27s 6d to 28s 6d, but owing to the shortness of the supplies has now advanced to 29s and 30s. Towards the close of the month, the trade again relapsed, and prices closed heavy; the finest wheats barely maintaining their previous quotations, and good qualities receding 1s per qr, while secondary and inferior hung on hand at a reduction of 1s to 2s. This inactivity and retrograde movement in the market has principally arisen, from the favourable state of the weather, and few complaints being now made on the part of

the farmers as to the appearances of the growing crops; and as the stocks of old wheat are still large, millers have only bought sparingly, not being apprehensive of any falling off in the arrivals, and consequently little advance in price to be anticipated.

The opening of the Spanish ports, led to a partial enquiry for bonded wheats, but the prices demanded were generally too high to meet the views of speculators. A few parcels of inferior hard wheat obtained 26s to 28s, and Kubanka realised 32s; for about 1000 qrs of this latter quality of wheat 27s, was offered to ship to Australia.

The arrivals of flour have been liberal, but at the beginning of May, the article was in request and good fresh ship qualities obtained 1s per sack more money; the dulness however which pervaded the wheat trade, operated on flour, and sales became heavy, particularly of parcels on the wharfs, which might have been bought on rather lower terms. A few parcels of sour flour in bond have been sold at 16s to 18s per barrel.

The duties on wheat have advanced 1s per qr, being 48s 8d: on barley, 1s 6d; and have declined on oats and rye 1s 6d per qr, respectively.

The importation of English, Scotch, and Irish barley has been on a very moderate scale, and though the demand for malting descriptions has been limited, owing to the malting season drawing to a conclusion, yet the trade has been principally supplied from foreign supplies, which continuing to work well, realised from 31s to 32s; prime, 33s to 34s. At the close of the month, maltsters having completed their purchases, prices receded, and the best descriptions only obtained 32s; Norfolk and Suffolk remaining nominally at 33s to 34s; and Chevalier at 37s to 38s. Previous to the advance of the duty on foreign barley to 15s 4d, the duty of 13s 10d had been paid on 55,000 qrs, consisting almost entirely of Danish and Holstein quality; about 17,000 qrs of which were sold direct ex-ship. In consequence of the continued import of Scotch and Irish spirits, the demand has been checked on the part of our distillers, and distillery samples have been heavy of disposal; grinding sorts have been in request, and fully maintained their former quotations; the inferior Irish samples, however, have hung heavily on hand.

The malt trade has continued heavy, and maltsters evinced more disposition to quit their stocks, and latterly prices have receded 1s per qr; the secondary descriptions have at times proved ready sale.

The supplies of Oats from Ireland have continued considerable, and since the 25th of April have amounted to upwards of 73,000 qrs, and though the arrivals from England and Scotland have been very moderate, yet, the number of Irish samples offering, and the late beneficial rains, having caused speculators as well as dealers to anticipate improved crops of hay and fodder; they have held off from purchasing, unless at lower rates; and prices have receded during the month full 1s 6d per qr on Irish qualities; but English and Scotch descriptions have suffered little depreciation in value. Towards how-

ever, the close of May, factors became more firm, owing to the continued sale, and particularly the extent of the country demand, and prices remained firm, with a tendency in the currencies rather to advance than further decline. Oats have been in request on the Irish Coasts, especially in the Southern ports; free on board prices remaining steady at 13s 6d to 14s; Galways, 12s 6d to 13s per barrel. By the account annexed of the import of oats into London for the last five years, from the 29th of September to the 15th of May in each year, the large increase in the receipts from Scotland and Ireland, as compared with previous seasons, would lead to the conclusion, that as the late crops were by no means abundant, and that though the Irish supplies may have hitherto proved adequate to the deficiency from our coast, yet, however prolific the sister island may be, there are bounds to her power of productions, and that there must be less left in the hands both of Irish and Scotch growers and shippers than usual at this season of the year, and we may therefore anticipate a material falling off in the future shipments, and that before another harvest, we shall be forced to have recourse to foreign importation to meet the necessary consumption.

|                      | English.<br>qrs. | Scotch.<br>qrs. | Irish.<br>qrs. |
|----------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Sept. 29, to May 15. |                  |                 |                |
| 1830 — 1831          | 188,371          | 162,834         | 170,544        |
| 1831 — 1832          | 167,037          | 86,857          | 403,322        |
| 1832 — 1833          | 123,462          | 74,406          | 372,383        |
| 1833 — 1834          | 133,613          | 161,884         | 331,416        |
| 1834 — 1835          | 56,657           | 227,728         | 547,610        |

Some speculative attention has been directed towards oats in bond, and several purchases have been effected in Sweden, Denmark, Jutland and Friesland, for English account; and prices have again advanced abroad 6d to 1s per qr. Fine fresh cargoes which have arrived, have been offering at 16s to 18s, but speculators generally have not acceded to these rates, and most of the arrivals have gone into granary without changing hands.

Beans, the demand for which is always more or less influenced by that of oats, have been in request, and advanced 3s to 4s per qr; good round ticks being worth 41s to 42s. The article in bond has also improved, and is held at 24s to 27s, as in quality; fresh purchases have likewise been effected abroad, where, however, the stocks have become, generally, very much reduced. The duty at present is 15s 6d.

Peas have latterly met with more request, and some purchases have been made for horse feed. Prices have sustained little alteration, as the duty of 16s 9d is too high to allow any further admission of foreign qualities.

During the month, from the 25th of April to the 25th of May, the following quantity of grain and flour has arrived in the port of London:—

|              | Wheat.<br>Qrs. | Barley.<br>Qrs. | Oats,<br>Qrs. |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| English .... | 25,188         | 2,644           | 6,823         |
| Scotch ....  | 287            | 1,388           | 16,041        |
| Irish .....  | 43             | 751             | 73,533        |
| Foreign .... | 2,448          | 8,787           | 16,349        |

|              | Beans.<br>Qrs. | Peas.<br>Qrs. | Flour.<br>Sacks. |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|------------------|
| English .... | 1,562          | 140           | 26,143           |
| Scotch ....  | 582            | —             | 90               |
| Irish .....  | —              | —             | 77               |
| Foreign .... | 640            | 707           | —                |

The reports as to crops in France represent the young wheat plants generally to appear vigorous and luxuriant, the late frosts having not proved detrimental to their growth; oats have suffered from the drought, and are maintaining a high range of currency, the price of the article being also influenced by the deficiency of fodder, and unpromising state of the meadows, which, from want of rain, will, for the most, yield a very short return of hay: artificial feed, in places, has likewise received injury from the cold. Rape plants, in many districts, have also suffered from the frosty weather. At Paris, wheat supports its previous rates, in consequence of the limited stock on hand in those districts from whence the capital is accustomed to draw the bulk of its supplies. From Bray, and all the markets on the course of the Upper Seine, and the Aube, as well as from Chartres, Chateaudun, and many other leading marts, not much more than half the amount has been received, which had arrived at a similar period last season. If, therefore, the supplies should fall off from the northern departments, no doubt, a rapid and extensive improvement would ensue in time. Refreshing rains having been experienced in different parts of the country, and the rain in the neighbourhood of Paris having set in with the new moon, had caused a depression rather in the minds of holders of oats, and the article might be bought on somewhat lower terms, and should supplies come to hand, a decline in the quotations was looked forward to, though in many of the country markets oats continue to advance, owing to their scarcity. The upper districts of the Rhine may have experienced severe weather for the season of the year, accompanied with a heavy fall of snow, but vegetation does not appear to have suffered any detriment; the fields from the Duchy of Baden to Strasburg, thence to Carlsruhe, as well as in Alsatia, present a satisfactory appearance. The wheats, though not extremely thick, are clean, and strong in the blade; and the rapeseed is in full flower. At Marseille some degree of animation has pervaded the market, owing to the demand for wheat for the southern parts of Spain, and the bonded warehouses are nearly cleared of their stock of hard wheats; merchants, however, do not seem inclined to make further shipments, as they fear the quantity required by the Spaniards will be more than met by the consignments from so many different quarters. At Lyons, and in the neighbourhood, prices are no longer declining. In Alsace wheat will be very dear; unless supplies are furnished by Lorraine, from whence the wants of Paris and Strasburg are sometimes provided. In the western departments, however, the heaviness of trade is mostly experienced. The produce of the last year's crop appears to have been very unequally distributed, and the markets generally as much shorter in supply, and the stocks



much more diminished than at the same period in 1834. The state of business, therefore, mainly depends on the weather and the prospects of the crops for the next two months. The averages, which the previous season caused little interest in the opinion of the trade, may now produce a movement of an important character to the consumer.

By the latest advices from Spain, the prices of wheat materially advanced in Audalusia, Catalonia, and Arragon; the scarcity of corn which had prevailed in these provinces, added to the fears inspired by the continued drought as to the fate of the forthcoming crops, instigated the Government to permit the import of foreign wheat into the ports of Cadiz, and Malaga. The quantity however to be admitted was very limited in amount; at Cadiz not exceeding 6,000 to 7,000 qrs; and no additional import at present anticipated; and at Malaga only 15,000 fanegas and the order at the latter port has been since rescinded, a Greek, a Sardinian and two English vessels having only been fortunate enough to procure admission for their cargoes; good hard wheats are those which have been much sought after by the Audalusians, and inferior qualities, as being the cheapest, by the Catalonians. As shipments have been made from the Baltic from Hamburg, England, Italy the French Mediterranean ports, and those in the Bay of Biscay from Gibraltar, and even Morocco, most of the supplies will be excluded. Wheat freighted in Spanish vessels was to be entered free of duty, and shipped under a foreign flag a duty of three *reals de vellon* per fanega was exacted.

In the Black Sea quotations of wheat have, since Autumn, evinced a continual tendency to decline, the prices of soft qualities ruling low. At Odessa, the article is to be purchased at 23s to 24s 6d, the stocks of hard descriptions being less, and more in request; currencies are higher, being noted at 27s 7d to 30s 2d; but a further reduction is confidently expected on arrival of the supplies from the interior of the country. A deficiency having been experienced in Spring corn, several imports of barley and pulse have been received from Smyrna and Egypt, as well as, strange to say, Oats from Northern Europe, but as the demand of these articles is only limited, it is much to be doubted, if these shipments have been attended by any very satisfactory result. The weather is stated by the last accounts, as being very genial for all agricultural operations.

At Naples, Leghorn, and Genoa, the wheat trade, has been in an animated state, owing to the purchases which have been effected, and the shipments made to Spain; and though the prices have not undergone any material improvement, yet at Naples soft wheat was firm at 26s to 27s; and hard qualities at 27s to 28s; new soft descriptions for delivery in August, were held at 30s. Barletta and Ancona wheat was not to be procured under 27s, at Leghorn, and the better samples of Hamburg and Baltic wheats were obtaining the same quotations. At Trieste the demand was confined still to the consumption, and as the weather continued favourable for the growing crops, prices were on the decline, with the exception of those of barley, which had been bought for shipment to Lisbon and Algiers, and was noted at 15s 9d to 20s 6d. Oil seeds were more in request and advancing in value, as the crops in Lombardy and Hungary were reported to have suffered.

At the Russian ports prices of grain have remained stationary, and as the Government had again taken upon itself to provide for the wants of St. Petersburg and environs, the trade very prudently had refrained from operating, not wishing to come

into competition with so dangerous a rival. Linseed continued in request, and Morschansky qualities had advanced to 44s 1d; the export of the article generally will, it is reckoned, amount the ensuing season to 200,000, or 225,000 tschets. At Riga, the prices of Linseed remained at 44s 3d to 48s 5d.

At Danzig, the prevailing opinion seems to be that no supplies from Volhynia are to be expected this season, the waters of the river Bug being too shallow to float the barges; and the accounts of the state of the less important rivers of Upper Poland, as the San, the Wiepez, &c. are much the same; thus leaving only the shipping towns on the Vistula, from whence supplies can be depended upon; these places it is computed may furnish 30 to 40,000 qrs of wheat, but owing to the high prices at Cracow and Warsaw, in part caused by the dearth of Summer corn, it is probable that a considerable portion will find its way to these markets, and that hence, unless a material advance takes place in price, to admit of transit being forced over land, the total supplies for Danzig will not exceed 30 to 40,000 qrs. In consequence of the reports being received, that agents from Berlin and its neighbourhood had bought up the main part of the supplies which were on their way to Danzig, prices had advanced 1s 6d to 2s per qr; fine high mixed had realized 30s, good ditto, 28s 6d, and mixed sorts, 26s 6d. An additional reason for encouraging the holders to demand higher rates was the advance in the currency of rye, which was gradually improving, and 25s had been paid by the consumers, exhibiting a rise of 3s per qr during the past month. Rye and Peas were also in request for the central country markets, and it was generally anticipated that the stocks in bond would be liberated for the consumption free of duty, which may be calculated as making a difference of 3s per qr. In some of the Vistula districts rye obtained 26s, and peas, 30s to 34s. Some craft also had loaded wheat for Berlin, and sales had been effected for Pomeranian account. At Konigsberg prices remain unaltered. At Stettin wheat was held at 23s to 24s. In Mecklenburg supplies of grain at the principal markets were short and prices nominal; wheat was noted at 22s 6d; barley, 16s 3d; and oats, 13s. The appearances of the young winter sown corn were satisfactory, and those of spring corn very favourable. In Holstein an improved demand had been experienced for wheat, and sales had been effected for shipment to the Mediterranean and Spain, both of old and new qualities, prices being firm at 22s; barley, 16s; best heavy oats at 14s 6d, and the stocks of both these latter articles very limited. The rape plants in Holstein and Denmark had much improved, and in some districts a tolerable crop was anticipated, though in others the farmers are complaining of an increase of vermin and insects, and apprehend that the produce may not be larger than last year; but the weather was warm and genial for the growing crop. Old Danish barley had been bought at 12s 2d to 12s 9d, chiefly for Norway. Danish Oats were steady at 12s; Swedish, at 11s to 12s; black Oats on the west coast of Schleswick and Jutland, 12s. At Hamburg more demand was being experienced for wheat, which had advanced during the last three weeks about 1s 6d per qr, best Mecklenburg, of 60½ lbs, was noted at 27s; Marks, of 62 lbs, 26s 9d; Holstein, of 62 to 63 lbs, 24s 9d to 26s. Barley firm; offers were making for new Danish quality, weighing 53 lbs, at 13s 9d. The price for oats was again steady, and quality of 38 to 42 lbs were held at 11s 6d to 12s 6d, and 13s; Swedish, of 38 to 39 lbs, 11s 6d to 12s. Small Beans, 22s 6d; large do, 21s.

CURRENCY PER IMPERIAL MEASURE.

|                                        | BRITISH.                     |                  | MAY 1.                       |                  | JUNE 1.                      |                  |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
|                                        | s.                           | s.               | s.                           | s.               | s.                           | s.               |
| Wheat, red, Essex, Kent, Suffolk, new. | 34                           | 41               | 33                           | 41               | 33                           | 41               |
| Old                                    | 36                           | 41               | 35                           | 41               | 35                           | 41               |
| White, new                             | 40                           | 47               | 38                           | 40               | 38                           | 40               |
| Ditto, old                             | 40                           | 48               | 40                           | 47               | 40                           | 47               |
| Norfolk, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire.   | 33                           | 37               | 32                           | 36               | 32                           | 36               |
| White, do. do.                         | 36                           | 40               | 35                           | 40               | 35                           | 40               |
| West Country Red                       | 32                           | 36               | 32                           | 35               | 32                           | 35               |
| White, ditto                           | 36                           | 40               | 34                           | 40               | 34                           | 40               |
| Northumberland and Berwickshire Red    | 31                           | 35               | 30                           | 34               | 31                           | 35               |
| White, ditto                           | 34                           | 38               | 33                           | 37               | 34                           | 38               |
| Irish Red                              | 29                           | 31               | 29                           | 31               | 29                           | 31               |
| Ditto White                            | 30                           | 33               | 30                           | 33               | 30                           | 33               |
| Barley, Malting, new                   | 30                           | 34               | 30                           | 34               | 30                           | 34               |
| Chevalier, new                         | 37                           | 40               | 35                           | 38               | 37                           | 40               |
| Distilling                             | 28                           | 30               | 28                           | 30               | 28                           | 30               |
| Grinding                               | 26                           | 25               | 26                           | 28               | 26                           | 28               |
| Malt, Brown                            | 35                           | 49               | 35                           | 40               | 35                           | 40               |
| Ditto Norfolk pale                     | 47                           | 62               | 46                           | 61               | 47                           | 62               |
| Ditto Ware                             | 60                           | 65               | 60                           | 65               | 60                           | 65               |
| Peas, Hog and Grey                     | 32                           | 37               | 33                           | 37               | 32                           | 37               |
| Maple                                  | 38                           | 40               | 38                           | 40               | 38                           | 40               |
| White Boilers                          | 33                           | 36               | 32                           | 36               | 33                           | 36               |
| Beans, small                           | 38                           | 42               | 41                           | 44               | 38                           | 42               |
| Harrow                                 | 36                           | 40               | 40                           | 42               | 36                           | 40               |
| Ticks                                  | 34                           | 37               | 38                           | 41               | 34                           | 37               |
| Mazagan                                | 30                           | 36               | 35                           | 39               | 30                           | 36               |
| Oats, English feed                     | 23                           | 26               | 23                           | 26               | 23                           | 26               |
| Short small                            | 24                           | 27               | 24                           | 27               | 24                           | 27               |
| Poland                                 | 24                           | 27               | 24                           | 27               | 24                           | 27               |
| Scotch, Common                         | 26                           | 28               | 26                           | 27               | 26                           | 27               |
| Berwick, &c.                           | 27                           | 28               | 26                           | 27               | 27                           | 28               |
| Potatoes, &c.                          | 27                           | 29               | 27                           | 29               | 27                           | 29               |
| Irish, Feed                            | 21s 0d to 23s 0d             | 21s 0d to 23s 0d | 21s 0d to 23s 0d             | 21s 0d to 23s 0d | 21s 0d to 23s 0d             | 21s 0d to 23s 0d |
| Ditto Potatoes                         | 24s 0d to 26s 6d             | 23s 0d to 25s 0d | 24s 0d to 26s 6d             | 23s 0d to 25s 0d | 24s 0d to 26s 6d             | 23s 0d to 25s 0d |
| Ditto Black                            | 22s 6d to 24s 0d             | 22s 0d to 23s 0d | 22s 6d to 24s 0d             | 22s 0d to 23s 0d | 22s 6d to 24s 0d             | 22s 0d to 23s 0d |
| Brans                                  | 11s 0d to 12s 6d per bushel. |                  | 11s 0d to 12s 6d per bushel. |                  | 11s 0d to 12s 6d per bushel. |                  |

PRICES OF FLOUR,

| Per Sack of 280 lbs.                  | MAY 1. |    | JUNE 1. |    |
|---------------------------------------|--------|----|---------|----|
|                                       | s.     | s. | s.      | s. |
| Town-made                             | 33     | 35 | 33      | 35 |
| Norfolk, Suffolk, Kent, and Essex     | 27     | 30 | 27      | 30 |
| Sussex and Hampshire                  | 27     | 30 | 27      | 30 |
| Superfine                             | 32     | —  | 32      | —  |
| Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and Stockton | 27     | 29 | 27      | 29 |
| Northumberland, Berwick, and Scotch   | 27     | 29 | 27      | 29 |
| Irish                                 | 27     | 29 | 27      | 29 |
| Extra                                 | 31     | —  | 30      | —  |

AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF THE LONDON AVERAGES,

During the Month of May.

|        | qrs.    | £ s. d. |              | qrs.  | £ s. d. |
|--------|---------|---------|--------------|-------|---------|
| Wheat  | 34,403  | 2 1 7   | Beans        | 4,961 | 1 17 8  |
| Barley | 16,032  | 1 11 5  | Peas         | 897   | 1 15 0  |
| Oats   | 154,197 | 1 4 5   | Bere or Bigg | 4,485 | 1 3 5   |
| Rye    | 174     | 1 11 7  |              |       |         |

IMPERIAL AVERAGES

|                                                                                                                                  | Wheat. | Barley | Oats  | Rye  | Beans | Peas  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|------|-------|-------|
| Weekending                                                                                                                       |        |        |       |      |       |       |
| 10th April                                                                                                                       | 39 3   | 32 7   | 22 10 | 32 2 | 36 3  | 34 4  |
| 17th "                                                                                                                           | 38 10  | 32 5   | 23 3  | 33 5 | 36 6  | 36 0  |
| 24th "                                                                                                                           | 38 7   | 32 0   | 23 5  | 31 6 | 36 5  | 34 10 |
| 1st May                                                                                                                          | 38 6   | 31 2   | 24 2  | 31 3 | 36 9  | 34 11 |
| 8th "                                                                                                                            | 38 9   | 31 8   | 23 8  | 31 0 | 36 11 | 36 7  |
| 15th "                                                                                                                           | 39 8   | 31 5   | 23 10 | 31 3 | 37 8  | 34 4  |
| Aggregate Average of the six weeks which regulates the duty                                                                      | 38 11  | 31 10  | 23 6  | 31 7 | 36 9  | 35 2  |
| Duties payable in London till Wednesday next inclusive, and at the Outports till the arrival of the Mail of that day from London | 48 8   | 15 4   | 12 3  | 22 9 | 15 6  | 16 9  |
| Do. on grain from British possessions out of Europe                                                                              | 5 0    | 2 6    | 2 6   | 3 0  | 3 0   | 3 0   |

PRICES OF HOPS IN THE BOROUGH.

|                       | MAY 1.      |      | JUNE 1.    |      |
|-----------------------|-------------|------|------------|------|
|                       | £ s.        | £ s. | £ s.       | £ s. |
| East Kent Pockets     | 5 12 to 7 0 |      | 6 0 to 8 8 |      |
| Mid-Kent Pockets      | 5 0         | 6 6  | 5 8        | 6 10 |
| Weald of Kent Pockets | 4 10        | 5 10 | 5 5        | 5 12 |
| Sussex Pockets        | 3 10        | 4 15 | 3 10       | 4 15 |
| Yearlings             | 0 18        | 2 3  | 1 1        | 3 10 |
| Old Olds              |             |      |            |      |

BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS MARKETS.

|                        | Per ton.            |      | MAY 1.       |      | JUNE 1.      |      |
|------------------------|---------------------|------|--------------|------|--------------|------|
|                        | £ s.                | £ s. | £ s.         | £ s. | £ s.         | £ s. |
| Ware, Scotch reds      | 2 10 to 3 15        |      | 2 10 to 3 15 |      | 2 10 to 3 15 |      |
| York kidneys           | 2 15                | 3 10 | 2 15         | 3 10 | 2 15         | 3 10 |
| Marsh Champions        | 2 5                 | 2 10 | 2 0          | 2 15 | 2 0          | 2 15 |
| London whites          | 2 2                 | 3 3  | 2 2          | 3 3  | 2 2          | 3 3  |
| Shaws                  | 2 0                 | 3 0  | 2 0          | 3 0  | 2 0          | 3 0  |
| Middlings, Scotch reds | 1 15                | 2 5  | 1 15         | 2 5  | 1 15         | 2 5  |
| York kidneys           | 2 2                 | 2 5  | 2 2          | 2 5  | 2 2          | 2 5  |
| Marsh Champions        | 1 15                | 2 0  | 1 15         | 2 0  | 1 15         | 2 0  |
| London whites          | 1 12                | 2 0  | 1 12         | 2 0  | 1 12         | 2 0  |
| Shaws                  | 1 10                | 2 0  | 1 10         | 2 0  | 1 10         | 2 0  |
| Chat Potatoes          | 20s to 25s per ton. |      |              |      |              |      |

SMITHFIELD MARKET.

Per stone of 14 lbs. to sink the offals.

|               | MAY 1.     |       | JUNE 1.    |       |
|---------------|------------|-------|------------|-------|
|               | s. d.      | s. d. | s. d.      | s. d. |
| Inferior Beef | 2 0 to 2 2 |       | 2 0 to 2 2 |       |
| Do. Mutton    | 2 4        | 2 6   | 2 2        | 2 4   |
| Middling Beef | 2 6        | 2 10  | 2 6        | 2 10  |
| Do. Mutton    | 2 10       | 3 2   | 2 6        | 2 10  |
| Prime Beef    | 3 6        | 4 0   | 3 10       | 4 6   |
| Do. Mutton    | 3 10       | 4 6   | 3 6        | 4 2   |
| Veal          | 3 4        | 4 8   | 3 4        | 4 8   |
| Pork          | 3 0        | 4 0   | 3 0        | 4 0   |
| Lamb          | 5 0        | 6 0   | 5 0        | 6 0   |

WOOL MARKETS.

BRITISH.

|                   | MAY 1.      |       | JUNE 1.     |       |
|-------------------|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|
|                   | s. d.       | s. d. | s. d.       | s. d. |
| Down Teds         | 1 7 to 1 7½ |       | 1 7½ to 1 8 |       |
| Half-bred Hoggets | 1 8         | 1 8½  | 1 8½        | 1 9   |
| Ewes and Wethers  | 1 3         | 1 3½  | 1 3         | 1 3½  |
| Leicester Hogs    | 1 7         | 0 0   | 1 7         | 1 8   |
| Do. Wethers       | 1 4         | 0 0   | 1 4         | 0 0   |
| Blanket Wool      | 0 9         | 1 0   | 0 9         | 1 1   |
| Flannel           | 1 0         | 1 3½  | 1 0         | 1 4   |
| Skin Combing      | 1 2         | 0 0   | 1 2         | 1 3   |

SCOTCH.

Per Stone of 24 lbs.

|                          | MAY 1.       |       | JUNE 1.      |       |
|--------------------------|--------------|-------|--------------|-------|
|                          | s. d.        | s. d. | s. d.        | s. d. |
| Laid Highland Wool, from | 10 3 to 10 9 |       | 10 3 to 10 6 |       |
| White Do.                | 13 3         | 13 9  | 13 3         | 13 6  |
| Laid Crossed Do.         | 13 6         | 14 0  | 13 6         | 14 0  |
| Washed Do.               | 14 6         | 16 6  | 14 6         | 16 6  |
| Laid Cheviots            | 14 6         | 16 6  | 14 6         | 16 6  |
| Washed Do.               | 18 0         | 20 0  | 18 0         | 20 0  |
| White Do.                | 25 0         | 27 0  | 25 0         | 27 0  |

FOREIGN.

JUNE 1.

Electoral Saxony Wools, from 4s 6d to 5s 6d; first Austrian, Bohemian, and other German Wools, 4s to 4s 4d; second ditto, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; inferior ditto, in locks and pieces, 2s to 2s 4d; ditto lamb's ditto, 3s to 4s; Hungarian sheep's ditto, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; Leonessa sheep's ditto, 2s 6d to 4s 6d; Segovia ditto, 2s 8d to 3s 2d; Soria ditto, 2s 4d to 3s; Cacaris ditto, 2s 1d to 2s 6d; Spanish lamb's wool, 1s 6d to 2s 10d; German and Spanish cross ditto, 1s 8d to 3s; Portugal sheep's ditto, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; ditto lamb's ditto, 1s 3d to 2s 6d; Australian fine crossed ditto, 2s 9d to 4s 9d; ditto native sheep's ditto, 2s to 2s 7d; and Van Diemen's Land native sheep's ditto, 1s 6d to 2s 7d per lb.



# THE POLITICAL COMPANION

TO

## THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

### POOR LAWS.—IRELAND.

(From the Times.)

The grand accompaniment of every other Irish evil is the misery of the labouring poor. It was plain that Catholic emancipation would do nothing for that. It would raise the gentry to their just political privileges, but it would not relieve any man from nakedness or hunger. The consequence has been, that poverty in its strict sense—that is to say, the want of absolute necessities, such as food—not merely that of comforts, as in England,—has prevailed among the Irish to a degree unexampled, we verily believe, in any other European region; for it is not merely in a direct manner that the absence of a well-regulated poor law in Ireland has operated to the continuance of destitution, it is not merely that hunger has not been relieved, but that want in no shape has been prevented. The landlords are not only not compelled by law to give one farthing towards the alleviation of misery where it has already actually overtaken its victim, but they are not warned by the fear of any legal compulsion, to avert its occurrence, by the slightest care on their on their own parts, exercised with a view to the future advantage of their humble neighbours. When the poor candidates for an acre of ground on lease are driven by desperate competition to offer three times the rent that can ever be made of it, what would be the influence of a poor law upon the conduct of the landlord? He would calculate the rent which a tenant could afford to pay, and select for the occupation of his tenement the most industrious and reputable husbandman. Such a landlord must know very well, that the man who promised more than he could pay could never pay what he promised, and would therefore, in his consequent state of pauperism, become a burden on the parochial poor rates. This would give the landlord an immediate interest in the comfort and independence of the poor about him. The poor man's wages would be raised by it, while his rent would be lowered, and with a smaller nominal income the proprietor would be in reality a richer man. But at present the Irish are treated more like beasts of the field than human creatures. They have been stimulated and encouraged by the landlord, while it served his political interests, to settle as *freeholders* on the estate. They have multiplied in the midst of privation. At length it was manifest that the land was overstocked—and what then? Had poor laws existed, the land must still have fed the poor who had been settled on it, after they had ceased to be its tenants; but without poor laws, and for want of them, the surplus tenants have been unhoused and banished, without a place to lay their heads in, a rag to cover them, or a potato to eat. Never was such a wholesale destitution witnessed in this world. The law gives no redress

and no protection. The landlord has exercised, correctly speaking, no more than the right of property secured to him by the barbarously defective condition of the law, and thousands under the vindication of that right have perished. This state of things we have often said must be put an end to; and if Mr. O'Connell follows up the question with a perseverance equal to the zeal with which he seems to have opened it, or sees it in the same clear light in which the late Dr. Doyle presented it, we have no doubt that the object will be gained. When it is in contemplation to take a large proportion of its annual revenue from the church for the benefit of the landlords, it would be too audacious in the latter to reject the supplications of the poor. But Parliament, we hope and trust, will soon entertain that feeling upon the question which humanity and justice inculcate upon a Christian Legislature; nor should any complaint be listened to of the sacrifice which such an alteration of the law would entail upon the Irish landlord; half the rent of his estate would, even considering no interests but his own, be a cheap price for the many direct and collateral blessings thus (morally) ensured to society.

### THE CURRENCY.

(From the Herald.)

Our opinions upon that vital question “the currency system,” have been so often before the public, that we did not intend, for the present, to resume the discussion upon that question. We have, however, some reason to know that the public mind is gradually awakening to its importance; and in the numerous agricultural associations of the country it is becoming the principal topic of discussion. The agricultural interests, for the present, have lost the remission of the malt tax, which, it is generally admitted, would have proved but a partial relief, without, also, some immediate amelioration of our vicious monetary system; and this has particularly led into general inquiry upon the subject. The monthly returns in the *Gazette* of the average liabilities and assets of the Bank of England are also incontestable evidences of the fallacious character and danger of the system, and each succeeding return adds force to the dawning conviction of the people. Under such circumstances, we cannot be silent, and, though our opinions are known, it would ill become us to slumber.

We have ever advanced those opinions under the full conviction that most of the evils under which the agricultural and manufacturing population have long—much too long—suffered, are to be ascribed to the evils inflicted upon them by the operation of Mr. Peel's ill-fated Bill. We think so still; and those opinions are supported by the most

experienced men in the monetary world. The late Government have reiterated the admission from the throne, that the agriculturists were in great distress; yet they and their predecessors have shunned the question. Both parties have been aware how difficult it was to attain a just knowledge of a question so abstruse and intricate; and falsely relying upon the ignorance of the major part of the people, and the slow progress they must make in acquiring a true knowledge of the subject, they have obstinately persevered in a system that screws down all the industrial energies of the people. We have resumed the subject, because we consider that every man who endeavours to enlighten his fellow-countrymen upon questions so important deserves infinitely more honour than the leader of a political faction; and we are convinced that he will, in the end, be the cause of creating an infinitely greater sum of human happiness.

In this spirit, we call the attention of our readers to an unpretending, well-written pamphlet upon the currency question, now publishing by Cochran, of Waterloo-place, entitled—"A Second Address to the Agriculturists of Bucks," by a Gentleman connected with that county. It is evidently the production of a man of experience, and imparts some convincing truths in language adapted to the humblest capacity. We believe we should only garble the pamphlet were we to make copious extracts from it, but there is something so convincing in the following short and plain table that we cannot resist subjoining it and the short remarks which follow:—

|                                                                                                                                     |              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| The National Debt in 1793, when the war commenced was .....                                                                         | £244,440,000 |
| Contracted from 1793 to 1797 ..                                                                                                     | 129,560,000  |
| The total amount of the National Debt contracted in Gold up to 1797 (when the Bank Restriction Act took place), was therefore ..... | 374,000,000  |
| Of this sum there was redeemed in Gold—                                                                                             |              |
| From 1793 to 1797, 14,000,000l.                                                                                                     |              |
| From 1820 to 1827, 119,000,000l.                                                                                                    |              |
| From 1827 to 1830, 21,000,000l.                                                                                                     | 154,000,000  |
| Leaving at this moment due in Gold .....                                                                                            | £220,000,000 |
| The Debt contracted in Paper Money from 1797 to 1819 (when the Bank Restriction Act ceased) was .....                               | 988,000,000  |
| Of this sum there was redeemed in PAPER .....                                                                                       | 370,000,000  |
| Leaving at this moment due in Paper .....                                                                                           | £18,000,000  |
| Total National Debt in Gold and in Paper .....                                                                                      | £838,000,000 |

"Thus it will be perceived by the foregoing statement that of the total debt now due *three-fourths* have been contracted in a *depreciated* currency, and, legally and morally speaking, payable only in *paper*—yet was it converted in one hour by an Act of Parliament into a *metallic* or *gold* debt! The mind shrinks back at the very contemplation of such an act of injustice—an injustice not to be paralleled in the annals of the civilized world. Who can predicate the portentous consequences of persisting in an endeavour to convert upwards of 600 millions into an equal sum in gold, at a low fixed standard value?"

We quite agree with the writer. Who, indeed, can predict the consequences of pursuing such a cruel system; one which, if persevered in, will certainly increase the power of our domestic demagogues; and, as it must gradually cripple the national resources, will also embolden the foreign

enemies of the State. We know the bullionists entertain a good deal of mock fear about returning to the old system; their constant cry is, "*it is too late to go back.*" But "*Sera nunquam est ad bonos mores via,*" and the sooner we retrace our steps in the monetary system of the country the better. With the full conviction that no Government who intends well to the country ought to shirk the question, we shall, on every opportunity, endeavour to draw their attention to it, and impress upon the country the necessity of an immediate investigation into the nature of the present system.

## DUTCH AGRICULTURE.

(From the Courier.)

The emigration of substantial farmers from Holland to the United States, is beginning to excite some notice in the Dutch Papers. That it should take place can scarcely cause surprise, when agriculture is in Holland, as in England, in a most ruinous condition, and is flourishing in the United States. In the latter country, as we read in one of the American Papers a few days ago, capitalists were netting, in some cases, fifteen per cent. half yearly upon some speculations. The interest of money in America is, no doubt, much higher than here, and as its wants have been supplied from the European markets, that has contributed to raise the interest of money here. It was stated yesterday that an expectation prevails in the city that the Government and other great borrowers will have to pay a higher rate of interest for their floating securities. But the depression of agriculture in almost every part of Europe is a convincing proof, that, for the moment, this increase of the rate of interest is not caused by any increase of profit arising from the cultivation of the soil in Europe. To us, then, this rise in the interest of money seems likely to add to the difficulties of our agriculturists, and we embrace the opportunity of saying a single word on the effect of restrictions on the trade in corn in producing results so disastrous to those who have obtained them on the supposition that they must be beneficial to themselves.

The restrictions on the Corn Trade are imposed on the supposition that Corn is here in abundance. There is so much of it grown in Britain, that our farmers, if possible, will have none imported. Those restrictions are not intended to clog the growth of Corn here, but to impede and clog its importation. Corn is too abundant and too cheap; and there can be no motive for extending cultivation. Enterprize in this branch of production must be asleep or dead. Abundance and cheapness, however, are relative terms; and Corn is abundant in relation to consumers, and cheap in relation to the quantity of money in circulation. But the Corn Laws are restrictions on the manufacturers of cloth here, who would be able to sell more on the Continent if there were no Corn Laws. They are a restriction on our shipping, which would be employed to a greater extent than at present in importing Corn, if there were no such laws; they are a restriction on enterprize in those branches of trade where men pant to be free, and to extend their operations; and thus they operate to check the increase of people engaged in manufacturing and commercial industry. Without diminishing the quantity of Corn grown in the country they lessen and impede the demand for it.



But the manufacturer, and the ship-owner, and the merchant, who find their enterprise impeded by the restrictions, must as a matter of course, check all their speculations, and not issue so many of those bills which now figure so conspicuously in our circulating medium, as they would issue were there no such restrictions. The Corn Laws, then, diminish the amount of money in circulation. They make Corn cheaper both by raising the value of money and lessening the demand. Trade and land have been aptly compared to twins, which wax and wane together, and, old and apt as is the comparison, never was it so much lost sight of as by our agriculturists. During the war, great as was our trade, land shot a-head, and it was the business of the Legislature to allow trade to overtake it. But the Corn Laws are really a restriction on trade. They check the growth of the twin-brother of land, and land itself suffers dreadfully, and will suffer as long as its companion is kept from attaining its natural stature and strength. The Corn Laws are bounties on the growth of corn, and restrictions on the increase of consumers, and of their means of buying corn. Benevolently intended to benefit the farmer, they are affecting his pecuniary ruin and his moral degradation. It is another proof of the fact that no man or class ever fell into error, or committed wrong, without suffering from it.

#### ABOLITION OF IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

(From the Herald.)

We formerly argued that the law was detrimental rather than advantageous to the fair and honest trader and shopkeeper, because it induced a system of false credit, which produced more apparent than real custom—a custom always unsound—often ruinous both to the trader who trusted, and the purchaser who, by such facility of credit, was tempted to live beyond his means. In the little work to which we have alluded, and which is stated to be from the pen of a “Barrister of the Middle Temple,” there is some cogent reasoning upon this part of the question founded upon practical observation. We quote the following passages. The object of the writer is to show that, by the abolition of arrest for debt, what is lost in custom would be gained in soundness of credit. He says—“Able at any time to imprison his debtor, the creditor is always on the alert for custom. His eagerness encourages purchasers—he considers the certainty of recovering his money by enforcing the law—they calculate the probability of paying from their expected resources. Accustomed to the aid of the law for protection against the person of the debtor, he is not active in adopting precautions respecting the property. He trusts without due inquiry, and is imposed on by appearance. Every inducement is thus afforded to a class of adventurers, who speculate upon the possible chances rather than the ordinary courses of trade. To such persons success is profit without outlay, and insolvency a passport to the privileges of the law. Meanwhile the creditor extends his connection—orders are multiplied—he displays a large assortment of splendid stock—has crowded counters, and a long list of bad debts—he must, however, supply the deficiencies—at last he is driven to dispose of his goods at any rate—to deceive the public by puffing, and to injure the trade by underselling. The shops are full—so are the gaols.”

By disarming the creditor of a power which he

has overrated, he will appreciate the value of self-protection. In commerce the magnitude of its concerns creates caution. The success of the merchant is promoted more by his own exertions to preserve credit than by any legal enactments to protect it. So the tradesman will learn to exercise greater prudence—he will look less to chance gains than to certain profits. Thus the discontinuing of the arrest will check unwarrantable confidence, and discourage a system of unprofitable speculation.”

The writer then proceeds to show that the increased power to be given by the law to the creditor over the property of the debtor will be far more than an equivalent for the abandonment of the power over the person, which is oftener the means of gratifying a vindictive feeling, to which the law should never minister, than of affording protection. With regard to the effect of imprisonment upon the debtor he says—“Imprisonment is more to be deprecated in the instance of an honest man, than desired as a punishment even for the guilty. It deteriorates the debtor—diminishes the chances of the creditor, and operates injuriously on public morals. If the debtor have property, it impoverishes him by legal demands and prison disbursements. Had he skill or industry, he is incapacitated for exertion—he can earn little for himself—nothing for others. Had he position in society, influence and friends, he is degraded—had he character, that is destroyed—had he honesty, expectations and prospects in life, which are often the creditor's last chance, even that is endangered by a course which leads to the demoralizing of principle—the hardening of the heart—the extinction of the last ray of hope.” The evil consequences of imprisonment for debt are here strongly portrayed; but the force of the picture is in its truth.

#### THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

(From the Morning Post.)

The ministerial journals exhibit, more clearly than they intend, the character and objects of the party whom they represent when they labour to vindicate and consolidate the alliance between Protestant dissenters and Papists for the overthrow of the Church of England. People of reflection and intelligence will conclude, without hesitation, that the objects cannot be good which are sought by means so vicious and unnatural. “It is a most unquestionable truth,” says an evening Whig contemporary, “that the grievances of English Dissenters have invariably been owing to their Protestant not to their Catholic brethren. It is also true that in the reign of the last Stuarts the dread of Popery in the minds of the Protestant Dissenters, which had then some reason, was shamefully taken advantage of by the Church party to obtain their assistance against the Papists, and then throw them overboard, nay, visit them with active oppressions. But at the present day the Dissenters are completely aware that they have a common cause with every other oppressed denomination; and they remember, besides, that the Catholic support was not wanting to the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts. It is quite in vain to attempt to delude the body of Dissenters with the antiquated cry of ‘No Popery!’”

We have here a choice specimen of the artifices by which political Dissenters—that is to say, men who pretend to be Protestant Dissenters in order to promote more effectually their political views—impose upon the understandings of their more simple-minded and sincere brethren. While the Roman

Catholics had power in this country there were no Dissenters in the sense in which the term must now be understood ; or, to state the fact more correctly, the Protestants who subsequently formed the Church of England and those who subsequently became Dissenters from that Church were, during the period to which we refer, one undivided body. The Dissenters suffered then in common with the whole Protestant body. Will the honest and conscientious Dissenters of the present day deny this? Will they patiently permit it to be denied on their behalf? Are all the glories of the Reformation—all the heroism which that great moral and intellectual convulsion produced—all the magnanimous suffering, the constant devotion, the indomitable zeal—all the merit of enduring torture and death, unvanquished and unappalled, in the pure strength of conscientious conviction, and in Christian reliance upon the great author and finisher of our common faith, to be denied to the predecessors of the Protestant Dissenters of Great Britain? Is this a portion of the annals of England from all share and participation in the glory of which the Protestant Dissenters of the present day are willing to be excluded by the stupid and perverse, the unjust and ungenerous, reasoning of men calling themselves their friends and advocates? Will the Protestant Dissenters adopt the argument of their pretended friends, and concede to the Church of England the exclusive merit of having struggled with Popery when Popery was in possession of political power—of having braved its authority, endured its persecutions, and subverted its dominion! For this is what the political Dissenters really concede when they assert that “the grievances of English Dissenters have invariably been owing to their Protestant not to their Catholic brethren.”

And what grievances have English Dissenters ever endured from their Protestant brethren beyond what was necessary to keep together the body of the Church, and guard effectually against the restoration of Popish dominion? We do not admit that they have endured any, nor do we affirm that they have endured none. What we ask is, that the amount should be fairly summed up; and that it should be regarded in conjunction with the circumstances of the times, in which each particular grievance was inflicted, and with reference to the necessity of guarding against Popery as a powerful enemy, and the impossibility of viewing the Dissenters from the Church of England as steadfast friends? For a considerable period the Church of England had in its charge (and has it not even now, in its charge?) the duty of protecting the Ark of the Protestant faith in Great Britain. And this duty it discharged in a manner so efficacious, with respect to its main object, and so free from intolerance to the conscientious Protestant Dissenters, who weakened and embarrassed it during the vital struggle in which it was engaged by their separation from its fold, as to have acquired a claim not merely to exemption from reproach, but, we will boldly say, to the everlasting gratitude of every conscientious Dissenter, of whatever denomination.

“The Dissenters are completely aware,” we are told, “that at the present day they have a common cause with every oppressed denomination,” and that it is quite in vain to attempt to delude the body of Dissenters with the antiquated cry of “No Popery.” What we want to know is, where any such thing as an oppressed denomination is now to be found, unless it be the Protestant clergy and people of Ireland? The former have been indeed inveigled by the State into a position in which the State, under the dominion of Roman Catholic councils,

leaves them to starve unassisted. The latter may not manifest any active sympathy with their oppressed pastors, but at the risk of being robbed and murdered by the O’Connell faction, the organised array of Popery, now assured of impunity, inasmuch as they are the indispensable auxiliaries and the imperious rulers of the actual government of Great Britain. These are the oppressed, and the only oppressed, denominations among the whole body of his Majesty’s subjects. And it is with these that the Dissenters, if they had any just sense of right, or any well-considered regard for their own interests, would make common cause.

The Protestant Dissenters, whatever may be their present feelings, will soon, we suspect, begin to perceive that the “antiquated cry of ‘No Popery’” would be the instrument of a much less dangerous delusion than the pretence, that, from the increase and aggressions of Popery there is no longer anything to apprehend. Let the Protestant Dissenters look at the growth of Popery in Great Britain within the last six years; let them look at the influence which, at this moment, a confederacy of Papists possess in the House of Commons; let them look at the grounds for suspicion that an active, able, and ambitious Papist, exercises a secret and undefined authority over the King’s government; let them regard the Papists in the legislature, voting and acting in direct violation—we will not say of the oath which they take on their admission into Parliament, for this is a disputed matter—but in direct violation of the sense in which that oath was understood by all parties, by the advocates for the Emancipation Bill, by its opponents, by the Popish leaders themselves, six years ago, when it was introduced into the body of that Act for the protection of the Protestant Church. Let the Protestant Dissenters look at these things, and they will not, we imagine, fail speedily to discover that more mischievous delusions may be practised upon them than any that can be couched under what is called “the antiquated cry of ‘No Popery.’”

#### THE OATH OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC MEMBERS.

(From the Times.)

Public attention being at this moment turned with so much earnestness to the subject of the oath taken by Roman Catholics under the bill of 1829, on their admission to sit in parliament, we have looked over some discussions relating to that oath, which arose out of a motion of Mr. O’Connell, on the 11th of March, 1834, of which the aim was to bring about through the appointment and report of a select committee, an abolition of the aforesaid oath.

Now, that oath, which pledges Roman Catholics against attempting anything to the injury of the rights, privileges, or property of the church establishment in either island, was framed expressly, and universally understood to be intended by the legislature, as a security for the Church of England and Ireland against an abuse of the powers conferred upon Roman Catholics by the act of Catholic emancipation.

As the oath was to be taken by Roman Catholics exclusively, so must it have been designed to restrain Catholics exclusively, and not Protestants, in the exercise of the new functions wherewith they were invested by the bill. It could not have been intended, because it was wholly unnecessary to get up the apparatus of a solemn oath, as an instrument for deterring Roman Catholics from meddling by violent or unlawful means with the rights and pro-



party of the Church Establishment. The law was already strong enough to punish any such illegal—that is criminal—attacks upon the Protestant Church. An oath, by which a man engaged himself not to violate the law which upheld church property, would be as absurd as an oath against the perpetration of highway-robbery. The penal sanctions already existing are sufficient for the general prevention of such misdeeds.

The oath, therefore, if to be regarded as a security, must contemplate a restraint upon Roman Catholics in the exercise of the legal powers conveyed to them by the Emancipation Bill, so as to guard against a perversion of those powers to the overthrow or injury of the Church Establishment. The object of the legislature manifestly was not to prevent a usurpation of authority, which from the nature of things it would be impossible for Roman Catholics to accomplish, but the abuse of a political trust, to which the spirit of their church and their sectarian jealousy or hatred of Protestantism might naturally tempt them.

It was on this view, and under this persuasion, that Mr. O'Connell, on the day of the last session alluded to, gave way to his impatience at the yoke which he secretly felt to be thus imposed upon his machinations against the Protestant Church of Ireland, by moving for a Committee to get rid of it.

The learned malcontent went, as usual, somewhat cunningly to work. He asserted, that "the Catholics in the House of Commons ought not to be placed in an invidious light. No, to be sure,—they ought to have full liberty to stab our Protestant constitution with the weapons which it confides to them. But the learned person further said, and repeated through half a dozen sentences—that he, as an individual taking that oath, ought to be bound by its plain meaning, and not by any arbitrary construction which he or others might affix to it. Yet all this show of candour will not go for much, when it appears in a subsequent passage that the learned Jesuit has ready cut and dry a construction of the oath, dexterously accommodated to his particular projects; and, as we Protestants may be disposed to think, sufficiently arbitrary likewise. Mr. O'Connell being a stickler for liberty of conscience, allows his own no niggard measure. He assures the house that "he could take the oath with a safe conscience, and with the most perfect regard to the religion he professed." And well indeed he might, and with extraordinary satisfaction moreover. Why? "Because there was nothing in the oath to prevent a Catholic from acting as he pleased with respect to the temporalities of the Established Church, either as regards the power, authority, or emoluments of that church!" This may be highly satisfactory to the learned Repealer. He may have flattered himself that he could hoax the House of Commons by such a mystification of the plain terms of an oath binding Catholics not to do anything which might weaken or injure church property or privileges, as would still admit of their acting how they pleased with her temporalities, by robbing her, for instance, of every sixpence of revenue that had ever belonged to her. Very convenient this, no doubt, and prodigiously gratifying to those of the learned casuist's hearers who had flattered themselves with the notion that any oath, or any bonds, however strictly and perspicuously worded, could be available securities against Punic or Polish faith!

Sir Robert Peel treated this morality with a gentleness and delicacy somewhat surprising, as he evidently detected the lurking mischief. He, how-

ever, reminded the learned anti-Saxon, that it was no more than five years since the act of emancipation had passed, that the oath in question was embodied with that act as a security—the only one demanded by a Protestant nation, which had at the time the power in her hands to impose what conditions she might have deemed most necessary—and hinted that it was neither the most modest, nor the most grateful, nor most prudent thing in the world to importune parliament at so early a period after so vast a favour had been bestowed upon the Catholics for a removal of the single guarantee against the abuse of it which Protestant liberality had acquired.

Sir Robert Peel added his own apprehension that parliament might be induced by such conduct to withhold all liberal concession from those who asked it. But, for our parts, if the securities be swept away, we shall wonder if the Protestants do not require that the *danger* too—meaning the privilege against the abuse of which those securities were framed—shall also be removed by act of parliament. The Union with Ireland is not the only great political settlement of which revolutionary exigencies may bring about the repeal. The "settlement" of 1829 is not one whit more sacred.

## O'CONNELL AND THE MINISTRY.

(From the Morning Post.)

"There is not a single Tory in office, and, by the blessing of God, there shall not be a single Tory in place either."

The above is an extract from Mr. O'Connell's last speech to his followers in Ireland; and we have to announce to the public to-day, that, in conformity with the mandate herein issued—

1st. Lord Heytesbury's appointment to India is cancelled.

2ndly. Sir Howard Douglas has been recalled.

3rdly. Lord Amherst's appointment is suspended, preparatory, we believe, to its being finally cancelled also.

Now, we entreat our readers to compare these facts with the announcement made in Mr. O'Connell's speech, "that, by the blessing of God, there shall not be a single Tory in place, either;" and, we ask them, is it possible to believe that this man, however *officially unconnected* with the government, is not in point of fact the *dictator of its measures*—or whether Mr. O'Connell, however disowned as a coadjutor by Lord Melbourne, is not, to all intents and purposes, a *member of his Cabinet, and his colleague in the government*?

We entreat the people of England to compare this, the first act of the new Premier, with the conduct pursued by Sir Robert Peel on similar occasions, on *his* accession to office, and to ask themselves the question, is any, the least, credit to be attached to the declaration so often repeated by the organs of the administration, that "there is no understanding whatever between Mr. O'Connell and the King's government."

We shall not now enter into a lengthened consideration of the question of Lord Heytesbury's recall. We believe we may assert, without fear of contradiction, that there existed on all sides but one opinion as to that nobleman's fitness for the office to which he was nominated by Sir Robert Peel. The appointment was received even by the Whigs themselves as one against which it was almost impossible to find a single objection; and we know that it was viewed in this light by the

Court of Directors, and for that reason was unanimously confirmed by them. Yet here is the appointment of Lord Heytesbury cancelled, on the eve of his departure for his government, and after he had received the usual allowance for his outfit from the East India Company, without the shadow of a complaint either as to his incapacity to discharge the duties confided to him, or the pretext of any single act committed by him to disqualify him for the office for which he was selected by his Sovereign, and by the unanimous approbation of the East India direction.

The same reasoning may be applied to the conduct of the government in their recal of Sir Howard Douglas, and in their suspension of Lord Amherst.

We shall return to the consideration of these measures of the new ministry,—but at this moment we shall confine ourselves merely to the announcement of them, and leave the public to form, from what we have said, some idea of the liberal and enlightened policy they have to expect from Lord Melbourne and his colleagues. It will be necessary, however, we apprehend, that the sign manual should be obtained to the cancelling of Lord Heytesbury's commission, before it can be legally effected; and we have yet the hope left, that the eyes of the Sovereign will be opened to the policy of his new advisers by this act, and that his Majesty will not suffer the public service to be impeded, and the money of his East Indian subjects squandered, in providing another outfit either for some shelved politician, who cannot obtain a seat in parliament, or for some favoured nominee of Mr. O'Connell, whose continued support cannot otherwise be relied on.

#### THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON AND OUR FOREIGN POLICY.

*(From the Morning Chronicle.)*

We are enabled to announce that although the ostensible object of Lord Eliot's mission to the head quarters of the contending armies in the Peninsular is to prevail on both parties to exchange their prisoners, and to acknowledge the ordinary laws of war, yet his real purpose is to declare to Don Carlos that, even should the rebellion be successful, England and France never will acknowledge that Prince as Sovereign of Spain. The Allies feel themselves solemnly pledged to the young Queen, and to the Constitutional order of things in that country by the Quadruple Treaty; and as the mission is the result of an application made to the English and French Governments under that treaty, and has the entire sanction of the Cabinet of France, we have reason to hope that it may be attended with success.

Don Carlos has been further informed that he can entertain no hope of assistance from the members of the Holy Alliance; for even if they were disposed to aid his cause, they would have to conquer France before they could send a single soldier into Spain.

Under these circumstances, we are taught to believe that Don Carlos has expressed his willingness to withdraw from the contest. He is anxious to join the Princess of Beira, who is about to take up her residence in Italy; and measures are in progress for enabling him to *escape* from the hands of the Biscayans and Navarrese, who are resolved, if they can, to detain him amongst them. Should

Don Carlos succeed in making his way out of the Peninsular, as we trust he will do, we may still, however, apprehend that Zumalacarréguy is determined on continuing the contest as long as he can command even a single party of Guerillas.

We must add, that the Spanish question is not the only one upon which the Duke of Wellington, while he was Foreign Secretary, followed up, in a perfectly honest and faithful sense, the foreign policy of his predecessors in office. With respect to the Dutch question, he expressed himself determined to abide by the views of the Whig Government, although it is notorious that he had looked upon the King of Holland as an "injured man." So also with respect to Portugal, he declared that he considered that kingdom as quite settled, and that he would not suffer it to be disturbed by Don Miguel. As to the only other important subject connected with our foreign policy, that of the new relations founded by the secret treaty between Russia and Turkey, the Duke followed it up precisely as Lord Palmerston would have done, in every dispatch which he had occasion to write to Lord Ponsonby. We have thought it fairly due to the Duke of Wellington to give publicity to this statement, which can only tend to confirm the high reputation which he already enjoys for his strict adherence to the letter, and even the spirit of the obligations contracted by this country with Foreign Powers.

At the same time the public will plainly see, in this adhesion of the Duke and his colleagues to the policy of Lord Palmerston, which, before their accession to power, they uniformly denounced as ruinous to the interest of the country, an irrefragable testimony in favour of the grounds upon which, in every instance, that policy proceeded. Had it been calculated, as the Duke and Lord Aberdeen had frequently declared in the House of Lords, to involve the country in war, to bring disgrace upon the very name of England, and to destroy her best commercial resources, they would hardly have ventured, we presume, to enforce Lord Palmerston's views and instructions previously conveyed to our Ministers at all the Courts of Europe.

#### MONEY-RENTS.

*(From the Brighton Herald.)*

It is accurately observed, by Mr. Jones,\* in his "Essay on the Distribution of Wealth," opposed as it is to the Scotch system of rents, that over the greater part of the globe *money-rents* are unknown. "Tenants, yielding plentiful rents in produce, may be quite unable, from the unfrequency of exchanges, to pay even small sums of money; and the owners of land may, and do, form an affluent body, consuming and distributing a large portion of the annual produce of a country, *while it is extremely difficult for them to lay hands upon very insignificant sums in cash.*" "Money rents," he then adds, "are, indeed, rarely required in any country from the *peasant cultivators*, and we may expect to find that the power of discharging them founded on *very peculiar* circumstances. Ireland is, perhaps, the only country in the world where this power exists in the peasantry to any extent. In the case of Ireland, it is the *neighbourhood of England*,

\* Mr. Jones, brother-in-law to Mr. T. Attree, of Brighton; a work that does infinite honour to the author.



and the connexion between the two countries, which supports the system of money-rents by the peasantry. From all parts of Ireland, the access, direct and indirect, to the English market, gives the Irish cultivators means of obtaining cash for a portion of their produce. In some districts, rents are paid in money earned by harvest-work in England.

\* \* \* \* And were this source to fail, the power of paying rents would cease in those districts. Were Ireland placed in a remoter part of the world, surrounded by nations not more advanced than herself—and were her cultivators dependent for their means of getting cash on her internal opportunities of exchange, it seems probable that the landlords would soon be driven, by necessity, to adopt a system of either *labour* (as in Russia) or *produce* (Metayer) rents.

This is really the key to the extraordinary state of Ireland. In all parts of the world—not only throughout Europe, but in most of the new settling lands in America, particularly in Upper Canada—some mode of paying rents *not* in money is established; and arises not out of legislative enactments, but from the nature and adaptation of things. The *rent* in Russia and Holland is a given quantity of labour: the peasant is bound to labour certain days for the lord, the owner of the soil. In Hungary the lord takes a certain portion of the produce. In parts of France, Italy, Germany, and even in Canada, the metayer system obtains; the landlord finds seed, implements, &c.; the tenant the labour; and the landlord takes a certain portion of the produce as rent, as an equivalent for the use of his land. Money-rents are never thought of; and if they were, money is so scarce that it would be impossible for the tenant to comply with such a demand.

In Ireland, on the contrary, though land is let in very small portions, and for very short periods, *money-rent* is always expected and always enforced. The reason is that the cultivators of Ireland have always a market (England), in which they can exchange their produce for cash. This is an immense advantage to the owners of land in that country. Instead of being compelled to take sometimes large and sometimes small quantities of wheat, barley, oats, vegetables, &c., (the difficulty and loss of turning which into cash there falls upon the landlord) in Ireland the landlord demands and obtains *money-rent*.

The evils of this to the tenant are various. As the population (which, under such circumstances, has scarcely any check) increases, the demand for allotments of land (almost the only means of existence) increases also, and thus rents become, through competition, enormously high; and every increase of population brings increasing advantage (at first) to the landlord, as the extreme demand for allotments compels the occupier to pay any demand as money-rent, rather than be without land and a home or a means of existence. Another evil that necessarily arises out of the abuse is, that the peasantry have no kind of protection: nothing to determine the amount of their rent: it is a matter of entire competition; the highest bidder obtains the land.

Another evil is there being no common interest between the tenant and the landlord, which, under either the systems of labour rents or produce rents, there is, because it is the interest of the landlord to show some forbearance and to give occasional assistance, or he himself must suffer; but the moment an Irish tenant becomes unable to pay, he is bundled out, and left to perish in the wide world, whilst another eagerly and instantly supplies his

place in his former allotment. Thus masses of people in Ireland are utterly destitute; and other masses are never more than a day's removal from such a state of utter destitution. Nor do the evils of Ireland end here: it is no uncommon thing for whole districts of miserable tenants to be ejected from their holdings. The landlords have taken into their heads to farm on a large scale, in imitation of Scotland and parts of England, and send forth an edict to "clear their estates."

We shall now glance at some of the effects of all this upon England, and, however abstractedly we may appear to be writing, we shall presently make it palpable that every word has a practicable bearing upon every man more or less in England.

One of the effects, then, of the system that has been pursued in Ireland, is to cause an immense emigration of the Irish into this country, and the effect of so many new hands being thrown into our towns, and agricultural districts, has been to beat down wages, and to add to that mass of pauperism that was already bearing down every thing before it.

Another effect is to introduce into England immense quantities of corn, butter, beef, pork, and every kind of provision. If the people of Ireland were well off, or so circumstanced as to be able to consume, like most other nations, the produce they raise, these provisions would be consumed at home instead of being sent to England. Instead of this, the Irish are half-starved; they live upon offal and the coarsest possible kind of food; and send off every thing they can spare to England for *sale*, and to obtain *money* to pay their *money-rents*; so that the very cause of poverty in Ireland—enormous *money-rents*,—produces similar results in England.

The prices of our corn are beat down—(as are wages by the emigration men)—by the introduction of Irish grain of all kinds. A similar effect is produced upon our butter markets, but more especially upon the price of all kinds of animal food. It is a fact that hogs cannot be reared and fed in Sussex at so low a price as excellent Irish bacon and pork—after every expense of shipment, wharfage, carriage, &c., is paid,—is sold for. Then, again, the necessity that compels the Irish peasant to part with his last pig, and almost his last potato, acts upon England by lowering the price of the agricultural produce of this country.

## THE CONSERVATIVES.

(From the Chronicle.)

There are said to be honest, though timid men, who have joined the Conservative party, because they have been told that the measures proposed by Reformers tend to shake the foundations of property, to destroy the gradations of rank, and even to endanger the Monarchy itself, who nevertheless profess their earnest desire to correct the numberless abuses that disfigure every department of the State. We beseech these men to consider, if they be sincere in their professions, that by attaching themselves to a party which has no other bond of union than the maintenance of abuses, they are contributing to uphold that very system which they wish to destroy. There may be Conservatives who are not enemies of reform, but of this we are sure, that there is no enemy of reform who does not call himself a Conservative. Is there a pluralist in the Church who performs his duty by deputy, and enjoys at a distance from his cure the income which ought to be expended

## ABLE-BODIED PAUPERS.

within his parish, that is not a Conservative? Is there a clergyman who aspires to one of those devoted stalls doomed by Sir Robert Peel himself to destruction, that is not a Conservative? Is there a younger brother who looks forward to a rich bishopric in return for his father's services to the Minister that is not a Conservative? Is there a sinecurist, or a place-man who employs another to discharge the duties of his office, that is not a Conservative? Is there a barrister or attorney who looks with dismay to reforms that may shorten the duration or curtail the expense of legal proceedings, who is not a Conservative? Is there a mayor or Lord Mayor who abuses and brings into contempt the brief authority of his office, that is not a Conservative? Is there a close corporation which wastes the funds of the community entrusted to its care, that is not a Conservative? Is there a noble family that seeks places for sons, and pensions for daughters, which is not a Conservative? Is there a landed proprietor who maintains the Corn Laws, because he cannot afford to lower his rents on account of his mortgages, that is not a Conservative? Is there a veteran contractor who regrets the glorious times of our just and necessary wars, and sighs at the recollection of the profits he then acquired, that is not a Conservative? Is there a monopolist who has suffered from the freedom of trade opening to others the sources of wealth which were formerly shut against all but himself and his partners, that is not a Conservative? Is there a money-lender who has risen to greatness by supplying the powers that were with the means of controlling and trampling on the liberties of mankind, that is not a Conservative? Is there a speculator who laments the quiescent state of the Funds, which renders it impossible to realize a fortune by one lucky hit, that is not a Conservative? Is there a political adventurer checked in his career by the reform of abuses, that is not a Conservative? Is there a renegade from popular principles, who despairs of reconciliation with his old associates, that is not a Conservative? Is there an upstart, suddenly and without any merit of his own, raised above the station in which he was educated, that does not think it genteel to become a Conservative? Is there a broken-down dandy desirous to efface at Court the remembrance of his youthful follies, that does not enlist among the Conservatives?

But if this be the composition of the Conservative army, what correction of abuses can an honest Reformer expect from such associates? Whatever weight his name, his influence, or his purse can lend to his party, will be employed to defeat the objects he has at heart. It will be in vain for him, after the victory is gained, to protest against the abuse that will be made of it. Let the Conservatives but once obtain a majority in the House of Commons, and the Reform Bill will soon be an old almanac. To acquire that majority is the object of all their efforts and intrigues. To determine elections in their favour, they are multiplying and extending their clubs in every direction. These clubs, like the Jacobin clubs of France, fraternize with each other, and corresponding with the parent society in Carlton-terrace, they receive from its leaders instructions and directions how to act. The avowed purpose they pursue is to obtain a majority in the House of Commons—which their leader has described to them as the chief authority of the State—not to repeal the Reform Bill—for that he disclaims—but to modify and amend it—to fitter it away and reduce its efficacy, so that Tories may rise again to the pinnacle of power from which they have been precipitated.

"The practice (says the writer in the *Law Magazine*) usually introduces itself into a parish in the following way. The less substantial occupier, finding the Saturday night payments to his labourers inconvenient at a season when he can best spare their labour, discharges a portion of them *in the full confidence that they will not readily, at that time, find a new service, and that they will not go far a-field in search of it*, inasmuch as the law, in the supremacy of its wisdom, has said to the parish, 'when one of your men is out of work, you shall find him work.' When a man cannot find work for himself, it is not very easy to find it for him, but wages sufficient for his support he must have—out of the poor-rates. The other occupiers of land in the parish feeling, as rate-payers, the injustice of this operation of law, gradually fall into the same practice, as the only mode of being even with those who had preceded them; and when the thing has become general, all the benefit and all the convenience of the shift are lost to each party availing himself of it; for while his own labourers are supported by the general fund, he contributes to making that fund support the labourers of others. In the mean time so much labour (valuable, more or less, at all seasons) has been lost to the land. Nevertheless this ruinous system is perpetuated from year to year by the agency of the pecuniary sufferers themselves: partly through the utter helplessness of the parish as a body managing its own affairs, and partly from the pressure of the prevailing stream of interested motives, of which the most operative is the desire of obtaining labour as cheap as possible, although innumerable petty under-currents are strongly urging in the same direction. In few words, to use an agricultural image, the parish is a straw-yard into which the farmers turn their labourers, precisely as they serve their cattle in the winter months, to subsist on low diet until the season opens when they may take them out again for work.

"The employer of labour, then, has been and continues the prominent and chief actor in this anti-social train of proceedings; the labourer, at first a passive victim of the legislature and the interested views of those who employ him, is at length forced into mischievous energy by the corruption of his personal habits and motives, and ultimately takes the lead in that vicious and unnatural system of looking to the poor-rates for wages, which, ruinous as it is to all parties, is most directly so to him. The latter position will be most clearly made out by enumerating some of the chief circumstances which distinguish a parish thus pauperised from the well-conditioned parish above described; always bearing in mind that the statistics of the two parishes were perfectly parallel with each other, so far as the actual resources for employment are concerned.

"In the first place, the wages of labour, not employed in taskwork, have fallen as low as 7s a-week. Many modifications of causes, all springing from the great root of the evil, parish employment, contribute to produce this miserable effect on the income of the independent labourer. One great ingredient in the contract for wages is the necessity of the labourer to be supported, a necessity which operates on the employer of labour almost as stringently as on the labourer himself; if this necessity is met and satisfied by another and than that of wages, a fall in the ordinary rate must inevitably ensue. Again, the regular farm-servants



being dismissed from their service at certain periods, and being detained on the spot by parish employment, it arises that one man will do for several private services, which in a natural state of things would each require a separate individual,—hence again wages fall. Again, all labour of a public nature, such as the repair of parish roads, is withdrawn from the independent labourer, to meet the demand for pauper employment. A vast amount of private employment is forestalled and appropriated in a similar manner. Ponds are cleared out, woods are stubbed, lands are drained, before the exact time has arrived at which the interest of the proprietor would suggest those operations; in consideration of which circumstance the job is contracted for by the parish at a low rate for the employment of what are called its surplus men. That surplus, which is at first a cheat, a delusion, a mere game of thimble-rig played between the employer of labour and his victim the rate-payer, finally becomes a reality in some cases; hence again that lowering of wages which naturally results from an over-competition for the work.

“But the grand and leading cause of this reduction of wages is the ACTUAL DIMINUTION OF THE INTRINSIC SPECIFIC VALUE OF THE LABOUR, arising from the injurious effects of parish employments on the industry and motives of the men. To the great majority of labourers in any parish, namely, the family-men, it is a matter of indifference, in point of income, whether they receive their wages from the public or the private fund; the only circumstance which is left to bind them to a preference of private employment being *the abstract love of work*. In the case of many of the older labourers, confirmed in habits of industry, this single motive has been found all-sufficient to preserve their energies from corruption; and a bitter sight it is to see men of this stamp, in the possession of full bodily vigour, driven, without a pretext of complaint, from services of long-standing with masters to whom they had become attached; the ground alleged being invariably of this nature—“So-and-so has turned off two of his men: I can't afford to pay their wages and your's too; you must go.”

“On the other hand, the younger class of labourers in the pauperised parish are showing symptoms of rapid degeneracy, equally injurious to themselves and to the capitalist, who, but for the operation of this system, would be finding them in constant employment at fair wages adequate for their support and remunerative to himself. And this, perhaps, is the worst point of the comparison which the pauperised parish presents with the well-conditioned parralel. *A great portion of its rising generation of labourers are growing up wholly unskilled in the different branches of agricultural work*. They cannot hedge, ditch, drain, thatch, thrash, plough, sow, or do any other farm-work in a manner worthy of their hire; and many are wholly unused to any sort of work, but such as requires neither skill nor practice; in fact, the mere removal of earth. This, and this only, they have learnt upon the roads, together with such habits as make them unfit to be trusted about a homestead. The result is, that while the farmer is paying wages for road-work which is not wanted, and therefore not superintended, and therefore not done, he is obliged to go far and near for labourers fit for the better sort of farm-work. *He is thus suffering from surplus labour, and a dearth of hands, at one and the same time.*”

## THE CHURCH.

(From the Times.)

“We refer with deep interest to the report of last night's proceedings in the House of Commons, when Lord Stanley presented a petition from the parishioners of Kirkham, of which the vicar and the *should-be* minister is Dr. Webber, formerly chaplain of the House of Commons, but who at present, besides being non-resident and somewhat exacting, vicar of Kirkham, is also Dean of Ripon, and a prebendary of Westminster. It were needless for us to recapitulate here what is plainly described in the Parliamentary proceedings—a case which combines almost every property of abuse and grievance in the condition of the Church of England—plurality, non-residence, *disregard, as it would seem, of stipulated engagements, and total insufficiency in the discharge of that most precious of all, or rather that sum of all the duties of a Clergyman—the cure of the souls committed to his pastoral guidance*. This is matter for real Church Reform. These are the blots which do disfigure our Church. This is the dry rot which undermines and ruins it.”

## REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.

(From the Morning Post.)

It is highly gratifying to observe that the advice, based upon experience, which but a few months back, we tendered so anxiously to, and enforced so earnestly upon, the Conservative party, namely, to form societies for the purpose of watching the registry, and securing the enrolment of *bonâ fide* electors, has been at length followed with energy and spirit. What, indeed, availed it that the wealth, intelligence, and respectability of a county or borough were arrayed on the side of order and good government? When the struggle really ensued—when the decision was to be made by a majority of registered votes—how worse than ridiculous was the situation of the well-meaning, but idle and careless individuals, whose virtual disfranchisement had been effected through their own neglect.

With the midland counties these admirable associations, for the purpose of purifying the register, originated. The electors of Newark and Leicester, unwilling to be misrepresented, determined to associate for this most constitutional as well as legal purpose, and the elections which took place at the commencement of the year afforded an example of what might have been almost universally effected, had the friends of the constitution in all other been equally zealous and watchful.

Our humble but sincere exhortations have now been reinforced by a most powerful and influential instructor in the person of Sir Robert Peel, who insisted with great force on this interesting topic in his unrivalled speech, on a late important occasion; and the daily announcements which we have the gratification of making yield a satisfactory reply to the appeal of the right hon. baronet.

“Oh, but,” say our opponents, “we will form counter-associations; nay, if need be, we will revive our Political Unions for the purpose of offering that assistance to the honest voter which consists of ‘death’s-heads and well-seasoned bludgeons.’” Be it so, we fear them not. Let but the real substantial elector remain upon the registry, strike off all who have no right to vote, enforce the provisions of the Reform Act strictly, without

favour or affection, and we have no fear whatever for the result.

That such a course will be adopted we have now no doubt. Meanwhile, and until an opportunity for fairly polling the constituent body shall be afforded, let the Conservatives of Great Britain continue to meet, and to unite in a common determination to act with energy and zeal in support of the good cause. Let the rich and the poor, the exalted and the humble, understand that their interests are one, and inseparable—then he plots of wicked and foolish men will be discovered and crushed, and the interests of this mighty empire be again placed upon a secure and immovable foundation.

The state of the registration, the county registration particularly, in various parts of the kingdom sufficiently attests the necessity of associations, to stimulate some individuals to the effort, small as it is, which the Reform Bill requires, as a preliminary to the exercise of their elective rights; and to regulate or counteract the excessive zeal with which others employ themselves in the creation of faggot voters.

### THE TENANT VOTERS.

(From the Courier.)

The first day's polling in Devonshire has not answered our expectations. We presume that we have counted too much on the independence of the farmers. A few days ago we stated that the farmers were living, as it were, on alms. We had observed on several occasions, announcements of landlords having made abatements in their rent, and of the tithe owners having deducted something from their legal claims on the farmers. Even with these deductions, the farmers can scarcely go on; without them, they must have been totally ruined. But neither the landlords nor the tithe owners are under any legal obligations to make these abatements. Of course the farmer cannot demand them, or cannot enforce their demands. They are acts of favour, which, not being granted, the farmers would be undone. Thus, in their present situation, with wheat at forty shillings a quarter, they are completely at the mercy of their landlords and the tithe owners. They must vote as they are bid on pain of destruction. One of the provisions of the Reform Act is, that a man is disqualified to vote who has received parish support; but surely a man who receives parish support is far less dependent than one who must be ruined, unless an individual gives up his legal demands on him. At present, the farmers are generally in this state of pauperism; they are worse than being dependent on the parish, for they are dependent on individuals; and though we do not say that they ought to be disfranchised, we say that many of their votes must only be looked on as the votes of the Dean and Chapter of Exeter, of the Rectors of the various parishes, and of a score or two of landlords. The votes of those farmers whose landlords must abate their rent, and whose tithe owners must abate their tithes, are no more an indication of public opinion than would be the votes of so many paupers led to the hustings by the master of the parish workhouse.

### IMPORTANT DECISION OF THE OXFORD CONVOCATION, WITH THE OPINION OF "THE TIMES" THEREON.

On Wednesday se'night the Convocation assembled in order to take the sense of the University at large, upon a proposal for establishing a certain form of "declaration," in lieu of the present long-established practice of subscription to the thirty-nine articles, on the part of under graduates at the time of matriculation.

It was proposed to substitute at matriculation a subscription to the following declaration, instead of the usual subscription to the 39 articles as heretofore:—

"I, A. B., declare that I do, so far as my knowledge extends, assent to the doctrines of the united church of England and Ireland, as set forth in her 39 articles; that I will conform to her Liturgy and discipline; and that I am ready and willing to be instructed in her articles of religion, as required by the statutes of this University."

Upon a division taking place, the Senior Proctor declared the majority to be adverse to the change. The numbers are reported to have been as follow:—

|            |   |   |   |     |
|------------|---|---|---|-----|
| Placet     | : | : | : | 57  |
| Non-placet | : | : | : | 459 |

In our paper of last Saturday we anticipated a question of great importance, although, as it appeared to us, of extreme simplicity, which was about to come in the course of the present week, before the Convocation of Oxford. Unhappily, we had likewise a just foreboding of the manner in which that question would for the present be disposed of. As it is the furthest thing imaginable from our wish to offer fruitless offence or cause for irritation to the venerable body who deemed it unbefitting their wisdom or their dignity to hear with favour our respectful counsels, we shall now abstain from entering a second time upon the subject.

It remains for us merely to inform our readers, that the proposal to modify the declaration subscribed by youths on matriculating in that University, so as to render it more safe for the consciences of those who have hitherto signed it in the dark, and more consonant to the moral sense and dispassionate judgment of those who look at Oxford from a distance, with no disposition to find fault undoubtedly, but at the same time in no spirit of weak indulgence—it remains for us to say, that the proposal was peremptorily rejected! and by a majority of more than eight to one, or 469 to 57.

This is to us a lamentable issue to an attempt conceived and undertaken with the most upright and provident solicitude for the welfare of the University. It is a proceeding which even Sir ROBERT INGLIS cannot in his heart approve. The resident powers of the University will, we fear, be soon driven to a perception not merely of the embarrassments which they thus entail upon those friends by whom they are in the habit of expecting to see the Church of England and Oxford itself, one great nurse of learning and religion, defended, but of those imminent dangers which a course of mildness and moderation in the heads of our Universities, as well as of liberal and discreet attention to the aspect of the national mind beyond their precincts, might some time ago, perchance, have averted. It is a topic to which we advert not without serious pain.

END OF VOL. II.



# THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

VOLUME THE THIRD.

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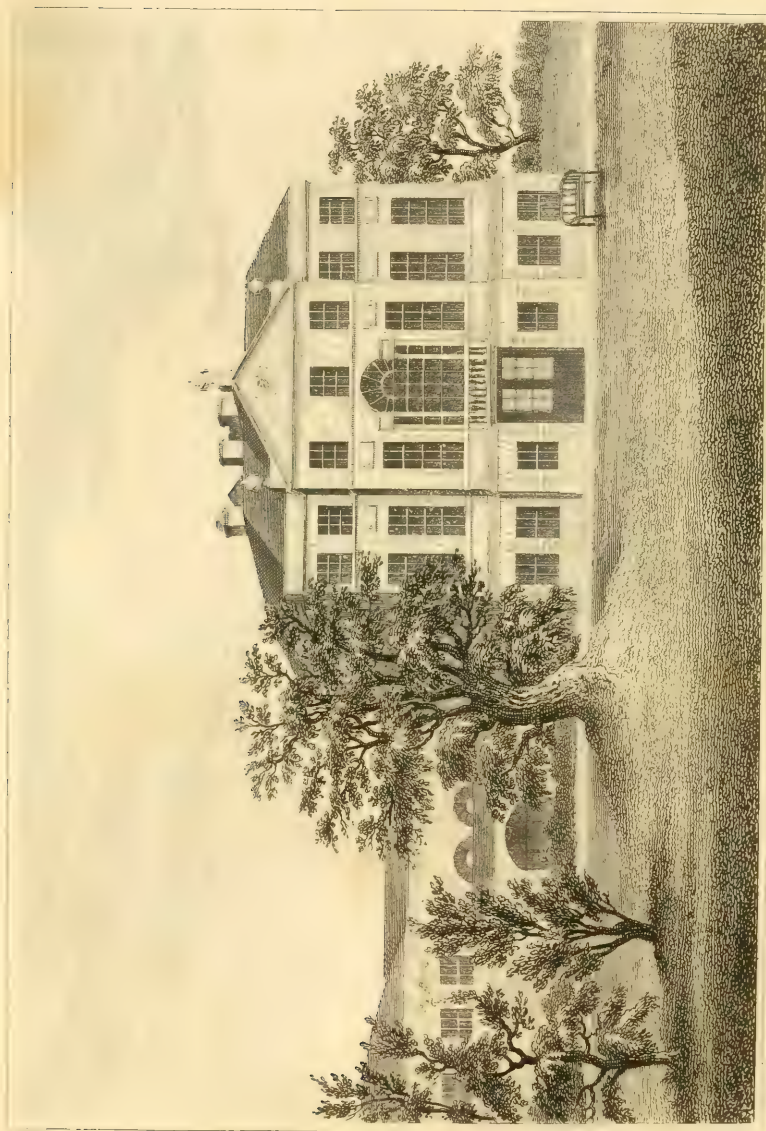


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H D OTTON ESQ. F.R.S.  
*The Seat of Wm. T. S. H. Norton, Esq.*



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## HOOTON HALL, CHESHIRE,

(PLATE.)

THE SEAT OF SIR T. S. M. STANLEY, BART.

Hooton Hall, the seat of the worthy baronet whose name appears at the head of this article, and of which a very correct view is given in the engraving, is situated on the peninsula, or rather perhaps tongue of land, which stretches, between the Dee and the Mersey, from Chester to the Irish sea. The elegant mansion stands on the north-western side of the park, which is beautiful and extensive; stretching for a very considerable distance along the banks of the Mersey, the sandy shore of which is hidden from the view of the house by lofty groves; where myriads of the sable feathered tribe, known by the name of rooks, have for ages taken up their nestling abode. The boundary of the park is, for the most part, fringed with wood, in a very interesting and picturesque manner, in which the monarch of the forest predominates, whose russet aspect is, during the winter season, contrasted with the sombre appearance of a variety of the stately pines and other kinds of evergreens.

On the north-eastern side of the mansion the gardens are laid out, while in the opposite direction, at a convenient distance, are situated the stables for the hunters, carriage horses, &c., and to the left of these, at the distance of a quarter of a mile, stand the racing stables with their requisite offices. Considerably to the right are the kennels, sufficiently spacious for the accommodation of both fox-hounds and harriers, a pack of each being kept by Sir T. Stanley.

With two packs of hounds, a kennel of pointers, a complete stud both for the field and the turf, Sir T. Stanley presents an instance of a genuine English gentleman (or, rather, a country prince), enjoying a splendid fortune in the best manner possible, his residence not more remarkable for the beauty of its situation, than for its generous hospitality.

Of the baronet's harriers I have but little to say, though I have had an opportunity of examining them in the kennel, and also of observing their performances in the field: they are light, fleet, pretty little dogs, that, with a good scent, will soon bustle a hare out of her life; a fox-hunter, however, will seldom be found to enter with enthusiasm into the mazes of this department of the chase, of which Sir T. Stanley offers a striking example; he keeps harriers, but rarely, if ever, goes out with them; he is as regular as possible in his attendance on the fox-hounds, and leaves thistle-whipping to others.

His fox-hounds have experienced very great improvement, particularly during the last seven or eight years, and his pack at present contains a number of individual specimens, which would bear an advantageous comparison with any hounds in the kingdom, not excepting the deep-chested beauties of

Mr. Meynell, the deeper-flewed Cottesmore, the Pilot family of Mr. Osbaldeston, the elegant Villagers of Sir H. Mainwaring, or even the Jokers of Mr. Wicksted, whose Carnage, Crafty, Crazy, and Cruel, four sisters of the same litter, out of Countess, by Joker, may be considered as paragons of their kind. Chanticleer and his family were favourite hounds in Sir T. Stanley's pack. The sire, who ceased to go out in 1832, has frequently attracted my attention in the field, by the admirable and masterly style in which I have observed him unravel a knotty point, and hit off the fox: he was an excellent live hunting hound, he would bring along the scent, and he was fleet also. Regent, now five years old (if my memory be correct), is a beautiful specimen of the fox-hound: he is a line hunter, but frequently runs at the head of the pack. It was highly interesting to notice the emulation of this dog, and a light-coloured bitch of the same age, called Brilliant. This bitch\* was the leader of the pack: she would pass Regent, but the moment the scent became doubtful, she leaned to this true-running dog, and depended on him to unravel the labyrinth. Brilliant is a bitch of uncommon speed and extraordinary power, as was clearly indicated by

“her rush-grown tail  
“O'er her broad back bends in an ample arch;  
“On shoulders clean, upright and firm she stands;  
“Her round cat foot, straight hams, and wide-spread thighs,  
“And her low-dropping chest, confess her speed,  
“Her strength, her wind, or on the steepy hill,  
“Or far-extended plain; in every part  
“So well proportion'd.”

Some hills, covered with short heather, on the banks of the Dee, to which foxes, found in the neighbourhood of the village of Upton, would frequently point: at the distance of a quarter of a mile or more, I have frequently noticed Brilliant, conspicuous from the contrast of her light colour to the dark and dingy appearance of the heath, straining away fifteen or twenty yards in advance, without a horseman nearer than myself, the hounds, without the huntsman, running as true as possible. The scent is always good amongst heather, and the consequence was, that on such occasions, Brilliant always became a distinguished leader. I once saw

\* In fox-hounds, bitches are fleetier than dogs; the fleetest pack I ever met with were Mr. Osbaldeston's *Flying Ladies*, which I once saw run completely up to a fox, on the wings of the wind, in a few minutes less than half an hour. The fox was beaten; he began to thread the hedge, the more elderly ladies of the pack, who had hitherto “taken it easy,” sprang to head like bristly boars; the pack caught view as he was going, with tongue black and pendant, by the side of the hedge, in advance forty yards or thereabouts; when a year-old bitch shot out clear ahead of the whole, reached, but durst not seize, him: she, however, tumbled him over, and *whoop-whoop!* followed in a few seconds.

her contrive to get over a wall nine feet high. The hounds run a fox up to Hooton Park, and renard contrived to scramble over the wall in question; but on the pack reaching the place, it proved a bar to their progress, with the exception of the bitch in question: she got over, after several unsuccessful efforts, but none of the rest could surmount the obstacle.

Sampson and Rockwood are fine hounds, excellent finders; whenever they speak, their word may be taken—"a fox for a hundred," as the 'Squire (Osbaldeston) would say.

If, however, the hounds of Sir T. Stanley are what they should be, the same remark cannot be extended to his country, which is the worst I ever crossed, not excepting Naseby Field, or the deepest part of the Vale of Belvoir. That part of Sir Thomas's country nearest to the good old city of Chester, is evidently the best part of it; and yet good runs seldom occur here. There is one consolation however, in meeting these hounds—a blank day never occurs—the country is better stocked with foxes than any other in England; and that, too, in defiance of the exertions of two or three whining vulpicides, who, a few years back, resorted to the most disgraceful expedients for the destruction of foxes.

To a casual observer, riding on the main road from Birkenhead to Chester, the country would appear neither difficult nor heavy; and a similar remark may be extended to the superficial view along the Parkgate-road; but it assumes a very different character on near inspection: many of the fences, which at a distance seem to be such as a horse would take in his stride, when approached, will be found, for the most part, to consist of a rotten hedge, placed on a still more rotten bank, with a yawning ditch—to use the impressive words of my worthy friend, Major Jones—"as wide as a canal!" There are many very deep, very heavy, and very awkward lanes, which intersect the country in all directions; some of which are narrow and sunken, so that they are only discernable at a very near approach; the descent into them is very uncouth, the opposite ascent equally so; while they are altogether impracticable as a flying jump. The neighbourhood of Stanley Gorse (a sure find) is any thing but inviting; and a similar remark is equally applicable to a number of other covers; but, of all places within the circle of fox-hunting, they sink into nothingness compared to Pooton Wood! I have seen some miry deep woods in the Earl of Lonsdale's country, as well as in other parts of Leicestershire, Staffordshire, Cheshire, Yorkshire, &c., &c., but nothing like Pooton Wood, the roads to it (if roads they can be called), and its immediate vicinity. It is formed by almost impenetrable brushwood, stunted oaks, and other trees, which very thickly fringe the very abrupt sides of opposite hills for about a mile or perhaps more, the sinuosities of which, far from being allied to the picturesque, are cramp, sudden, and ill defined. A brook runs the whole length of the cover, in the valley between the abrupt hills just mentioned, which, as its course is necessarily directed by the semi-serpentine form of its banks (already noticed), its winding becomes equally crooked, even to zig-zag. It is not remarkable for width; but almost impracticable from the difficulty of approach, from the very soft and miry nature of the ground. I never saw any person who could get over this brook cleverly (though I have frequently witnessed its conversion into a cold bath), but Joe, Sir T. Stanley's late whipper-in; and a better first whip never attended a pack of hounds—active, quiet, good-tempered, an excellent horseman;—unsteady conduct, frequent intoxi-

cation, drove him from a good master and a comfortable home, to the office of cab-driver in Liverpool.

Pooton Wood contains several extensive earths; and as the owner, Mr. Green, is very friendly to fox-hunting, though no sportsman himself, and resides close to the cover in question, it always holds plenty of foxes. It is the strong-hold of these animals, from which they will not be driven, and to which they generally fly if found at any reasonable distance. They hang to this place in defiance of the exertions of hounds, huntsman, and whips; it is true I have seen them forced from it a hundred times—only to enter it again in the course of a few minutes or seconds, for which its sinuous or zig-zag form renders it peculiarly convenient. Once only have I known a fox to leave it fairly; and he was found in Sea Rough, a fine gorse cover, close to Hooton Park. On going away he pointed directly for Pooton Wood, taking Eastham Wood in his way; on approaching the former I slackened my pace, never for a moment supposing he would leave this impregnable fortress, and Mr. W. Stanley, eldest son of the baronet, entertaining the same opinion, we proceeded very leisurely down a very deep tenacious lane towards the place in question, intending to station ourselves on the bridge leading to the residence of Mr. Green, while the hounds rattled him in the wood. On reaching this spot, however, to our surprise we found there was no rule without an exception, and that our fox (contrary to custom), disdaining the protection of the strong cover in question, had passed directly through the wood, and gone gallantly away for Stourton. The hounds had got considerably ahead: but, by dint of hard riding, we reached them, being very much favoured by an indifferent scent. Renard continued his course, leaving Stourton covers on the left, and making for Upton. He passed the village of Upton on the right, and at length climbed the summit of Bidston-hill, passed round the Lighthouse, and, turning to the right, got to earth in Price's Wood, after a lingering business of three hours and some minutes. The pace was good till the fox reached Pooton Wood, when it sunk so much that the hounds could never get on good terms with him afterwards; he was therefore enabled to regulate his pace, to keep at what distance he thought proper from his pursuers, and ultimately to enter the seldom-failing protection of the earth as comfortably as possible.

Sir Thomas's country abounds with drains, which frequently afford an asylum for a hard pressed fox. When discovered in a drain, or similar situation, they are not suffered to remain unmolested, since it would not be using the hounds well, in so difficult a country for them, and where, too, foxes are very numerous: they are, therefore, bolted; and I have seen the very worthy baronet patiently watch the progress of digging to them for hours. A fox which had been frequently found at one of the Upton covers, uniformly made for Stourton, and was as uniformly lost a short distance before he reached that place, at the village of Thornton. The hounds threw up in the middle of a field adjoining the village, and it was generally supposed that the fox headed back, and baffled his enemies in some unknown retreat in or about the buildings of the village. However, unfortunately for renard, he was compelled to stand up before his staunch pursuers when the aspects were against him—his evil star had become lord of the ascendant; for honest farmer Johnson happened to view him into the field before mentioned; and what was more, he happened to observe him disappear at the spot which he knew to be the outlet of a small drain. In consequence, when the thunders of the chase reached the village, this hitherto secure



retreat, was made known, he was bolted; and, being compelled to quit the asylum where he had hitherto experienced protection, his courage failed him, he soon sunk, surrendered his life, and died without complaint.

Although there are few very extensive covers in the country hunted by Sir T. Stanley (a great part of which is his own property), small roughs almost everlastingly present themselves; and, in consequence, of all countries I ever crossed, I never met with one half so difficult for hounds; foxes hang to these sheltering places with obstinate perseverance; and, therefore, a circumstance very unusual with fox-hounds is of frequent occurrence, namely *casting back* the moment the hounds came to a check, instead of casting forward. Ned Davies, the huntsman, the favourite and confidential servant of his excellent master, in whose service he has grown gray, is well aware of the necessity of this unusual manœuvre, and thus, by his superior knowledge of casting the hounds, contrives to kill many more foxes than his predecessor in office, Tom Jones. I have frequently noticed Davies's sagacity, but never with more surprise than on the following occasion. A fox being found in a cover called Plymiard (in the month of January, 1830, if my memory serves me correctly), testified much reluctance to leave it; he showed himself repeatedly, and a noble old dog he was; his brush was furnished and finished with one of the finest tags I ever saw, with a flourish of which he several times headed back into cover; at length the welcome tidings rung in the breeze—*gone away! hark forward!* I was not well pleased for a start; but observing that thorough-good sportsman, Mr. Peel (cousin to Sir Robert), at some distance, I knew I could have no better pilot, and contrived to keep my eye upon him till I got up, or reached the main body. The country was uncommonly deep and heavy, and I had not crossed three fields before I observed a couple of nags, without riders, and W. Davis of Birkenhead, comfortably placed on his back in a soft miry ditch—no harm done. I could observe, stretching away in front, Mr. Humble on Jerry,\* accompanied by Mr. Cockerill on his accomplished bay mare (a more complete or better hunter was never ridden to hounds), Mr. Peel on his powerful grey, Mr. McDougal on the Baker, followed by Messrs. Senior, Poole, and three other gentlemen; then came those steady workmen, Messrs. Newton, John Aspinall, and Mr. Haigh; Mr. C. Stanley, the brother of the master of the hounds, was placed, but not as usual, in the front, owing, I believe, to indisposition; then followed, at a very respectful distance, the tailers, and of these the number was considerable; for the pace being brilliant, and the country very spewy, many were completely left behind in the first ten minutes: therefore, casting a retrospective glance, a long string of tailers might be distinctly observed, struggling along, however, and calculating on a check to let them in.

For three-quarters of an hour we went best pace, without a check, when, owing to the intervention of a succession of covers, some time was lost; yet we reached the village of Burton, on the banks

of the Dee in an hour and fifteen minutes, the fox unquestionably dead beat. Renard, leaving the village a trifle to the right, endeavoured to shelter himself in Mr. Congreve's plantations, where I saw him surrounded by the hounds: yet he contrived to extricate himself; he scrambled over the wall; and, as if anxious for the benefit of clergy, he sought the protection of the churchyard, where he would have died, had not the village been in commotion, uniformly the case under similar circumstances, so interesting is hunting to the human feelings:—

“The hunter's shout,  
 “The clanging horns swell their sweet-winding notes,  
 “The pack wide opening load the trembling air  
 “With various melody: from tree to tree  
 “The propagated cry redoubling bounds,  
 “And winged zephyrs waft the floating joy  
 “Thro' all the regions near: afflictive birch  
 “No more the schoolboy dreads; his prison broke,  
 “Scampering he flies, nor heeds his master's call:  
 “The weary traveller forgets his road,  
 “The ploughman leaves th' unfinished furrow;  
 “Nor his bleating flocks are now the shepherd's joy!  
 “Men, boys, and girls,” &c. &c.

The motley crowd impeded the progress of the hounds; and, although I distinctly saw a bare-headed cobbler make an attempt to cover the fox with his leathern apron, yet Renard extricated himself, and made away, pointing for a favourite cover (the name of which I do not at this moment recollect), at no great distance; and, in consequence of the village confusion, the hounds flying wildly in all directions, several minutes elapsed before order could be restored, and the hounds got again upon the line of him. They picked a cold scent for a short time, and threw up. Davies, in opposition to the opinion of the field, cast them back to the right; and, after some time, recovered the scent. I was so fully persuaded that it was not the hunted fox, that I pulled up, aware, after the run which had taken place, neither hounds nor horses were a match for a fresh fox. Davies persevered, however, accompanied by a few of the more mercurial spirits, and after a slow, tedious thing, killed his fox about two miles from Chester, after a run of more than three hours, forty minutes of which was very pretty—I have seldom, indeed, seen it surpassed. Renard had, it seems, as a last resource, swam across a large pit, and crawling about a yard up its opposite bank, seated himself on a large stone, where he suffered the approach of his merciless pursuers without being able to move farther.

Yet, notwithstanding the quality of Sir Thomas's country, it is not destitute of charms; to say nothing of the hospitality of Hooton Hall, as well as of the satisfactory anticipation of always finding, it occasionally produces highly interesting runs.

On the 20th of December, 1829, I met these hounds at the favourite fixture of Upton (where Mr. Webster, like Mr. Green, at Pooton Wood, though no sportsman himself, is assiduously careful to preserve the foxes), where we very soon found; and the fox, after a very pretty little ring of ten minutes, brought us to the very spot where he had been found: it was a plantation, covering the space of two or three acres, and the hounds run him well up to it; but sly Renard having very cunningly laid himself down at its edge, the hounds overrun him and became mute. They threaded the cover in every form, fifteen minutes elapsed, and I, as well as the rest of the field, thought he had given us the slip, when the deep tones of Chanticleer announced the glad tidings of recovery. Renard broke away in the face of the whole field (a circumstance unusual), and he appeared to me as if he meant to run. At first he made

\* This horse was thorough-bred, rather leggy, but was very wiry and very fleet. In a steeple chase, he cleared the extraordinary distance of nine yards nine inches at a single jump. Jerry finished his career about eighteen months ago. The steeple chase just mentioned, took place, February 24, 1832, in Sir Thomas's country, from Little Sutton to Backford Cross, three miles, and was completed in twelve minutes and a half—Jerry was the winner.

for the higher grounds, pointing for the best part of the country ; but he altered his course in a few minutes, and, bending to the right, took to the Mains (if I am correct in the name), going for Bidston. However, he left Bidston to the right, crossing the Mains in the opposite direction for some distance ; and as the place just mentioned is neither more or less than a spewy swamp, it became distressing beyond measure to the horses. The pace was good, but not brilliant, nor could the pace be brilliant over such a country. In about twenty minutes we came to a wide brook, called the Fender ; and, although a convenient bridge presented itself, at the distance of fifty yards, (over which the greater part of the field passed), Messrs. Errington, Peel, Humble, Cockerill, the brothers Horridge, and four others, were determined to ride straight. The young Horridge was the first to charge it, and the little thorough-bred chestnut mare which he rode (belonging to Mr. R. Aspinall) cleared it very cleverly, to my surprise : the rest (eight in number) were not so fortunate—they converted the said Fender into a cold bath ! Joe Howard, the first whip, proved too cunning for himself : he endeavoured to ride through it—he rode in—his horse stuck—he was forced to dismount—and waded back up to his breast in water !

At length the business brought us to the village of Wallasey, in the thickly-covered gardens of which renard endeavoured to shelter himself. I viewed him repeatedly as he threaded the gooseberry-bushes ; and when he found the gardens no longer tenable, he came undauntedly into the village, made his way amongst the legs of the horses, and entered the opposite farm-yard. He appeared dead-beat, but such was not the case ; for, making his way by the back of the cottages, he appeared on the common, and reached a rabbit-warren situate on the sea shore, where he brought the hounds to a check. Some minutes elapsed before he was again hit off, when the hounds picked the scent in the direction for Poulton village : the scent improved, the hounds began to carry a head, when the writer met with a tumble which prevented his witnessing the finish. Some minutes elapsed before I caught my horse (which was stopped for me), and when I reached him, I was unable to mount, owing to the fracture of my left collar-bone, which ultimately became a painful barometer, which at this moment indicates bad weather. The fox was evidently an *old stager* ; he knew the country well ; and being hitherto unsuccessful in baffling his enemies, he was determined to make his last point good ; he passed close to the village of Wallasey, swam the upper part of that extensive sheet of water called Wallasey Pool, and at length reached Price's Wood, where the hounds were stopped, the earth being open, and fresh foxes likely to go away before beaten hounds and beaten horses.

Stanney Wood, though not a general favourite, was particularly so with me. Gorse covers are preferred to woodlands, because the fox can seldom leave them without being viewed away ; nevertheless, I like to witness the find in a wood, particularly on account of the music ; and the greatest gratification of this sort I ever experienced was in Skelton Springs, near York, some few years ago, where the York and Ainsty hounds found a fox. Stanney Wood generally holds a fox, and I have several times experienced pretty runs from it.

Hooton must be a favourite fixture for those who wish to witness the sport without incurring much fatigue ; and there is something very interesting and very pretty in the scene which is presented on such occasions. The hounds are brought in front of the mansion, where they receive the caresses of the ele-

gant and highly accomplished Lady Stanley, and her female friends : it is amusing to observe the expressions of delight manifested by the canine assemblage, when receiving these attentions from the loveliest part of creation :

“ See here with countenance blithe,  
“ And with a courtly grin, the fawning hound  
“ Salutes thee cowering : his wide opening nose  
“ Upwards he turns, and his large sloe-black eyes  
“ Melt in soft blandishments and humble joy !”

After a few minutes spent in this way, the word is given : and as the covers which fringe the park are seldom without foxes, these are tried : the foxes very rarely go completely away from them ; on the contrary, they cross the park (several times perhaps) from one part to another, and thus afford the ladies an opportunity of witnessing the business in the most pleasant manner possible. On such occasions Lady Stanley and her friends do not remain in the house for the purpose of becoming stationary spectators, but, like kindred goddesses, issue from the mansion to preside over the sports of the day.\*

If, however, Hooton Park seldom afford a good run, though well stocked with foxes, the case is different with the covers in its vicinity, as the following will show.—On Tuesday, March, 16, 1833, I met Sir T. Stanley's hounds at the village of Whitby, two miles on the southern side of Hooton, and a short distance from Stanley Wood, into which the hounds were thrown, and spoke to their game almost immediately. The fox broke cover, run short, and returned—it was a vixen, heavy, and the hounds were stopped.

We drew towards Hooton, and nothing worth notice occurred till the hounds proceeded to draw a fine gorse in the township of Eastham. Perceiving the master of the hounds ride round and place himself at the eastern corner of the cover, and aware that the worthy baronet not only knows his country well, but possesses also a sort of prescience of the movements and workings of the foxes with which it is so well stocked, I followed, and took my station within a few yards of him. Not many seconds elapsed ere the sonorous note of Sampson reached my eager ear ; I knew it was good—I knew Sampson was no babbler—and his deep tones on this occasion formed the knell of as gallant a fox as ever stood up before hounds. In a few seconds I observed renard leave the lower end of the cover, look round, and make off—as if he meant to run. I must here observe, that when the baronet took his station, he contrived to have an impassable barrier in the form of a lofty unopenable gate, between himself and the rest of the field (myself excepted) in order to prevent that crowding and pressure upon the hounds when the fox goes away, which is so common and so highly injurious to diversion. The gentlemen, therefore, became very impatient when the fox broke, though not a single hound had left the cover ; but they did not lose much time in debate, at least, the highflyers amongst them : Captain Dunn,† Messrs. Cockeril, Leigh, Humble, Peel, Owens, Johnson, Cook, John Davis, Congreve, Scholes, G. Aspinall, Hetherington, Solomon, &c.,

\* The ladies generally appear in a double phaeton, drawn by two beautiful stout grey ponies.

† I have often felt a high degree of interest in observing the anxiety testified by this accomplished gentleman and gallant soldier to ride straight. He infuses his military ardour into the spirit of the chase, and faces the fences after a fox with the same invincible courage, as he would encounter the enemies of his country.



turned to the right, and after describing an ill-defined semicircle of two thirds of the cover, got well placed as the hounds settled to the scent.

When the fox broke cover, there was something in his manner and appearance at variance with the usual characteristics. He was large and ragged, very dark coloured and destitute of a brush: he left the gorse hurriedly, and went away as wildly as possible, pointing north-westerly, the dark lowering hills of Flintshire bounding the view. Forward and fearlessly rode the gallant Captains Dunn and Stanley (son of Sir Thomas,) accompanied by Messrs. Humble and the élite. The master of the hounds went uncommonly well on his Maximilian mare, while the elder Congreve manifested much more than his wonted vivacity. Mr. Bateman, from Frankfort on the Maine, seemed very much to relish this genuine English sport. The hounds carried a good head; and I begin to make up my mind for a visit to the Principality; when renard, disliking, I suppose, the expanse of the river (the Dee in this neighbourhood is several miles wide,) leaned to the left in the direction of Willaston; but he left this place on the right, and I concluded he was making for Stanney wood; the hounds had gone well away with him, and hitherto without a check, had continued on very good terms; therefore, finding himself hard pressed, he despaired of reaching the cover just mentioned, but turned directly for Hooton, where he had previously saved himself, not exactly in the usual manner, as will be noticed hereafter. He scaled the nine feet wall, at the back of the mansion, and directed his course down the plantations, not being able to make his way into the gardens.

The run had continued up to this period, one hour and a few minutes, at a rattling pace, many parts of which had been very pretty; when renard by this semi-retrograde movement, gained a decided advantage, amidst the dead and decaying leaves of the plantations, the hounds were brought to cool hunting, and continued to pick a cold scent till they reached the fine gorse cover, called Sea Rough. They became silent, though they eagerly threaded the cover; I began to think we had "done with him," when, having accidentally observed that truth-telling and gallant hound Regent, feather, my hopes brightened, and in a few seconds every lingering doubt was dispelled by a most melodious and most animating chorus. Renard left the cover, and I was fortunate enough to view him away a second time: he looked a little "worse for wear," but was still the same brushless, wild-looking animal as before. He had unquestionably lain down in the cover and rested himself during the time the hounds were picking a cold scent up to to it. The scent had evidently become worse—from some alteration in the atmosphere, beyond all question, though the change was not perceptible to the organs of vision or the human feelings; and no sooner had the hounds began to carry it, than a Chester stable-keeper and his rough-looking companion rode before them and brought them to a check. Ned Davies instantly lifted his eager family, and very cleverly recovered the scent. The hounds went well away in the direction of Burton or Denhall, for several miles, when they became mute. They made their own cast in admirable style; they were then cast by the huntsman; but it would not do. Several of the horses appeared to be quite satisfied with what they had done, and, amongst the rest, that prime little nag Tam O'Shanter (Mr. Collier's); he left the field, accompanied by Messrs. Poole, Horridge, Jones, &c. At this period Mr. Corbet, one of the sons of Sir Andrew Corbet, left the field. This gentleman has been blind

from his birth, but is, nevertheless, a very keen sportsman; he is generally well mounted; a servant rides immediately before him; Mr. Corbet's horse follows the horse ridden by his servant, and thus this gentleman gets over the fences and the country. Incapable of viewing the exertions of the hounds, it would appear that his superior auditory power compensates in a great degree his want of sight, as he eagerly enters into the spirit of the chase, rides fearlessly, and is uniformly very cheerful. A few years back the horse ridden by his servant fell at one of the fences, when this gentleman, horse and all, came upon him. Mr. Corbet escaped unhurt, but the servant was carried from the field—a little stunned, and much frightened—the man was out again in a few days.

In a cramp country, abounding with small covers, a cast back will as frequently recover a fox as a cast forward, as I have already observed. Davies made a cast back for a very considerable distance, and fortunately recovered his fox. The hounds settled well to the scent, crossing the main road on the Chester side of the village of Sutton, pointing for the banks of the Mersey, which we reached, after a run of several miles, and were brought to a check; nor should we have recovered our fox had not the hounds been lifted to a distant halloo. We reached the borders of Hooton Park, where renard began to dodge—where he began, in fact, to manifest those symptoms of distress which generally precede relentless dissolution; yet, strange as it may appear, he gave us a pretty little burst across Hooton Park, for a mile at least. He passed the racing stables, again took to dodging, and at length broke away over the open country; but very soon perceiving he could not thus maintain the contest, he turned to the left. The hounds now showed those indications which are well known to fox-hunters, and too intelligible to be mistaken; they knew they were near their game—"Their bristles are up, Sir, they're hard at him now." Renard made shift to crawl into the small village, called Poole, quite exhausted, so much so, indeed, that Mr. Congreve, jun., took him up, and held him for some seconds. Yet did the persevering animal contrive to get upon a pig-stye, and thence ascended to the roof of the adjoining cottage,—the hounds flying about, rather seeking their victim with their eyes than their noses, well aware that they were very near him, and that he he was dead beat. "A fair field and no favour;" the wily rogue was compelled to descend from his exalted situation, but was not forced into the mouth of the hounds. He crawled across a couple of enclosures to a small rough, where he resigned himself to the fate which inevitably awaited him.

From the length and duration of the run, it might have been supposed that we had changed foxes; but such was not the case; it proved the same brushless animal which I saw go away so wildly when found, which I afterwards viewed from Sea Rough, and what is more, he proved an old acquaintance.

One day during the previous season these hounds had run a very fine dark-coloured fox for some time, and lost him; they lost him, in fact, unaccountably, after going best pace for upwards of an hour. They found the same fox some time afterwards, and ran him, as before, up to Hooton Park; again he had stood up gallantly for more than an hour, and baffled his pursuers, they knew not how. In the course of the same afternoon he was accidentally discovered in an extraordinary retreat in the garden; having crept into one of the flues belonging to the hot-house. Having been deprived of a part of one of his ears, in or-

der that his identity might be placed beyond a doubt, he was set free.

After the extraordinary run just described, distinguished for uncommon gallantry, and almost unparalleled cunning on the one part, and invincible perseverance on the other, death became a very satisfactory conclusion. From first to last, the business occupied four hours; he was truly a game fox; yet had he not been favoured by the alterations of scent, he could not have stood before the hounds half that time. On examination, the separated portion of the ear was wanting; further, it would appear as if he had been afflicted with surfeit, arising most likely from the severe runs which he had experienced the previous season; and, in consequence, though the bone of his rear extremity remained, it was destitute of hair; there were other indications of the effect of surfeit, but the virulence of the disease had very evidently long ago subsided, as he was in vigorous health, and was larger than foxes are usually found.

I have often been surprised at the manner in which Ned Davies gets over the country; he is an excellent horseman, certainly; but being blind of one eye, and possessing very imperfect\* vision in the other, it might have been supposed that he laboured under insurmountable disadvantages. Sir Thomas Stanley's servants are well mounted, and there is a great degree of elegant taste displayed in his turn-out. The baronet comes to the fixture in a phaeton and pair, unless when he has company, when he drives up in a more capacious vehicle, capable of accomodating a score of his friends.

He who may visit the hounds of Sir T. Stanley, would wish to hunt pleasantly, and enjoy the cream of the run, cannot do better than make the worthy baronet his pilot, in which case he will very rarely be wrong: if he wishes to go with the *élite*, he must accompany Captain Dunn, Messrs. Humble, Cockrell, the baronet's brother Charles, Senior, &c., &c.

The last time I went through Sir T. Stanley's stables was on the 4th of January, 1833; the severity of the frost having rendered hunting impossible. On entering the hunting stable, I met Sir H. Mainwaring, master of the Cheshire splendid pack, who, like myself, had come to take a peep at the studs. Passing through that part of the building occupied by the horses ridden by the whips, we came to the stall containing the baronet's favourite his black Maximillian mare; a better tempered creature, and a more perfect hunter was never seen. By the side of this mare stood his favourite in the second degree, a very neat bay gelding that can go the pace. In the large stable I easily recognised the large powerful chestnut horse, so very clever at stone walls, or, indeed, at any kind of fence. There were two fine greys, one evidently from the Emerald Isle, the best horse in the stable, according to my judgment.

Many of the best horses which have appeared in Sir Thomas Stanley's hunt have come from Ireland, being brought across the Channel, by Mr. Thomas Hewitt, of Liverpool, the dealer. Superior horses cannot be obtained but in return for a superior price; nor does Hewitt, even as a dealer, hesitate to go to three hundred guineas for a prime piece of horse flesh. He is accounted a first-rate judge of the noble animal under consideration, and what is infinitely

more extraordinary in his profession, his character is unimpeachable.

We proceeded to view the racers. In the first roomy box were two promising foals, both chestnuts, one by Velocipede, dam Henry Masterton's dam; a strong good-looking animal, older by two months than its fellow, but decidedly inferior to it in form, and those principles of animal organization essential to the successful racer; the smaller is by Sir T. Stanley's splendid horse Battledore, dam by Phantom, out of Breeze. This well-favoured foal, at this moment, was seen under every disadvantage, being a little amiss, yet its superior form was scarcely the less discernible on that account.

The two-year-olds were next brought under review. A chestnut colt by Waxy Pope, out of Henry Masterton's dam, appeared very promising; it showed great length of sweep behind, with a handsome corresponding formation before; yet its performances have fallen very short indeed of what might have been reasonably enough anticipated from its appearance. In the adjoining stall stood a bay colt by Filho, dam Herbert Lacey's dam; one of the best Filho's I ever saw,—it did not present the leggy characteristic of the family. A bay filly by Lottery, out of General Mina's dam, did not show those points or indications of power and speed for which the sire\* is eminently conspicuous,—transcendantly superior to his cotemporaries, Mr. Batson's Plenipotentiary alone excepted. In the next stall, however, I was pleased with a bay filly by Battledore, dam by Grand Duke, out of Hooton's dam. I thought her a splendid animal: she showed immense power, was nearly sixteen hands high, but perhaps, after all, more calculated for following hounds than for successful competition on the turf. Les Graces, another two-years old, by Battledore, dam Maid of Milan, had already made an unsuccessful début.

In the next stable stood Eugene Aram, Caractacus,† Laurie Todd, Miss Lytham, a yearling, and a brother to Les Graces.

They all looked well, as far as grooming and management was concerned: but the success of their owner on the turf, for years eminently conspicuous, has of late been eclipsed. There must be a fatality in the operations of the turf, as in all other sublimary affairs, or Mr. Gully would never have represented Pontefract in Parliament, and occupied the mansion at Ackworth

\* Lottery, always ill-tempered from early life, when three years old, threw the lad who rode him in his exercise, galloped off, and was not secured again without difficulty; when he became so viciously unmanageable that his running was never afterwards to be depended on. Considered as a racer, for the development of the principles of power and speed, I regarded him as the finest horse that was ever placed before me till I saw Plenipo. Lottery was bred by R. Watt, Esq., of Bishop Burton, Yorkshire; by whom he was sold to Mr. Whittaker, of Doncaster, when, some years afterwards, he became the property of Louis Philippe of France for fifteen hundred guineas, in whose possession he still remains.

† I never saw a horse look better than Caractacus: he appeared remarkably blooming; but I must honestly confess I do not like his colour: I have an objection to a black coat upon a thorough-bred horse, it is a proof that, though the blood may have been completely purified, the wrong colour is still retained—the emblem of the original black mare. I never saw, or ever heard of, a black Arabian.

\* This excellent servant rides in spectacles fixed in the rim of his hat, and as his horses know the country, if their rider is unable to see it, he goes along fearlessly.



Park, Mr. Ridsdale lolled in a stately carriage, or Mr. Crockford have accumulated a princely fortune; but for this fatality, Sir T. Stanley must have continued his triumphant success, since, in addition to access to the best blood in the kingdom, he possesses good training ground in his own park, as well as every possible facility and advantage immediately under his own inspection.

From the beautiful and delightfully situated oval room, in what I call the south or south-eastern front of Hooton Hall, the Baronet can observe his racers take their exercise on good turf, and on a course of very considerable extent, which also affords that undulated surface which trainers deem essentially necessary to the perfection of their art; but in which I feel well convinced they are completely mistaken.

Sir T. Stanley was the owner of General Mina, Tarragon, and many other superior horses; but perhaps his two most successful, at least of modern date, were Grenadier and Dr. Faustus; and at the sale of Sir Watkin W. Wynne's racing stud, he became the purchaser of Mayfly, a very beautiful horse; but being compact and powerful, he impressed upon the mind of the spectator the idea of a hunter rather than a racer. He appeared to little advantage on the turf till he came into the hands of Sir T. Stanley, when, by the superior management of Horsley (Sir Thomas's trainer) he was eminently successful for some time. I have frequently seen Mayfly run, but I never recollect observing him attempt to bolt, though the sinister expression of the animal's eye strongly indicated bad temper. Upon inquiry I learned from Horsley, that though he might be manageable on the course, he was in the stable one of the most vicious and dangerous brutes imaginable. A bad tempered and vicious horse is never to be depended on in any capacity, either as a hack, a hunter, or a racer. Of the truth of this assertion Laurie Todd was a striking instance: he possessed superior speed and power of endurance, but no reliance could be placed upon the honesty of his exertions, owing to his bad temper. I am not aware that he was ever a winner; but I am well aware, on several occasions when I saw him, that he ought to have won, particularly over the Liverpool Aintree course, when, at three years old, he came in contact with that afterwards jade, Moss Rose, by whom he was beaten:—he swerved; and, if he would not use his utmost exertions honestly, he spared no pains to bolt. Nor, when he was afterwards reduced to the neuter gender, did it appear to neutralize his vicious disposition.

Grenadier, a large powerful chesnut horse, was a successful racer, though his action was lofty, if not lumbering: he was not the light, elastic, close-going daisy-cutter; and therefore his speed was the result of the powerful impulsion of superior strength. This horse won several races after he had become a confirmed roarer (called by our Trans-Atlantic horseracing brethren a *bull*.) I saw him win the All-aged plate at the Liverpool Spring Meeting about four years ago, when labouring under the disease just mentioned. It was a well contested race, and won by the judicious jockeyship of Simeon Templeman; who, from having ridden the horse many times, understood his disposition and mode of going, and thus contrived to pop his nose\* home before that of his antagonist reached the fortunate destination.

Dr. Faustus exhibited the genuine form of the racer and was a superior horse in every respect to Grenadier: I regarded Dr. Faustus as the best horse in what may be called the Chester district for some time; till, in fact, he met with a superior competitor in the late Mr. Clifton's Flyde\*, who bore away the Chester Cup from him, in defiance of his most strenuous exertions, accompanied with the energetically-anxious stimulation of his busy little jockey.

Yet did the Doctor acquit himself most worthily at the first Liverpool Aintree meeting:—I saw him distinctly win the glittering prize, the gold cup, though it was given against him—it proved a Yorkshire concern.

However, twenty-nine splendid gold cups, the incontrovertible demonstrations of the Baronet's triumphant turf career, ornament the sideboard at Hooton Hall.

Residing within a short distance of the city of Chester (8 miles) Sir Thomas is the most conspicuous, and the most influential, supporter of the races which take place annually under the walls of this ancient and highly interesting semi-metropolis, on the charmingly situated Roodee. For some years the Baronet was as remarkable for his success, as for the elegance of his equipage, and the beauty of the hack upon which he appeared on the ground; and if the first has somewhat deserted him, the latter characteristics still continue. It is not, therefore a matter of surprise that Sir T. Stanley should appear well in the opinion of the citizens. He served the office of High Sheriff two years ago: and when he made his public entry into Chester, he was met some distance on the road, by a very highly respectable, and by far the most numerous cavalcade that had ever appeared on a similar occasion; a striking proof of the estimation in which he is held by the inhabitants, honourable alike to the disposition of one party and the feelings of the other.

The mansion at Hooton contains a number of beautiful pictures, in some of which it is easy to recognize the towering and unequalled genius of the old masters. There are two portraits which demand attention, as well for the fidelity of the likenesses as well for their masterly pencilling; they are by Sir W. Beechey: one of Sir Thomas, when a young man; and the other of his Lady, when in the fascinating bloom of feminine beauty.

Having given a sketch of Sir T. Stanley's hunting establishment, and his racing stud; having noticed his fox-hounds and his harriers; I come consecutively enough to his pointers, which are kept in a kennel at a short distance from the house. I do not recollect observing a setter in his collection of dogs for the gun; but his pointers are of a very good description, uniting, in a great degree, the acute sense of smell for which the slow heavy Spaniard is remarkable, with activity and strength: in numbers too he is by no means deficient. He has a large extent of country, abundantly stocked with partridges and pheasants; a proof that foxes are by no means so destructive to

\* Flyde was sixteen hands high, bony and powerful; and, notwithstanding his uncommon size, his action was light, pony-like, and pretty. He was successful on the turf, and would have been very valuable as a stallion; yet was he suffered to leave this country, being purchased at the sale of the late Mr. Clifton, for the United States of America, where he must prove a very important acquisition. Flyde is the best horse ever seen on the other side of the Atlantic.

\* In the phraseology of the Turf, he *won by a nose*; that is, by the length of his nose.

these birds as the enemies of fox-hunting are anxious to have it thought. No country can be better stocked with foxes than the one under consideration; yet I have frequently seen the hounds, on entering a cover, spring a great number of pheasants, and afterwards find several foxes.

Cocks visit this part of Cheshire in considerable numbers on the approach of winter, and, consequently, good diversion may be obtained with these interesting feathered erratics. But I am uncertain in what manner Sir Thomas pursues them, whether with the small spaniel or otherwise: often as I have visited Hooton, I do not recollect having observed a springer.

The Baronet is in possession of several stout powerful shooting ponies; one of which is remarkable, not merely for its docility, but also for a degree of sagacity very unusual in animals of its kind: not only will it stand fire as steadily as possible, but, on observing the dogs come to a steady point, placing its fore feet in advance, it absolutely stops of its own accord.

Coursing may also be numbered amongst the pastimes of Sir T. Stanley: but rather perhaps as a sort of make-weight or completion to his sporting establishment, than for any deep or peculiar interest which he feels in witnessing the exertions of the long dogs. Plenty of hares are to be found in the neighbourhood of Hooton.

The country being divided from the populous town of Liverpool only by the river Mersey, Sir T. Stanley has often been annoyed by poachers, to whose depredations he is rendered more than ever liable by the operation of that crude, clumsy, and unjust jumble of legal machinery, the late Game Act. The river Mersey, by means of its multifarious navigable craft, as well as its situation, washing as it does the country in question from one end to the other, affords the utmost facilities to the views of the nocturnal depredator.

Archdeacon Clark, so regularly an attendant at the cover side, has abandoned hunting for several years; and I much regret the circumstance; nor could I for some time, reconcile myself to the hiatus caused by his non-appearance. He was a cheerful companion; and his attachment to the innocent and invigorating sports of the field, far from being inimical to his sacred profession, could not fail to elevate his character in the estimation of every person of common sense and unprejudiced reflection.

The Baronet of Hooton:—with a complete establishment for the chase in all its varieties, with a handsome racing stud, the means of gratifying every desire, an amplitude of fortune far beyond that of men of rank and distinction in general, the Prince of his country, he can scarcely fail to enjoy the perfection of human happiness: therefore, in taking my leave of him, with sentiments of unreserved and unqualified esteem, in the words of my friend, Mr. J. Aspinall, I wish him "long life," and will finish the chapter with the pithy expression of the Greek philosopher—"Thou can'st not be a god!"

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**CULTIVATION OF CABBAGE, BY SLIPS.**—Slip off the sprouts from the cabbage stalks, let them lie a few hours to stop the bleeding, then plant them. After cutting the cabbages the sprout again affords a supply of slips for plants, and thus a regular succession of cabbages is secured throughout the year: preserving the quality of the parent stock unchanged, and doing away with the necessity of raising plants from seed.—*Gardener's Magazine.*

## SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING THE MORAL CHARACTER OF THE AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS, &c.

The present state and condition of the agricultural labourers, their ale-house habits,—the depravity which so unhappily pervades that portion of society, and especially, when we reflect, that from the nature of their occupation, they should be more free from vice than any other class of labourers, their amendment cannot fail to be matter of anxious solicitude in the breast of every individual, who desires to see industry and contentment again go hand in hand through this once happy country. Although considerable good has been derived from the letting of small parcels of ground to the cottagers, yet the great bulk of that class still remain without any evident improvement; neither does it appear that any general plan has discovered itself, whereby any lasting and extensive benefits may be looked for.

And, moreover, if some considerable change for the better should not be effected, it must be feared that every succeeding year will only bring its still heavier load of evils, distress, misery, and discontent.

The writer of these suggestions has, for a length of time, been of opinion, and time has brought conviction with it, that nothing, in the nature of substantial amendment amongst this class of the community is likely to be accomplished by any other means than through the landowners; and he is unwilling to believe that objections to his suggestions, on the part of the farmers, will be numerous; on the contrary, that they will generally be found ready to unite with their landlords, under proper and reasonable arrangements, in bringing about the renewal of a custom which cannot fail to prove again beneficial to both,

The revival of a custom desirable upon every principle of moral and Christian duty; and if perseveringly pursued, under the present climax of all vice and disorder, would irresistibly cement together, and restore that esteem and respect between Landlord and Tenant, that was the characteristic of happier by-gone days. It would to the Labourer, also, prove the solicitude entertained for his welfare, and would at once strike at the evil, which is devouring by rapid inroads, every moral principle in the youthful mind.

But in order to find a remedy for the disease, the cause and the nature of it must be well understood.

That the great cause, if not the sole cause, of this deplorable state of the agricultural districts, is to be attributed to the system of the Farmers discontinuing to board and lodge their men in their houses, no one it is believed, will venture to doubt: to that change may be ascribed their rapid increase of numbers, the crowded workhouses, and their demoralized state. The men then, unfortunately, become exposed if not thrown into every vice; and a great portion of the young people, now found standing about the villages and streets, are the fruits of early connection, and improvident marriages.

But when the greater portion of the evils of the present times are attributed to this system, the Farmer who adopted it, at the period of his great prosperity, may readily be excused on the principle, that it is natural for every person to carry on his business with as much ease and comfort to himself as he can. The consequences—nay the lamentable consequences, are now visible to every eye.

The plan has worked badly.

If these views are correct, the remedy, about to be suggested, cannot fail to produce the most beneficial



and the most happy effects throughout the country ; and surely in this state of society, it behoves every one who loves his country to do his utmost to get back, if possible, this portion of the community into its natural channel.

The plan suggested is simply this,—that not only instead of reducing rents, but, in all cases, where the farmer would accept it, to give a yearly premium or bonus, for each hired Labourer, man and boy, he would board and lodge in his house.

Where a Farmer was found to decline this offer, and thereby withholds his aid in promoting the welfare of those with whom he is so immediately connected, and still prefers paying weekly wages, instead of feeding his men upon the corn raised upon his land, and the pork bred upon his farm, he surely can have no just grounds for expecting all relief, and all sacrifices, to be made by his Landlord.

In adopting this plan, it may be said, that some considerable difficulties will present themselves.

1st,—That the annual premiums or bonuses proposed to be paid, will diminish the Landlord's income.

In answer to that, the introduction of economy into the Farmer's management of his business is the best security for the payment of rent, and, consequently, must prove of equal benefit to the owner of the land. In truth, as regards the landlord, it resolves itself, into the plain question, whether the present state of the Agriculturist, combined with his future prospects, does or does not pronounce it to be a measure of self preservation, and imperatively called for.

2ndly,—The Farmer, in some cases, may require additional buildings, either a living room, or a roomy lodging room, or, perhaps, both. To this the urgency of the case must be the justification, for no farm house can be complete without such accommodation.

3rdly—The number of Labourers to be constantly employed upon the land, should be equitably and justly regulated, according to the size of the farm and the nature of the soil.—[For this the labourers Employment Act was calculated by Sir Charles Burrell and by the Duke of Richmond.]

4thly—As single men, and boys, can only be taken into the house, it must follow, as a matter of necessity, in most parishes, that on a Farm, for example, requiring eight men and boys, that, perhaps, two or three of that number must be married men, the remainder, only, of course, can be lodged, and boarded : and so on, as the case may be, to any given number.

And further, as an additional system of economy and benefit, let the married men be accommodated (as they are in Scotland,) with cottages upon the Farm.

In returning to the system of boarding and lodging the men in the house, is it not obvious, that three or four men who are to seek for separate lodgings, and who generally board separately, must take more money weekly from the Farmer than it would cost him to feed and lodge them under his own roof ; for instance, the man, who boards himself, must give eightpence for a loaf of bread, when on the farm, it might be provided at little more than five pence.

It is equally certain, that the labour of eight men may, by returning to the old system, be obtained at the cost of six, when paid weekly wages to board themselves ; a circumstance, so important to the prosperity of the occupier of the land, that it should, of itself, be a sufficient inducement for its adoption ; at the same time, it does not follow, that the Master, or the Mistress, is required to take their meals with their labourers.

A watchful eye, to see that the men are reasonably supplied with clean and wholesome food, and that good order and economy be kept, is not more than honest industry demands.

By this change, we should once more behold the happy Farmer's boy, inexperienced in vice, the picture of health and contentment ; instead of finding him, as we unhappily now do, the inmate of the beer house, listening to language often the most baneful and disgusting, and often encouraged, instructed, and led on to ruin, and to the total destruction of all peace and reputation, and becoming, even in infancy, a pest to society.

In pursuing the subject, and contemplating the vast importance of improving, in the most legitimate manner, the condition of this portion of the community ; seeing, also, how difficult it is for the Legislature to interfere in such arrangements—the salvation of the country, in a great degree, appears within the power of the great and opulent landed proprietors ; and from the high and exalted station in which many of them are placed, and from the unceasing efforts of many to improve the condition of the labouring class, it is earnestly to be hoped, that if these suggestions should be thought impracticable, or unworthy their adoption, that some more efficient plan will be applied to prevent so great a portion of the population from continuing in such a course as may bring irrecoverable ruin on the country.

The statistical accounts will show, how many may thus be drawn out of the haunts of depravity, trained to better habits, and led to a place of worship on the Sunday, instead of being left to wander to the ale house. Whatever line of policy may be adopted by the Legislature, with respect to the Agriculturist, this system must ever be the safest and most advantageous ; and may the great Landed Proprietors have the proud satisfaction of commencing, and of setting the example in this work of national necessity, of restoring thousands, and tens of thousands, to a comparative state of happiness and contentment, is the earnest wish of the writer.

For the removal of the demoralizing plan, now extensively practised, viz.—That of hiring farming servants for a less period than twelve months ; would it not be desirable, that the Law of Settlement, by servitude, should be extended to three years ; this surely would be acceptable to the farmer and would remove objections that might be raised on that head, to the re-adoption of the system of boarding and lodging Labourers.

CUSTOMS AT WHITSUNTIDE.—The customs which once distinguished the festival of Whitsuntide, are rapidly sinking into decay. Even the Whitsun-ales are now scarcely known, except in some obscure parts of the country. These formerly consisted of public diversions and entertainments, accompanied by pageants, games of sport, and other displays of festivity. In the Catholic times, and for a considerable time afterwards, every parish, more or less, took a part in these amusements, to defray the expenses of which collections were regularly made, and most of them, as at Easter and other great festivals, kept or provided dresses, and other paraphernalia, for the representation of different characters, in order to give to the celebration of these rites a more showy and dramatic effect. It was then customary for the churchwardens of every parish to provide twenty quarters of malt, which were made into very strong ale or beer, and then sold at a cheap rate in some place fixed for the purpose.

## OBSERVATIONS AND EXPERIMENTS PROVING THE PARR OR BRAND- LING TO BE THE YOUNG OF A VARIETY OF THE SALMON.

By MR. JOHN S. MILTON, SURGEON.

Communicated by Dr. KNOX.

(From the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture.)

After the numerous interesting papers which have been communicated to learned societies on a subject apparently involved in such hopeless obscurity as the natural history of the salmon, I must, in excuse for venturing to enter upon this subject, assure my readers that I shall not venture to occupy their time by adducing any theories or particular views, but simply by endeavouring to submit to their consideration the conclusive results of some experiments which demonstrably prove the *parr* or *brandling*, to be the young of a variety of the salmon.

Individuals acquainted with the rivers of this country, have long been aware that many varieties of the salmon exist in these waters, such as the *Salmo salar*, or common salmon of the market; the *grilse*, the *sea-trout*;—and, about their mouths, the *whiting*, and the *yellow fin*,—some of which are presumed to be the fry in an advanced state of growth, as the *yellow fin* and *grilse*; and others, as the *sea-trout* and *whiting*, are known to be found with milt and roe, in a condition for spawning, and supposed to be distinct varieties of the genus.

Of the young or fry of all these, we know little farther than that, at a certain period, and for a short time, vast numbers of small fish, of similar aspect, and passing under the designation of *smelt* or *smolt*, are found in the streams where the various species of salmon have spawned, and under those names are protected from destruction by the authority of the legislature. But in consequence of scientific persons having been unable to prove that the shoals of small fish called *brandlings* or *parrs*, are the spawn of the salmon genus, no protection is provided for them in our act, and millions are annually destroyed by the anglers alone in their sport.

The consequence is, a yearly decrease in the supply of salmon, naturally induced many persons connected with the fisheries, to attribute the failures to the destruction of the spawn; and Mr. Peat, the farmer of the Earl of Lonsdale's fisheries, on the Derwent, instituted some experiments on the *parr*, which are now offered to public consideration, under the assurance that, if the members of our learned societies consider them of the importance they seem to possess, they will give the subject their deliberation, as to the readiest means of remedying the evil of the destruction of the spawn of a fish, which was once the food of the peasant, and can now scarcely be purchased in many places by the rich.

Mr. Peat had long been in the habit of performing a number of experiments, something similar to those made by Mr. Hogg, on the part of the Yarrow, and had invariably arrived at the conclusions that this little fish became larger, descended to the sea, and returned, in process of time, of considerable weight, size, and of excellent flavour, when it was sold as a salmon in the markets he supplied.

A gentleman residing at Workington, who derided these assertions, captured some *parr*, and deposited them in a pond in Mr. Saheld's yard. Nearly twelve months passed over, and these fish,

when taken out, were found to be entirely altered, having attained a considerable size, assumed the scaly appearance of the smelt, and bearing the evident marks of growing, though diseased fish. Not satisfied, however, with the result of this experiment, which he conceived might not have been properly superintended, he repeated it; and, in the presence of witnesses, with the same conclusion,—these *parrs* showing the appearances, from their great length, narrow shoulders, and large eyes, of creatures during the process of their growth. Of course, nothing is easier than to raise objections to the results of this inquiry, by doubting the individual's knowledge of the characteristic and distinguishing marks of the fish he confined; but although it must be acknowledged that many of the trials have been inconclusive, from the ignorance of the persons superintending them; yet I am fully satisfied, from the unwearying researches I made through Cumberland, that I have not one iota of speculation to advance, or one circumstance to relate, that cannot be substantiated by persons of undoubted veracity, and men who have fished the waters during a long life.

Instigated by the happy result of this trial of his friends, Mr. Peat, in conjunction with William and Joseph Dickinson, Esquires, surgeons, of Workington, placed a number of the impregnated ova of the salmon in tumbler-glasses, and succeeded in bringing to life three different breeds in different temperatures. Two were lost from incautious treatment, but the other breed, consisting of three fœtal fishes, lived during nearly three weeks attached to the ova by the umbilical cords, on the separation of which they expired, for want of their natural food. One of these animals attained the length of an inch, displayed the characteristic marks of the *parr*, and sported and played in his element with astonishing vigour and strength.

The relation of these circumstances to me by Mr. Peat, induced me not only to make them known to the public, but also to collect a considerable mass of corroborative evidence from other sources, and to pursue some anatomical inquiries on the *brandling* or *parr*, which were all equally conclusive of its growing to be a salmon of a species which I shall endeavour presently to point out.

A curious and interesting accidental occurrence furnished a gentleman, Mr. Harris, of the Goat, near Cockermouth, with an opportunity of placing it beyond dispute, that the *brandling* or *parr* is hatched from the ovum of the salmon. On digging into some sand-beds in the Derwent, during the latter part of a dry summer, that gentleman found, near the surface, innumerable *parr* lying dead, and varying in size from two to three or four inches. On proceeding farther down, he discovered to his surprise the *parr* of smaller size attached to such large ova as must have belonged to a salmon or large salt water fish alive, although in gravel only just moist. The deeper he dug the less the fish became; and, at the depth of a yard, he found thousands of the impregnated ova, in all stages of progression towards the fœtus, being hatched. In some only the eyes were visible; in others the eyes and the spinal column, coiled up in the egg; and, in many, the diminutive creature attached to it by the cord.

Some of the largest of these attached to the ova, and some of those separated from it, Mr. Harris collected, placed in a washing-tub, and kept alive for several weeks. They presented to the most careless observer, the lateral bars or *finger-marks*



of the *parr*; and, out of the many persons who resorted to see them, no one ever pretended to dispute that they were the fish so abundant in that river, under the name of *brandling*, and so plentiful in the salmon rivers of Scotland as the *parr*.

As these sand-beds have always been a celebrated resort of the salmon for spawning during the winter months, when they are covered with water, Mr. Harris was induced to repeat his researches; and, singular to relate, discovered precisely the same results; and I hesitate not to say, that, with the sanction of any of the learned societies, specimens can next summer be forwarded of the fish in all their different stages of growth, from the ova deposited at the bottom of the spawning grounds of the salmon, to the brandlings lying dead during a dry summer on the surface. With the first autumnal flood, those which have not been destroyed free themselves from the ova; and I myself have caught the *parr* during November in this river, little more than one inch in length. Of course, a circumstance of this kind, supported as it can be by incontrovertible evidence, is sufficient to determine that the *parr* is the young of a large fish, of the *salmo* genus; and I should not consider it necessary to advance any further evidence, but that the following circumstance may, in some measure, show how slowly a fish in confinement, and deprived of its liberty to migrate and feed according to its natural laws, must necessarily grow.

Mr. Peel of Stanger, a gentleman well acquainted with every description of fresh-water fish, had some years ago an excellent opportunity afforded him of remarking the changing of the *parr* to the salmon. Having prepared a number of *parr* out of the river Cocker, in the month of June, long after the smelts had descended to the sea, and being prevented from using them for pike baits, as he had intended, he placed them in a gutter of one of his fields, in a situation from which they could not escape, where for a long time they were entirely forgotten. At the expiry of two years and one month, while engaged in his fields, Mr. Peel was attracted to this gutter by a splashing sound—remembered his *parr*—and to his astonishment discovered that they had grown to be long, lean, scaly fish, much of the appearance of the *parrs* as described above, and most of them suffering under disease of the gills. Mr. Peel had always maintained the common prejudice of his countrymen, that a *parr* or brandling was born a brandling, lived a brandling, and died a brandling; and of course was considerably astonished at seeing all his views so completely upset, being so thoroughly satisfied that the brandling increased in size, and became a large fish, although of what precise variety of the salmon unable to determine.

Mr. Bowman of Carlisle, and Mr. Bird, the proprietor of the Kirkoswald Fisheries, performed experiments on the *parr*, which led to exactly similar results; and the Rev. Mr. Wybergh of Isell Vicarage, who had always maintained very opposite views, had lately reason to acknowledge the certainty of the change occurring in the *parr* to a larger fish, by observing it on some which were accidentally washed into his fish-pond, and retained there for a considerable time.

I could advance many more instances of a similar kind, where individuals have had the truth forced upon their notice by accidents and circumstances, the importance of which it was impossible to deny. But as I feel assured I have simply related a few facts proving the *parr* to be the young of a larger fish, which cannot be denied, I shall

endeavour to show that it is the young of a variety of the salmon frequenting our streams.

In the first place, negative evidence acquaints us with the curious facts, that *parr* are never to be found in rivers unfrequented by salmon; and, although Dr. Knox has proved that they do not now exist in the Whitadder, where some species of salmon abound, they yet always may be discovered in the waters inhabited by all our varieties of the salmon.

An excellent example of this occurs in the Derwent and the Ellen, two rivers of Cumberland, both discharging their waters into the Solway, within five miles of each other. In the Derwent, every variety of the *salmo* abounds; and there the *parr* is found in innumerable shoals. But in the Ellen, where only the square-tailed fish, commonly called the sea trout, locates, no individual ever beheld a *parr*, although, in the spring, the smelt of this sea-trout is plentifully caught.

I am aware that it has been asserted in a note in this Journal, on Mr. Hogg's paper\*, that, somewhere in the Western Isles, *parr* are found, and not salmon; yet I beg to submit to consideration, that these streams may have been very partially examined, and that they may assimilate to some of the small rivers which I have fished in Yorkshire; where, owing to the minuteness of the stream, the salmon frequently only make their way a short distance up from the coast, deposit their roe, and disappear immediately; and in these streams, at a great distance up towards their insignificant sources, I have caught abundance of *parr* †.

From attentive consideration to these points, and from all the information I could ever collect on the subject, I am disposed to believe that, wherever all the varieties of the *salmo* genus abound in any one river, we shall there certainly have the *parr*; and I hesitate not to challenge a refutation of this assertion, by clearly defined and substantiated proofs. If this be admitted, then we arrive at the conclusion, that the *parr* is, in some measure, connected with the salmon, and, as I have proved, the young of one of its varieties; and it only remains to determine to which species it belongs.

In the second place, the positive evidence of most of the experiments which have hitherto been performed upon the *parr*, prove that it becomes a larger fish, descends to the sea, and returns, after a certain period, of various sizes and appearances.

Mr. Hogg, it will be remembered, in the paper alluded to above, marked a number of small fish, which, at the moment of taking them, he considered *parr*, and informs us that many of them were subsequently caught in the Tweed and Yarrow, some as sea-trout, and others as salmon. This inconclusive evidence, however, is by no means original with that gentleman.

The grandfather of the present proprietor of the Derwent Fisheries, so long ago as the memorable year 1745, commenced marking the brandlings and smelts occasionally caught about his fisheries; and ever since that period, first his son and then his grandson, continued to mark them, by removing the dead fin, back-halving and fore-halving the tail, and invariably succeeded in having some of them, at subsequent periods, for sale on their fish-stalls, when arrived at a considerable size, and weighing about 20 lb.

\* Vol. iii. p. 449.

† I never thought that *parr* had been observed near the sources of rivers.—Dr. Knox.

Such results, however, led to very little knowledge of the disputed points; for I must observe, that, while Mr. Hogg and others call the fork-tailed fish the salmon of the Tweed, Mr. Peat declares the square-tailed fish to be the real salmon of the Derwent, and showed me a drawing of one upwards of 70lb weight. The gilse or grilse of Cumberland is fork-tailed—the *sea-trout* square-tailed, but seldom reaching a weight of 12lb; whereas I myself lately forwarded to Dr. Knox the vertebral column of a salmon of 25lb weight, in which the tail was as square as if formed by a rule.

While such differences of opinion as these exist, I cannot pretend to offer an assertion as to the name of the exact species of salmon which the *parr* becomes: nor, as long as the experiments on the fish continue to be performed in such an unsatisfactory manner as removing the dead fin, or back-halving the tail, can anything be defined of the period of the growth and the habits of the fish; for while one person is marking a fish for scientific researches, perhaps another is wantonly inflicting the same memento on two or three dozen varieties of spawn; which I have done during many a summer day, and which I have heard old fishermen remark they have been in the habit of doing on the Derwent for upwards of fifty years. There is a circumstance related, with all the gravity of truth, in the *Encyclopædia Londinensis*, which has only to be read to convince the most credulous how ridiculous it is to rely implicitly, without examination, on whatever is advanced. A Frenchman is there stated to have placed rings of gold or silver wire through the tails of smelts, which proved so accommodating as to return at the exact times for enabling the enthusiastic Frenchman to determine that the smelt required six years to become a salmon, during which term he inflicted on the young fish such names as *morts* and *sprods*, *yellow-fins* and *whittings*,—not at all aware that, in many parts of England, the *morts* and *sprods* mean, and had meant for ages, *yellow-fins* and *whittings* themselves!

Under all these difficulties, I resorted to dissections of the fishes, with the impression that the deep anatomy could certainly furnish me with some conclusive results; and I have had the proud satisfaction to discover that my surmises were not altogether incorrect.

It is certainly true, that naturalists have already presented us with an anatomy of the salmon; and have very minutely described the various organs of the fish. But, I think, when we remember that in the *Encyclopædia Londinensis*, which contains a pretty faithful summary of the conclusions of the principal naturalists who have written on this fish, it is there asserted that the *Salmo salar*, or common salmon, has only thirty-six vertebrae in his back bone, and when Dr. Knox and others, who, as comparative anatomists, will bear me out in the assertion, that there are sixty vertebrae, instead of thirty-six, in the back bone of all the varieties of the salmon, we cannot place any very implicit confidence in the assertions hazarded by these persons, who, after all, merely pretend to give a detail of parts as they appear, and not to draw any conclusions or classifications from the structure of the fish, which we are certainly generally accustomed to regard as the principal value of the comparative anatomist's research.

The number of rays in the fins, considered by these naturalists likewise of so much importance, I do not myself attach the slightest regard to, as some of them are so cartilaginous and indistinct, that I am not sure if any two persons can number

the same; and in the infant fish, of course, it is impossible to count them; and even when we can, there appears nothing, structural or numerical, to characterize them from those of many other fish, and all the varieties of their own kind.

Accordingly, I looked to the feeding of the animals, and the structure of their generative organs, to afford me some clue; and on proceeding with my examination, I was astonished to find, that while the stomachs of the square and fork-tailed salmon, called in Cumberland, salmon and gilse, were invariably apparently empty, the stomach of the sea-trout was just as constantly stuffed with flies, worms, and other particles of common and gross food, which induced me to set it aside as a coarse feeding variety. But the remarkable similarity of habit, in the feeding of the others, led me to examine minutely the structure of the fork-tailed salmon (the gilse), and of the square-tailed or common salmon, expecting to find their deep anatomy precisely the same, although the superficial anatomy displayed the broad difference of the fork and square tail; but, to my great astonishment, I found a marked and perfect distinction in the generative organs, where I looked for them agreeing in every respect.

In the square-tailed salmon I found two beds of roe of *unequal length* lying *one below another*, and containing ova of *unequal magnitude*, the short bed being only one-half the length of the long one, but containing an egg of double the size. On inquiring of Mr. Peat, who had been accustomed to open thousands of fish, he told me that the beds of roe *invariably* differed in size, and lay one below the other in the salmon, but that at a certain period of gestation, the ova became *more nearly equal in their bulk*.

In the generative organs of the fork-tailed salmon, precisely the reverse of this order is displayed. There two beds of roe are found of *equal length*, and *lying parallel to each other*.

Of course, I immediately procured and dissected a number of *parr*, and there I found exactly what I expected, that this little fish, which in its superficial anatomy precisely resembles the fork-tailed salmon, resembled it as closely in the structure of its generative organs, having the two roes lying in equal and parallel beds. The roe is rudimentary, and the ova must be seen through a magnifying lens at certain seasons; but during the autumnal months, the beds have arrived at such a growth, that the ova may most distinctly be seen and counted with the unaided eye, and in this advanced condition I presented some to Dr. Knox a short time ago.

These, I think, it must be allowed, are essential and marked features in the anatomy of an animal, which are too momentous to be lightly thrown aside. I consider that every known circumstance of the habits of the *parr* proves it to be the young of a migratory fish like the salmon; and I see in the anatomy the most pointed dissimilarity from every fish in the river but one, and to that I find it approximate so closely, or rather resemble so precisely, that I must now venture to pronounce it to be the young of a variety of the salmon, a fish that, in the rivers of Cumberland, attains a great weight and fine flavour; and which, when taken out of the Tweed, is, I understand, sold in Edinburgh Market, under the general designation of salmon, and considered the finest description of fish.

If, then, these curious facts cannot be disproved, it will no longer be considered extraordinary that the supply of salmon should have decreased from



rivers, in the neighbourhood of which no adequate increase of population accounts for the difference. On the Derwent, there cannot now be taken a tithe of the fish formerly caught. But it is an ascertained fact, that the brandling or *parr* is, as the salmon decreased, not only more closely sought after by the angler, but more fearfully devastated by the poacher with his nets.

If, however, this fish were preserved by the authority of the Legislature, and the privileges of the angler in a compensatory degree enlarged, the results would in every probability be satisfactory in the extreme. Learned societies can, either by a recognition of the truth of these statements, determine the *parr* to be the young of a variety of the salmon, and by so doing, show the importance of the inquiry to the Legislature of this country; or by instituting a series of experiments, which I can assure them may be performed at a very trifling expense, possess the means of placing the matter for ever beyond dispute.

### TO THE EDITOR OF THE "FARMER'S MAGAZINE."

"Now he (Lord John Russell) sympathised with the farmer most sincerely, and he could not but think that a reduction of rent would be the most effectual of all relief which could be administered to him."—*From Lord John Russell's Speech in the House of Commons, on Monday, May 21, 1835, in reply to the motion of the Marquis of Chandos "for an Address to his Majesty for a removal of some portion of those burdens to which the land is subject through the pressure of general and local taxation."*

Sir,—Since the day on which Lord John Russell made his speech in reply to the Marquis of Chandos, and from which speech the above extract is taken, the agricultural interest has experienced a two-fold defeat in the House of Commons; namely, on the above occasion, and also on Mr. Cayley's motion "for a Select Committee (based on the Parliamentary report of agricultural distress), to enquire if there be not effectual means within the reach of Parliament to afford substantial relief to the agriculture of the United Kingdom, and especially to recommend to such Committee the subject of a silver or conjoined standard of silver and gold." First, in regard to the motion of the Marquis of Chandos, I do not think that any very material benefit would have accrued to the landed interest from the success of the measure, although undoubtedly it would have been an acknowledgment on the part of the Legislature of the existence of such severe distress on that particular interest of society that required not only peculiar attention for the future but also immediate assistance.

But I am sorry to say, it does not appear to me that either the Government or the House of Commons, as a whole, seem disposed to view matters in this light, but are rather inclined to leave this vital interest of the community pretty much to its own fate, and that, too, under circumstances the most difficult and oppressive that can be imagined to bear down on any particular interest.

Let us now consider the practicability of Lord John Russell's recommendation of a reduction of rent as the "most effectual relief" which can be afforded to the farmer. When his lordship speaks of relief to the farmer, he of course means it to apply generally, and not to any one description or class of farmers;—in fact, if it means any thing at all it must, in its application, extend, in

the relief it contemplates, to *all owners and occupiers of land*, who would be relieved "by the removal of those burdens to which the land is subject, through the pressure of general and local taxation," and if his Lordship did not intend his observation to convey so extensive a signification, then it was no answer to the Marquis of Chandos, for he spoke of the depression on land generally, and consequently his words fairly imply an allusion to the difficulties experienced in common by the landlord, tenant, and labourer, and are in no degree confined to the occupying tenant. However, let us pass by the circumstance, that his Lordship prescribed a specific for the tenant only, and that, too, to be derived from the pocket of the Landlord, who is a suffering party in an equal degree with the tenant, and proceed to enquire if his Lordship's remedy would not, on the whole, be found to be miserably deficient in affording assistance to the great body of persons whose distress is immediately connected with "the burdens to which the land is subject." First, the owner and occupier, a yeoman, who purchased his estate during the operation of the Bank Restriction Act of 1797, when wheat was about twelve shillings a bushel. How, I would ask his Lordship, is this farmer who feels "the pressure on land" of which the Marquis of Chandos spoke in an especial degree, to be relieved by a reduction of rent? I know many such instances:—here, the rent—and a high rent, too—is paid in the shape of interest to the mortgagee, who advanced a sum at the time of purchase, equal to the *half value* of the property, but which now, from some strange turn in affairs, is become somewhat beyond the full value of the estate. It is idle to say men so situated can be relieved by a reduction of rent.

We will now take the occupier of a poor, heavy, and wet wheat soil, where the rent, even if it was paid, forms but a small part of the outgoings of the tenant. I will instance a farm in the Weald of this county of about 200 acres, which was taken on lease when wheat was about fourteen pounds a load, at a rental of 80*l.* per annum, and which farm will produce from twenty to twenty-five loads of wheat yearly. Now, this land, as I have before said, was taken at the rate of 14*l.* a load for wheat, and at the present time the price of wheat is from 9*l.* to 10*l.* per load, consequently the rent is at once sacrificed, and, in truth, no rent will be paid this year, but still the tenant will be a loser by his occupation, *although he will not pay one farthing of rent.* Oh! how I should like to hear the landlord of this farm read Lord John Russell's speech (in answer to the Marquis of Chandos) to his tenant! and more particularly I should like to watch the countenances of the two men when they came to the paragraph which is copied off at the beginning of this letter. How would they—smarting under the lash, as they are—contain their indignation and insulted feelings at such a puerile suggestion coming from a high officer of State! I am sure it would require all the authority of the Squire—and I doubt if even his authority would be sufficient—to prevent his tenant applying a certain monosyllabic epithet to the author of such trash, very unbecoming the dignity of a Cabinet Minister; indeed, such would be the feelings of the tenant of every poor farm in the kingdom, because he knows that his rent forms so inconsiderable a portion of his yearly expenses that it would be impossible to give him adequate relief from that source, even if his landlord relinquished all claim to rent.

We have now to speak of the tenants of good

land, whose rent forms a great proportion—perhaps a third—of their aggregate expenses, and these are the description of farmers who alone can be essentially relieved by a reduction of rent. Instead of paying a rent of 80*l.* per annum for two hundred acres of land, here from 200*l.* to 400*l.* will be paid, and, under such circumstances, it is of course obvious that the landlord, if he be in a situation to afford it, may materially assist his tenant. Then, again, it will be rarely found to occur that the landlord can afford to reduce his rent to any extent. The landowner has his difficulties to contend with, equal generally to, and very often far beyond, even the difficulties of his tenant. Now, his Lordship appears to me entirely to overlook this fact, and speaks of agricultural distress as if it was confined to the occupier of the soil only, when it is proverbial that all owners of land whose estates were purchased during the fifteen or twenty years immediately following 1797, are oppressed beyond measure by existing state of things, and all men so situated, from the duke to the yeoman, with the tenants of poor land included, will, I am sure, agree with me, in the conviction I feel, if his Majesty's Government cannot devise other means of relief to the agricultural community than that to be derived from a *reduction of rent*, into the gutter that class of persons must be tumbled, leaving the "wall-side" to money-dealers and Jews, who are recognised in the debates of the House of Commons as the "moneyed interest."

The principle of Mr. Cayley's motion appears to me to be the only practicable, legitimate, and sufficient source of relief to be adopted; viz., an increase of the circulating medium of the country. This, too, has been rejected by the House of Commons, and denounced by Sir Robert Peel as a breach of faith towards the public creditor, which sentiment of the Honourable Baronet's was of course highly approved of by the "moneyed interest." *Disinterested men!* Yes, if they keep the national faith according to their own, and to Sir Robert Peel's acceptance of the term—only let them succeed in this object—and then 'faith' they (the "moneyed interest") will soon get possession of the estates of the present landed gentry and the House of Commons 'to boot.' On the other hand, if the national faith be kept by paying the public creditor the interest of his claim in the same currency in which it was advanced as a loan to the Government, then, indeed, the agricultural interest may fairly expect to derive that relief which will be looked for in vain so long as the interest of our immense debt is paid in an enhanced currency. Our sober, enterprising, and industrious national character, together with the elasticity of our resources so much depended on by the "moneyed interest," and blue-stocking politicians, to work a cure for all our difficulties, if but left to themselves, is somewhat like muzzling a bull dog and leaving him to the fury of his cornigerous antagonist, with a full dependence on his former proved courage and sagacity in combat, to vanquish his formidable enemy, although deprived of all means of defence. I am, sir, your obedient and very humble servant,

Sussex, June 15, 1835.

AGRICULTOR.

### ON REDWATER IN CATTLE.

BY MR. J. D. HARRISON, V. S., LANCASTER.

(From the *Veterinarian*.)

The season when redwater becomes prevalent, at least in this neighbourhood, drawing nigh, I

have ventured to trespass upon the pages of *The Veterinarian*, and, perhaps, a little upon the patience of its readers, whilst offering to their consideration some facts connected with that disease. They may operate as a stimulus to the minds of other practitioners in the prosecution of further and more accurate research about this matter; and whereby we may hope ultimately to arrive at the much-to-be desired object, of a perfect development of the true seat of this complaint. There are, and, I trust, always will be found, a few veterinary surgeons who do not confine their inquiries to the diseases of horses alone, but are anxious to extend the benefits of science, and may I not likewise add humanity, to all domesticated animals. In the foremost rank of these, in point of public wealth and utility, stand horned cattle; than whom, when labouring under disease, no class of animals have been so grossly neglected, and their sufferings so much increased, as well from the cupidity and bigotted prejudices of their owners, and the ignorant, self-taught, and self-elected cow doctor.

In *The Veterinarian* for May, 1833, I hazarded an opinion as to indigestion being the cause of redwater, and the digestive apparatus its probable seat. I did it then, as I now do, under the heartfelt wish of eliciting inquiry, but not controversy, in order to arrive at the truth; for, at that time, not having what I conceived to be any undeniable solid foundation, and from the absence of many facts which I now possess, I was deterred from persisting in the defence of that theory, determining, however, at some future period, to return to the subject.

That redwater was not primarily an affection of the kidneys, I had long suspected; and I had observed either the non-effect or the mischievous effect of the diuretics and astringents generally resorted to and used by cattle doctors. This observation gradually led me to look to other and more important organs for an elucidation of the matter; and the digestive organs, as partaking of a greater and peculiar complexity of character presented themselves to my mind; and in connexion with them the disease, throughout its various stages, was narrowly watched: it soon became sufficiently evident, that to them alone the disease is entirely referable.

Diarrhœa, I do not hesitate to say, is invariably the premonitory symptom. Neither before nor during its continuance is the urinary discharge altered; and the administration of a mild purgative during this stage will, in the generality of cases, prevent all unpleasant consequences. From this fact alone, if others were wanting, we might justly conclude that the digestive organs were disordered, and look upon the diarrhœa as one of Nature's resources and curative indications. It is, however, too frequently the case, that the diarrhœa is not seen, or if seen is disregarded, and this favourable opportunity is allowed to escape; and then constipation, so universally known and as universally feared, ensues: the urine becomes tinged, and, as the constipation becomes more confirmed, gradually acquires a darker hue—nay, I have even seen the milk itself partake in the discolouration, when the stimulus of medicine has failed in alleviating the obstinacy of the bowels.

On these grounds I infer, that from an undue and vitiated secretion of bile redwater is produced, and that purgation, at the onset, is consequent on this vitiated secretion. That the bile becomes absorbed and taken into the circulation, is likewise evident from the obstinate, and in too



many instances fatal, constipated state of the intestines, and the yellow tinge of the tunica conjunctiva; and still more strongly from the fact, that the very milk (when any is secreted) as well as the urine, are saturated with bile. This latter circumstance I have clearly and satisfactorily proved by analysis; an ounce of urine being found to contain rather more than one-fourth part of bile. It is likewise demonstrable, but in a less satisfactory manner, from the action of purgatives; for I have personally witnessed several cases, in which the water has become clear after the administration of physic, and two or three hours prior to the commencement of the purging; and this, I have generally regarded as a favourable omen.

### RUPTURE OF THE PERICARDIUM, WITH EXTENSIVE DISEASE OF THE LUNGS, PLEURA, &c. IN A HEIFER.—CHRONIC DISEASE OF THE HEART IN A COW.

BY MR. E. A. FRIEND, V. S., WALSALL.

(From the Veterinarian.)

On the 16th March, 1834, I was sent for by Mr. Wright, of Stonnall, near Lichfield, to examine a heifer that he had purchased about a fortnight previously. I found her much emaciated, the hide tight, and the coat staring; the eye sunken, with total loss of appetite, and the fæces of a dysenteric kind, together with a considerable affection of the thorax, but of such a nature that I could not ascertain its precise character.

He requested my opinion as to her soundness at the time he had purchased her, he having had her (with others bought at the same time) warranted sound. I told him at once that I had not the slightest doubt of her having been decidedly unsound long before the time of purchase, and advised him instantly to write to the party from whom he had her.

I grounded my opinion at that time partly on the general appearance of the animal; partly on the nature of the fæces, which, when discharged, were covered with small gaseous globules, strongly indicating chronic disease of the mucous membrane of the intestines; and partly from the affection of the chest, which, though of a mixed indefinite character, yet appeared to me to be chronic: but more particularly I was led to this consideration from the appearance of the hide and coat. There is a peculiar sympathy in the skin with chronic disease of the thoracic and abdominal viscera; and in this case the hide was tight to the feel, and the hair bore the same resemblance to the bloom of healthy hair, that old thatch would do to reed newly cut. I sent some medicines for her, with directions for their exhibition; and on the 28th instant I received a note from him stating that, during the time the heifer had been taking the medicines, she had been very much relieved, but that she had relapsed again. As soon as they were finished I then sent him some more, with further directions.

I saw Mr. Wright again on the 9th April, and he then told me that the cow was better in her body, and that her appetite had improved very much, but yet that he thought her otherwise no better.

I saw her again myself on the 14th, and there was an improved appearance in the coat, a brighter eye, a much better appetite, and the fæces such as would be voided by a cow living on the same food, in a state of perfect health: but the affection of the thorax was decidedly much worse; there was considerable œdematous swelling on the dewlap and the integuments under the jaw, and I immediately detected effusion into the cavity of the chest. I told Mr. Wright of this, and the immediate danger to life consequent upon it. The event justified the prediction; I went again on the 16th, and found her dead.—The following were the appearances that presented themselves at the post-mortem examination: The first three stomachs were healthy, with a due portion of food in them; the fourth stomach was slightly inflamed, with a quantity of dirt, and several small pieces of coal or cinders in it; there was also a nail, a pin, and a small piece of wire in the first stomach. The intestines had recovered their healthy aspect in a great measure, but there was a small quantity of serous fluid in the cavity of the abdomen. Upon opening into the thorax, about two gallons of purulent fluid escaped. The lungs were in a state of complete collapse, and not more than half their natural size, and were completely attached to the ribs by a diseased secretion from the plura. The most extraordinary appearance, however, was exhibited by the pericardium: a portion of it was found closely adhering to the left side of the heart; on the right side there was a rupture of it, forming a foramen of an inch and a half in diameter, and it appeared as if the edges of this opening on one side had receded upon the surrounding parts. Adhesive inflammation had taken place, and there was a complete duplicature of the pericardium, which was altogether thickened and indurated to such an extent, as to present the appearance of tanned leather.

Here, then, at any rate, I had firm ground for my original opinion of long-existing chronic disease. The pericardium did not exhibit that intense vascularity that one stage of acute inflammation would produce; nor was there that tendency to decomposition that would be the effect of a still greater extension of the same kind of inflammatory action, but there was, instead, a firm indurated half-organized substance, of fifty or sixty times its original thickness. Now, in the first instance, when this comparatively delicate membrane (from the disease consequent upon its rupture) had lost its healthy secreting action, a diseased one would be set up in its stead, and a deposition upon the whole of its internal surface must have taken place. A partial organization of this must have followed; and this deposition, covering the original secreting surface, must have itself become the secreting surface. A fresh deposition must then have taken place, and a fresh organization have followed, and so layer after layer were added, till it became the hardened indurated mass which were exhibited on dissection; this I considered, and I was confirmed in my opinion of its long duration.

I gave Mr. Wright a written detail of the case, and my opinion upon it, of which the following is a copy: "that the primary disease in this case was of the pericardium; and that so extraordinary was the extent of disorganization which had taken place, that it was matter of absolute certainty that it could not possibly have been effected, except under a disease of several months' continuance: that the disease of the abdominal viscera

(but which yielding to the power of medicine) was a consequence of this excessive derangement; and that the immediate cause of death was from suffocation, produced by the enormous quantity of purulent fluid latterly secreted.

I advised Mr. Wright to send a copy of this case, and opinion, together with the hide of the animal, after putting his brand-mark upon it, to a friend of his that lived in the neighbourhood of Mr. Thomas, the cattle dealer of whom he had bought the heifer, and to desire him to deliver the hide, and to allow Mr. Thomas's veterinary surgeon (if he employed one), or if not, the family surgeon, to peruse the case, and I thought that he would not find much difficulty in getting the matter settled. He did so, and Mr. Thomas honourably paid him for the heifer, and expences; but having had her in his possession only three or four days prior to selling her to Mr. Wright, he naturally turned to the party of whom he had purchased her for repayment likewise: this was refused, and the matter went into a court of law, and I received a subpoena to attend the Shrewsbury assizes, in March, to give my evidence. This in a few days was countermanded, and I have since learned that the defendant had agreed to pay all the debt and costs.

I send you this case for various reasons: in the first place, I consider that even a simple record of extraordinary cases that occur in veterinary practice (though they should be given without note or comment) is extremely valuable. For who, when he is standing by a suffering patient, that cannot inform him of the nature of the pain that is tormenting him, when every eye is turned upon him, and every one looks to him for the expected explanation or prognosis, when, perhaps, the symptoms are such as to set all ordinary calculation or explanation at defiance, and the whole of his previous practice furnishes him with no parallel case; I say who, at such a time, would not be glad to cast back the eye of his mind over the many valuable records that he remembers to have read in the pages of *The Veterinarian* for instance, if haply amongst them he may find something in the practice or experience of others to help him out? And though he may not be able to save the patient, yet the very knowledge of this circumstance, coupled with the fact of his being aware of the chances of disorganization in certain parts of the animal frame, will give him a deserved consequence with his employers, and entitle him to such a share of their confidence as he might find it difficult otherwise to obtain.

In the second place, it is one which was likely to have occupied the attention of a court of justice; and, as I should in that case have been obliged to state my opinion publicly, I do it now without hesitation, for it may possibly serve some of the profession at a future time, who may be employed in a litigated case, connected with cattle practice, as something to refer to, by way of precedent; and I will not do your readers the injustice to suppose that they will be inclined to slight the end on such an occasion, because the means were humble.

In the next place, I do it for the purpose of introducing a medicine which I gave in this case, and which I never remember to have seen or heard recommended for the purposes for which I give it, but which I have found the most efficacious of any that the whole range of the *materia medica* has afforded me, for stimulating the digestive system generally, increasing the appetite, and restoring the very important function of suspended rumina-

tion. It is *pulv. cantharidis*, in doses of fifteen to twenty grains, combined with carbonate ammon. from one to two drachms: these, with ginger and gentian (medicines commonly used for the purpose), will be found on trial so valuable, that I feel sure that I do not arrogate to myself more than those who have the opportunity of giving it a fair trial will willingly award me, when I say that I anticipate in some little degree the thanks of that part of the profession who are engaged in cattle practice for its public introduction.

In the last place, I do it to substantiate a fact in the pathology of cattle that I have frequently noticed, viz. that so powerful is the digestive system in them, and so capable, in a state of health, of supplying waste, and repair that disorganization, even in the most vital parts, may go on to an astonishing extent without affecting life, and even sometimes without interfering materially with the actual improvement in the condition of the animal. I have seen large abscesses in the liver of a *fat cow* killed by the butcher, and other affections of the same kind that could not co-exist in the horse with the necessity for that active exertion that is generally required of him. Further to illustrate this, I subjoin the following case of

#### EXTENSIVE CHRONIC DISEASE OF THE HEART.

About a year and a half ago I was sent for to a cow, belonging to Mrs. Swift, of Aldridge, about four miles from hence; I found her down in exceedingly great pain, with a most alarmingly quick and strong pulse, a wild and haggard eye, and the head turned back on the side, indicating pain in the region of the abdomen. I bled her, and the blood flowed copiously: after I had abstracted as much as I had judged proper, and the pressure was removed from the lower part of the vein, I had the greatest possible difficulty in stopping the bleeding, for it was forced out in jets, several feet distant from the animal, and she died in less than five minutes.

I am sorry that I had not the opportunity of minutely examining her, as I am persuaded that it was a case accompanied by indigestion, but the heart was saved for me. It was very large, and the whole of the outer walls presented the appearance of a honeycomb; the holes were more than an inch deep; such a case of chronic disease of that viscus as I have never seen any thing else at all to compare with: and yet this cow was in as good condition as you could possibly desire to see a store beast; and, they informed me, had milked extremely well, and had shown no symptoms of illness that they could perceive, until a short time previously to my being sent for.

The little necessity for exertion that there is at times in these cases, adds materially to the power of the digestive organs, as antagonists to disease; and it is truly astonishing how the purposes of life are carried on under such circumstances as these in consideration: and yet, let the digestive organs themselves be once sensibly diseased whilst such affections exist in other parts, and it is then equally astonishing with what a rapid flow the two conjointly hurry life to its last ebb. The impression on my mind at the time this case occurred was, that the functions of the heart, which had gradually been accommodating themselves to the alteration in its structure, had not been able to stand against the rapid derangement such a case of acute indigestion had produced, and that death was the consequence.



## DEVON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The seventh exhibition for the Premiums given by this Society, took place on Tuesday, May 19, in the Castle Yard, Exeter. The exhibition being confined to Horses, Sheep, and Pigs, was not large, but generally, and particularly of Sheep, of an exceedingly fine description.

*Horses.*—The Horses were—a light bay, a fine colt, not two years old until the 16th of June next, got by Mr. Tremlett's horse, of Crediton, and the property of Mr. John Dymond, of Alphington. "Young Nimrod," also a light bay, sixteen hands one and a half inches in height, six years old, got by "Bristol Brutus," the property of Mr. George Radmore, Easton Farm, Thorverton. A grey speckled cart stallion, a most splendid horse, five years old, got by "Farmer's Darling," the property of Mr. Henry Ellis, of Sampford Peverel. A cart stallion, seven years old, a fine animal, the property of Mr. John Gregory, of Crediton; and the celebrated cart stallion, the property of Mr. A. Ware, of Broadcliff. The Society's horse, "Elephant," was also shown in the Castle Yard.

*Mares and Foal.*—These consisted of a mare and foal, the property of Mr. Norris of Broadcliff; sire, Tinker, Mr. Ware's horse, of Westwood, in the same parish; a mare and foal, the property of Mr. Richard Salter, Westcott, in Cullompton—sire, Tinker; a hackney mare and foal, the property of Mr. James Tremlett, Cadbury—sire, the Society's horse Elephant; a hackney mare and foal, property of John Adney, Esq., Lympstone—sire, Elephant; a hackney mare and foal, property of Mr. Edward Trood, Exminster—sire, Elephant; a hackney mare and foal, property of Mr. William Trot, Honiton's Clyst—sire, Elephant. There was also in this part of the yard, a thorough bred mare, which is to be offered for sale on Friday next, at the Bazaar.

*The Kewewich Premium.*—This is a premium of a piece of Plate, valued 5*l.*, offered by Samuel Trehawke Kewewich, Esq., of Peamore, in this county, for the best colt or filly, of any age, by the Society's horse, Elephant; and the animals competing for it became a great point of attraction. These consisted of—a dark bay horse, a beautiful colt, two years old, the property of Sir Humphry Davie; a light bay, also an exceedingly fine colt, two years old, the property of Mr. Christopher Flood, jun., Honiton; a dark bay, out of the same mare as the former, twelve months old, the property of Sir Humphry Davie, admired by every one; a light bay, twelve months, property of John H. Ley, Esq., Trehill; a bay, out of a grey mare, twelve months, property of Lord Rolle; a dark colt, two years old; and ditto, one year, property of H. F. Bidgood, Esq., Rockbeare. These colts have not had a mouthful of dry food, and therefore were among the best evidence of the excellence of their stock. The next drew general attention; indeed, was the pet of the morning—it was a dark two-year old racer, out of Miss Bags, thorough bred; a perfect and most beautiful animal; the property of the Hon. Newton Fellowes. To this succeeded a dark bay two-year old, property of Mr. William Land, St. Sidwell, Exeter; a two-year old bay, property of William Courtenay, Esq.; cart mare and foal, property of Mr. Randle, Kenton; and a light bay, coming two years, property of the Rev. George Ceely Prior, Ploughhill. Indeed, the whole exhibition for the Kewewich premium must have been highly encouraging to the patrons of the society, and particularly to those

who were so actively instrumental in getting the horse Elephant here.

*Sheep.*—On the display here our farmers are indeed entitled to pride themselves, to speak of it as a whole, if it was not the most numerous that might have been seen, it was one that no Devonshire man need to have felt fear, much less shame, in competing with it, with all England.

*Old Rams.*—These were most remarkable animals, nor must any of our agricultural friends feel offended if, in the enumeration of those whose property they are, names of owners should be omitted. As we gathered our information, they were from the celebrated flocks of Mr. Thomas Reynolds, sen., Thorverton; Mr. John Wippell, Exminster; Mr. Samuel Drew, Exminster; Mr. James Thomas, Thorverton; Mr. Samuel Kingdon, Lynch Farm, Thorverton, and others. One of those, however, the property of Mr. John Wippell, cannot pass without particular mention, its living weight being 420 lbs.

*Hog Rams.*—The show here was of a precisely similar character we have just stated, six of them being from the fine flock of that excellent judge, Mr. Thomas Reynolds, jun., Crediton; four of them from that of Mr. John Wippell: four, also, from the flock of Mr. William Reynolds, Thorverton; three, Mr. George Gater, Cadbury; two, Mr. Samuel Drew; two, Mr. Philip Francis, Crediton; two, Mr. Thomas Reynolds, sen.; two, Mr. George Radmore, Thorverton; two, Mr. John Bodley, Stockleigh Pomeroy; two, Mr. John Upham, Sandford; one, Mr. James Turner, Colebrook, &c., &c., &c.

*Ewes and Lambs.*—These were shown in half-scores, in their wool, and were couples such will be very rarely seen again: two of the pens were the property of Mr. Thomas Reynold, jun., and one of them (No. 9) were all double couples: Nos. 1, 2, and 3, were the property of Mr. Samuel Drew; No. 4, of Mr. Philip Francis; No. 5, of Mr. John Wippell.

*Ewe Hogs.*—These were also in their wool, but it was a condition that they should have been shorn as lambs; and, as all the rest of the sheep, they were in a great state of perfection. The pen, No. 1, was the property of Mr. Philip Francis; No. 2, Mr. Samuel Kingdon; No. 3, Mr. John Wippell.

*Pigs.*—These were placed on the left as you entered, at the upper part of the yard. The boars were fine animals, among which were noticed those from the farms of Mr. John Beare, Kenton; Mr. Thomas Beedell, Upton Pyne; Mr. George Tancock, Newton, St. Cyres; Mr. Thomas Payne, Bradninch, John Adney, Esq., Lympstone; Mr. George Radmore, Thorverton; H. F. Bidgood, Esq., Rockbeare; Mr. John Thomas, Roseash, &c., &c.

*Sows.*—Here were several families; and a sow, the property of Mr. Wm. Cleeve, Haven Banks, attracted much notice—it is twelve months old, direct from the stock of Lord Western, and of the improved Neapolitan breed. Others, also, of which mention should be made, were the property of Mr. Philip Francis; Mr. John Beare; Mr. John Moon, Lapford; Mr. John Wippell, Charles Gifford, Esq., Exmouth; John Adney, Esq.; — Bailey, Esq., Comb Satchfield; Mr. Wm. French, Exwick; Mr. Wm. Martin, Bradninch, &c., &c.

The Judges were, for *Horses*,—Mr. Josias Rogers, Exeter; Mr. Robert Rookes, Topsham Road; Mr. Thomas Selwood, Membury.

*For Sheep.*—Mr. Edward Trood, Exmister; Mr. James Hellings, Holcombe Rogus; Mr. John Wills, South Petherwin, Launceston.

*For Pigs.*—Mr. John Drew, St. Thomas, Exeter; Mr. James Quartley, Molland; Mr. Charles Sanders, Honiton.

*For the Sheep Shearing.*—Mr. John Pyle, Tallaton; Mr. John Beare, Kenton; Mr. Thomas Yelverton, Ven Ottery.

*For Agricultural Implements.*—Capt. Thomas L. Lewis, R.E., Exeter; H. F. Bidgood, Esq., Rockbeare.

The exhibition was opened to the public at eleven o'clock, and closed at three in the afternoon, when the subscribers, friends, and visitors, repaired to the

### DINNER,

Which took place in the large room at Cockram's New London Inn, where Lewis William Buck, Esq., presided, supported on his right by Major Fulford, and on his left by John Stevenson, Esq., of Alphonington. At the table, on the left of the Chairman, sat Samuel Trehawke Kekewich, Esq., supported on his right by Captain Thomas Locker Lewis, R.E., and on his left by Edward Woolmer, Esq. At the table, on the right of the Chairman, sat John Henry Ley, jun., Esq., supported by James Samuel Pitman, Esq. The Vice-President was Abraham Smith, jun., Esq., Tralesbeare; and about 147 sat down to a well served dinner.

The cloth having been removed, *Non Nobis Domine* was sung by Messrs. Risdon, Wood, Ware, and Burch, who also, in the course of the afternoon, sang several glees.

The CHAIRMAN, as the first toast, would give them one which, by Englishmen, would always be drank with pleasure. (*Hear.*) He would give them "The King,"—drank with three times three.

The CHAIRMAN next gave "The Queen and Royal Family," which was similarly honoured.

Mr. BUCK now rose, and said, "Gentlemen, it falls on me now to propose the health of a noble person, which I am sure will meet the cordial concurrence of every one present,—I mean, as you no doubt have anticipated me, the health of the Noble and excellent President of the Society, Earl Fortescue." This was drank with three times three cheers, and one cheer more.

Mr. BUCK now rose and said, "Mr. Vice-President and Gentlemen, I rise now to propose a toast very nearly connected with the cause of our present meeting: it is that of Prosperity to the Devon Agricultural Society. (*Cheers.*) And in doing this, I have to ask for your indulgence in not having more early, in the way that I have always felt that I ought, attended to its concerns. This has not arisen from a want of good feeling towards, or a want of a high opinion of the purposes this and similar societies are calculated to fulfil, but from accidental circumstances that, at the time of your exhibitions, has found me far hence, and put it out of my power to attend. Though, from this cause, but too frequently absent, however, yet do I trust to have credit with this company when I say, there is not an individual in this room who feels more deeply interested in, or more desires the success of this Society than myself, and if its views were even more extended than they are, the members would find me ready to accompany them in such extension. (*Hear, hear.*) Gentlemen, when I look around, and find that land-owners and agriculturists are the only capitalists in the country that, for their common good, are not united, I cannot but entertain feelings bordering very nearly, if not

quite, approaching to astonishment. (*Hear, hear.*) I do see certainly that a proper feeling of what is due to themselves, and the capital they have embarked in the several lines into which they have entered, is sufficient to unite the merchant and the manufacturer in one common bond of interest, nor can I conceive why it is that agriculturists have been so slow in following the example. (*Hear.*) I do conceive that it is a duty they owe to themselves to unite themselves together for one common interest. (*Hear.*) I have no wish to go farther into this subject at present; indeed, what I have said, I mean rather as hints, which I throw out in the hope that they may make an impression upon others, and that in the end, the agricultural interest may reap all those advantages which would be likely to arise to them from a unity of purpose and of action which is unknown to that interest at present. (*Cries of "Hear."*) To quit this subject, however, permit me to congratulate you on the splendid exhibition we have seen to-day, nor, in doing this, can I, nor ought I, to be ungrateful of the past services of those individuals with whom I may with much truth say, this Society emanated. (*Cheers.*) The patriotic object of these persons was not only that by means like these agriculture should be benefited, but the industrious classes also. (*Great cheering.*) Purposes like these, however, can only be effected, and the ends of such societies as that of which we are members, answered, by the cordial co-operation of that enlightened class of men, the practical yeomen. (*Hear, hear.*) I do hope, then, whilst we have so much to thank them for, that they will be stimulated to still further exertion, for I hesitate not to say, that on this class of persons the well-being, or otherwise, of this Society rests. (*Hear, hear.*) It has, gentlemen, been to me, desiring, as I do, the success of this and all similar societies, a source of the most heartfelt pleasure, that already, at our exhibitions, has the competition been so great, and the merit so deserving, that the Judges have great difficulty in deciding as to which the prizes should be given, and sensibly feel and regret that much that has the most decided merit must of necessity be turned away. (*"Hear, and great cheering."*) With evidence, then, before me what the Society has done; with a perfect conviction of what, if properly conducted, it is capable of doing, I have the greatest pleasure in proposing, and from the bottom of my heart, with you to drink, in a bumper, and with three times three, Prosperity to the Devon Agricultural Society.

Mr. BUCK rose, and said, that with permission of the meeting, he would propose the healths of the gentlemen who had undertaken the office of Judges that day.

Mr. EDWARD TROOD returned thanks.

Mr. BUCK proposed the health of Mr. Kekewich and the thanks of the Society to him for his liberal donation, which had been the cause of adding so much to the exhibition that day, and the means also of obtaining the best evidence that the exertions of the Society to improve the breed of horses in this county had not been without success. (*Tremendous cheering.*) This toast was drank and cheered in the most enthusiastic manner, and silence being at length restored,

Mr. KEKEWICH rose and addressed himself to the President and Gentlemen. He could assure them that if at any time the cordial reception of a toast such as this could have afforded him high gratification, and he was not so insensible as to affect to say it would not, it was now heightened in a very great degree, by having spontaneously



proceeded from a gentleman in his own immediate neighbourhood; one who had the best means of knowing him well—one who had the means of knowing the estimation in which he was held in his district;—and had been as it were seconded by an old and valued friend, who had an opportunity of knowing and judging of him in other situations. He did then receive this compliment as one of the most gratifying favours that could have been bestowed upon him. (*Hear, hear.*) He trusted they did not conceive that he attributed this to the circumstance of having placed a paltry premium at the disposal of the society for the colts of the horse Elephant. No, he was willing to attribute, and receive it as proceeding from a source far more gratifying to him than this: he was willing to receive it as a proof of good feeling entertained towards him by his neighbours and friends, among whom it was one of the greatest objects of his ambition ever in amity and friendship to live. (*Tremendous cheering.*) His desire, however, he would add, to place this premium at the disposal of the society, had not been so much to bring together a large number of horses, in order that the judges might have to determine which was entitled to the prize, as to show the great zeal he had for the success of the society, and his desire that its course might be prospering, as also that as it went on, he might in all usefulness increase. (*Great cheering.*) He had early desired to lend his support to agriculture through this society, and trusted that as long as he lived he should never witness any thing but prosperity attending it. (*Cheers.*) He had been asked many times whether he thought the society had answered the ends he and others anticipated in the formation of it, but his answer had been that societies like this were not to be judged of hastily; they were of slow growth, and must not be looked at as to their results year by year, but by taking a retrospective view of the whole of their proceedings and looking back through a series of years, when, though they had worked silently, yet would it be more clearly and convincingly seen of what great importance they were and what good they had done, and looking at this society in this fair way, he would ask any unprejudiced person, or any one who would make use of the powers of his mind, if this society could by any means in the first year of its formation have had such an exhibition as they had witnessed that day. (*Great cheering.*) If it could not then, and he was sure that would be the honest answer, then had the society not been without its use. (*Cheers.*) But there was still another advantage that would be likely, and, indeed, he hoped had arisen from it, and that was that it would draw still closer the bond which it was most desirable should, and he hoped ever would exist between the landlord and tenant, and between the tenant and labourer who tilled the soil. (*Great cheering.*) He hoped he should never see the time when this great bond of union would be dissolved, as then, indeed, he should have fears which he never had yet, for his country. (*Hear, hear.*) Perhaps they would allow him then, having thus spoken of its uses, to say a few words also on the future prospects of the society. (*Hear, hear.*) All societies of this description must exist by competition, and he was perfectly aware that even in high and honourable minds, after great exertions had been made to secure a successful result, circumstances might arise occasioning a sense of soreness, and giving birth to an unpleasant feeling, but he would warn all to be most careful not to allow this to lead them into any thing like jealousy;

—(*cries of hear*)—all could not be best,—somebody must win, and somebody be the loser, but he believed he could say, that from the first, the Judges had been selected with the greatest care, and he believed also that the judgments they had passed, had been always fair and honourable. (*Cheers.*) After warning them against party and politics, he said, as to the future prospects of the society then, he would say, that he for one would stand by it. (*Cheers.*) He was not one of those who would put his hand to the plough and look back. (*Cheers.*) He had lent his fostering hand to the society in its infancy; he had already seen it in its state of manhood, and if he should live to see in it signs of decrepitude and old age, he would double and would quadruple that support in order to sustain it;—(*tremendous cheering.*)—and he would do this because he wished to see his native county as celebrated for all its products, as it was for the fertility of its soil; for the beauty of its scenery; and for the independence of its yeomanry. (*Hear, hear.*) He would do this because he believed that by societies like this our national industry would receive new directions and go on in the way of improvement; he would do this because he believed that by societies like this our national wealth would be increased. (*Great cheering.*) For the kindness then expressed towards him he begged most sincerely to thank them, and before he sat down would use the privilege which it had been just suggested belonged to him, of proposing a toast. (*Hear.*) He would give them then the health of their honourable Chairman and his worthy friend Mr. Buck, nine times nine hearty cheers followed the drinking of this toast, and silence at length succeeding

Mr. BUCK rose and addressed himself to the Vice President and Gentlemen. He returned them thanks for the honour they had conferred upon him; desiring them to believe it was at all times most gratifying to him to have his name identified with the agricultural interest; and this not from selfish views, but believing it was on the well being of that interest that the prosperity of society depends. (*Great cheering.*) He congratulated them on the display of farming stock they had seen in the Castle Yard that day, and gave the most perfect credence to what Mr. Trood had said, that the merit of all was so great, that the judges had had no little difficulty in coming to a conclusion upon it. (*Hear, hear.*) Any encomiums of his would fall far short of what the farmers in this district deserved for what he had seen that day, and it had been most gratifying to him to witness the proofs of such perfection, not only as showing the progress that agricultural knowledge was making in this country, but as displaying a spirit of perseverance under circumstances of depression such as was almost sufficient to turn the most resolute from their purpose. (*Loud cries of hear.*) He hoped, however, that they might look to better times, and should ever feel most happy if any exertions of his could conduce to the support of agriculture, or to the furtherance of the purposes of that society. (*Great cheering.*)

#### PRIZES FOR HORSES.

Mr. ROBERT DYMOND, the secretary, now read the prizes for horses, as follows:—

- Best Cart Stallion, 10l, to lot 2, the property of Mr. John Gregory, of Crediton.
- Second best ditto, 5l, to lot 1, the property of Mr. A. Ware, Broadclist.
- Best Brood Cart Mare and Foal, 5l, to lot 3, the property of Mr. Randle, of Kenton.

The Premium for the best Brood Hackney Mare, capable of carrying 14 stone, and Foal, was not awarded, being considered incapable of carrying the weight.

The best Colt or Filly of any age, by the Society's Horse, Elephant, a Piece of Plate value 5*l*, (the Premium offered by S. T. Kekewich, Esq.,) to lot 4, two-years-old, the property of Sir H. P. Davie, Bart, of Creedy.

The CHAIRMAN gave the successful candidates for horses, with three-times-three, which was drunk and complied with accordingly.

Mr. KEKEWICH desired to express the pleasure he felt at the small premium he had placed at their disposal having been adjudged to Sir Humphrey Davie, one of the best friends and one of the earliest supporters of the society (*cheers*), but whom he regretted to inform them was at that time lying on a bed of sickness, and which alone kept him from being there. (*Cries of "hear."*) He trusted that what had that day occurred would tend to cheer the hon. baronet, and that he would yet be spared many years to lend his support to agriculture, and assist the objects and aid the purposes of that society. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. BUCK would next give them "The Fleece," and would take leave to couple with it the name of an excellent farmer, and a most worthy man, who was associated in his mind with the improvement of the breed of sheep, from his earliest recollections. (*Hear, hear.*) They must have already anticipated that he spoke of Mr. Reynolds. (*Cheers.*) He would accordingly give them "The Fleece," and the health of Mr. Thomas Reynolds, as the father of the fleece in this county.

Mr. REYNOLDS briefly returned thanks.

#### PRIZES FOR SHEEP.

Mr. DYMOND now read the prizes for sheep, as follows:—

Best Old Ram, 7*l*, to lot 9, the property of Mr. Thomas Reynolds.

Second best ditto, 5*l*, to lot 6, the property of Mr. John Wippell.

Third best ditto, 3*l*, to lot 1, the property of Mr. Samuel Kingdon.

Best Hog Ram, 7*l*, to lot 2, the property of Mr. P. Francis, Crediton.

Second best ditto, 5*l*, to lot 27, the property of Mr. J. Bodley, Stockleigh.

Third best ditto, 3*l*, to lot 23, the property of Mr. John Upham, Sandford.

Best Pen of not less than 10 Ewes and Lambs, in their wool, 4*l*, to lot 4, the property of Mr. Philip Francis, Crediton.

Second best ditto, ditto, 3*l*, to lot 1, the property of Mr. Samuel Drew, Exminster.

Third best ditto, ditto, 2*l*, to lot 5, the property of Mr. John Wippell, Exminster.

Best Pen of 10 Ewe Hogs in their wool, but to have been shorn as lambs, 4*l*, to lot 1, the property of Mr. Philip Francis, Crediton.

Second best ditto, ditto, 3*l*, to lot 3, the property of Mr. John Wippell, Exminster.

Third best ditto, ditto, 2*l*, to lot 2, the property of Mr. Samuel Kingdon, Thorverton.

The CHAIRMAN gave the healths of the successful candidates for sheep, which was drunk with three times-three.

Mr. PHILIP FRANCIS returned thanks.

The CHAIRMAN next appropriately introduced and gave "Liberal Landlords and good Tenants;" drank amidst loud cheering.

#### PRIZES FOR PIGS.

These were now read by Mr. DYMOND, as under:

Best Boar, 3*l*, to No. 7, the property of Mr. Geo. Radmore, Thorverton.

[This pig was purchased by Mr. Robert Spark, of Martin's-lane, in this city; it is of the Essex breed, and, on account of the primeness of the stock, will be kept by Mr. Spark, at Alphinton, near this city. Second best Boar, 2*l* to No. 10, the property of Mr. John Thomas, Rose Ash.

Third best ditto, 1*l*, to No. 5, the property of Mr. Thomas Payne, Bradninch.

Best Sow, 3*l*, to No. 14, the property of Mr. Wm. Cleeve, Haven Banks.

Second best ditto, 2*l*, to No. 5, the property of Mr. John Wippell, Exminster.

Third best ditto, 1*l*, to No. 4, the property of Mr. John Moor, Lapford.

The CHAIRMAN gave the successful candidates for pigs.

Mr. WM. CLEEVE returned thanks.

MAJOR FULFORD spoke of the very great merit there had been in the whole of the stock shown that day, and the difficulties which had consequently stood in the way of the judges in making their adjudication. Where every thing then called for praise, although all could not be successful, he hoped they would join with him in a toast the chairman had permitted him to give, of the healths of the unsuccessful candidates.

Mr. JAMES HELLINGS desired to bear testimony to the great merit of the sheep which had been produced, and the difficulty the judges had had in deciding upon them.

Mr. JOHN BEARE, (Kenton,) as an unsuccessful candidate, observed that he thought he did not stand in that situation because the society was falling to the ground, but because it was rising in eminence. (*Hear, hear.*) The depressed state of agriculture had been alluded to by the chairman, and it was but too well known to them all that it was a great interest that was indeed depressed. There were great evils existing, and no time could be more proper for making these known than in the presence of their landlords, met too on an occasion for which a business of that kind seemed most fit. (*Cries of "hear."*) He would say at once then, that the three great evils that now so severely pressed upon agriculture, were RENT, TITHES, and THE MAINTENANCE OF THE POOR. (*Loud cries of "hear."*) He hoped then that every landlord present would be inclined to go heart and hand with their tenantry in effecting an immediate abatement in rent. (*Hear, hear.*) He hoped that every clergyman, in times when five shillings and sixpence a bushel was the utmost that could be obtained for the best wheat, would also be ready to come forward, and say he was prepared to meet the nature of the times and the altered state of things, by making a very large reduction in the amount which he had hitherto been demanding for tithes. (*Great cheering.*) He hoped also that the new legislative enactment relative to the poor, would be so put into operation as to relieve the farmer from a great portion of the burden under that head, which had so long and so grievously pressed upon him,—so that the farmer, as in fairness he ought, might by industry and economy be enabled to live. (*Great cheering.*)

The CHAIRMAN gave "Success to Agriculture, Manufactures, and Commerce;" drank with three times-three.—And next, "The Ladies of the



County of Devon," which was drank with nine-times-nine, and "once more for the ladies."

#### PRIZES FOR SHEEP-SHEARERS.

Mr. DYMOND now read the prizes for sheep-shearers, as follows:—

Best Sheep Shearer, 2*l*, to John Palmer, shearer to Mr. John Bodley.

Second best ditto, 1*l*, to G. Elworthy, shearer to Mr. George Gater.

Third best ditto, 10*s*, to Robert Gillard, shearer to Mr. John Wippell.

Fourth best ditto, 5*s*, to William Wills, servant to Mr. Richard Brown, Duncombe, Crediton, and shearer to Mr. Philip Francis.

The Judges also recommended J. Jackson to the notice of the meeting, who is excluded from a prize by his having won the first premium at a former meeting.

Mr. Dymond having concluded,

The CHAIRMAN gave, "An Honest Peasantry;" drank with three-times-three.

Mr. KEKEWICH trusted they would bear with him a few moments while he proposed the health of their excellent Secretary. (*Cheers.*) His services had been of an exceedingly valuable description, and having himself attended all the early meetings of the society, he would say, that he scarcely knew how they could have progressed without the help of Mr. Dymond. He had therefore great pleasure in proposing the health of that gentleman, which he was sure towards one who had served them so faithfully and so zealously they would honour with three-times-three.

Mr. ROBERT DYMOND rose and said he was not in the habit of making speeches, which was perhaps rather a singularity in the present day, when the ambition of so many appeared to be that of being considered speech-makers. (*Laughter.*) He however desired them to believe he had a proper sense of, and to thank them for the compliment they had paid him; as also that he was gratified thus to learn that his services were deemed to have been useful to the society. While thus addressing them, also, he would take an opportunity to mention a circumstance which had occurred connected with his office. (*Hear.*) There had been dropped that day in the Castle yard a sum of money, (*hear, hear,*) he did not know whether it was the intention of the person who had dropped it to leave the amount for the benefit of the society, which was in want of assistance of that kind, and he, therefore, now mentioned the matter, in order, if that was the case, that the design of the donor might be communicated to him afterwards. (*Loud laughter.*)

#### PRIZES FOR AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

Mr. DYMOND now read the prizes for agricultural implements, as follows:—

"The Judges of agricultural implements beg to report that they have inspected the specimens sent, and recommend that the sum of 20*s* be given to William Hogg, of Upton Pyne, for his Turnip Drill; 15*s* to Wm. Ellis, of Cadbury, for his Scuffle; and 10*s* to Samuel Williams, of Shobrook, for his Scuffle; and 10*s* to Samuel Pyle, for his Plough Share.

(Signed) "Thos. Locke Lewis.

"H. F. Bidgood.

The CHAIRMAN gave the healths of the Vice-Presidents, Mr. Smith, Mr. Kekewich, and Mr. Ley,—drank with three-times-three, and Mr.

SMITH and Mr. LEY acknowledged the compliment.

The CHAIRMAN then in a very happy manner alluded to the connection which had many years existed between himself and the city of Exeter, and spoke of the good wishes he should ever entertain towards it, concluding by giving Prosperity to the city of Exeter, and many thanks to those of its inhabitants who have advanced the interests of this society; which was drank with nine-times-nine and one cheer more.

Mr. W. H. LANGWORTHY, on the part of the inhabitants, returned thanks.

The CHAIRMAN next proposed the health of Mr. Fulford, which was received with great enthusiasm and drank with three-times-three.

Mr. FULFORD returned thanks.

The CHAIRMAN gave the gentlemen of other counties, who had that day honoured the meeting with their presence. Which was drank with three-times-three.

Mr. KEKEWICH, as being connected with Cornwall and Somerset, as well as Devon, spoke of the advantages likely to arise to agriculture, from this increase of intercourse between the persons connected with it in the three counties; and alluded to the establishment of agricultural societies in them, mentioning particularly East Cornwall, set on foot at Callington; as also another which had existed some time at Launceston; and Mr. Buck added that of Stratton.

Mr. WILLS, as a member of the Callington and Launceston societies, also gave an account of the progress, and again eulogised the exhibition he had seen that day.

The CHAIRMAN gave "The Committee of Management, with thanks to them for their services;" drank with three-times-three.—The toast was acknowledged by Mr. John Drew and John Yarde, Esq.

Mr. JOHN UNDERHAY, Heavitree, desired to give the health of Sir Thomas Acland, which proposition was received with the most electrifying cheers, and also drank amidst continued cheering.

Mr. THOMAS HUSSEY desired to give the health of one of the firmest supporters of the society, and one of the best landlords in the county, who had been prevented being present with them that day, Sir Lawrence Palk. (*Great cheering.*) This toast was drank, and followed by nine-times-nine hearty cheers.

The CHAIRMAN said, time was wearing, and he would therefore give them "Our next merry meeting." Which having been drank, and followed by cheering, Mr. Buck and many gentlemen, at half-past seven o'clock, rose, and amidst loud applause, quitted the room.

JOHN HENRY LEY, jun. Esq., was then called to the chair.

#### BRISTOL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual exhibition of sheep shearing, under the patronage of this society, took place on Tuesday, June 2nd, at the New Cattle Market, Temple-street. The company, which were select, but not numerous, were highly pleased with the performance of the different shearers. The following prizes were awarded:

FIRST PRIZE.—*Society's Coat and Buttons.*—Henry Prosser.

SECOND PRIZE.—*One Pound.*—Charles Gould.

THIRD PRIZE.—*Ten Shillings.*—John Churley.

The following bounties were also given :

*Ten Shillings.*—William Towals.

*Seven Shillings and Sixpence.*—Samuel Ford.

*Seven Shillings.*—Joseph Porter.

*Six Shillings and Sixpence.*—John Stidfall.

*Six Shillings.*—Charles Ball.

*Two Shillings.*—Jonah Caple, Joseph Parsley, James Edbrook, Joseph Kingston, James Scriven, Thomas Stidfall, Daniel Stidfall, Joseph Jordan, John Young, and Charles Thatcher.

### JUNGLE FOWL.

The bird known by this name among the English in India, is the " Wild Cock " of Sonnerat, who was the first to describe it in his ' Voyage aux Indes Orientales.' This naturalist maintained with considerable zeal that this bird formed the stock whence most of our races of domestic fowl have proceeded. He concurred in the opinion of Buffon, that most of our varieties of domestic fowl have proceeded from a single type, and that the differences which we perceive among them have resulted from accidents of climate, domestication, and crossings of varieties. Sonnerat, who did not or would not know of any other species of wild cock than this—for he speaks slightly of the authority of Dampier, who mentions that he saw wild cocks in the Indian Archipelago—naturally enough concluded that in this jungle-fowl he had found the primitive stock. Subsequent inquiries have, however, confirmed the statements of Dampier, not only as to the existence of species of wild fowl in the Indian Archipelago; but it is also admitted that the *Bankiva* species in Java, and the *Jago* species in Sumatra, more nearly approximate to our common fowl than that now under consideration, and to which Sonnerat's statements refer. Upon the whole, it seems that our varieties of domestic fowl proceed from mixtures of original species. Practical observers arrive at much the same conclusions on this point with scientific naturalists. It is thus, for instance, considered in India that our game cock originated from a mixture of the jungle cock with wild species in Malaya and Chittagong. Altogether, however, it must be admitted that, on this disputed point, very little is actually known; and the domestication of the bird ascends to such remote antiquity, that it seems hopeless to determine the era, and still more hopeless to ascertain the original species with precision. It is proper to add that the jungle fowl, which we now proceed to describe, are quite distinct in India from the domestic races reared by the natives, which do not in any respect differ from the domesticated varieties in all parts of the world.

The jungle cock is about one-third less in bulk than our common village cock. Its length from the point of the bill to the extremity of the lowered and extended tail, is about two feet four inches; and its height from the level of the feet to the top of the head, without including the crest, is fourteen inches and a half.

The head is furnished with an indented comb, and the wattles resemble those of the domestic cock, but the naked space around the eyes and on the throat is larger than in that bird. The feathers of the head and neck grow longer as they approach the body; and in their form and substance are different from those which cover the same parts in other cocks, whether wild or domestic. The quill is thick and flattened, forming a white stripe; the whole length of the feather, as far as the extremity where it ends in a dilated cartilaginous substance, is of a rounded form, thin,

highly polished, and white. The feathers of the back and those of the tail coverts, are long and narrow, and are of a dusky brown colour, varied with spots of a brighter hue, the whole having a white stripe down their shafts. The breast, the belly, the sides, the thighs, and the abdomen are dusky, tinged with green. The greater quill feathers are dull black, and the middle and secondaries are black, with green reflections. The lesser and middle wing-coverts have the shafts of their feathers flattened, and their tips furnished with a thick and solid cartilaginous plate, of the same general appearance with those on the neck, but of a deep red colour. The colour of the tail-coverts is deep violet; they are lengthened out and arched over the two vertical planes of the tail, which is composed of fourteen feathers, separated into two portions inclined towards each other, and forming an acute angle. The two middle feathers are longer than the others, and form an arc, the convexity of which is turned from the body of the bird. The feathers of the tail are of a black hue, with green reflections. The feet are of a grey colour; the beak horn-coloured; the fleshy appendices of the head are red, more or less deep.

The female of this species is much less than the male and has scarcely any comb or wattles. The throat is covered with feathers, and this forms a remarkable distinction from the domestic hen, which has that part nearly naked. The circumference around the eye is naked and reddish. The whole of the plumage of the lower parts of the body resembles that of the male, except that the colours are less brilliant. The feathers of the neck are but slightly lengthened, and, as well as those of the wings, are destitute of the singular cartilaginous tips with which those of the male are furnished. The whole of the upper part of the body is grey, more or less dusky, with the shaft of each feather white. It deserves to be remarked, that in this, as well as in the other Indian wild species, the females do not differ among themselves in the colour of their plumage, like our domestic hens. The females also of those primitive species resemble each other individually, which, as is well known, is by no means the case with our domestic hens, the differences between the individuals of which sometimes extend to characteristic attributes, such as the absence of crest, of gills, great difference of size, &c. This is a strong fact against the opinion of Buffon, who considered that a white plumage must be the attribute of the primitive race, and imagined that hens originally white, became varied from white to black, assuming all the intermediate colours in succession. But our acquaintance with wild species which were unknown in Buffon's time enables us to conceive it more probable that the primitive hens are brown, red, or grey indifferently, and that white and black colours are among the consequences of domestication, for all the wild hens which have hitherto been observed have the intermediate colours.

The cry of the jungle fowl is in some measure different from that of the domestic species; but there is much resemblance in their habits and dispositions. The following lively statement on this subject is from 'Excursions in India,' by Captain Thomas Skinner, published in 1832.

" In some parts of the forest we saw several jungle fowl; they have exactly the same habits as the domestic poultry. The cock struts at the head of his hens, and keeps a strict watch over their safety. Whenever they were disturbed by our attempts upon them, he flew to the highest branch of some tree beyond our reach,



and crowed with all his might, while his dames ran into holes and corners to escape our attacks: they are so cunning, that we found it impossible to get within shot of them with all the caution we could use. While intent upon capturing at least one, as we were creeping after them upon our breasts, lying occasionally like riflemen under cover of the unevenness of the ground to catch them *en passant*, we came suddenly upon an ambuscade that very soon put an end to our sport.

"We were about midway up the face of a hill that was thickly covered by trees, and much clogged by shrubs and creepers that wound in all directions. On reaching the foot of the enemy's position, still advancing upon our breasts, and bending a keen eye upon the birds strutting before us, up rose, with a growl that denoted an offended spirit (for we had literally touched his tail), a large black bear; and turned round, looked us in the face with the most undisguised astonishment. It was the most unsought, as well as most unpromising introduction I had ever met with. There was no time for parley, and getting upon our legs, we at once stood upon the defensive. This sudden metamorphosis completed his surprise, and, yelling louder than before, he set off as fast as he could shuffle from the extraordinary animals that had so unaccountably sprung up before him. We determined that discretion was the better part of valour, and began to retrace our steps, leaving the jungle fowl to benefit by the interruption."

The following is the process which the Shecarries—or natives of low-caste in India, who gain a livelihood by catching birds and animals—employ for the purpose of taking the jungle fowl:—"Two or three of these men go for this purpose together, and proceed in this manner. A line of thirty or forty yards long is fastened to the ground with wooden pegs at each extremity, and is then elevated by props to the height of about eighteen inches. To this prop nooses of horse-hair are fastened at distances of about two feet from each other, and when the birds attempt to pass under the line, they are caught in the nooses by their necks. Sometimes a similar line is fastened to the ground, and left lying there with all the nooses spread, and as the birds pass over them they are caught by the legs. These lines are never spread where there is much juggle. When the line or lines are ready, the men go off to a considerable distance, and beat the bushes in a direction towards them,\*"

AGRICULTURE.—The West Devon and East Cornwall Agricultural Society held their Show for Stock, on the 4th of June, at Launceston. There was a fine selection of horses, bulls, cows and heifers, sheep, and pigs, and a large number of celebrated breeders and agriculturists attended, who were highly gratified with the excellence of the various descriptions of stock. The umpires for horses and bullocks were Mr. Threhervey, Probus; Mr. Gatley, Probus; and Mr. Reynolds, Crediton.—For pigs, sheep, and sheepshearers, Mr. Hendall, Probus; Mr. Gater, Cadbury; and Mr. Quartley, Molland.—The list of premiums awarded to the successful competitors reached us too late for insertion. The arrangements were highly creditable to the able and active Secretary, Mr. W. R. Bray.

\* Johnson's 'Sketches of Field Sports as followed by the Natives of India.'

## PAROCHIAL SETTLEMENTS AN OBSTRUCTION TO POOR-LAW REFORM.

BY JOHN MEADOWS WHITE, Esq.

London: Fellowes.

This is an able pamphlet, by a gentleman peculiarly well acquainted with the subject to which it relates. He observes that—

"During the long and laborious discussions on the Poor-Law Amendment Act, the system of parochial settlements seems scarcely to have met with the consideration which its importance deserves. The Commissioners of Inquiry, it is true, in their very able Report, detailed the origin, and many of the evils produced by this system; but their inquiry was confined to its effect on the poor rate, and to suggestions for its alteration, with reference alone to the pecuniary burthens which its unequal operation imposed upon different parishes. Yet even these suggestions were not considered worthy of entire adoption. One of the worst kind of settlements, that by apprenticeship, was retained, although the House of Commons had passed a clause for its abolition, and although its evils, and the fraud to which it led, had been so strongly stated by the commissioners. Parochial settlements, however, not only form one of the greatest obstructions to poor-law reform, but are mixed up with, if they do not directly tend to, results of a still more extensive nature. Originally, birth, or dwelling for a certain period in a place, seem to have been considered the grounds for declaring a man settled there. But the 43d Elizabeth, which established a permanent fund for the relief of the poor, had the effect of conferring parochial rights of no little importance on the class for whom that fund was provided. Before that statute, the object of the legislature was to restrain paupers from begging beyond certain limits. And so early as 12 Rich. II. c. 7, (1388)—the first act cited by the Commissioners,—labourers were restrained from going beyond the hundred, rape, wapentake, city, or borough, where they were dwelling, without a testimonial of justices shewing reasonable cause for their going; and impotent persons were to remain in the towns where they were dwelling when the act was passed; or if the inhabitants were unwilling or unable to support them, to withdraw to other towns within the hundred, rape, or wapentake, or the towns where they were born, and there abide during their lives. This was in effect, a district settlement; but subsequent statutes in the reigns of Henry VII. and Henry VIII. restrained beggars to their place of birth, or where they last abode for three years.

"Originally, therefore, settlements were restrictions on the liberty of those to whom these statutes were intended to apply, and those who transgressed the limits within which they were confined, were punished like run-away slaves,—a name given them in the statute 1 E. VI. c. 3.

"After the 43d Elizabeth, with a view to check the poor from flocking to the parishes which, in compliance with the provisions of the act, provided the best stock, powers were given to justices, on the complaint of parochial officers, to remove paupers under certain circumstances, to the places where they were last legally settled as natives, householders, sojourners, apprentices, or servants, for forty days.

"This power of removal (which the Commis-

sioners observe it was the object of subsequent statutes to limit, until the 35 Geo. III. c. 101, which prevents a person being removed until actually chargeable) was evidently intended as a protection to the funds, or poor-rates of the removing parish, and the battle thus begun between parishes and paupers has continued without intermission to the present day."

After this statement of the law, Mr. White proceeds to make several remarks on its effect both on landlords and labourers, and to point out the sort of remedy afforded by the late statute:

"In the Poor-Law Amendment Act there is a power which would assist in reconciling the difficulties, and provide a remedy as far as the nature of the case will admit. This is to be found in the 33d clause, giving the power of making a district settlement. By this plan, a certain average of past expense for settled poor being ascertained and fixed, the amount is taken as the future invariable proportion of contribution of each parish to a common fund, the management of which is entrusted to guardians, chosen from the landlords and occupiers of the union. And the three following clauses carry this principle still further, by enabling such a union to have a common valuation and rate.

"This plan, as it is laid down in the Poor-Law Amendment Act, can only be adopted *voluntarily* by the parishes of any union; and it is to be hoped that its adoption is not far distant. In Bristol, under the Local Act, it is already in force as between the several parishes of the city; though as between them and foreign parishes, the distinction of separate parochial settlements is kept up."

Our business is rather to notice amendments in the law which affect the administration of justice in our superior courts, than the policy of laws in general; but the following observations of Mr. White, on the subject of making the Poor-Law burthens *national*, are worthy of the attention of those members of the profession who are engaged in advising on and conducting the legal part of parochial affairs.

"The statistics of pauperism, as affected by parochial settlements, and the unequal, and hence unjust, taxation which they impose on different parts of the country, will furnish ample support to the arguments of those, who say the state should bear this burthen. And they furnish no less strength to those who argue that the poor laws should be brought within their natural limits, and no longer be allowed to tax industry for the support of idleness; to call on the hard-working man to maintain those who do not work; or those who can find work for themselves, to impart its fruit to others who cannot find it; or those who give work to a fair number of labourers, to pay for labourers they do not want, and whom others, with occupations requiring them will not employ, except at wages paid from the parish purse. At present, a man may say, "I am willing to work; you confine me to this spot, and therefore you must find work, or maintain me and mine without it." True policy would answer,—"If you cannot find it here, go and seek it elsewhere; if this parish is too small, go to the next; search through the

kingdom; and if still work be wanting, facilities shall be given for finding it abroad." Government, to protect its subjects in the enjoyment of their earnings, must take care to secure for all the means of finding food by work, without intrenching on their neighbours; and all have a right to claim protection in seeking for these means at home, before they have recourse to another country. In the present state of the poor laws this is not done. Not only do they deny this right to the poor man, but upon those who are more favoured, or more fortunate in finding scope for industry, and in accumulating its fruits, they impose what amounts to an agrarian law; and that portion of the territory which is nearest the seat of government, is in a course of unjust division, whilst the colonies at a distance are either peopled with convicts, or lie waste for want of hands to till them. Let the poor rate be made a substitute for the private charity of those who cannot or will not give voluntary alms, but let it not remain a heavy clog on industry. And to effect this, begin, as an encouragement to industry, by giving it room for free circulation at home, and the exorcism of pauperizing honest labourers, able to work, but unable to find it; *willing to seek for it, but restricted from seeking; treated almost as criminals if they remain idle at home, and as vagabonds if they are found abroad; will cease.* \* \*

"Meanwhile, it may be suggested, whether great good would not even now be effected by an extended adoption, under the direction of the commissioners, of the system already alluded to, of parishes giving certificates, acknowledging paupers to have settlements with them. By such means, labourers would have a wider range in seeking work, and the masters a better choice of workmen. Such a course would also lay the foundation of a further extension of the system, by giving labourers a right to claim this certificate. Settlements by residence in a district for a certain number of years might then be introduced with advantage, making a distinction between those who have resided under a certificate of settlement from another parish, and those who have not; and imposing on all a condition, that no recourse should have been had to the poor rate of any parish, during the prescribed term of residence. A prohibition against granting relief, except to paupers resident in the parish or union where the rate is raised and the relief given, would also be required; and this would be an important stage in reference to the final abolition of the law of settlement. There would then remain but few steps to a county or national rate for maintaining the poor;—a plan which, under an altered management, would be free from most of the objections now raised against it.

"One of the greatest difficulties of a national rate is the improvidence caused by a public fund, to which all may have recourse, without a sufficient check on the demand for its aid. This objection is one of detail, rather than of principle. If the principle be right, there would not be much difficulty in finding out a safe mode of application.—A maximum of demand; a minimum of assessment; an obligation to relieve, so as to protect the poor applicants; a proportion to be paid by the relieving districts or parishes, so as to keep up local interest and promote economy; a discouragement to rely on the rate, but a certain claim on it in cases of destitution, free from fraud, idleness, or improvidence; are points essential to be attended to, but mere postulates in good legislation."



ON THE DANGER AND INADEQUACY  
OF THE WORKHOUSE SYSTEM.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The main principles of the Poor Law Bill are to put an end to fraudulent applications for relief, and to make every man earn his own subsistence. These grand ends are to be effected by refusing relief (for to this it must come, or nothing is done) to the able-bodied, except by employment in a workhouse. Now it should seem that however right the principle, the *modus operandi*—the method of effecting the object—is alike dangerous and inadequate. First, for its danger: a fine, athletic young fellow, with a family of two or three children, applies for relief—or, if the instance be thought better, a single man. He is offered the workhouse. No, he says, he will try any thing else rather, for such is the universal feeling of the labourer, particularly before he has become utterly reckless through idleness and privation, and he keeps his word. He tries to get employment, fails, and turns to poaching or theft. We have seen this in more than one instance. Not long since a youth was observed on a Sunday by a gentleman in a state nearly of nakedness, in passing through his village, containing a population of twelve hundred. He asked the lad if that was his best garb. It was his only one. "Come to me to-morrow morning," said the gentleman. The lad came, and on being questioned, said "He had sought work for three weeks without obtaining a day's employment; all he had in the world was gone; the overseer refused relief, and he had lingered on in hopes till he was reduced to that miserable pass; he would do any thing rather than go into the house. The gentleman gave him some clothes and some advice, and the next week he was committed to gaol for fowl-stealing. The same person questioned a very industrious, honest, most peaceably-disposed and intelligent labourer in his own employ, as to what would be his conduct where he deprived of his place and reduced to go to the workhouse. "I would go, Sir," said the man, "and help to pull it down the moment I got there, if others would join me." And this is the feeling which must be engendered, when we know that the men are willing to work but can find no employment.

Now let us take it in another point of view. In the parish where this is written, there are upon the roads or in the gravel-pit twenty-eight able-bodied labourers during the period of winter. If these men and their families were transferred to the house, not fewer than 100 men, women, and children would have to travel to that abode of wretchedness, discontent, and *force*, (for nothing else would restrain them,) some fine morning. And when they are so placed, there are about 400 children hourly growing up to increase the redundancy, beside the continual additions from new births. Is it not obvious, if you will not enlarge the field of employment by the reclamation of lands not under cultivation, must you not enlarge the area of the workhouses in equal proportion to the increase? Can any thing be so palpable?

And what is the gain? The paupers are maintained at nearly the same expence (we think at greater) in than out of the workhouse. What matters it to the country! They add nothing to production—nothing to the fund created by labour for the support of the labourer, or so little as to be almost out of the calculation. What they do produce is generally sold at a price below the

actual cost of manufacture, and thus operates to the injury of the regular trader in the article. But the demoralizing effect is dreadful; it goes to what we have described—to drive the poor man to crime in order to avoid the house; and where he cannot evade it, to the utter extinction of hope and energy. And after all, is it right? Does it belong to the rightful power of the State to punish undeserved poverty? Let us not deceive ourselves. To take a man from his home, however homely, to pen up himself, his wife, and children, in a crowded lazaretto, consorted with the vilest in character as well as the most wretched in condition—to take from him all superintendence and direction over them, and to place them under the most absolute authority of a task-master (however mildly exercised), is a degree of punishment second only to the discipline of a prison. Is this a right inherent over mere involuntary poverty in any government? leaving out of our sight for the moment the almost certain issue of driving the man to previous crime.

What constitutes the difference between America and England? what confers so much of comfort upon the inhabitants of the former country beyond what the industrious classes enjoy in the latter! Neither more nor less than the single, simple fact, that land may be had in America for little or nothing. And has England then, no land?—is her area fully peopled? The astounding answer is, "England possesses, at this minute, fifteen millions of uncultivated but cultivable acres; millions of capital, for which it is difficult to find employment at the low rate of three per cent. per annum; a redundancy of industrious, hardy, willing, and skilful people, driven to privation and crime by want of employment, (whilst the nation bitterly complains of burdens, and the competition thus brought upon them,) together with a perfect knowledge of the fact, that wealth, individual and national, results from the combination of soil, capital, and labour.

But, say these same economists, "We must do nothing that may at any period, however remote, increase an evil. There may, nay, there must, come a time when all the land in England will be over peopled; if, by making the industrious man comfortable—if, by removing the pressure of numbers against subsistence, we diminish privation, misery, and death, the great 'preventive checks' to increasing population." Such is the nonsense of over-cautious, over-calculating science. Millions are in a state of positive wretchedness—the whole community is borne down with the burden of their maintenance and their competition—life, property, and our social existence itself, are in hourly danger; but all this must be endured, lest the State should incur the same peril some centuries hence, and that, too, under the impossible supposition that knowledge, experiment, and experience will effect nothing for the better arrangement of social relations, and the disposition of that power of production, which we already know to be more than equal to the wants and luxuries of all, by the labours of comparatively few. *O curas hominum! O quantum est in rebus inane!*

Extract of a letter received from Swan River on the subject of Australian wool, dated 27th September, 1834:—"Wool growing is now the all-absorbing subject of conversation in our colony; many settlers who had embarked their little capital, and sacrificed their time in pursuits which could yield them little or no profit, have at last found their mis-

take, and are turning their whole attention to the propagation of sheep, and production of wool. It is evident that those who have made it their study have had the advantage of the little traders, shop-keepers, and clerks under Government. I will give you one instance; at Mr. Latour's sale an industrious man purchased sixteen sheep, which he took with him over the hills, where there is excellent land; he has now one hundred and seventy. It was in the beginning of the year 1831. I can assure you hundreds of persons are leaving their concerns, such as shopkeepers and little traders, and are embarking the little they have left in the purchase of sheep; if such had been their pursuit when they first arrived in this colony, we might by this time have had an extensive export of wool, instead of at all times sending our capital home, and draining our colony of every thing that should have been left amongst us. The road is now open. We know from experience of others what can be done, and have lived long enough in the colony to be sufficiently acquainted with its capabilities; we only want more capitalists and labourers—that once accomplished we should soon bid fair to rival our neighbouring colony, notwithstanding all the prejudice we have had to encounter. Independently of that, we have had too many young men sent out by their friends, because they could do nothing with them in England; their character and habits are such they will do well no where, and certainly are the last class of men that should have been sent to this colony. The men we want are small capitalists, industrious mechanics and labourers; they will be sure to do well. The Governor, Sir James Stirling, was well received on his return, and all things are going on as well as we can expect."

### PROJECTED EXPERIMENTAL FARM.

We have just been favoured with a perusal of a statement, about to be submitted to the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, "On the advantages which would result from the Establishment of an Experimental Farm."

The author, who shows that his signature of "A Scotch Farmer" is not a fictitious one, after detailing the many inconveniences and disappointments arising from the present system of individual exertion being cramped and limited, from having no standard nor repository to refer for facts—clearly shows that of one great advantage to be derived from an experimental farm, under the superintendence and fostering care of the Highland Society, would be the exemplification of many of those sound theories in agriculture which are often lost from want of perseverance and attention.

The other benefits, resulting from such an establishment, would be the improvement of the different kinds of live stock; and, although private exertion may have done much to bring to perfection the breed of cattle, yet such an establishment as the one under review would be a never-failing trust to bring to maturity such schemes as private individuals might originate. And, with regard to that branch of agriculture which comprehends the seed and roots, in general use in this country, it would be of immense advantage in assisting to fill up that deficiency in agriculture, when contrasted with horticulture. The farmer, having only three varieties of peas, whilst the gardener has from twenty to thirty; and whilst the former has only about half-a-dozen of varieties of wheat, oats and barley, the latter has at least one thousand varieties of apples and pears &c. The advancements made in horticulture being in great measure, attributable to the

experimental gardens, it is equally probable that similar advantages would accrue to agriculture from a similar establishment.

Accident may, in some cases, introduce a new seed; but this seed is often much deteriorated from not knowing what soil is most suitable to its growth. This tends to show the advantages which such a farm could afford to those using such a seed.

The farmer also experiences great difficulty in procuring pure seeds and roots; and, even should he succeed in obtaining them, they are purchased at a high rate. Both of these disadvantages would be obviated by the existence of an experimental farm; and, from the sacrifices made by farmers to obtain good seed and roots, it is presumed they would heartily co-operate with the exertions made by the superintendent of such a farm.

After suggesting a few details as regards the economy of the farm, the Scotch Farmer remarks, in order to obviate any objections that might be made as to the insufficiency of one farm, that in each county a committee might be formed who would regularly report anything worthy of remark; and thus all the different soils and climates of Scotland would be included in the farm register. And, having thus established a common point of discussion, in so far as regarded circumstances in connexion with the farm, it would greatly tend to do away with such contradictory reports as are common with those who write on rural economy, and thus, instead of vague and uncertain hypothesis, every one could find in the manager's public register a ready test as to practical results, sufficient to guide him in his pursuits and experiments.

The author has thought it proper to lay his remarks before his brother agriculturists, previous to presenting them to the Highland Society, in order that they, by exhibiting their names, may show the value and importance they attach to such a farm as is proposed—and we are confident they will gladly avail themselves of the opportunity thus afforded them.

### POOR LAWS IN IRELAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUSSEX ADVERTISER.

Sir,—It is an undoubted fact, that Mr. O'Connell possesses in a very large degree the confidence of almost the whole people of Ireland. It is therefore with no small degree of pleasure that I learn he has at length become a convert to the necessity of the introduction of Poor Laws in Ireland. Most of your readers will, doubtless, recollect the dreadful sufferings and misery which the Irish poor were more particularly subjected to in the year 1822, arising, partly from the failure of the potatoe crop, and partly from other causes, which here it is unnecessary to mention. They will also recollect that the proprietors of Irish land deemed it requisite to convene a meeting for the purpose of devising the most efficient means of relieving their starving tenantry; which meeting took place—not in Dublin, Cork, or Belfast—but at the Thatched House Tavern, in St. James's-street, London! in order to give the immaculate frequenters of certain houses in that pure neighbourhood the opportunity of attending without interruption to their regular and useful avocations. The proposition of these landowners was, that the Endowments of the Established Church in Ireland should be confiscated for the benefit of their impoverished and racked tenantry!! Of the impudence of this proposition I shall at present say nothing. The amount



actually contributed by these absentee proprietors, to alleviate in some measure the distresses of their peasantry, was trifling to a degree which, without incontrovertible evidence, could not command credit. From one district in the neighbourhood of Tralee, a body of proprietors, all absentees, drew, at that time, in income little short of £90,000 per annum; but the aggregate amount of their joint contributions towards the relief of their distressed countrymen did not, in that emergency, exceed £83. The bare recital of such a fact will go a greater way than any reasoning in proving the necessity of introducing some system of laws which may compel such a class of persons to perform duties which they have never shown the remotest disposition voluntarily to discharge.

Some years back the landowners of Ireland, to serve political and party purposes, acted upon a system of splitting their estates into fragments to be occupied by a race of pauper tenantry. The disfranchisement of the forty-shilling freeholders put an end to this political jobbing, and the landlords have ever since universally exerted themselves to clear their estates of the wretched cottiers whom they had encouraged to settle and multiply upon their property. The evils resulting from the system of clearing Irish estates of their superabundant population are so enormous and urgent, and affect England so closely, that I am greatly surprised so much listlessness and apathy should be shown by our agriculturists. Those wretched creatures, who being no longer of use to support the political influence of their landlords, to help them to get pensions or places, are told they "have no business where they are;" and they are driven from their homes and handed over to the punishment of nature—to hunger, slow-wasting disease, and death.

It should be recollected that the landowners of Ireland are, with few exceptions, absentees from the country whence their revenues are derived, which is a circumstance rendering the depopulating system much more dangerous than if it were carried on under the personal superintendence of the proprietor. But whatever moderation may be expected to mark the proceedings of a resident proprietor, similar forbearance cannot be anticipated on the part of an absentee who has no opportunity of personally witnessing the distress inflicted upon the outcast occupiers.

On these grounds it appears perfectly clear that some check ought to be imposed upon the conduct of Irish landlords while engaged in thinning the population of their estates. The principles of humanity, were there no other reasons, render it the imperative duty of parliament to throw some legislative protection around the unfortunate peasantry of Ireland. This has, however, become a branch of national policy which very deeply involves the interests and welfare of the landlords and labouring classes throughout the whole of England. The Irish peasants, dispossessed of their tenements by their unfeeling landlords, find their way into every town and hamlet of this country, where the supply of labourers, already, by far exceeds the demand for labour. This causes an excessive depreciation in the wages of the working classes, and makes a heavy addition to the burden now so heavily pressing upon those who are legally bound to contribute towards the maintenance of the poor. As a mere question of equity, therefore, between the owners of Irish estates and the proprietors of English land, this is an insufferable grievance which calls aloud for redress;—setting aside, for the moment, all considerations of humanity towards the Irish poor, forcibly expelled from their

cabins, justice towards the people of England requires that a check should be imposed upon a practice which throws upon them the support of that migrating horde, which their landlords send forth as outcasts. The amount which the maintenance of his ejected tenantry would abstract from the income of an Irish proprietor, is of little concern. It were better that ten shillings an acre should be deducted from his rent, if such a sacrifice should become necessary, than that a penny an acre should be levied for that purpose on the land of this country upon the produce of which they cannot have the slightest claim. The sums expended either upon the maintenance of the Irish poor, or in passing them to their own country, whence they speedily find their way back again, form no inconsiderable item in the aggregate amount of the English poor-rates.

I fear I must close this long letter thus abruptly, or it will soon assume a shape which will render it inadmissible to your columns. Should you, however, give this a place in your next paper, I may be induced, although incompetent (in consequence of the silence of those who are qualified) to return to the subject—(a subject which I cannot help again expressing my surprise should have been looked at with so much indifference and unconcern)—in the following week.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,  
JUSTITIA.

Lewes,  
20th May, 1835.

#### CULTIVATION OF HOPS.

The following is from a Parliamentary return of the total number of acres of land in Great Britain under the cultivation of hops, in the year 1834, distinguishing the number of acres in each collection:—

| Collections.     | No. of Acres.      | Collections.     | No. of Acres.       |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Barnstaple.....  | 8                  | Lynn.....        | 1 $\frac{3}{4}$     |
| Bath.....        | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$    | Northampton....  | 1 $\frac{1}{4}$     |
| Bedford.....     | 26                 | Oxford.....      | 10                  |
| Bristol.....     | 4                  | Plymouth.....    | 4                   |
| Cambridge.....   | 4                  | Reading.....     | 4 $\frac{1}{2}$     |
| Canterbury.....  | 9264 $\frac{1}{2}$ | Rochester.....   | 13138               |
| Chester.....     | 3                  | Sarum.....       | 1038 $\frac{3}{4}$  |
| Cornwall.....    | 5 $\frac{1}{2}$    | Salop.....       | 3                   |
| Derby.....       | 135                | Stourbridge....  | 630 $\frac{1}{2}$   |
| Dorset.....      | 18 $\frac{1}{2}$   | Suffolk.....     | 148 $\frac{3}{4}$   |
| Essex.....       | 330                | Surrey.....      | 11 $\frac{1}{2}$    |
| Exeter.....      | 13                 | Sussex.....      | 10431 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Gloucester.....  | 9                  | Uxbridge.....    | 5                   |
| Grantham.....    | 29                 | Wales, Middle... | 119 $\frac{1}{2}$   |
| Hants.....       | 1428 $\frac{1}{2}$ | Wellington.....  | 17 $\frac{1}{2}$    |
| Hereford.....    | 12018              | Worcester.....   | 1848 $\frac{7}{8}$  |
| Isle of Wight... | 1                  |                  |                     |
| Lincoln.....     | 5624 $\frac{1}{2}$ | Total.....       | 51273 $\frac{3}{4}$ |

Excise Office, London,

27th April, 1835.

G. A. COTTERELL,  
First General Accountant.

#### BANK OF ENGLAND.

AVERAGE OF THE LIABILITIES AND ASSETS OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND, FROM MARCH 12, TO JUNE 2, 1835, INCLUSIVE, PUBLISHED PURSUANT TO THE ACT, 3RD AND 4TH WILLIAM IV., CAP. 98, SEC. 8.

| Liabilities.             | Assets.                   |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Circulation. £18,460,000 | Securities .. £25,562,000 |
| Deposits.... 10,568,000  | Bullion .... 6,150,000    |
| £29,028,000              | £31,712,000               |
| Downing-street, June 4.  |                           |



MALT.

1. An Account of the Number of Quarters of Malt used in Distillation, in each Kingdom, in each Year from October 10, 1832, to October 10, 1834.

|                                      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | Years ended Oct. 10,                      |           |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-------------------------------------------|-----------|
|                                      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 1833.                                     | 1834.     |
|                                      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | Quarters.                                 | Quarters. |
| England                              | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 19,978                                    | 22,445    |
| Scotland                             | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 369,029                                   | 390,329   |
| Ireland                              | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 89,612                                    | 85,528    |
| United Kingdom                       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 478,619                                   | 498,293   |
| Excise-Office, London, May 16, 1835. |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | G. A. COTTRELL, First General Accountant. |           |

2. An Account of the Total Quarters of Malt made, and Total Duty charged thereon, with the Rates of Duty in each Kingdom, in the Year ending Oct. 10, 1834 ; distinguishing the Quantity made in Scotland and Ireland from Bere or Bigg.

| YEAR<br>ended<br>10th<br>October.          | ENGLAND.                              |                                                  |                         | SCOTLAND.                                  |                         |                                                  |                             |                            |                       |                 |  |                                   |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                            | Number<br>Qrs. Malt.                  | Rate<br>per<br>Quarter.                          | Amount<br>of<br>Duty.   | Number<br>Quarters Malt<br>from<br>Barley. | Rate<br>per<br>Quarter. | Number<br>Quarters Malt<br>from<br>Bere or Bigg. | Rate<br>per<br>Qr.          | Total<br>Quarters<br>Malt. | Amount<br>of<br>Duty. |                 |  |                                   |
|                                            |                                       | s. d.                                            | £ s. d.                 |                                            | s. d.                   |                                                  | s.                          |                            | £ s. d.               |                 |  |                                   |
| 1834                                       | 4,194,965 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub> | 20 8                                             | £ 4,334,797 5 11        | 440,323 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>        | 20 8                    | 113,201 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub>              | 16                          | 553,524 4-8ths             | £ 545,561 14 5        |                 |  |                                   |
| IRELAND.                                   |                                       |                                                  |                         |                                            |                         |                                                  |                             |                            |                       | UNITED KINGDOM. |  | YEAR<br>ended<br>10th<br>October. |
| Number<br>Quarters Malt<br>from<br>Barley. | Rate<br>per<br>Quarter.               | Number<br>Quarters Malt<br>from<br>Bere or Bigg. | Rate<br>per<br>Quarter. | Total<br>Quarters<br>Malt.                 | Amount<br>of<br>Duty.   | Total<br>Quarters<br>Malt.                       | Total<br>Amount of<br>Duty. |                            |                       |                 |  |                                   |
|                                            | s. d.                                 |                                                  | s.                      |                                            | £ s. d.                 |                                                  | £ s. d.                     |                            |                       |                 |  |                                   |
| 220,175 4-8ths                             | 20 8                                  | 51,726 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub>               | 16                      | 271,902 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>        | 268,896 3 8             | 5,020,392                                        | 5,149,255 4 0               | 1834.                      |                       |                 |  |                                   |

Excise-Office, London, May 16, 1835. G. A. COTTRELL, First General Accountant.

TO THE FARMERS OF MIDDLESEX.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE MARK LANE EXPRESS."

Sir,—I do not think agriculture was ever in a worse state than it is now ; prices are so low, tithes and rent so high, wages so high, and sheep and cows so low, and horses so high. I do not know what the farmer must do soon. I see no prospect of agricultural times getting any better, quite the contrary. There is a rail-road going to be made to Bristol, which will bring things from Ireland so cheap that none of the English farmers' things will be bought only at the same price, which I do not think he could sell them for unless he sold them for less than either he gave for them, and less than it has cost him to keep and feed them. When the rail-road is finished, if a chicken was killed there and put in the basket, you might have it in London almost before it got cold—and then again so cheap. I venture to say you will have eggs 3d a piece, and fowl 1s and 1s 6d each, pork 4d per lb., and everything so cheap that certainly it will be better for us, but what the farmers are to do I do not know. Something must be done for them, or they must go to the workhouse, or they must starve ; and I am

sure that many farmers would sooner starve than go to the workhouse, if it was not for their families. If it does come to that, I think many a man will die of a broken heart. It will cause many a tear to be shed. I have been thinking how to better the times with the poor farmers. I have thought that if they were to sell a great many of their cart horses, only just to keep one or two, and buy light horses instead, and have waggons made lighter, and to have a man to drive as they do coaches, &c., that to send things to London and other places it would pay better. First, small horses could not eat so much, and second save so much time. Now it could be impossible for a great many farmers to try this, but possible for some. Let one who can try it, and then write a letter to the editor of the "Mark Lane Express," (who, I doubt not will be kind enough to publish it), and tell the other farmers how it answers. I have no doubt it will answer very well. That is one thing I have thought of for the benefit of farmers. Another is for the farmers to join and not give so much wages. Bread and eggs are so cheap now that they do not want such high wages. I think if you try these two things it will benefit a great deal. I hope, Mr. Editor, you will be kind enough to

publish this letter in your next paper for the benefit of the "Middlesex Farmers."—I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,  
June, 1835.

AMICUS COLONO.

### AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS.

ON THE MEANS OF EFFECTUALLY RELIEVING THE LANDED AND FARMING INTERESTS FROM THE DISTRESSES WHICH THEY NOW EXPERIENCE, BY ISSUING EXCHEQUER BILLS, EXCLUSIVELY APPLICABLE TO THEIR RELIEF. BY THE RIGHT HON. SIR JOHN SINCLAIR, BART.

Exchequer Bills were first created in the year 1696-7, on the suggestion of Lord Halifax, then Chancellor of the Exchequer. They were issued for five and ten pounds, as a substitution for money, and they have since been found, on other occasions, a most effectual mode of restoring confidence, and relieving public distress.

A similar scarcity of public credit having taken place in 1793 (an account of which is given in the History of the Revenue, vol. ii. p. 295), Sir John Sinclair was induced to recommend the same plan to Mr. Pitt's attention. That able minister immediately saw the utility of the measure, and lost no time in carrying the plan into effect. A report in its favour was presented to the house on the 29th of April, and with such celerity was the business conducted, that an act, sanctioning the plan (33 Geo. III. c. 29), quickly passed both houses, and received the royal assent on the 8th of May following.

The success of the measure exceeded the most sanguine expectations of those who proposed and supported it. There is not, indeed, in history, an instance when such essential benefit was rendered to the commerce and manufactures of a country, in a manner so sudden and so easy in its execution, and from which indeed the public derived some pecuniary advantage, instead of its being productive of expense.

The government has at the present time nothing to do but to adopt the same measure, in order to restore at once the agricultural prosperity of the country. Let an able intelligent committee be appointed without a moment's delay, and let an act be passed for the issue of Exchequer Bills for the relief of the landed and farming interests, and consequences equally beneficial will be the result. And surely the agricultural interests are as well entitled to the attention and support of government as those of manufactures and commerce, however important they may be.

In order that some idea may be formed of the deplorable state to which the landed and farming interests are reduced at the present crisis, the following statement of the gradual depreciation in the value of wheat, from the commencement of this century to the present period, is submitted to the reader's consideration.

Annual average price of Wheat per quarter in England and Wales:—

| Years.         | Years.        | Years.        |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1800 .. 110 5  | 1812 .. 122 8 | 1824 .. 62 0  |
| 1801 .. 115 11 | 1813 .. 106 6 | 1825 .. 66 6  |
| 1802 .. 67 9   | 1814 .. 72 1  | 1826 .. 56 11 |
| 1803 .. 57 1   | 1815 .. 63 8  | 1827 .. 56 9  |
| 1804 .. 60 5   | 1816 .. 76 2  | 1828 .. 60 5  |
| 1805 .. 87 1   | 1817 .. 94 0  | 1829 .. 66 3  |
| 1806 .. 76 9   | 1818 .. 83 8  | 1830 .. 64 3  |
| 1807 .. 73 1   | 1819 .. 72 3  | 1831 .. 66 4  |
| 1808 .. 78 11  | 1820 .. 65 10 | 1832 .. 58 8  |
| 1809 .. 94 5   | 1821 .. 54 5  | 1833 .. 53 5  |
| 1810 .. 103 3  | 1822 .. 43 3  | 1834 .. 44 8  |
| 1811 .. 92 5   | 1823 .. 51 9  |               |

Since the 1st of January, 1835, the price has gradually receded from 2*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.* to 1*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* per quarter, on an average of all England and Wales; and in the Berwick market it has been as low as 1*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.*

Is it then to be wondered at, that the farmers should be brought to ruin, when the value of their principal crop has been reduced, since the commencement of the present century, from six pounds two shillings and eight-pence, to one pound fifteen shillings and ten-pence per quarter?

It cannot be justly contended, that there is a sufficiency of circulating medium, when the most valuable article produced by the soil is so materially depreciated in its value; and the agricultural classes can never be restored to their former prosperous state, until there is a sufficient amount of capital in general circulation to revive confidence, and to give that remunerating price to the farmer, to which he is so justly entitled, by which means alone the agriculturists can possibly sustain the heavy burdens under which they are now labouring.

It is impossible to suppose that a British parliament, who voted twenty millions sterling for the relief of the planters in our West India settlements, should hesitate a moment by a similar grant, to relieve the distresses of the proprietors and farmers of Great Britain and Ireland, who have still stronger claims upon their friendly exertions, and without which their utter ruin seems to be inevitable.

### THE WANDERER'S RETURN.

BY A YORKSHIREMAN.

He came to the place from whence he sprung,

Where his childhood had been spent,

O'er many a spot he fondly hung,

With bright remembrance blent;

But where were they whom once he knew,

Playmates still unforgot?

No face familiar met his view—

He sought, but found them not.

They were gone!—Across the boundless sea

Some had dared to roam,

To seek in a stranger's country

What they could not find at home;

And others had found their lowly beds

Where we all must rest at last—

The cold earth wrapt their colder heads,

Their toil and strength were past.

Friendship extended not her hand,

And a tear-drop filled his eye,

For he stood unknown on his father's land,

All passed him coldly by.

Like a bird that finds its little nest

Destroyed, and its young ones slain,

He turned away with an aching breast

Ne'er to return again.

York, June, 1835.

The French rose-gatherer presents a refinement in floricultural instruments highly characteristic of its origin. The general form of this little engine is that of a pistol; it has a handle and trigger like it, and a cutter in the manner of the wire pliers, or flower-gatherer, disguised as a barrel. A rod, answering to the ramrod, connects the pincers with the trigger, which last, being pressed, opens the pincers, that is, charges the pistol; the operator then presents the pistol to the rose to be gathered, and so that, when the cutter operates it may separate it at the precise



point of the stalk deemed proper; things being thus adjusted, the trigger is drawn, and the deed is done. Of course this instrument, like a number of other horticultural toys manufactured by the Parisians, is chiefly *pour les dames*.—*London's Encyclopædia of Gardening*.

## ON THE USUAL MODE OF PREPARING MANURE ON FARMS.

(From the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture.)

Not any thing connected with agriculture is so material to production as the economy of manure; and in proportion to the quantity and quality of this necessary article, are the returns obtained from the land in all situations. The present system generally practised (if it can be so termed), has been much censured by scientific and practical men of experience and known abilities; and the most able chemist of our day, has gone so far as to estimate the loss of the stimulating properties in dung by the present process, at from one-half to two-thirds of what manure should possess when put into the land.

Enough is set forth in what follows to satisfy those who are not very sceptical, that the waste in the only useful properties in dung is much beyond what is stated by Sir H. Davy, who was not likely to go into extremes, nor is this called for; but I believe my ideas are borne out by the practical facts which are known to be experienced in different parts of Europe, and these are so variable and gross as not to admit of definite computation. This art is almost coeval with man—is practised in every situation—and in all countries where the inhabitants are numerous, it is not only most important but indispensably necessary for their subsistence; and yet even in Britain, so far as I know, it is the only process that is conducted in opposition to scientific principles, notwithstanding that other branches of husbandry are prosecuted, perhaps, with more skill than elsewhere in any instance. The farmer very properly regulates himself by effects, and what appears to him most beneficial in practice; but there are good grounds for believing that he is for the most part very ignorant of the principles on which he ought to proceed, and frequently attributes results to causes very different from truth. It is natural that he should be peculiarly sceptical in this instance, where no material practical good has hitherto resulted from the light of science.

In order, however, to explain the prejudices which obstruct the introduction of any thing new in husbandry, the following observations may not be inapplicable:—

There is not any profession that affords more opportunity to experiment on a limited scale, without risk of loss, than farming; and yet there is none where so much opposition is experienced to whatever deviates from ancient custom.

It was long after the days of Tull ere the drill husbandry came into general use; upwards of a century elapsed after the introduction of the potato into Britain before it was much raised even as a garden vegetable; and within the recollection of many, such were the prejudices of the Scottish peasantry, that by them every distemper that prevailed was attributed to its deleterious influence. Although cultivated as a culinary vegetable earlier than the potato, the turnip husbandry, now an indispensable part of our agricultural system, has not been long practised; in most other parts of

Europe it is little used, and in many situations unknown as a field plant. But a few years ago, old meadow was considered most valuable, and was preserved and handed down from one generation to another as an heir-loom, but this is now believed in most situations to be injudicious; and it is usual to break up and occasionally to bring such lands under a regular routine of crops. Draining must necessarily have been practised at a very early period, but the immense utility of this was not generally known; nor was it extensively adopted with effect until within the last twenty years. Twenty years ago, over a great part of this country, where streams were stagnant, or the surface of the ground was in a constantly moist state, mildew and frost exceedingly injured the quality of the grain in the month of August, and prevented it from filling or ripening; but from more perfect draining, these evils are now little experienced. From this circumstance Scottish grain is now equal in quality to that of England, although formerly very inferior. We need not, therefore, be surprised at the difficulties in the way of introducing a better system in the preparation of manure, as the waste occasioned by the escape of the stimulating gases that are in dung are not immediately perceptible, and even rain mixing with the more soluble parts of the dung and washing away a very great proportion, is not so much noticed as defective crops from neglect in the mechanical operations in tillage.

Various opinions are prevalent as to the degree to which compost should be decomposed or reduced previously to being put into the ground. Sir Humphry Davy tells us that only a slight degree of fermentation should be permitted in farm-yard dung. The farmer, however, says that this will not answer in practice, and that the straw and other fibrous substances must be reduced in a greater degree, in order to bring the whole in contact with the plant to which it is to be applied, and to induce continuous decomposition, as well as to prevent the admission of air by means of the open nature of the straw in this state; also that, decomposition must be carried to a greater extent than was contemplated by this talented chemist, in order to destroy the germs of the seeds of noxious weeds, and of insects which feed on and destroy the growing vegetables. It is admitted that these objections are in a considerable degree correct; but it does not follow that because Sir H. Davy may be in error in this particular point, his whole theory should be rejected, against the other parts of which this proves nothing; nor is it any reason why the practical farmer should run into an excess that seems to rest only on habit and conceit, and set at defiance every rule in science. It rarely happens that the man of science who defines certain chemical principles in the laboratory, carries these into operation on an extended scale, which is beyond the limits of his province, but more consistent with that of the practical man [of experience, who ought to endeavour to conform art to science, and induce them to travel in unison with each other.

The present mode of preparing manure is to take the dung and litter from the original place of deposit, and throw these promiscuously into the general mass, in the dung court, repeatedly during the day, by which a fresh stimulus is as often added to the old matter, and a constant fermentation is kept up, so as to produce chemical changes very different from what are intended, and the exhaustion of those gases which form the only valuable properties in the dung. The dung, being more pon-

derous than the straw or litter, naturally falls to the bottom; and much of the litter remains on the upper surface, where it is useful in protecting the dung from the action of the sun and wind, and preventing the feet of the cattle from poaching and raising it up to the surface. The litter is, however, in this situation injurious, by admitting air sufficient to induce fermentation; whilst the straw, instead of being an absorbent, acts as conductors by which the rain is carried to the very bottom of the whole, and, mixing with the more soluble and richer parts of the dung, much of these are carried off through the opening *at the lowest point of the court* left for the escape of the superfluous moisture.

Every reflecting and intelligent individual must admit the waste occasioned by the mixture and escape of dung with rain water; but were the farmer told that there is more virtue in what is lost in this manner than in all the straw that can be used, he would not credit the fact. The evil in this case is sufficiently apparent to induce occasional attempts to collect these washings from the dung heap, and to apply them separately to the lands; but the only means to avert and strike at the root of the evil, is to exclude air and excess moisture. At the commencement of the operations already partly explained, the dung and litter occupy a limited space in the court, are in a loose heap, and rain falling upon and freely entering into it by means of the open nature of the straw, incorporates with the better part of the dung, which oozing from the heap spreads itself over the vacant space, and extends to the extremities as the materials are opened out; this liquid is quickly brought into a state of effervescence (as may be seen by the froth on its surface,) and thus fermentation is occasioned throughout, which is further excited by a constant supply of hot dung from the cattle. Most animal and vegetable substances, vegetating or dead, are exceedingly influenced by changes in the atmosphere, from causes but imperfectly understood; the freshest straw in the dunghill indicates this by becoming yellow during frost, and that which is mixed with dung and exposed to the air, assumes the dark colour of the liquid matter which oozes from the heap, whilst the succeeding thaw, in its effects, evinces that the whole has by frost been prepared for more rapid dissolution of the most solid materials than at the same temperature previously. Thus the whole are acted upon by every degree of variation in the weather, at every stage; and can it be imagined that these changes take place without the induction of some, and the escape of other volatile principles, or is this irregularity of action consistent with any other systematic process? The farmer says that early fermentation is prevented by the stock trampling and consolidating the materials; but this is not done until enough is collected to cover the whole area of the court (nor is this regularly covered at any time,) and the combined evils pointed out, have been sufficiently long in action to induce a heterogeneous nondescript species of fermentation, which renders the mischief perpetual and irremediable. The farmer is very prudently averse to change, until it is clearly demonstrated to him that he is to derive early advantage; and on this account I shall explain certain facts consistent with his own experience, and others derived from sources easily accessible to him, and which, in my mind, are sufficient to prove immense loss by his present practice, which cannot be made worse, but a moderate change may be a means of gain, without any material outlay or al-

teration in his mechanical arrangements. When manure is prepared in the open field, where stock are penned for this purpose, why is it found to possess less vegetative powers than what is dropped in the house and mixed in the dung-court, and found insufficient to raise a turnip crop without the addition of more potent compost? Why, because the materials are more exposed, and the evils already pointed out are allowed in this case to operate in an aggravated degree; the cattle drop perpetually over the whole, this is more generally mixed with the old materials, and upon the surface, where it is fully exposed to air and moisture; and the gases rising freely are exposed to the passing breeze. The materials used are the same in both situations, and with similar treatment, the manure should be so also. I have questioned several farmers, who are otherwise intelligent, on this head, as to the nature and effects of compost prepared in the field, when they replied that it was very good, but that it would not raise turnips without being mixed with hot dung, which is sufficient to show that they were ignorant of the principles by which they should be guided, and of the value of what it ought to be their chief object to preserve.

The gardener, for the purposes of his hot-beds, selects the freshest and strongest materials from the dung heap, which he exposes to air and moisture in order to induce as much action as possible, and in this excited state he applies them to the beds; in the course of a couple of weeks it is found necessary to use a portion of fresh dung, which is repeated at certain intervals until the advance of spring renders artificial heat less requisite.

The compost used in this way is ultimately found to have retained less of the stimulating gases than what is prepared in the dung court, but more than what is made in the field, as in this last situation the original materials are exposed and constantly excited by the droppings from the cattle on the surface.

The extremes of production in different situations are most remarkable; chiefly arising from more or less means to manure, and the measures adopted for this purpose.

In Mr. Jacob's Report on the agriculture and returns from the lands in the northern countries on the continent of Europe, the annual grain crops from the richest provinces in Poland (Podolia and Volhynia), is stated to be under what is obtained from the poorest districts of Scotland. On the other hand, it is obvious to every traveller that an exceedingly greater proportion of land is annually in grain, and the crops abundant, on every description of soil in Belgium, and the adjoining provinces of France, than in England, notwithstanding that, in the former situation, the grass and green crops are much more limited, and the cattle inferior in size and condition, and fewer in number. Such are the results of management in different situations; whence much useful information may be derived by tracing effects to their natural causes in the habits of the agriculturists or otherwise, and contrasting these with occurrences applicable to the same subject, not only at present but in times past, especially in the last thirty years, during which period turnip husbandry has been brought to high perfection; and this and draining have operated a change on the atmosphere, and the vegetable and animal productions of Britain, beyond what could have been anticipated by the most sanguine imagination.

Whether farm-yard manure be brought to the



consistency only of what the farmer terms long dung; or his operations be carried much farther, as deemed necessary by most practical men, it is certain that these should be conducted on chemical principles, and assimilated to the operations and rules which guide the brewer and distiller. Were the manufacturer of beer, wine, &c. to practise in like manner as the farmer, and continue but for a few days beyond the period of his accustomed operations, repeatedly to add fresh stimulants to his worts, the products of his labour would be an admixture of alcohol, vinegar, and noxious matter foreign to his purpose; in fact not any process in which fermentation is requisite, bears the least resemblance to that of the farmer, and yet no reason has ever been given why he should practise to excess, what in all other cases of fermentation it is the leading object of the operator to avoid. The distiller, after each operation, carefully washes his fermenting vessels with a strong solution of white lime in water, to prevent acidity and the creation of vinegar instead of alcohol. The mixed substances of which farm-yard manure is composed, naturally undergo three stages of fermentation, the vinous, the acetous, and the putrefactive. These follow in regular succession, but if acid be added to wort during the vinous fermentation, this immediately induces the acetous fermentation; or if, in like manner, putrid matter be added, the putrefactive stage is brought on throughout the whole, and heat and action subside sooner in proportion as fermentation has been advanced.

Without a considerable degree of heat life cannot exist in animal or vegetable; and to a certain extent vegetation and circulation in the fluids of plants are increased according to the measure of heat applied to them; it must, therefore, necessarily be important in this view that manure should be used at as early a grade of fermentation as may be consistent with other practical purposes, and that neither the acetous or putrefactive fermentation be allowed prematurely to take place.

Extraneous moisture and air must be excluded as much as possible from the materials of which manure is composed, and fermentation prevented until the time approaches for application to the land, when the atmosphere is usually at a temperature genial to this operation, which should be performed quickly, and to the point that is practically found best. This must depend on the proportion of fermentable properties that shall be preserved in the dung until it is to be deposited in the land, as these alone can induce continued fermentation and decomposition to the extent that is most economical and beneficial to the growing vegetable and the surrounding soil.

Thirty years ago, the distiller from grain fancied that he then extracted as much spirit as could be obtained; but he now produces 30 per cent. more than he did at that period, and half this gain has taken place in the course of the last few years, chiefly, I believe, owing to the Excise imposing duty on a certain proportion of spirits whether this is obtained or not. It would be absurd to suppose that he has yet reached perfection in his art, but difficult to make him believe this.

Experience tells us that fermentation in the materials of the dung heap is more tardy than in worts or wash, and less acetous acid is created, owing to the predominance of fibrous matter, and this containing more of those properties which induce these effects.

The following mechanical arrangements and

process are, such as appear to me, likely to serve the purposes of consolidating and protecting the materials of the cow-houses and stables on a farm from the deteriorating influence of rain and air until the proper season for fermentation, immediately previous to the manure being applied to the land.

A shade must be formed on either side of the cow-houses and stables, as found most convenient, from twelve to fifteen feet wide, by means of light rafters, the upper ends of them resting on the wall of the buildings, and the other extremities on a plate placed on a range of posts at a distance above mentioned from the wall. This shade may be subdivided into three equal compartments by common draw rails, and there should be an opening in the wall opposite to each of these divisions, in order conveniently to throw the dung and litter into the shades, as also smaller apertures for the urine to pass. The stock should be occasionally penned in one or more of the spaces in the shade, according to the quantity of the materials and number of animals, for the purpose of trampling and consolidating them, and this operation must be commenced with the first removal of dung and litter. The floor of the shade may be of any firm retentive material, sloping from each side to the centre. There should be a well to receive what moisture may sink from the materials, by means of a gutter the whole length of the shade, and the liquid so received must be there, or in some other commodious place, mixed with moss or mould, so as to bring it to a consistency that will prevent fermentative action until the period for general fermentation, when this may be incorporated with what had been prepared in the shade, or otherwise reduced to a more fit or less pungent state by an admixture of such matter as may be found best adapted for the land to which it is to be applied.

When a certain quantity of materials shall be collected in the shade, these may be forked out and placed on a dry site, with a lair of moss or mould in the bottom to absorb the liquid; the heap to be made in a compact form, compressed, and rounded on the upper surface. Moss or mould should be put into the bottom of the shade, and this placed on the upper part of the heap when removed, with clay, marl, or turf on the upper surface of the whole, and rounded and beat down so as to exclude air and moisture from the interior. This operation of removing and covering up the materials may be performed monthly, or more frequently if thought advisable, and if possible in dry and cold weather. When this compost is to be fermented, it should be turned over, exposed to the atmosphere, and considerably moistened, and, when sufficiently reduced, deposited in the land as soon as possible.

When this last process is to be performed, in order to effect the measure of decomposition requisite with rapidity, dry straw introduced into different parts of the heap may be found to keep it sufficiently open for the admission of air; but it is not economical then to decompose this straw, which should be removed into the shade when the other materials shall be sufficiently reduced.

It might be found more convenient if the preceding directions were so far deviated from, as to separate the urine from the dung and litter, and to allow it to pass from the stock to a recess under cover, where it may be mixed with moss or mould as already described.

W. S.

# LORD WESTERN'S SECOND LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE CHELMSFORD AND ESSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

"*Vain all Reforms, until Parliament restores to the industrious those legitimate fruits of their industry of which the mistaken Legislation of 1819 has deprived them. No innovating reforms for this purpose are necessary; a recurrence to ancient law would, in a great measure, if not altogether, correct the error, and give that relief which is essential to the ease and content of the people, and the safety and prosperity of the empire.*"

Bath, May 15, 1835.

SIR,—I flatter myself that in my former letter I convinced you that the contraction of the currency, by the Act of 1819, is the *true* cause of the misery that we have suffered since that time, and which is daily becoming more grievous. I cannot think that the statement I there displayed of the deficit in the money receipts of every farmer occupying one hundred acres of arable land (amounting to 325*l.* annually \*) can be disputed, and if correct, it showed the futility of any adequate relief to be obtained by a reduction of taxes, seeing, especially, that the taking off thirty-six millions *appears* only to have increased our misfortunes. It certainly is curious that our distress should have increased *pari passu* with the diminution of taxation. Grateful ought we ever to be to those senators who watch over the public purse, and cut away superfluous expenditure—check extravagance, and root out corruption; but the skin-flint and cheese-paring system will not do in this country. We cannot go on without a free and pretty large expenditure. Retrenchment of individual expenditure certainly can only add to the distress of the industrious and working population. If I resolve to be economical—to retrench, I know, full well, that I can only do it at the expense of some one or other, or all of the various classes of mecha-

\* I suppose a farm of one hundred acres, of fair, good arable land, well cultivated upon the four course system, the produce of wheat at 3½ qrs per acre; barley 5 qrs; beans and peas, 3½ qrs. Wheat, during nearly a quarter of a century, from 1797 to 1819, had averaged 80*s.* the qr; fifteen years preceding 1819, 85*s.*; the rent founded upon these data, I take at 35*s.* per acre. The moment the Bill passed, the markets fell 30 or 40 per cent., and in the fifteen years succeeding, the average prices has been, as near as may be, 55*s.*: it has subsequently fallen still lower, and is, I believe, now only 40*s.* I therefore consider the price of wheat to have fallen on an average 30*s.* per qr; barley, 20*s.*; beans and peas 20*s.* Upon these grounds, I estimate the reduction of money receipts of the farmer upon 100 acres to amount annually to 325*l.* The reduction of price upon clover, tares, and turnips, is loosely estimated, but moderate. I take no notice of the change of price of various minor articles, the produce of such a farm. This aggregate and enormous difference in his return, I think, I clearly establish upon the following calculation. I take the produce on the four course system to be as under:—

|                   | ACRES. | QRS.        | DIMINUTION.         |         |
|-------------------|--------|-------------|---------------------|---------|
| Wheat             | 25     | 3½ per acre | 36 <i>s.</i> per qr | £131 15 |
| Barley            | 25     | 5 ditto     | 20 <i>s.</i> ditto  | 125 0   |
| Beans and Peas    | 12½    | 3½ ditto    | 20 <i>s.</i> ditto  | 42 0    |
| Clover            | 12½    |             |                     | 15 0    |
| Turnips and Tares | 12½    |             |                     | 12 0    |
| And fallow        | 12½    |             |                     |         |
| Acres, 100.       |        |             |                     | £325 15 |

nic or labourers to whom I have directly or indirectly given employment. Retrenchment is the order of the day, I know; and low prices and low wages the favourite theme of a certain set of politicians. By the bye, I wish the *operatives* and *labourers* throughout the United Empire clearly to understand, that what these politicians intend by *low prices*, particularly of corn, means neither more nor less than *low wages*. They say, we cannot sustain our *foreign* commerce unless we keep down the wages of labour. I, however, confidently maintain that, under the peculiar situation of this country—its enormous debt, contracted in a credit currency—its necessary public charges—its unparalleled and varied products of industry—its immeasurably vast commercial operations and increasing population—THAT NEITHER MANUFACTURER NOR MERCHANT WILL MAKE ANY DUE PROFIT TILL THE PRODUCTS OF THEIR INDUSTRY RETURN A COMPARATIVELY HIGH MONEY PRICE; NOR WILL WORKMEN OR LABOURERS GENERALLY HAVE COMFORT OR PLENTY TILL LABOUR BEARS A HIGH MONEY PRICE; NOR THE COUNTRY ENJOY EASE AND PROSPERITY, WITH A FLOURISHING REVENUE, TILL ALL THE PRODUCTS OF THE PLOUGH, THE LOOM, AND THE SAIL, BEAR A HIGH MONEY PRICE. There are persons who imagine that a check to our *foreign* commerce would be the consequence of such increased money price; but they are either egregiously uninformed, or have some sinister motive in drawing the public into the belief that the *low price* occasioned by Peel's operation upon the currency is the same thing as *low price* occasioned by skill, ingenuity, capital, judgment, and general facility of production and conveyance to market. It shall, however, be my *more immediate* business to endeavour now to show the justice of an opinion I hazarded in my former letter, namely, that it would be for the interest of the creditor as well as debtor, to consent to an alteration in our monetary system.

I said that if a creditor would cast his eyes a little forward, and make a *fair estimate* or *balance* of advantages or disadvantages, he would see his interest in it as well as that of the debtor. The alteration I look to is certainly directed to an *extension* of the circulating medium—*safe, steady, and permanent*, which would give a higher money price for all products of industry and labour, and consequently as far as the extent of such increased money price, be an injury to debtors *merely* as such. I must therefore assuredly look to the *increased stability* of the debtors for a portion of the advantage to the creditors; and let not the creditors weigh lightly this advantage. If there is any man in the country who, in contemplation of the CONTINUED and INCREASING pressure of the industrious classes consequent upon our present currency, is yet blind to danger, his mind must be of a singular construction indeed: but, do not let it be supposed that, in order to alarm the public creditor, I am going to hold out the probability of an attack upon the funds. I am thinking of the absolute INABILITY of the public and private debtors, in many cases, to fulfil their engagements under the present increased and increasing diminution of their means; and I would wish the public creditor to bear in mind the *reduction of interest* he has been obliged to submit to, and which was accomplished in order to *reconcile the public* to the Act of 1819. Without looking to any violence, I ask if creditors can fail to see, from a variety of indications, the determination of the country, sooner or later, to have some relief? Does not the multiplication of banks show, for instance, the *general desire* for an *extension* of the circulating medium? and do they not see that this desire is founded upon the *actual* and *irre-*



*sistible necessity* there is for such an *extension* in reference to our incredibly vast financial and commercial wants of every description, and our greatly increased population? Do they not see they would be benefitted by granting a safe, well-regulated *extension*, rather than hazard the risk, though remote, of a forcible operation on the currency, under irritation, haste, alarm, and inadequate guidance? The industrious classes acutely feel the want of something absolutely necessary to them, and when they learn what it is (a knowledge not much longer to be withheld from them) their demands will be irresistible. In the mean time an incessant struggle is going on for the increase of the circulation by means of these banks and every species of credit currency; but it cannot be SAFELY accomplished while Peel's Bill† is in operation. This incessant struggle, therefore, for what is so feelingly necessary, must end in the overthrow of that Bill, though not directed immediately to that object, certainly not confessedly to the removal of it from the STATUTE BOOK, and the reason is—because it is still very generally supposed the currency may be increased *without alteration of its provisions*.

AN EXTENSION of the CURRENCY by means of these Banks would, if it were PRACTICABLE, as *effectually* alter Peel's Bill as if the provisions of the enactment were altered; and this leads me to considerations, to which I request the *particular attention* of those who at all direct their thoughts to this most important subject.

Let it, then, be observed, that every successive Ministry since Peel's Bill have, in fact, shown that they were to a degree *conscious of its mischief*. They have—at times—if not permanently—encouraged an *increase* of the circulating medium, though such increase, they could not fail to know, would as effectually alter the money value of every species of property as if they had altered the standard price of the ounce of gold. The Lords Liverpool and Castlereagh, in the distress of 1822, distinctly declared their intention of raising the price of corn, &c., by a forced increase of the circulating medium (Bank of England paper). Now, upon what principle it can be justifiable to alter the standard of value by an increased circulation of bank notes, and wrong to do it by *changing the standard from gold to silver*, for instance, is to me perfectly incomprehensible. To alter the metallic standard in any way is, they say, a robbery, and I know not what. To alter the value of every man's property by increasing the amount of bank notes in circulation is highly praiseworthy. In 1822 corn was as low as at present, and all the products of agriculture and the wages of labour as much or more depressed. Wheat had sunk to 5s. the bushel. Mr. Cobbett foretold, as early as 1818, certainly more distinctly than any body else at that time, that a gold standard at 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* would inevitably reduce the price of wheat to 4*s.* 6*d.* or 5*s.* the bushel on the average, and other commodities in a similar ratio, nor would it have risen upon an average since 1819, but for the different means that were found to prevent the full operation of that measure. Our statesmen were as little informed as babies of that which Mr. Cobbett understood so well, or otherwise fancied they could counteract the effects which that adjustment of the *metallic* standard would induce. They were such casuists as those who keep the promise to the ear and break it to the sense, that is, they resolutely determined to main-

tain the gold standard at 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.* and at the same moment make it nugatory. Thus, upon a motion I submitted to the House of Commons in 1822, for an inquiry into the state of the currency, Mr. Huskisson moved a resolution to the effect, that the House would listen to no alteration of the standard in its denomination, weight, or fineness; whilst, at that very moment, Lords Liverpool and Castlereagh were engaged in the furtherance of means to *raise* the price of wheat from 40*s.* to 70*s.*, which was *accomplished* by forcing out an increased issue of bank notes—in other words, by an *extension* of the *currency*. A loan of 4,000,000*l.* of the Bank was amongst other measures adopted by government for the express purpose of increasing the amount of Bank notes in circulation. Lord Liverpool, in a speech the 26th February, 1822, said, *this sum, be it remembered, is not wanted for any government services, the only object of his Majesty's government is to EXTEND and QUICKEN the circulation*; and so effective was this operation that not only was agriculture relieved, but every other class of society felt the reviving influence, and the then Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Robinson, was almost intoxicated with delight, in contemplation of the short lived happiness which every where prevailed. Alas! little they knew of the consequence or power of the *gold standard*. They were perfectly unaware of the consequences, namely, that these *increased issues* would inevitably come tumbling back upon them in the course of a short time; which was unhappily the case, producing such complete and ruinous derangement of all commercial operations, and money engagements, that universal distress prevailed, and what was termed the panic ensued. The temporary gleam of sunshine which these increased issues produced shewed us, however, most distinctly, that an extension of the circulating medium, upon just and permanent principles, was and is all that the country requires; that granted, and the full tide of prosperity would flow in upon us. Lord Liverpool, in a speech of Feb. 16th, 1826, said in March, 1825, they (the Bank of England) saw the necessity which was pressing on them, and they *then* began to *draw* in their issues. In the month of March they reduced the issues £1,300,000; between the 15th of March and the 15th of May, they made a reduction to the extent of £700,000 more; between August and November they further contracted their issues, making altogether a contraction of £3,500,000, and yet the noble lord and his colleagues could not or would not see that the working of the gold standard, upon their measures of 1822, was the cause of this withdrawal, and the calamitous consequences that followed. And here let me observe, by the way, that these National Banks will, if their operations should effect a considerable increase of the circulation, to which they obviously tend, occasion sooner or later, as decisive a run upon the Bank of England, for arbitrarily fixed low priced gold, as the performances of Lords Liverpool and Castlereagh with the Bank in 1822, did in 1825. I should like to know how that result is to be avoided. I wish the directors or any of them, to enlighten the public on this very important point. I ask them, first, whether or not their operations will increase the aggregate circulation of the country, and, if they do so, whether, as matter of course, the *money* price of commodities will not advance, and, in such case, whether the price of gold not advancing, there must not be a *RUN FOR GOLD*. I ask, how it can be otherwise? Gold is *ARBITRARILY* kept down to the price of £3 17*s.* 10½*d.* the ounce; the Bank is liable to be drawn upon to the extent of *thirty millions in gold*, at *THAT* price; and, of course, whilst other commo-

† Peel's Bill means our *present monetary system*, or *present currency*, or *present circulating medium* based upon our present fixed gold standard.

dities have RISEN, a profit attaches upon the acquisition of gold at THAT arbitrary statute price, and the demand, or as it is called, run for it, follows of course. The recently improved condition of our manufacturers may be perhaps mainly occasioned by the issues of those banks, but it must be temporary.

Upon these grounds, then, I say, that creditors cannot wisely expect to continue much longer the full, and, I must add, unjust advantage which they possess over the debtor, and the industrious classes, and which they have so long enjoyed under Peel's Bill. Our statesmen yet pretend to be very determined upon its maintenance; but they will no more keep from us, eventually, that currency which is necessary to us, than they can the air we breathe. Our present monetary system cannot stand much longer. It is working cruel, dreadful mischief every way. Instead of being a sound metallic inartificial currency, of unvarying, unchangeable value, it is artificial and fraudulent, because it pretends to be what it is not. It is eternally fluctuating, and operating a continual change in the money value of property of every description.\*

Let us examine it a little attentively. The law enacts, that the only money with which a person can fulfil a contract and discharge a debt, is in gold, at £3 17s. 10½d. an ounce, or, by a late statute, in *Bank of England notes*; which the receiver may, however, carry to the bank and demand gold for at that price. The public creditor can demand payment of his dividends in gold; but the practicability of so paying them is just as easy as it would be to divert the sun from its course. The interest of the funded debt of every description, and charge of management, and the interest of the unfunded debt, and payment of the dead weight, together amount to more than 33 millions annually. No man, of course, in his senses, can suppose the payment of these millions in gold possible. Well, the Bank of England is liable to be called upon, at any time, for thirty millions of gold, by the holders of these notes, and the depositors: their ability to produce it is equally out of the question; they tell you now themselves that they have not seven millions in their coffers. Our currency, then, is *not* a metallic currency, as is pretended—it is to all intents, a CREDIT CURRENCY: our national debt, principal and interest, can only be resolved into a Credit Currency. But then, it will be said, that its legal (though not practicable) convertibility into gold at a fixed price, renders it *equable*, and prevents excess and depreciation, and, in effect, constitutes a measure of value, if not a medium of exchange. It does limit the amount of our credit currency, that is to say, prevents its extension with SAFETY beyond a certain amount; but still there is such a power of expansion and contraction sufficient to effect such fluctuations in the quantity and consequent value of the currency as to produce the most ruinous consequences to individuals, and the mischief arising therefrom is incalculable. Besides which, the amount which can be safely and steadily maintained is much below what the exigencies of the country absolutely require; an approach to which, should the Bank of England attempt it, places itself in a constant state of peril. The lower amount of credit currency, the less peril to the Bank, whilst, on the other hand, the more extensive its issues, the larger its profits.

*Bank of England notes constitute, in point of fact, the*

*currency of the kingdom. They form the BASE of all our credit operations; the mighty mass of paper, of every description, is based upon the Bank of England notes, and the amount of them in active circulation does therefore determine the aggregate amount of our circulating medium, and, consequently its value. It is a most curious and indisputable fact, that the Bank does therefore as distinctly determine, at its discretion, the value of the currency, and, consequently, the money price of commodities, as if they had the royal power of the mint to its fullest extent ever exercised, of adding to or diminishing the quantity, or altering the quality of the coin. The Bank influences the price of corn more powerfully than the seasons, and in case of scarcity, might fearfully counteract the evidence of that scarcity. I will suppose a bad harvest, and a consequent rise of prices; if, at the same moment, the Bank should contract its paper, we may have a scarcity and a low price; and this case is not only possible but very probable; it demands particular attention, and is of such a nature, that I cannot hold any Minister free from heavy responsibility who longer neglects to turn his attention to it. There is no statesman—hardly any man of the least reflection—who will now deny that the contraction or extension of Bank of England paper materially influences the money price of commodities, and of corn in particular. Admit, then, that the Bank is under the NECESSITY of contracting at the moment of a defective harvest, and a false conclusion is the result, and deception, too, dreadful in its consequence. And it is rather curious that a scarcity, and consequent importation of foreign corn, is in itself likely to force the Bank to contract its issues, because a large import of foreign corn is known by experience, to have a tendency to draw out gold; the heavier the import the greater the flight of gold, and the more prompt must the Bank be in its contraction. Destroying, thereby, the TEST by which the adequacy of supply to demand can be ascertained, and closing the doors to that relief of which the people may stand in absolute need, and even if supply from abroad met with no impediment from the laws, the false conclusion as to proportion of supply to demand would be induced, consequent upon the diminished price which the flight of gold and the contraction of the paper would inevitably occasion.*

Exclusive of this most important view of the subject, what a power does the Bank possess, extending equally over the markets of all other commodities. I do not believe they abuse it; though to merchants, and other moneyed men, how great is the power, and how great the temptation. But suppose them actuated, as I dare say they are, by the highest sense of honour and integrity, a variety of circumstances will often prevent the exercise of that power, according to their best discretion.

The Bank has about eighteen millions of its notes in circulation. So many are required—more, in truth, are required, but as they feel they may be called upon to do that which is quite out of their power, they are obliged to regulate their issues, not by the wants of the country, but by a variety of extraneous circumstances, both foreign and domestic, which have, in their estimation, a tendency to cause a demand for gold. To check such tendency, they are compelled to contract their issues of paper, sometimes very hastily. Now a comparatively small demand for gold may cause a threefold withdrawal of notes; that is to say, one million of gold in demand might cause a reduction of three millions of bank notes; three millions of bank notes cause a reduction of nine millions of other credit paper; and down comes the market money price of all commodities, and labour

\* The allowance of one pound notes in Ireland and Scotland, and not in England, is an anomaly in the present system which further renders its permanency very improbable.



likewise. The apprehension removed, and every motive of interest, duty to the country, probable urgency of the Government, induce again an extended issue, followed by an increase of all the rest of our credit currency, and the markets again advance, and trade revives; and thus have we been going on since 1819. I am astonished how any body of any thought or reflection at all, and the least knowledge of our commercial operations, can say that we have a metallic currency. If there was any extensive demand for gold, there is not enough in the country to pay the population one sovereign per head; and what advantage is it that a few persons in power should, in the scramble, fill their coffers. The metals are hardly used in any payments above five pound. I believe five per cent. is hardly received by any landlord in payment of rents, and bills are all discharged in bankers' cheques or paper of some description.

This review of our monetary system, and its necessary operation, can hardly be refuted, and it must surely be admitted to be obviously bad. It is productive of most cruel commercial disappointments, and often causes the ruin of persons engaged in *honest beneficial, and judicious commercial speculations*, if the Legislature and the country will have a credit currency convertible into the precious metals at a given price, with the view of keeping an *equable measure* of value; for I think nobody can expect their extensive use, as a medium of exchange, in our present commercial and financial operations. It would be assuredly and obviously far better to take our ancient standard, *silver*; and make it again the *sole* standard, because all experience has, I believe, shown that it is impossible to keep the *double standard*, inasmuch as variations in the value of one or the other will occur, which, as the case may be, leads to the expulsion of the one or the other. This exchange of the silver standard for the gold, I am convinced would prove a considerable amelioration of our present monetary system; and what possible objection? The *SINGLE* gold standard is *MODERN*; it is *not* the *ANCIENT* standard, as is said and generally believed. Prior to the reign of Edward III, our standard was *silver*, and *silver* must therefore be *properly* called and considered our *ANCIENT* standard. Gold pieces were first issued in that monarch's reign; from which time, till 1816, a double standard existed, which, as compared to our *present*, may be familiarly called our ancient standard. The single gold standard was adopted in 1816, for what reason, or at least good reason, it is impossible to imagine. Nobody hardly knew of the change, nobody asked for it, nobody opposed it. The Ministers who advised could know little of its probable mischief, though they might have known that gold was a much more *FLIGHTY* article than silver, and, consequently, dangerous where combined with so extensive a convertible paper currency. Now if there were no objection to a change of the *ancient* to a *new* standard, that new standard being found injurious, what possible objection to going back to the *old*? It was surely a stronger measure to alter the *old* than to recur to it upon the discovery of disadvantages in the *new*. In the case of the adoption, I would make no alteration of the coin; take *silver* as at *present*—a pound of silver coined into sixty-six shillings, as it now is; let there be sovereigns coined as at *present*, but not denominated except at their *MARKET* price, as in France; legal payment then would be effected in silver at its *PRESENT* price, in *present* coin, or in *bullion*—say in *bullion* above five pounds. The person holding *paper*, and requiring to be paid in metal, would have the silver tendered to him, the *inconvenient* load of which, if he

considered *important*, he would take in gold, paying three, four, or five per cent. *agio*, or *premium*, as is the case in France; thus should we have, perhaps, even an increased quantity of gold in circulation, whilst the Bank would be relieved from a *portion* of that danger to which it is subject when liable to be called upon in *gold*—the metal which is *incomparably more subject to hasty and sudden demand*. Silver is the money of the whole civilized world. There is reason to suppose the produce of the mines more likely to keep pace with the increased demand for it than gold. This more precious article is stated, on the best information, to be more and more scarce, whilst the demand for it is immeasurably increased and increasing; and here is a further cause of the *increasing* pressure upon the *industrious* classes and debtors, who, whatever may be the sterility of the gold mines, are compelled to furnish the same quantity at the same price, or an equivalent in value to the extent of thirty-three millions, to the public creditors, and, in like manner, private creditors; and if the gold mines become less and less productive, and the demand keeps increasing, the fatal robbery of the debtors and all the *industrious* classes, from the highest to the lowest artisans or husbandmen must continue in proportionate progression; and where a country has such a *debt*, and half the population are debtors to the other half this *monetary system* becomes *obviously unsuited to its object*—the weight of our enormous *debt* and *taxes* becomes dependent upon the *uncertain* produce of the *mines*, and, under present circumstances, indisputably adding to the pressure upon the *industrious* classes and debtors.

I know not how any statesman can do otherwise than shudder under the apprehension of an increasing scarcity of gold, if he turns his eye for a moment to the enormity of our debts and the condition of the *industrious* classes. In former days before the existence of a National Debt, and the extension of commerce, the present monetary system may have answered the purpose; but, even then, the necessity of an increasing quantity of the precious metals, relatively to the increased demand, is made *apparent* by the reduction of the value of the coin progressively, which has taken place in all countries from time to time. In this country the pound sterling was a *pound* of silver, divided into *twenty* shillings; now a *pound* of silver is divided into 66s or an ounce into 5s 6d; in the reign of Elizabeth, into 5s 2d; this is the only alteration that has been made since that time. I believe a considerably larger was progressively necessary, and is still necessary, to do full justice to the *industrious* classes and debtors, because the demand for the precious metals has increased so much faster than the supply. In France, the *livre* indicated a *pound* of silver; now it is only worth tenpence.

The circumstances I have here brought to view distinctly show the necessity there is to give the fullest, the deepest consideration to the means of improving our present monetary system and adapting it to our present situation. I am confident that the necessary means may be found in this country to accomplish such an improvement. It is that which alone is wanting, and obtained, would give such a spring to the country as would astonish the world and even ourselves. We must find our way to it by degrees and I think the first indisputably safe step would be to recur to our *ancient silver* standard, with no other deviation than that of making it legally that which it was in *point of fact* effectively silver only, instead of a single gold standard.

Sovereigns should be coined as at present weight and quality, to be current as in France, the shillings the same as at present likewise. Everything, there-

fore, would remain the same, and the Bank would in a great measure be relieved from its present most perilous situation, and placed in one of comparative safety, and consequent greater ability of steady supply to the country of such accommodation of every sort which our vast commercial and financial operations require. If this system should prove sufficient, we might stop there; if not, it would help us to the discovery or unfolding of further means which may be requisite.

I have dwelt so long upon this review of our present monetary system that I fear the creditor may think I have forgotten him altogether; but the subject will be my apology; and I cannot but hope, that in thus treating it, I have taken the best means of convincing him of the wisdom of inviting rather than opposing an amelioration of the existing law, notwithstanding the advance of money price of commodities and of labour, which would be the effect of the change. But there are other circumstances worthy his attention; and here I cannot help reminding him again of the reduction of interest of the five and four per cents. I am unwilling to go at length into an examination of the means by which those operations were effected: but I am convinced if we had not adopted the currency measure of 1816 and 1819 (Peel's Bill), that reduction of interest would not have taken place. There is another matter to which I wish to draw his attention, rather more perhaps in the character of a moneyed man than the creditor, and the confidence I feel in the truth of the position I am about to advance, emboldens me to hazard an apparent contradiction, and paradox: I say then, his money would be more valuable if the aggregate quantity of the currency were increased; the reason is, that there would be a more extensive demand for it, a higher interest of course, and better security for it. Under our present system, such is the uncertainty of the markets, so frequent have been the failures of the best conceived commercial and agricultural undertakings, so very little the profit in general even in success, that although nothing can extinguish the energy and industry which characterize the British character, yet their exertions have been to a degree damped, so that on the one hand the demand for money, and on the other confidence in lending it have been so diminished, that money has been at times comparatively a drug, has fled the country altogether, and been collected in large masses in London, little productive, and commanding hardly two per cent. there. Bankers must be aware of the truth of this remark generally: where it has been otherwise, it has been the exception. The vast loans to foreign countries are, amongst other circumstances, strongly corroborative of the fact. Upon looking to the price of the three per cents. in successive years, I find they were nearly 97 in 1824, when the forced issues of the Bank were the largest. I cannot draw from thence any decisive conclusion as to the permanent effect upon the price of our capital stock, consequent upon the increased circulation which may arise from the change of the standard from gold to silver; but I think it is sufficient to relieve the fundholder from any apprehension of any fall of the capital stock consequent thereon. I think there would be no necessity for an expansion equal to amount forced out in 1823-4; at all events, it would be far more gradual, and not calculated to invite that ardent speculation which the sudden and very enlarged issues of Bank paper occasioned at that time.

I am aware that it is perfectly easy to raise a number of objections to the detail of execution of this or any other alteration of our present monetary system; and I am aware also there are many difficulties to

overcome, and inconveniences to obviate, which I could not point out the means of effecting—probably no one individual could; but I have not the shadow of doubt that a ministry, with the efficient aids they might command—the advice of the most discreet, practical, and honourable men—would readily accomplish the work; and I do think that they will be more deeply responsible than any who preceded them if they now withhold their attention from this most important subject. I say more, because every successive year has more unequivocally marked the dreadful consequences attendant upon our present system; the actual depressed state of our agriculture, now, for the second time, brought down to a condition alike ruinous in their respective stations to the landowners, occupiers, and labourers, loudly cries for attention, serious and persevering, on the part of Government and the Legislature.—I say, such a visitation, a second time cannot be overlooked—the miseries and alarm of 1822 cannot be forgotten. This brings me to the case of Ireland in 1822, where such an exhibition of suffering, poverty, and actual starvation prevailed as was hardly ever known in any other civilized country in the world, and that in the midst of abundance of grain of every description, at a lower price than had been permanently known for centuries. Ireland exported that year in wheat, including what was converted into flour, nearly a million of quarters, and immense quantities of oxen, sheep, pigs, salt meat, &c.

So much for the effect of low prices, consequent upon scarcity of money; and what is to prevent a recurrence of these evils, if the low prices continue? I say Ireland is suffering from low prices, and has suffered more from low prices since 1819 than from any other cause. A very intelligent land-agent in Ireland writes to me as follows:—"Whether taxes were nominally greater or less, rents high or low, the industrious, the intelligent, the frugal, as well as the reckless, have all been advancing to distress since the year 1819? An extensive opportunity of viewing the matter afforded me by my laborious, and every year's more laborious experience in the letting of ground and the recovery of rents, had convinced me of those two facts, that the pound sterling, as established by the act of 1819, was much more valuable than it ought to have been, and that the circulating medium was too scarce. The consequences in this country have been to compel the farmer by degrees to recede from all his comforts, or render him reckless." It is evident, to restore him those comforts nothing will do but a correction of those mistakes, and it is equally certain that would do it, and without it other means would be futile and unavailing. Here again the banking efforts show the want of an extended circulation; but they cannot accomplish what is needful whilst the gold standard remains, nor will their small note currency avail. Ireland would profit by an extended currency as much if not more than any other part of the empire; and feeling its general influence, would receive in a happy state of mind any other boons which may be granted. But nothing can satisfy there nor here, whilst the pressure on the industrious classes continues so severe.

Another consideration which renders attention to the subject more imperative now, arises out of the changes which are making by the great Continental States in their currencies with a view to the introduction of a considerably larger proportion of the precious metals, as compared to their paper. The United States have also very recently adopted gold into their currency, though they have more wisely than our government, fitted their gold to their silver



standard. Nobody can doubt that those measures must very materially affect us, and mainly increase our difficulties. Our condition is, in effect, quite altered from what it was at the time of the passing of Peel's Bill, and forms an *entire new case*, obviating any fair charge of inconsistency on the part of any persons who formerly maintained, and now may wish to alter it.

Well do I know what the dogged opponents of any currency reform will say to any plan of amelioration that can be proposed—'you want to tamper with the currency, and rob the public creditor.' Now as to tampering, I cannot admit that to be tampering which requires only a recurrence to an *antient* standard, nor should I any stronger measure, the necessity of which is marked by evidence not to be mistaken; and, if the proposed remedy is not sufficient, I say there is evidence in our present state to require a stronger. No statesman will deny that Peel's Bill occasions a severe pressure upon the industrious classes, and will anybody tell me upon what principle it could be justifiable to induce an additional pressure to that which a capital debt of eight hundred millions must occasion, or to continue it when its severity is so marked as it is now? Peel's bill was, in one point of view, a tampering; namely, that the COUNTRY did *not* require it. There was no such thing as a petition for it ever heard of, that I can recollect; the public creditors did not ask for it; one of the largest and most sensible, the late Sir Robert Peel dreaded, deprecated it; I knew and foresaw all the evils it would occasion. In fact, it has strewn with thorns the path of every minister who has since held the reins of government, and turned the minds of the people against their rulers and the higher orders, by the continued oppression it has occasioned. The people know not the source of the oppression. They feel it severely and become consequently the dupes of designing agitators and ambitious demagogues, who urge them on to pulling down one thing after another till we shall hardly have a remnant of our institutions left. I firmly believe that it will be impossible for any ministry to govern the country happily till that ruinous measure of 1819, which, unfortunately for Sir Robert Peel, has taken his name, is materially altered. Our projected reforms will give little or no relief from its pernicious influence, and therefore only lead on to further and endless demands.

The Act of 1816, by which the single gold standard was adopted, was a decided tampering, because not required. Every expansion or contraction of issues by the Bank is a tampering, because the value of the currency is on each occasion varied. Now as to *robbery*, when creditors cry out robbery, it puts me in the mind of the thief who turned upon the man he was robbing, and charged him with the theft.—Never was a people so robbed as the people of this country have been by the operation of Peel's Bill: the plunder has been continued from the time of its passing to this hour, and is in full activity now.

In conclusion, I have only to express my earnest hope that the Society of which you are the President will follow the example of the East Suffolk Society and appeal to the Legislature for relief from the most destructive infliction under which the agriculturist of any country ever laboured. At all events require a thorough investigation of the causes which have led to their present unhappy condition.

I am, Sir, your faithful and obedient servant,

WESTERN.

To the President of the Chelmsford and Essex  
Agricultural Society.

P. S. There are two or three recent works which

I strongly recommended to your attention—*State of the Nation*, published by Saunders and Ottley, also, *The Country Banker*, and *Works of Henry James, and Taylor, of Bakewell*, and *Catechism of the Currency*.

## IMPORTANT TO LANDLORDS AND TENANTS.

TO LORD WODEHOUSE, CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSERVATIVE DINNER, EAST NORFOLK.

MY LORD—In your Lordship's reported speech, delivered at the above dinner, you say, "Then as to Reform. How far has that I would ask, contributed to relieve the situation of the distressed—I fear I might also say the ruined agriculturist?" and also "that they were duped and disappointed, and detested THOSE who basely and inhumanly deceived them, and who had nothing in view but the promotion of their own selfish objects."

If by agriculturists your Lordship means what are generally termed the farmers or tenantry of the land, you know the government, either Whigs or Tories, can do nothing effectually to relieve their situation, for the only relief they can obtain must come from the landlords and rectors. The King's Ministers can no more controul the price of corn than they can govern the winds or waves, consequently they have no means of giving effectual assistance to the distressed and ruined agriculturists at the present moment. The true state of the case is, the tenants have contracted to pay at least 50 per cent. more rent and tithes than they are now worth, and unless they have an immediate reduction, at that rate they will become bankrupts. It is a private and ruinous contract between landlord and tenant—the Government can not interfere, and the tenants must look to the landlords and rectors to release them, as the only possible way of escape. It is a complete "delusion" and an "inhuman deception" in landlords and rectors to tell the tenants that the Government must do something for them, when every direct tax, upon a farm of 200*l.* a year, has been repealed—and if the whole of the malt duty was taken off it would benefit the landlord much more than the tenant, and that circumstance would then be used as an argument by the landlord and rector to exact the present ruinous rent and composition. The rents were raised to the present amount when wheat was from 70*s* to 80*s* per quarter, and the landlords expected, under the operation of the Co.n Laws, the prices would never be lower; however being disappointed in that expectation, it is now only justice and equity to reduce them 50 per cent.

It is generally believed half the tenantry are much in arrear with their landlords, if not absolutely insolvent. As one proof of this fact, on the 9th of April last, THREE days after the quarter day, a Tory Clergyman made a distress on his tenant for eighteen months' arrear of rent, when every article of furniture, even to the very bed he slept on, with his cattle, &c. were sold, and he was obliged to give up a farm he had occupied more than 30 years. Another case of a farmer, under the same landlord, left his farm at Michaelmas last, and having thrashed and sold his crop of corn, it produced little more than sufficient to pay his rent and tithes. He is a very industrious farmer, and in neither cases was any abatement made in a rent of about 40*s* per acre. These facts prove what is the real state of some of the tenantry or agriculturists, and what is the probable prospects of many of them.

Now I would ask your Lordship, has Govern-

ment any power to give relief in such cases, or can the tenantry get any assistance but from the landlord and clergyman? their labourers, tradesmen, church and poor rates, must be paid, and themselves and families maintained, before any surplus remains for the landlord; therefore I maintain the tenant can look to no other source so long as corn continues at or near the present price.

At the late general election it was the universal statement put forth by the Tories, that Sir Robert Peel's administration would repeal the malt duty and relieve the farmers. Have they done so? No, the farmers are "duped and disappointed, and detest those who basely and inhumanly deceived them, and who had nothing in view but their own selfish objects." Thus are those poor credulous, distressed agriculturists deluded and deceived. They were also taught to believe and expect the price of corn would immediately advance, but being disappointed, they now look to their landlords as a last, though, it is to be feared, a forlorn hope.

It is my only desire, my Lord, to set this matter right, and in its true light, between the ruined agriculturists and their inhuman and unfeeling landlords and rectors. If your Lordship had not so decidedly and strongly expressed yourself on this subject in reference to the Reformers, and, in my opinion, so unjustly and intemperately, it would not have been noticed by me, and in so doing I have only applied your own words. But when I see the first nobleman, and his Majesty's Viceroy of the county, sending forth such statements, it, I think, becomes every one, however insignificant his station, to oppose them, and put forth the real state of the case for the benefit of my brother agriculturists.

I also observe your Lordship's questions, the state of the manufacturers; but, if I am rightly informed, they are now fully employed, with a prospect of great prosperity, so that on that point your suspicions are incorrect. How far the merchant or ship owner is affected I cannot say.

I am your Lordship's very humble Servant,  
A REFORMER and FARMER.

May 20th, 1835.

A very fine crop of *trifolium incarnatum*, or Italian clover, never before successfully cultivated in Lancashire, has been this year grown by Mr. John Formby, on the old race course, at Maghull. We went out to see it the other evening, and were very much pleased with the beauty and luxuriance of the crop, as every one must be who sees it, and who feels an interest in agricultural pursuits. It is above a foot in height, very strong in the stalk, full of leaves, and covered with the most brilliant flesh-coloured flowers in full bloom. A considerable part of the crop has been cut and brought to the Liverpool haymarket, where it has been eagerly bought up at a very high price. It appears to have stood the winter well, and as it is some weeks earlier than the common clovers; it is likely to become an object of some consequence with enterprising farmers. Several of the former experiments tried with this kind of clover have failed, and many persons have therefore feared that our climate was too cold for it; but we suspect that the badness of the seed has had more to do with the failures than the severity of the season, for Maghull, where it has so completely succeeded, is both cold and exposed, being particularly exposed to the north-west winds, and the crop there is remarkably fine. The flower of Italian clover has long been cultivated by florists for its beauty, but it is only within a few years that the plant has been grown for forage.—*Liverpool Times*.

## THE CURRENCY AND THE AGRICULTURAL INTEREST.

(From a Correspondent of the Albion.)

Perceiving that Mr. Cayley has given notice of a motion to inquire into the monetary medium of the country, every attempt to assist the object has the advantage of exciting discussion and enlarging truth. A recent pamphlet of Lord Western to the Essex agriculturists is at once convincing and appalling. It shows the total impossibility of the farmer eventually to contend with his difficulties, and that, even after the annihilation of rent, the suppression of the malt duty, and the commutation of tithes, the farmer is still a loser. According to this statement, the ancient proprietors must gradually part with their estates, and the land be subject to new owners and new occupiers. Indeed, I do not see how any one can avoid the conclusion, that, as the circulation of the country was concurrent with its national burdens, an authoritative contraction of the circulation would increase the remaining national burdens in a ruinous and oppressive manner. Lord Western has shown that 65,000,000*l.* are thus annually lost to the country; and, as 36,000,000*l.* of taxes have been reduced since the war, it follows, that this country still continues to be a loser.

Hence we find, that, after all our palliatives of reduction, after all the attempts of philosophy to indemnify the country, by increasing knowledge, by facilities of colonization and communication, and by improved processes of political economy, every individual feels in his own establishment sufficient difficulties to sharpen his energy, and a very slight reward for almost heart-breaking industry.

To suppose that any real improvement can take place in our general condition, until the currency and the National Debt are in fairer proportions, or until some mighty genius, convincing the incredulous of the evil, demonstrates and establishes the remedy, or until the evil itself burst into an evidence which forces submission and acquiescence, is almost hopeless. Some palliatives may still be admitted, for where the disproportion is so great between the debt and its security, any approximation lessens the evil, and partial relief may contribute to ultimate remedy.

1. Lord Western has wisely suggested the bonding of British malt and British spirits. It was one of the arguments of Sir Robert Peel against the repeal of the Malt tax, that the discountable note of the British maltster to Government for the payment of the duty gave him credit and a capital which the repeal would nullify. The bonding of the article would render this unnecessary, and give more elbow-room to the agriculturist.

2. The extension of silver, as a legal tender, to as great an extent as can be consistent with personal convenience, or, in other words, making gold and silver joint standards, leaving it to the choice of individuals to pay in either metal.

3. The practice of the Bank of England has for the last twenty years been directed to the theory of exchanges. Its accommodation has been grounded upon its principle, and hence, when accommodation has been most wanted, discount has been always most frugal. Publicity of accounts is completely at variance with this principle, and hence the gradual and progressive diminution of the very great security which the recent principles and practices of the Bank of England profess to establish. It seems but fair that Joint Stock Com-



panies, now the rivals of the Bank of England, should, in return for Parliamentary protection, be subject to similar publicity. I say nothing of private banks either in town or country, because it is admitted that not one of them has recovered the ground upon which they more or less stood in 1825. But when we see bad men greedily waiting for the coming disturbance—enthusiasts supporting every change in the hopes of establishing their own hobby, and the lower orders hailing with acclamation every professor of licentiousness and of misrule, we may be certain from the history of nations, that finance is an essential ingredient of the revolutionary cauldron.

G. D.

### AN ANSWER TO THE CHALLENGE FROM "A HEREFORDSHIRE FARMER."

I venture to answer the challenge of the "Herefordshire Farmer," in your Magazine for this month (June) to any one, be he Whig, Radical, or Tory, to point out where the English farmer at the most alarming moment can look for effectual relief. It would be trespassing upon your columns to little purpose, were I to point out, according to my humble judgment, the fallacy of preaching a tithe commutation, alteration of the currency, or reduction of rents as a permanent remedy for the evil, I shall therefore confine myself to his first question, and enlarge somewhat upon his own answer in which I perfectly concur. He asks, "Where is the cause of the English farmer's distress?" In his cost of production being too great relatively to the Scotch, but more especially with the Irish farmers. He then leaves a wide field open, namely, the proposals of the remedy, upon entering which, I must beg to be acquitted of any charge of presumption, by declaring that I merely stand forward as the advocate of a plan which appeared in your Magazine for July, 1834, and which does not appear to have received that consideration which I humbly conceive it merits. Fearing, lest I should trespass at too great a length on your columns, I will simply refer him to the accounts of corn imported from Ireland, which I would wish him to compare with another statement made by Mr. Montgomery Martin, in his popular work on Ireland, in which he would find "that the increase of exported corn from that country at the intervals of two years each, was for 1821 and 1822, 2,885,899 qrs; in 1831 and 1832, 5,401,040 qrs; and he adds "if these facts be extraordinary, not less so are the exportations to England of live stock:—

|                 |        |         |          |
|-----------------|--------|---------|----------|
| Swine, in 1826, | 73,913 | ; 1832, | 145,917. |
| Sheep, in —,    | 62,929 | —,      | 90,622.  |
| Oxen, in —,     | 57,427 | —,      | 92,000." |

He adds, too, "Now, when we consider that the latter year's statement is for Liverpool alone, and take into account almost the incredible quantity of hams, bacon, salt-beef, pork, eggs, fowl, &c., every *Irishman* who reasons *calmly* on the subject, will admit the incalculable advantage which his country derives from having such a market at hand to stimulate the growth of agricultural produce. But if the proprietor of land in Ireland derives so great an advantage from the English Markets, and which has not been carried to *one-twentieth* part of the extent which the improved and extended tillage will admit, not less would be the advantages to the English manufacturer by

tranquillity and good feeling being established between both countries." This Mr. Montgomery Martin, is an Irishman; a zealous, grateful, patriotic Irishman, but since we Englishmen can reason as *calmly* as our neighbours, let us heed his advice, and derive benefit from the information he gives to *his* countrymen; let us consider what effect this vast importation has had upon this country, and see if it is not the principal cause of our distress at home. It is but a few years since the malt, corn, meat, cheese, &c., used to flow in one steady and continuous stream from this country to the manufacturing districts, and now what is the melancholy fact? Why, instead of our supplying them and taking their goods in return, we could even last year buy Irish Oats, and American Flour in Liverpool, and in consequence of the facility of transport, in Manchester, at prices which would ruin the British farmer; and, sir, we must not forget that this grand alimentary artery is soon to be extended through Birmingham to London, and will, no doubt, have hundreds of branches from it, diffusing its blessings or curses to the farmers of this country as may be, according to our exertions. Irish pork and bacon have been reduced to 2d. or even less per lb. in Manchester, affecting thereby most materially the cheese market. Now sir, allow me to ask, which I do neither in a spirit of pride or invidiousness, which is most likely to be productive of the greatest advantage to the British manufacturer, the consumption of the corn, bacon, &c., grown by the educated comfort-loving English farmer, or that by the potatoe-fed Irishman? nay, I will venture to ask whether it is safe that so great a portion of the people of this country should be dependent for their subsistence (which they shortly must be at present prices) on a country pregnant with riot, rebellion, and so much under the fiat of one great man that he may cause those supplies to be withheld at any time when he thinks it may forward his grand object; the overthrow of protestant England? But how can we feed our manufacturers unless we adopt some cheaper means of cultivation? Can we have duties imposed upon the food which the sister island supplies? Surely in justice we cannot. And I do not apprehend, that if a law for the maintenance of the disabled poor alone, were made for that country, that it would operate very beneficially (and any how remotely) for the farmers of this.

I would beg to refer my "challenger" to Mr. Inglis' valuable Work on Ireland, in which he would see, the style of farmer which we have to compete with; he would there find that they are for the most part occupiers of perhaps half a dozen acres, the produce of which, together with their "*rent* paying pig" they have converted into hard cash in this country, to pay their exorbitant rents, and should they find any surplus remain, that is applied, like dung upon weeds, to increasing the evil by enabling others to set about digging and pigging afresh. Having dwelt perhaps tediously on what I conceive to be the cause of the evil, and the probability of its increase, it remains for me to point out the remedy by which we must overcome at "one fell swoop" this mighty mischief. Let us not deceive ourselves by supposing that the legislature can bestow any sufficient measure of relief, but let us (considering this, if not the sole cause, quite a sufficient one) oppose it by that intelligence, assisted by that wealth which we as a body possess, and so "by opposing end it." Let us form ourselves into societies for the purpose of rewarding any inventors of any locomotive instru-

ments, which will cheapen the cost of agricultural production. The benefits to be derived from such a plan I conceive to be numerous, it would make the farmers to be the great agents in accomplishing the means of their own relief, and their efforts would effect a moral good, which no government could possibly effect. Supposing steam to be the power applied in lieu of horses, as suggested in the Magazine of July, 1834, (which article I confidently recommend to the Herefordshire Farmer, having myself derived from it some hope of a better day to come) how great, how universal will be its advantages; in proof of which I beg to refer to the page preceding his challenges in your Magazine; he will there see what an extraordinary absorption of human labour there was caused by the introduction of machinery in the manufacture of cotton goods, arguing from which we may say that though fewer hands would be wanted to till the acre, the increase of land to be cultivated, (in consequence of the greater consumption by cheaper production) the making the machines, procuring iron, coal, timber, &c., &c., would require the services of such hands to a much greater extent. We may assert too as an axiom, that whatever would tend to cheapen the cultivation of corn, would tend also to the increase; therefore the cheapening of meat, cheese, beer, &c., bearing in mind that the increase of quantity would balance the depreciation. Again, the cheapening the cost of agricultural produce as well as manufactured goods, (which would be another consequence) would extend the circulation, and repair that deficiency in the currency which is so much complained of throughout trade.

As to the practicability of the plan, I must confess that I never entertained any doubt since I first read the suggestion in your Magazine. And I find that the Marquis of Tweeddale has recommended to the Highland Society, to offer a liberal sum for a steam plough that shall prove effective. But sir, I fear that I have far exceeded the limit which you would allow so insufficient an advocate in your valuable columns; the importance of the subject must however be my apology. I hope that the "Herefordshire Farmer" will not take fright at the idea of farmers subscribing; as I feel certain, that were such societies once formed by any public spirited individuals, that they would soon become general, and that, but a very trifling sum would be required of each individual member, which sum, too, need not be paid until the object is attained.

In conclusion, I think that we have no moral right, under existing circumstances, to withhold our encouragement from a plan which presents so many benefits; neither ought we to distrust the practicability of it, when we consider what difficulties have been overcome, what improvements are daily being made, (and when stimulated by general encouragement, how much more rapid will those improvements be,) but above all, when we reflect how highly and peculiarly our land is favoured by that Providence—

"Who uses second means to work his ends."

Near Wrexham, May 8th.

### IMPROVEMENT IN FIRE ARMS.

We beg to state, in the outset of this notice, of a very ingenious invention, that it has no connection with the manslaughter known by the short and emphatic term war. Rude materials and little

skill suffice to construct its cumbrous and massy weapons, but the precision required to bring down a small bird on the wing demands a nice instrument. Ever since we recollect anything about fire arms, it has been a great object with most gunsmiths to improve the lock. A barrel seems easily made, but the lock is a piece of ingenious mechanism. At the instant the eye has obtained the correct direction for the gun, it is required to discharge the piece without changing its direction ever so little. By the old fashion, however, the noise made by the flint striking against the hammer, and the apprehension of the flash, made the hand of the young sportsman unsteady and his aim doubtful. Percussion locks succeeded to the flint and steel, which not only made the instrument more certain and swifter in its operation than before, but they had also the advantage of making it more compact. The gun by that improvement became altogether a lighter and a more easily managed instrument; still there are many things to be desired. The percussion caps are apt to fly off, and not a few accidents have been caused by that. The flash is still an annoyance, the priming caps are exposed to get wet, the cones and hammer are still liable to external injury, and the latter is still a projection in the way of taking aim. The lock, too, by being constructed on a vertical plate, is essentially weak in proportion to the weight of the material employed. All these imperfections have been conquered by a series of ingenious contrivances of Mr. Charles Jones, of Birmingham, whose improved fire-arms are now to be seen at Cockspur-street. The principle of the improvement consists in placing the lock on an horizontal instead of a vertical plate, by which increased strength is obtained with less material and in a less compass. The lock, instead of being applied at the side, is applied at the under part of the stock, and the hammer works in a chamber immediately behind the centre of the barrel. By this contrivance the explosion of the percussion cap takes place within the chamber, and the inconvenience of the flash, as well as the danger of the caps flying off, are entirely obviated. The explosion of the percussion cap is, in fact, now as safe as if it took place within the barrel itself. Instead, too, of the charge being ignited at one side, it is ignited in the centre, and the explosion of the whole of the powder is simultaneous. It is found by experience that the ignition is more complete, the fire more instantaneous and stronger, so that a less charge of powder serves, the shot are impelled with more force, and, what is rather unexpected, the rebound or kicking of the gun is much diminished. The lock, from being completely inclosed, is in no danger from wet, and being much smaller than the common lock, the stock is not cut away so much, and is of superior strength. There are a considerable number of other improvements and advantages obtained by this invention, which are too numerous and minute for description, and which must be seen to be duly appreciated. We recommend all sportsmen to examine Mr. Jones's most ingenious invention. It certainly is not a lock which a backwood's man in the United States could make or repair; on the contrary, it is an instrument of great mechanical ingenuity, which could only be manufactured by workmen as skilful as those of London or Birmingham. To the inventor it has cost much time and many repeated experiments and failures to complete it. Looking at the steps through which he has gone, the invention is one of much complication—looking at the complete instrument and



the results obtained, the contrivance is one of beautiful simplicity. As the ingenious inventor remarked, his lock, like the human arm, accomplishes much by means which are now simple, though obtained after numerous trials and often-repeated experiments.

## ON ROT IN SHEEP.

(From the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture.)

In Vol. V., page 503, of this Journal is an article, entitled "*On water meadows causing Rot in Sheep.*" The very extraordinary circumstances detailed in that communication led me at first to think it an imaginary case, given to the public for the purpose of provoking discussion; as lawyers say, "a case stated for counsel's opinion." But, on farther consideration, I shall treat it as a real one.

The writer says, "About the year 1808, some land, part of which had been under water, much of which was a bog, and part of which was nearly dry, was drained, levelled, and irrigated. Although it was drained, and was so far dry that horses could at all times walk upon it, yet it produced coarse herbage, rushes, and even some flags. In this state it remained at least fifteen years, and during the whole of that time, it was constantly fed on by ewes and lambs in the spring, and no instance was ever known of any of these sheep ever showing the slightest symptom of rot." To this part of the statement, I have to observe, that ewes and lambs are not liable to rot when pastured upon water meadows *in spring*. It would have been satisfactory to have been informed, whether sheep of any kind were *close-pastured* upon the meadow in its then partially improved state, either *in wet summers* or *in autumn*?—and what was the result of such pasturage?

As the reader may not have the published statement to which I allude before him, I will here make a more copious extract from it;—to enable him the better to comprehend the comments I shall have occasion to make upon it. "As, however, the herbage was not good, and it was supposed that, by obtaining a better outfall, and a more effectual mode of drainage, the meadow might be much improved, it was broken up in 1829, drained more perfectly, better levelled, and was again laid down to grass after a turnip fallow. The land then appeared to be perfectly drained. The turnips were excellent, and the grass which was sown in 1831 was beautiful. It was mown that autumn, after having been irrigated, and produced abundantly. It carried great flocks of sheep the ensuing spring, and produced a very great crop of grass early in the summer, but afterwards, in that year, the land appeared starved, and the grass did not come a second time to the scythe.

"In the spring of 1833, the meadow yielded a good pasture to the sheep, but, except in those parts which were dry and steep, it produced little for the scythe. Rushes made their appearance, and as it was probable that the land was not sufficiently drained, more drains were made, which produced a great deal of water. Then for the first time suspicions were raised that the sheep fed on the land were tainted by the rot, and it has been ascertained that, since Christmas 1833, sheep fed upon it have taken the rot in five days. In the spring of 1834 more drains were made in it. The consequence of which has been a great improve-

ment in the quality and quantity of the herbage, but as far as the rot is concerned, it has been equally fatal to every sheep put upon it." It is necessary to add, that although the whole of the meadow is now so well drained, that, after a fortnight's irrigation, it will become so dry in a week, as to admit horses galloping over it without scarcely leaving the print of their shoes; yet as some parts of it are much lower, and consequently much nearer the water by some feet than others, it might be supposed that they would be more likely to produce the rot than those parts which are higher. But this is not the case. It has been ascertained that they are all equally infectious. Other meadows in this neighbourhood, irrigated partly by the same stream, have equally rotted the sheep though perfectly well drained. As those other meadows are entirely new, it cannot be said of them, that there was a time when, though less well drained, they did not rot the sheep. They do not affect the question, *What can be the reason why land which, when less well drained, was fed by sheep with impunity, rots them now, when it is much better drained?*"

This negative question appears to me, as if put for a similar purpose to that of the witty King Charles, in regard to the weight of live and dead salmon, and in answer, I will apply the sentiment expressed by one of the sages on that occasion, "Before I assign a reason, I could wish to prove the fact." On entering upon this discussion, it is but fair to acknowledge I do so under a considerable degree of prejudice; because, I have experience of many instances of low marshy grass land when in a state of nature, or but partially improved, rotting the sheep pastured upon it; and that land, on being subsequently thoroughly drained or connected into well ordered water meadows, did not rot sheep fed upon it in proper season. But I will endeavour to show, from the querist's own statement, it is probable that he has come to an erroneous conclusion in estimating the capability of his water meadow.

1. THE SYSTEM OF IRRIGATION.—The most proper method of irrigating low marshy ground, such as the meadow described, is the bed or ridge system. It is not probable the meadow in question was so formed, because, 'if it had, the occupier would not have ploughed it up, cultivated it, and cropped it with turnips, as the re-formation of these beds with water-carriers and furrow drains, would have been attended with an unnecessary additional expense, of from 10*l* to 20*l* per acre. Indeed, it appears certain, the meadow was not so formed, as he says, "The grass seeds were sown in 1831. They were mown in the autumn of that year *after having been irrigated.*" Now, if water had been thrown over new formed beds of loose cultivated earth, a great part of it would have been washed away, and the young grass plants along with it. Neither is it probable his watering was done upon the catch-work principle, as that is not applicable to flat marshy land, such as a great part of the said meadow is described to be; and a loose formation of catch-work is still more liable to be guttered, and the earth washed away, than beds so formed. I am, therefore, led to believe the irrigation in question was something of the nature of warping, and effected by a rivulet dammed up, and the water from it caused to flow over the meadow at random, or with but little artificial direction; and although ewes and lambs may do well when pastured *in spring* upon land so managed, or rather mismanaged, yet sheep of any sort *close pastured* upon it *in wet summers* or *in au-*

*turnip*, would hardly escape rot, and that, without any reference to whether the land was well or ill drained. The great advantages derived from the bed formations and catch-work system of irrigation, is the rapid flow of water over the surface, and quick delivery of it by the receivers and furrow drains, either to supply other beds at lower levels or convey it to the waste water channels, no water ever being allowed to stagnate upon any part of a well ordered meadow. That desirable object cannot possibly be attained in warped or flooded meadows, however much they may be drained, and hence the liability of such meadows to rot sheep.

2. THE QUALITY OF THE HERBAGE.—We are informed the land was sown with grass seeds in the spring after the turnip crop, and that it was irrigated in the same year the seeds were sown, but the varieties of those seeds are not mentioned. If they were annuals or biennials, such as are commonly used in agriculture, they would of course soon die off, and all the tender and most nutritious of the natural grasses would be extirpated by the aration processes; while the roots of coarse grasses and other pernicious plants, so far from being eradicated, would in fact be renovated by the short course of arable culture. Indeed, it is purposely acknowledged, “rushes again made their appearance in the second year after the seeds were sown,” and probably many other still more objectionable plants made their appearance at the same time. But, even supposing the land had been sown with a proper selection of perennial grasses, these would have been weak in the second year. The narrator complains of his grass looking “starved after mowing in the second year, and that it did not come a second time to the scythe;”—also, in the third year after sowing, he says, “except in those parts which were dry and steep, it produced little for the scythe;”—the more valuable plants raised from seeds sown upon the low land being gone, and supplanted by pernicious plants as before stated. The sound pasturage on the meadow would be confined to a very narrow compass, and hence rot without any reference whatever to draining.

3. THE MANNER OF PASTURING.—We are told that before the meadow was improved otherwise than by irrigation, it did not rot ewes and lambs pastured upon it *in spring*. But, it is not said it was at that time sound pasturage for sheep *in wet summers* or *in autumn*. Neither is it said that *after draining* it rotted ewes and lambs *in spring*. It is, however, stated that after the third draining in the spring of 1834, “the meadow was equally fatal to every sheep put upon it.” There is no mention of the *time of the year* when the sheep were so put, nor is it stated whether the land was *full stocked with sheep* in that fatal pasturage. I, however, think that calamity took place *last autumn*, at least it is fair to infer so, because, as the third draining was effected in the spring of last year, the irrigation could not be carried on while the draining was in hand, consequently too late to produce early spring food; and if the meadow was mown for hay last summer, the fatal result will have arisen from the sheep eating the autumnal lattermath or fog, and not from the land having been more perfectly drained.

Much more matter of a similar purport might be stated in support of my argument, but I trust I have already said sufficient to show that the querist has come to a hasty conclusion in supposing, as he states his case, “that land when less well drained may be fed by sheep with impunity, and

rot them when much better drained.”\* I will therefore dismiss this part of the subject, and add a few practical remarks on that destructive malady.

#### THE ROT IN SHEEP.

Great diversity of opinion exists as to the *cause* of the rot in sheep, but it is generally admitted that the *effect* is an accumulation of flukes on the liver. Some readers may not understand the term “flukes” as here applied, though it is not entirely a local term. I will therefore explain it. On a post-mortem examination of a rotten sheep, a great many small animals, of whatever denomination those creatures may be, are found seated upon the liver; having, without doubt, accelerated the death of the animal. These creatures are called flukes, or flounders, from being shaped something like the fish so named, though they are formed more like turbot than plaice, as they are nearly circular. They vary in size; I have never seen any larger than a man's thumb-nail. They are generally found in the arteries of the gall-bladder; and, in extreme cases, they are also found in abscesses formed on the liver. These creatures move and collapse when first exposed to the air, but soon after die. A question naturally arises, though not easily answered in a satisfactory manner, How come those destructive creatures to be seated upon sheep's livers? and, are they found upon all sheep's livers, whether diseased or not? I do not assert they are found upon the liver of every sheep, but I certainly have frequently seen them, though in small numbers, in the gall-bladder or arteries upon the livers of perfectly sound fat sheep slaughtered by the butcher; but I never saw abscesses and flukes in them upon the livers of such sheep. I have been informed by butchers, that they have found flukes on the livers of fat pigs which they had slaughtered, and I have no reason to doubt that statement. May it not be that flukes, to a limited extent, are placed upon the livers of sheep for a certain purpose in the order of nature, and that they increase in extraordinary numbers when the animal is diseased from other causes, as insects of various sorts multiply upon diseased subjects both in the animal and vegetable creation? If that supposition be admitted, it would then appear flukes on the liver, in an excessive degree, are more the *effect* than the *cause* of the disease called “rot in sheep.” But it has been asserted, and is generally credited by farmers, that flukes on sheep's livers are the sole cause of rot, and that these creatures are not naturally inhabitants of the liver, but originate from eggs or spawn deposited by some insects upon grass growing in marshy places, and taken up by sheep with their food. I do not give a decided opinion upon this theory, whether well or ill founded. It is possible it may be correct, for although food and other matter which the sheep pick up passes into the stomach in the first instance, and apparently does not come into contact with the liver, yet, as there is a communication from the liver and gall-bladder to the stomach, for the purpose of conveying matter necessary to promote digestion, the embryo of the fluke insect may ascend by that channel from the stomach to the liver. It may then be said “insects whose natural element is in the air or upon the earth, will not live in the interior of animals.”

\* We believe it to be truth that should grass be pastured by sheep after being irrigated in *winter* no rot will ensue, in so far as the irrigation is concerned; but that grass produced *after summer* irrigation will cause the rot in sheep, how well soever the land may have been previously drained.—EDITOR.



One instance to the contrary, well known to farmers, will suffice to answer that objection. That is, the case of the bot-fly. That insect so deposits its eggs, that maggots are bred from them in the entrails of horses. These maggots afterwards pass into their chrysalis state, and ultimately become flies. Such is the order of nature in that case and in many others, and why not in regard to the fluke insect? It is probable the natural history of the fluke insect has been ascertained, though I am not acquainted with it; but that is of minor importance to the practical farmer; his objects are, to know how to prevent his sheep taking rot, and how to cure them when affected with it. To these desirable objects my attention will now be directed, and although I have no new theory to promulgate, yet as the observations I shall make on the subject are derived from extensive practice and many years' experience, they may now prove interesting, if not useful, to some practical men into whose hands this essay may fall.

I need not describe the symptoms of rot in sheep; these are unfortunately but too generally known to flock masters and shepherds. It does not necessarily follow, as some persons have imagined, that all sheep tainted with rot die of that disease; on the contrary, very many tainted sheep, *when properly treated*, afterwards become so far sound as to fatten well and be not only profitable to the owner, but their mutton of a good colour and wholesome to the consumer; so much so, that it is impossible for any person, from seeing and tasting the mutton, to decide whether the sheep had ever been tainted with rot. In curing the rot, I do not think it advisable to trust to the effect of medicine alone. I have made use of the customary remedies of turpentine, vitriol, nitre, ginger, &c. and have derived some benefit from these medicines, but only to a very limited extent as compared with a change of pasture. I consider it of the greatest importance, on the first symptom of rot in the flock, to give the whole, wherever practical, an immediate change of pasture, and that of a quality such as I shall describe in a case of my own. I several times had different lots of store wedder sheep bought in, in spring, for the purpose of summer grazing. These sheep had been bred and reared upon waste land fed in common. They appeared sound when purchased, but afterwards I had reason to believe they were tainted with rot. I gave them no medicine whatever, but turned them into a dry, hilly, well-sheltered old-grass pasture, where they had a wide range and abundant choice of food, the pasture not having been generally stocked with sheep, and not close eaten by other stock. These sheep thrived well, and made themselves prime fat in the course of the summer. They returned a good profit on their grazing, and, when slaughtered, proved to the butcher's entire satisfaction. Their mutton was firm, and of a fine bright colour. As they were slaughtered in the neighbourhood, I had frequent opportunities of inspecting their livers, and made it a point of doing so at every favourable opportunity. My anticipation of their having been tainted with rot proved well founded. In every case that came under my observation, I found the liver much reduced in size, the lobes of some quite wasted away. Numerous abscesses had been formed on most of the livers, but they were all healed and cicatrized, and the remains of the livers were firm to the touch, and had a healthy appearance. I found flukes in the gall-bladder arteries, but not in greater numbers than I have seen on the livers of other fat sheep not tainted with rot. It is to be observed

these instances were not confined to sheep drawn from the same flock, or to one particular season. The results were, as I have stated, upon sheep drawn from various flocks, and in different years. It is also proper to mention, I had no particular loss in those sheep, not more than the customary casualties in grazing sheep. It is true comparatively few farmers and graziers have such favourable opportunities of changing their sheep's pasture as I had in the instances I have here mentioned; but it is in the power of all to stock their land lightly, and it is generally admitted that overstocking land with sheep is one principal cause of their contracting rot. Sheep are taught by instinct to reject unwholesome food, nor will they resort to it otherwise than when pinched by over-pasture, or confined in situations where they have no other resource. It is a sound maxim in grazing, "*rather under-stock than over-stock land.*" There are many instances of farmers who, having for a series of years kept a limited number of sheep upon their lands without rot in their flocks, and who, afterwards, on increasing their stock beyond a due proportion, sustained serious loss by that disease; and again, on their reducing their flocks to their original standard, the rot ceased. Such instances were not confined to low-lying swampy land; similar results have been experienced from like management, upon dry hilly land; for, even in such situations, there are always some swampy places producing unwholesome herbage, to which sheep resort when pinched of better food. I will mention a particular instance of this. A farmer whose farm consisted, in part, of a considerable extent of arable land, and adjoining to it a dry hilly sheep pasture, which he stocked rather hard. In a hollow place of that pasture was a swampy pond, which was preserved in that state for the purpose of supplying the water-wheel of the thrashing machine. The farmer had occasional losses from rot in his flock. He fenced in the pond, and prevented the sheep having access to the coarse herbage which grew on its verge, and then the rot entirely ceased.

Great precaution should be taken, particularly in *wet summers* and in *autumn*, when sheep are pastured upon low-lying cold clay, thin skinned land. Such land should never be close pastured with sheep, nor should they ever be close confined either upon such land or upon any other description which is not inaptly called "*rotting land*," that includes warped, flooded, and marshy land generally. When sheep are necessarily pastured upon such land, they should always have access, at pleasure, to healthy sound land adjoining, which they will naturally select for a night lair, and for pasture in unseasonable weather. Sheep are liable to contract colds when compelled to lie upon damp unwholesome ground in wet seasons; also from autumnal fogs, when confined to such situations; and, colds so contracted, not unfrequently terminate in rot.

Sheep are not so subject to rot upon the high bleak mountains in the north, as upon the fertile plains in the south of the island. This has been fully exemplified of late years, and may be accounted for by the hills in the north being seldom overstocked; the sheep upon them have wide ranges of pasture, and instinct teaches them to select proper food and a dry lair. While in the south, the land being more valuable, is divided into smaller occupations, is generally closer fed, and the sheep being confined in narrower limits, have not so great a variety in choice of food, and of lair suitable to change of wind and weather.

Shelter they more generally have in the south than in the north, but that shelter frequently confines them in a damp foggy, pestilential air.

The writer of the essay which has caused this discussion in speaking of his meadow, says, "It has been ascertained that sheep fed upon it since Christmas 1833, have taken the rot in *five days*." I have heard it said sheep have been known to take the rot from pasturing upon rotting land only a few hours, and that may be the case, for sheep, when hungry, on being turned into fresh pasture, feed voraciously, and without discrimination in the selection of their food; they are then liable to pick up unwholesome even poisonous herbage; and if the fluke theory which I have mentioned holds good, they would also be liable to pick up the embryo of that destructive insect.

Salt is a good condiment for sheep, and they eat it with avidity when accustomed to it. Hence, marshes occasionally over-flowed by the sea, or as they are called "salt marshes," are not so liable to rot sheep, as land warped or flooded by fresh water. It may be that salt destroys the embryo of the fluke insect, or prevents its deposition on the grass. It no doubt is a corrective to unwholesome food.

When a few sheep only are pastured along with other stock upon dangerous land, they are not so liable to take rot as when such land is close pastured by sheep alone, because the few have a greater choice of food suitable for them. For that reason, it is advisable to pasture in autumn with mixed stock in preference to sheep alone, water meadows, warped or flooded land, and all other descriptions of dangerous land. And, most assuredly, *the lighter such land is pastured with sheep at improper seasons, the less danger of rot.* To conclude, it may be said in this case, as in most others, —prevention is better than cure. And I do believe rot in sheep may, in very many cases, be not say in all, be prevented by due care and attention in the grazier or shepherd. The means of prevention which I have here pointed out are not infallible, but assuredly such persons as adopt these precautionary measures will find it their interest in so doing. F. B.

## SWEDE TURNIPS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HEREFORD TIMES.

Sir,—Having often noticed in your valuable columns useful remarks on agriculture, I beg leave (if you think them worthy of insertion) to offer the following on preparing for the growth and cultivation of Swede turnips, as loss and expense might be avoided by too often sowing and failure.

In May, work the soil well into mould, and put on a good dressing of dung, but not too rotten, plough it in quick, and break it fine on the surface, it will then ferment and give carbon to the soil for the better support of the artificial vegetable, and, by making the soil well into mould, will cause all natural vegetables to vegetate and exist so as, by two or three repeated ploughings, can be eradicated and destroyed, and better made ready for the artificial crop.

It would be much better, during this month and the first week in the next, to prepare and put on some well-made compost, from fifty to sixty cart-loads to an acre, consisting of the head-ridge soils, with dung, ashes, tan, or any refuse, with lime, well pulverized two or three times with the plough

and harrow, so as to avoid manual labour; put it on after the dung is ploughed in. This expense will be found to answer in the following crops:—turnips, barley, seeds, and wheat; the most profitable crop, the seed, will be the better, and support more of those valuable animals, the sheep, the ace of trumps in farming.

"To every thing there is a season."

The time best for planting is between the eighth and twentieth of June; if planted sooner the turnip is more inclined for seed, which injures the bulbous root, and grows with a stalk or handle instead of leaves.

The ridge drilling is the best from twenty to twenty-seven inches wide, to allow a horse power for hoeing; one furrow is the surest to cause the seed to vegetate; if you draw two, or make a cop, the plough-share drives the top dry soil together, and you deposit the seed therein, which cannot vegetate till rain comes; avoid putting the seed too deep, as it might rest below the powers of oxygen, and remain in a torpid state, then the crop fails.

Having from long experience pursued the above system, which is better known in turnip counties, I can say after our great leader, Mr. Coke, of Holkham, the crop never fails. Information of any sort is useful, and as a true motto:—

"Tis to the pen and press we mortals owe,  
All we believe, and almost all we know."

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant.

T. BLUCK.

Dinedor, May 15th, 1835.

## ISLINGTON CATTLE MARKET.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "COURIER."

Sir,—Knowing that your valuable columns are ever open to give publicity to any business that affects the community at large, allow me to draw your attention to the Islington Cattle Market.

It appears to me that no private bill has, for many years, been brought into Parliament, of more importance to the grazier, the farmer, and the consumer, than the one for the establishment of the new market at Islington, now before the House of Lords. Various reports are in circulation that the tolls to be enforced at the new market will be more than are now paid at Smithfield. I have, however, carefully perused the clauses and schedule of the tolls, as the bill was passed by the House of Commons, and I can assure you and the public, that the actual amount to be paid is, in no case, more than is now paid at Smithfield, and, in one instance, that of horses, *considerably less*. In fact, the grazier's expenses will not be increased, although they will have very superior accommodation. It is sincerely to be hoped, therefore, that the House of Lords will come to the same conclusion and give their sanction to the bill, as it will confer so many and lasting benefits on the agricultural community and all the friends of humanity, as well as the public at large.

A FRIEND TO IMPROVEMENT.

June 5th, 1835.

SMITHFIELD TO WIT:—Notice is hereby given that the Worshipful Corporation of Butchers in their Hall assembled have resolved, and do resolve as follows:—

*Firstly*,—That Earl Spencer, late Lord Althorp, highly-eminent-fat-bullock-grower though he be, is not a Lord to be depended upon—inasmuch as by his unaccountable absence from his duty in the House of Lords he has allowed that rascally, wicked, and never



half-enough-to-be-vituperated Islington Market Bill to progress through a second reading, when it must be well known to his Lordship that should the said Bill pass into a law, it will put an end for ever to the conglomeration of cattle in the heart of the city, and that consequently the citizens will be deprived of the wholesome excitement occasioned by the sight of half-strangled oxen dying of thirst, the bellowing of bullocks, and yelling of drovers; the salubrious smells arising from the city cellar-hole slaughter dens; and many other delights which the said citizens have hitherto enjoyed in full swing.

**RESOLVED, Secondly,**—That Lord Althorp, now Earl Spencer, be no longer considered, as heretofore, "the Butchers' Friend;" but that his Lordship will please to consider himself henceforth completely cut by the Worshipful Company of Butchers, who hereby recommend to all the gentlemen in the trade never again to handle a bullock fattened by his Lordship.

**RESOLVED, Thirdly,**—That the Earl of Hillsborough be requested to step into Lord Althorp's shoes as the friend and patron of the metropolitan butchers; and that the said Earl of Hillsborough be requested to adopt as his crest, a beef-axe proper;—the said Earl having by much and laborious practice perfected himself in the use of that noble instrument.

**RESOLVED, Fourthly,**—That, in order to punish an ungrateful public for sitting quietly by whilst so iniquitous a Bill is passing through Parliament, all the butchers' boys are hereby authorised to ride or drive about the streets more furiously and alarmingly than heretofore; and if that is not possible they are hereby requested so to ride as to accidentally upset more old women and children than usual.

**RESOLVED, Fifthly and Lastly,**—That the thanks of the Worshipful Corporation of Butchers is most justly due to Mr. Deputy Hicks, and Mr. Alderman Pryme Lucas, for their endeavours to perpetuate and confine the slaughtering trade in the heart of the city of London; and that in return for their services, a band of marrow-bones and cleavers be ordered to attend gratuitously at all the dinner and evening parties which hereafter may be given by Mr. Deputy Hicks, and that arrangements be forthwith made for enabling Mr. Alderman Pryme Lucas to regale his ocular and olfactory nerves every morning with the pleasing sight and uncooked odours of a very recent killed ox pluck.

## HINTS CONCERNING BEES.

These little industrious insects deserve much more attention than they usually receive. Where persons take delight in them, and are void of that fear which renders the care that is due to them an irksome task, bees may be made a very profitable article of the domestic economy.

We do not affect to enter upon the question of policy as to the mode of taking the honey; the reader who is interested in it should carefully peruse that inestimable book, "The Honey Bee," by Dr. Bevan, and compare his preservative practice with that of Mr. Nutt, who, without destroying a stock, or permitting it ever to swarm, appears to collect unprecedented quantities of superior honey. We heartily desire to see the practice of either of these Apiarians supersede that of the cottager or ordinary bee-master. Our intention is simply to impress upon every one who wishes that his bees may produce *early and strong swarms*, the necessity of feeding the insects during the whole of a mild winter; and, above all, at the present season. If honey be in superabundance, it is the best aliment wherewith to sustain the bee; but, in the absence of this most natural food, a good substitute may be prepared by mixing half a pound of good moist sugar with a teaspoonful of pure home-brewed mild ale, and as much water, and simmer the whole till a strong syrup be formed; a small teaspoonful of salt may be added, perhaps, with advantage. Small troughs, made of an elder branch, cut in half, and cleared of the pith, are

very convenient vessels to contain the food, provided they be cut at the joints, so that each end be closed.

The troughs should be filled and placed near the mouths of the hives whenever a warm gleam invites the bees to be on the alert; it is calculated that one pound of sugar will supply a hive of bees for a month from October to January; but that double the quantity will be required from February till the middle or end of April. Whatever the bees imbibe is not lost, for if they do not consume and digest the whole for their own immediate sustenance, they will convert the surplus into honey, and deposite it in the honey-cells; but if hunger impel them to appropriate as food all that they are supplied with, the vigour of the insects will be thus maintained, and remuneration will be found in the early productiveness of swarms.

We beg to caution every keeper of bees against the hazardous experiment of inducing a forced sleep or torpor, by burying the hives, or keeping them in cold cellars, during winter. We recently were informed by a respectable lady, that she once knew a whole stock to be destroyed by placing the hives in a cellar. The bees were quiet during the winter, but when the hives were examined in the spring, they were all dead and mouldy. In Russia, Poland, &c., where the bees form their own abodes, they perish not with cold. Here, where our fitful climate exposes them to continual reactions, the bees ought to be fed whenever they are in activity. All is safe while frost produces torpor.

## ON THE USE OF RAPE AS A GREEN CROP.

(From the Irish Farmer's Magazine.)

BY MR. G. F. RUSSELL.

Your having thought my paper on the planting of rape worthy of a place in your Journal of December last, has encouraged me to forward the annexed account of the usefulness of rape as a green crop.

As I mentioned in my last, I transplanted my plants from a seed-bed into a field of oat-stubble, in the month of September, at one foot a-part. At the latter end of November I began to pull out every second plant, (they were well grown and juicy)—this I continued to have done till January—my cows being fed on it daily. I then began to mow that which was first thinned; six square yards cut in that way produced as much food as a cow could eat in twenty-four hours. Thus I had the richest green food during the months of January, February, and March. Since then I have been cutting the second crop, which is still better than the first, having the flower, of which the cattle are extremely fond; and as it is cut the stalks are pulled and burned, leaving the space for potatoes in drills, which I have been planting from the first of April to this date.

One advantage of rape is, that it smothers weeds: my ground was very dirty, and is now much cleaner. The young sprouts of the second crop make delicious greens for table during the winter months: many persons prefer them to any other. My cows milk extremely well on it, and the batter is both abundant and particularly well flavoured. I have one cow that has been milking well for the last twenty months; she and all my others have been stall-fed almost entirely upon rape during that time. They are only put out into a paddock two or three times a week, for an hour or two at a time, and they are at this moment in excellent condition. By stall-feeding them in this manner I have raised an immense quantity of manure of the finest description, which has enabled me to sow mangold wurtzel, plant potatoes, and top-dress my meadows.

Croney-horn, Carnew, 25th April, 1835.

## FOR THE EDITOR OF THE SUSSEX ADVERTISER.

Sir,—In England, winter and summer, people sleep on feather beds; this is well in cold weather, but in hot, bed made of oat chaff is infinitely preferable;—it is cool, soft, and agreeable. The chaff should be changed once a year. In the southern parts of Europe, the leaves of maize or Indian corn are used for this purpose; they are of course not so soft as chaff, yet they make a very good bed: I slept on one in the island of Terceira.

It seems to me, that there is not attention enough paid to the means of preserving of health during the summer. An eminent Scotch physician says that there is not a more wholesome beverage than butter milk; about half a pint of it should be taken an hour before breakfast and dinner; indeed it would be still better to make a breakfast of it with bread.

In France, a breakfast is often made of ripe fruit and bread *framagmon*, i. e., soft cheese, is found at the best tables; the manner of making it is this—turn a quantity of new milk with rennet, pour off the whey and put the thick part into little wicker baskets, five inches square and three deep; and of which the osiers should be a quarter of an inch asunder. The bottom should be of split osier, half an inch wide, with like intervals. Leave the cheese a day and a half to drain off the rest of the whey. Beat it up with cream or milk to the consistence of a hasty-pudding; add sugar and nutmeg to your taste; let it be served up decorated with flowers round the bowl, and if you don't like the taste of it give it to somebody that does.

I am, Sir, your obdnt. Servant,

Cliffe, Lewes,  
1st June, 1835.

GEO. HARDS.

## CULTIVATION OF ASPARAGUS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PERTSHIRE COURIER.

Sir,—Observing in your paper lately a paragraph relative to the successful treatment of Asparagus, I hope you will give a place to the following remarks in your useful paper, which I find generally read among my class, asparagus being one of the most delicate and wholesome culinary vegetables we have in the early part of summer, and always in general request. I do not here mean to enter into the minutiae of the sowing, dressing, &c., of the plant, as every one who grows it knows, or, at least, ought to know these particulars. — I merely intend to give a short detail of the success I have experienced from the following method:—

In the beginning of the cutting season, (which generally takes place in the latter end of April, or in later soils, the second week of May) in the year 1827, and more particularly in 1828, my Asparagus appeared to come up uncommonly weak, when I found upon examination, that the tender tops were all eat with slugs, as soon as they appeared above ground. Such was the havoc, that I had not a dish worth sending to the kitchen before the first or second week of June, when the dry weather assisted in keeping them under. I had recourse to repeated dustings of lime, but to no effect, for the first soft or dewy morning slacked the lime and rendered it too mild to produce any check. I then tried them with salt, the bane of slugs, and found in it an effectual remedy. In the early part of the last season, I had my beds all salted (above the winter dressing,) allowing a pound to about four square yards, as I prefer salting before the cutting season begins: previous to this,

during the winter, I let the beds have a liberal allowance of the drainings from the dunghill, the result of this was that my Asparagus was much superior and better than in former years.

Asparagus is known to be indigenuous on the seashores of England, and from the circumstance of its proximity to that marine coast, induces me to attribute the improvement in size of the shoots, to the salt aided by the juices of the liquid manure: it is cultivated in many varieties of soil. I know of some gardens, however, where it does not thrive, of course I would highly recommend a light sprinkling of salt, and repeat the sprinklings on the new sown beds, as I am inclined to think, from the sweetness of the young tender shoots, that the slugs devour them as they come up, and it must be allowed that when the young buds are once destroyed, nothing remains to form a stem either for cutting, or elaborating sap to perpetuate, and preserve the roots.

I am not aware of any thing having been written in any of the recent horticultural publications on this subject, as from the high prices of these productions, it is beyond the power of the limited incomes of many of my professional brethren in this northern latitude, to keep pace with our neighbours in more lucrative situations, and this may be one reason why so few of us know what is immediately going on in the southern hemisphere of horticulture.

I am, &c.

A KITCHEN GARDENER.

## ON THE CURE OR PREVENTATIVE OF THE BLACK LEG IN CATTLE.

(From the Irish Farmer's Magazine.)

Gentlemen,—Seeing in your Sixteenth number, (Vol. II. p. 84), queries from Mr. Edward Carroll, on that fatal and deadly disease so well known by the name of the black leg in cattle: now the thanks of the public should be due to Mr. Carroll, as through him and "The Irish Farmer's and Gardener's Magazine," the question is likely to be brought to light.

The following is a sure preventative when performed before the disease commences, and so simple and easy, that any handy person can do it:—Take of Rue, one handful; Savin, one handful; and a few cloves of Garlic; pound them well together until you could squeeze the moisture out of them; then have your young stock brought in and held; get a sharp knife, and take hold of the tail with your fingers, turning back the hair from the top of the tail, that you may see where to cut; then, with your knife, split the tail about one inch, or half an inch, upwards, until the blood exudes freely; then, with your finger and thumb, put some of your pounded Savin, Garlic, and Rue, into the incision or cut; knot the hair, or tie it with a bit of twine, and the work is done; or you may put it into the neck—anywhere it circulates through the blood will do. The quantity of Rue, Garlic, and Savin, can be in proportion to the number of young stock to be done. This is a very old method, and I have practised it these twenty years, and never knew one to die of the Black Leg after the cure being performed twenty-four hours.

DANIEL RYAN.

Woodville, Templemore.

## COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

THE KING v. THE JUSTICES OF CARNARVON.

MR. ARCHBOLD moved for a *mandamus* to issue to the Justices of Carnarvon, commanding them to hear the application of certain overseers re-



specting the liability of a putative father to support a bastard child. In this case the woman had been delivered of the child in November, but did not become chargeable at the time. She did, however, become chargeable shortly afterwards, and then the overseers applied to the justices for an order on the putative father. The application was not made in the January sessions, but in the Easter sessions, when one of the justices said that the application was too late, for that the Act had said that the overseer should make the application at the sessions next after the birth of the child, and the justices refused the application. The question depended on the construction of two clauses of the Poor-law Amendment Act, 4 and 5 William IV., c. 76, s. 72 and 73. By the first of these clauses it was enacted, "That when any child shall hereafter be born a bastard, and shall by reason of the inability of the mother of such child to provide for its maintenance become chargeable to any parish, the overseers or guardians of such parish, or the guardians of any union in which such parish may be situate, may, if they think proper, after diligent inquiry as to the father of such child, apply to the next General Quarter Sessions of the Peace within the jurisdiction of which such parish or union shall be situate, after such child shall have become chargeable, for an order upon the person whom they shall charge with being the putative father of such child, to reimburse such parish or union for its maintenance and support." The second clause showed that such a limitation of the right to make the application had not been enforced by Legislature, for in the 73d section it was said—"Provided always, that whenever such application shall be heard, the costs of the maintenance of such bastard child shall, in case the Court shall think fit to make an order thereon, be calculated from the birth of such bastard child, if such birth shall have taken place within six calendar months previously to such application being heard; but if such birth shall have taken place more than six calendar months previously to such application being heard, then from the day of the commencement of six calendar months next preceding the hearing of such application." The reference to six calendar months showed that the overseer was not peremptorily bound to make the application within six months.

Mr. Justice PATTESON : And yet the first section appears to be positive.

The COURT granted rule to show cause.

#### ILFORD PETTY SESSIONS, MAY 30. FRAUDULENTLY IMPOUNDING CATTLE.

A practice which has of late been carried to such an extent as to be not only a great annoyance but a loss to the farmers in the neighbourhood of Ilford, Wanstead, and adjoining parishes, was to-day brought under the consideration of the Bench. Mr. Page, the keeper of the manor pound, and Mr. Blackstone, of Cann Hall, Wanstead, appeared before the magistrates, and the latter gentleman stated that he had to complain of the manner in which his cattle were impounded : they were constantly driven to the pound by a set of idle vagabonds, for the purpose of getting the fine of 1s in order to procure drink, and though he did not object to the fees of the pound-keeper, he did to the payment of this sum.—The Chairman : I am afraid your only remedy is by law. If a man's cattle are impounded, and he wishes to contest the right, he must replevy and apply to the civil law.—Mr.

Blackstone : I wish to know from the Bench whether these fellows have a right to do this?—The Chairman : The Lord of the Manor has a right if they are infringing on his property ; but in the forest some persons have the right, under certain restrictions, such as being marked by the proper steward, to turn cattle on.—Mr. Blackstone : We have that right, and the cattle were properly market, but they are driven from the forest into the lanes, and then these fellows take them to the pound to get the fine.—The Chairman : I should say no individual has a right to impound them unless they are infringing on his rights and property.—Mr. Fanshawe : But Mr. Blackstone states that these idle fellows first drive them into the lanes, their object being to take them to the pound to get the fine and procure drink.—Mr. Blackstone : This is the case, and I can give you another instance ; last Thursday I was looking for my cattle, when Mr. Glenny sent me word he had got them, having taken them from two men who were driving them to the pound. A boy had been keeping cows in the forest, and when he went home he took mine off with them ; they were left in the road, and had it not been for Mr. Glenny, would have been put in the pound.—The Chairman : If they are in the road the surveyor has a right to impound them.—Mr. Blackstone : We submit that the surveyor has a right, but not these men.—Mr. Dare : There is a broad distinction between the cattle being on the turnpike-road, and those taken from the parish highway. In the former case the law distinctly states that any person finding them on such road may take them to the pound, and that the sum paid on them shall be so much per head, together with all reasonable expenses ; and it is further provided that if the fine is not paid on them, the cattle shall be sold, and the residue of the proceeds accounted for and restored to the owner. Now, on a common parish highway, as has been stated by the Chairman, if your cattle are impounded, the mode is to replevy, and try the cause by action at law. As regards this individual (Mr. Page), I should say it is not for him to determine whether the cattle have been wrongfully or rightfully taken up ; it is enough *prima facie* for him, if a person bring the cattle and says they have strayed, to take them into the pound, and when once there, you must pay certain dues before you can get them out—so much per head I believe. But as a matter of advice, in case cattle were taken there in this way, I should resist paying the individuals who had carried them, because the law does not give them anything. In the other case the law is distinct.—Chairman : If a person charges you so much for damage done to his property, you must replevy and try the question ; but if a person who drives them to the pound has no property to damage, you have, I think, a remedy against him for trespass, either here or at the Quarter Session.—Mr. Dare : The distinction is not known to these parties. They know the law does give something for taking the cattle to the pound, and they think it is applicable to all cases, and that they have a right to have something for their trouble. Not knowing the distinction, they take the cattle off the parish highway. It is right, however, that these persons should know it, for some of them actually get a living by it. I should certainly resist it ; I would pay the pound-due, but I would pay no more, unless it were proved to me on oath in a legal way, that the cattle were on the turnpike road.—Mr. Blackstone said he would adopt this course, and thanking the magistrates for their advice, retired.

## THE CHELMSFORD AND ESSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, June 16, the town of Chelmsford was enlivened by the holding of the Annual Spring Meeting of this Society, in the High-street. The wool, stock, &c., were exhibited on the assigned spots, and the attendance of dealers and farmers was very considerable. The following are the particulars of the show, and adjudication. Each pen was numbered.

### LONG-WOOL RAMS.

1. Mr. Wm. Steele, a Shearling Long-wool Ram.
2. Mr. Stephen Bridge, a Long-wool Ram Tag (2nd Prize, 1*l.* 1*s.*)
3. Mr. Henry Cleve, Long-wool Ram.
4. Mrs. Douglas, Leicester Ram (1 year.)
5. Ditto ditto (2 years.)
6. Ditto ditto (3 years.)
7. Mr. Wm. Gale, Long-wool Kent Ram.
1. Mr. W. Fisher Hobbs, Halsted, Long-wool Ram (1st Prize, 2*l.* 2*s.*)
9. Mr. Thomas Bridge, Long-wool Ram Hogget.

### DOWN RAMS.

1. Mr. Isaac Belcher, Danbury, Hogget Ram (1st Prize, 2*l.* 2*s.*)
2. Mr. Wm. Hobbs, South Down Tup.
3. T. W. Bramston, Esq., Skreens, M. P., Down Ram (2nd Prize, 1*l.* 1*s.*)

### LONG-WOOL HOGGETS.

1. Mr. Cleve, 4 Long-wool Ewe Hoggets (2nd Prize, 1*l.* 1*s.*)
  2. Mrs. Douglas, 4 Leicester Ewe Hoggets.
  3. Mr. W. Gale, 4 Long-wool Kent Ewe Hoggets.
  4. Mr. Hobbs, 4 Long-wool Ewe Hoggets (1st Prize, 2*l.* 2*s.*)
  5. Mr. T. Bridge ditto.
  6. C. T. Tower, Esq., 4 Long-wool Ewe Hoggets.
- These being Merinos were not classed, but they were greatly admired.

### DOWN HOGGETS.

Mr. Bramston, 4 Ewe Hoggets (Prize, 2*l.* 2*s.*)

### SHEEP SHEARERS.

1. Thomas Bloss, recommended by Mr. Isaac Belcher.
2. Joseph Patch, ditto ditto.
3. Richard Jarvis, ditto Mr. T. W. Crooks.
- (1st Prize, 1*l.* 1*s.*)
4. — Hurrell, ditto Mr. Cleve.
5. — ditto Mr. T. W. Crooks,
6. — ditto Mr. M. Gale.
7. Wm. Neale, ditto Mr. T. Bridge (3rd Prize, 5*s.*)
8. — Kemp, ditto Mr. Hobbs, (2nd Prize, 10*s.* 6*d.*)

### DOWN FLEETS.

Mr. Cleve (Prize, 1*l.* 1*s.*) Mr. Belcher, Mr. S. Bridge, Mr. W. Steele, Mr. Gale, Mr. Hobbs (Prize, 1*l.* 1*s.*) Mr. T. Bridge, and Mr. Bramston.

### BULLS.

- Mr. Isaac Blyth, a Two-year-old Bull (Prize, 2*l.* 2*s.*)
1. Mr. Crooks, a Yearling Durham Bull.
2. Mr. Baker, ditto.
3. Sir J. T. Tyrell, Part., M. P., a Yearling Short-horn.
4. Mr. Bramston, a Yearling (Prize, 1*l.* 10*s.*)

### TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.

1. Mr. Crooks, a Durham (Prize, 1*l.* 10*s.*)
2. Mr. T. Dowson, a Short-horn.
3. Mr. T. Bridge, one.

### YEARLING HEIFERS.

1. Mr. Crooks, Durham (Prize, 1*l.* 10*s.*)
2. Mr. John Perry, ditto.
3. Mr. J. Blyth, one.
4. Mr. Bramston, one.

### HORSES.

1. Mr. W. Simmons, Cart Stallion, Briton.
2. Ditto ditto Heart of Oak, (2nd Prize, 2*l.* 2*s.*)
3. Mr. J. Upson, Suffolk Stallion (1st Prize, 3*l.* 3*s.*)

### MARES.

1. Mr. W. Simmons, Violet.
2. Ditto, Diamond.
3. Mr. W. Wright, Cart Mare (2nd Prize, 1*l.* 1*s.*)
4. Mr. W. Seabrook, ditto (1st Prize, 2*l.* 2*s.*)
5. Ditto, ditto.

### COWS.

1. Mr. T. Dowson, Short-horned.
2. Mr. Baker, Writtle, one (Prize, 1*l.* 10*s.*)

### SWINE.

1. Sir J. Tyrell, a Neapolitan Boar (Prize, 1*l.* 1*s.*)
2. Mr. Milburn, a Sussex Boar (Prize, 1*l.* 1*s.*)
3. Mr. Hobbs, a Boar.
4. Mr. C. T. Tower, a Boar.

### SOWS.

1. Sir J. Tyrell, a Neapolitan (Prize, 1*l.* 1*s.*)
2. Mr. Hobbs, a Sow.
3. Mr. Baker, ditto.

The shearing of the sheep took place in the High-street, and excited much interest. Several agricultural machines were produced.

The Judges were, for *Sheep and Shearers*, Mr. T. Seabrook, Mr. James Christy, and Mr. C. Matson. For *Wool*, Mr. T. Johns, Mr. Oram, and Mr. Unwin, jun. For *Stock*, Mr. C. C. Parker, Mr. W. Pavitt, and Mr. John Buttle. For *Horses*, Mr. R. Baker, Mr. Dowsett, Mr. John Smith, and Mr. W. Crush. For *Swine*, Mr. T. Bridge, Mr. Matthew Mason, and Mr. T. W. Crooks.

Among the wool buyers were Mr. Oram, of Fyfield; Mr. Johns, of Chelmsford; Mr. Stephen Unwin, jun., of Coggeshall; Mr. Matthews, of Witham; Mr. Page, of Manningtree; Mr. Hammond, of London; and Mr. Turner, from Downham, in Suffolk.

On this occasion the Shire Hall in the Market Place was used for the first time.

### THE DINNER.

At half-past three o'clock, about 116 gentlemen sat down to dinner at the Saracen's Head Inn. Many more would have joined the party, but could not find room. John Disney, Esq. (the President of the Society, was in the Chair, and Thomas Blewitt, Esq. filled the office of Deputy Chairman.

The cloth having been removed,

The CHAIRMAN gave "The King," and "The Queen, and the rest of the Royal Family," which toasts were severally drank with cheers.

The CHAIRMAN then said that though this Society had been in existence only a year, it had increased in numbers and in its objects, and he trusted it would continue to do so. A Wool Fair had been established, which had called them together this day, and the Secretary would read the report of the progress and present state of the Society, which the Committee had the honour to offer for the consideration, and he hoped, for the adoption of the meeting. (*Cheers.*) The Committee met a few days ago, and they found that the Society was getting better known, and that its objects were gaining ground. He then proposed as a toast, "Prosperity to the Chelmsford and Essex Agricultural Society." (*Cheers.*)

The Secretary (H. S. Gilson, Esq.) then read the following report:—

### FIRST REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

On entering the second year of the existence of this Society, your Committee feel themselves called upon to give a short report of their proceedings, and at once to express the satisfaction they feel in pro-



nouncing the Society in a promising and improving condition, and at the same time to acknowledge the obligation they are under for the assistance and good feeling so generally evinced by the members of the Society.

Your Committee feel the deepest regret in being compelled to notice the still suffering state of the Agricultural interest, and beg most seriously to recommend that the Society may not in any way relax in their exertions to procure some speedy and substantial relief.

Your Committee are confident, if the original intentions of the Society are steadily persevered in, namely, the encouragement of the labouring classes—the improvement in the breed of stock in Essex—and the cultivation of the soil, much good must ultimately result; but that the assistance of the Legislature in redressing your real grievances is most essentially necessary, without which they despair of ever seeing a remunerating and fair price given for the produce of the land.

Your Committee, in conjunction with the members at a General Meeting, considered it expedient to hold an Annual Meeting for the show of Breeding Stock, and Sale of Wool, and from the reports already received, have reason to believe much benefit will arise therefrom.

Your Committee recommend four district Ploughing Matches should be held in the ensuing Autumn, instead of two, as in the last year; and that in each district a Class should be made for boys under 18 years of age: this, in their opinion, will do much in restoring the supply of good ploughmen and labourers in the county of Essex, which they regret to say has of late years been gradually diminishing. Your Committee consider the present time most advantageous for this object, inasmuch as the New Poor Law Act encourages boys and yearly servants, by abrogating the settlement by hiring and service; and cannot leave this subject without expressing the obligation they are under (on behalf of the Society) to T. W. Bramston, Esq., M.P., for his second subscription of 2*l.*, "To be given to the Farmer who shall have had the greatest number of boys in his employ as ploughmen in the year 1835."

With regard to the prizes given to labourers and servants for long service, fidelity, and bringing up large families without parochial relief, your Committee beg leave to express their entire concurrence, and hesitate not in saying, they believe it will be attended with the greatest benefit, and humbly recommend an extension of this branch of the Society's objects so soon as the funds will admit, and to report that the Rev. St. John Mildmay and the Rev. John Bramston have signified their intention of doubling their subscription, and that such addition be expressly appropriated to the *Funds for the encouragement of labourers and servants.*

Under this head they have to mention the several names of John King, of Great Baddow; Peter Gamble, of Rivenhall; and Adam Avis, of Terling, as well worthy of the prizes they received for bringing up large families without parochial relief, and also those of the names of John King and Stephen Gowers, of Little Leighs, for upwards of fifty years' service on the same occupation.

Your Committee are informed that the instances here related have done good in the several parishes in which they reside, as well as neighbouring ones, and particularly that of John King, who received the first prize in both classes. The man has become quite an object of interest with the benevolent in his parish, and affords an excellent example to his brother labourers.

Your Committee have great satisfaction in report-

ing that the funds of the society, if not sufficient to enable them to make any great addition either in the number or amount of the prizes, are sufficient to meet the expenditure of the past year.

The CHAIRMAN.—It is right to call your attention to the specific object of the meeting to-day, the permanent establishment of a Wool Fair in the town of Chelmsford, and I hope that in due time it will operate to the benefit, not only of this county, but of others. We have such a fair at Ipswich, at Bury, and other places, and they have the effect of bringing together a great number of persons to the mutual benefit of the manufacturers and the agriculturists; they are links of the same chain, and can we do better than to bring the raw material before the consumer? There will be a time when the people of Essex will not be behind hand in extensively establishing these beneficial meetings, which elsewhere have produced such great benefits, to the product and manufacture of wool. (*Hear, hear.*) Since I have looked into this matter I have found some extraordinary anecdotes—facts which not only have amused but astonished me. Though I may not have been familiar with the practice of the shearing house, and am not farmer enough to enter into the merits of the shearers;—though I may not be a judge of sheep shearers, I am of sheep stealers, (*laughter*), and am fully aware of the importance of improving and promoting the growth of wool. (*Hear, hear.*) We have heard of the golden fleece, which I believe to be nothing but a beautiful mode of telling the story of the conveyance of wool from one country to another—a traditional story, expressive of the trade and manufacture of wool. We find that as far back as the year 1100, wool was woven in Oxford, and about 100 years afterwards one of the old Chroniclers—Gervas—states in Norman French that the people considered weaving to be a peculiar gift bestowed on them for themselves. We have been growers of wool—we have been skimmers from time immemorial. (*Hear, hear.*) Some years after the period I have mentioned, laws were passed by parliament to punish men for stealing of sheep; subsequently to that it was considered that the breeding of sheep threw too much land into pasture, and then the breeding of sheep to a certain extent was forbidden; and in 1634 a statute to that effect was passed. In the year 1201 or 1202, when a custom duty was laid on wool the inhabitants of the county of Essex paid only 3*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* as the custom of their wool, and now we have spun wool of the declared value of 7,000,000*l.* annually going out of the country. Much improvement has been made in the spinning of wool, which has always been a great object with this country. (*Hear, hear.*) By the blessing of God, and our own industry, it has become a staple commodity, and I am glad to see such a meeting as this for the diffusion of its benefits. Mr. D. then observed that it was not yet known who would be the gainer of the silver cup, as purchases would go on during the day, but he should propose the health of the patriotic person who purchased the greatest quantity of wool as the Great Unknown. He then expressed his satisfaction at the result of the fair, and his regret that the lameness under which he had lately been suffering, had prevented his attending the fair in the morning. (*Applause.*) He hoped that whoever gained the cup, would value it as being the first won by a member of the society, and he assured the company that he was proud of being its first President. He concluded by drinking the health of the gentleman who should win the cup. (*Cheers.*)

The Secretary then read the awards of the Judges.

Richard Jarvis, who had gained the first prize for shearing, and — Neale, who had gained the second,

were then introduced to the Chairman. — Kemp, the third successful candidate, was unavoidably absent, but his master (Mr. Hobbs) undertook to convey to him the prize awarded.

The CHAIRMAN told the men it was no small honour to them that gentlemen like these had given them prizes as rewards for their skill and industry. He did not doubt that their characters in other respects were equally good; and he felt much pleasure in presenting them with the rewards. He hoped they would put the money they had thus gained to a good use, and apply it for the benefit of their families; and, added Mr. Disney, when you return home, let those persons among whom you go, know that the gentlemen of Essex do appreciate and reward merit. He then observed to Neale, that though he had not gained the first prize this time, he might gain it the next (Neale replied that he was the youngest amongst the shearers.)

The men then made their acknowledgments, and retired amidst much applause.

The CHAIRMAN.—I rise to propose the "health of the Members for Essex." Three of those gentlemen have sent notes, stating that they could not attend the meeting. There is no note from Mr. Hall Dare. The excuse of the members is, that they shall be engaged to night in the performance of their Parliamentary duties, and Mr. Dare is Chairman of the Committee on the Southend Pier Bill. These are friends to agriculture, and deserve your respect, we will, therefore, drink the healths of the members (*Loud cheers.*)

Mr. BAKER (of Maldou).—I consider that we are indebted to two of those gentlemen for their having given their votes the other day in favour of an inquiry into the currency, and they have owing to them a debt of gratitude from the agriculturists of the county. It is a grievous thing to see such men as O'Connell supporting the question, and representatives of this country resisting it. He felt convinced that if gentlemen would unite and give their attention to the currency, we should see the country in a much happier state than at present. (*Hear, hear, and some applause.*)

The CHAIRMAN said that conscious as they might be of doing good to the country by joining this Society, they must not be so selfish as to take all the credit to themselves, but look to other similar institutions, and he begged to give "the health of Lord Braybrooke, and the other Agricultural Societies of the county." They were all working for one purpose—with one intent, and he hoped to a successful one, and that the other Societies would be as successful as this. (*Loud cheers.*)

J. ROUND, Esq.—The President of the Society has done me the honour to assign to me the proposing of a toast, which I feel to be a great pleasure and honour, because I am confident it will meet your cordial approbation—it is the health of a distinguished member of the aristocracy of England—the Marquis of Chandos. (*Great cheering.*) High in station and high in character I consider the heir to the ducal honours of the house of Buckingham has considerable claims on the public gratitude and esteem. (*Cheers.*) My knowledge of that noble lord is not very limited, having the honour of his acquaintance, and I know that his views are most patriotic and his intentions most upright. (*Cheers.*) His persevering and incessant exertions during the last and present Session of Parliament to bring under the favourable notice of the Legislature the strong claim which the agricultural body have for protection and consideration justly en-

title him to our affection. (*Hear, hear.*) Mr. Round then gave the "health of the noble marquis" with three times three.

ASHURST MAJENDIE, Esq. in rising to propose the health of the Chairman observed that union is strength, and expressed his approbation of the principle adopted by this Society of admitting men of all parties. There was an old fable of the bundle of sticks, and if persons were excluded on account of their political principles, some would be excluded who had a large stake in the hedge. The toast was drank with three times three.

The CHAIRMAN in returning thanks expatiated at great length on the national importance of agriculture, and showed the dependence of manufactures and commerce on the cultivation of the soil. He then gave the "health of C. C. Parker, Esq. and the other gentlemen of the Committee."

Mr. PARKER in returning thanks, said that the credit ought to be given rather to the other members of the committee than to himself, as he had been prevented by business from giving that attendance which he could have wished. He begged to call the attention of the meeting to the exertions of the Secretary, who had been indefatigable, and had very much promoted the interests of the Society. (*Cheers.*) Mr. Parker concluded by proposing the "health of Mr. Gilson."

The CHAIRMAN said that the Society were greatly indebted to Mr. Gilson for his labours, and for his exertions this day, and on all other occasions, and for the intelligence which he displayed in conducting the affairs of the Society. He thought his health ought to be drank with the respectful attention of three times three, and he begged to add that Mr. G. got very little reward for his useful services. The toast was drank with three times three.

Mr. GILSON said he felt peculiarly gratified by the notice of Mr. Parker, and also for the attention paid to the toast. He was proud of the result of the day, and hoped that the arrangements gave satisfaction to the meeting. If his humble services could tend in any way to the improvement of the Agricultural interest, which was now so depressed, he should always be happy to use his exertions for the attainment of such an object. The Agriculturists had been slow in their efforts, but he hoped that the exertions of this Society and others would cause their claims to receive attention, and procure for them that remuneration for their capital and labour that was received by other classes of industry, and placed them in a better situation. He trusted that the Wool Fair in summer and the Cattle Show in winter would prosper, and he concluded by assuring the company he should always endeavour to do his duty while he had the honour of filling that situation in which he now was placed. (*Much applause.*)

Mr. MATSON said that something ought to be given to the unsuccessful candidates for the shearing.

The Secretary replied that he had given them 2s 6d each.

Mr. BAKER (of Writtle).—I rise to propose a toast which ought not to be passed over—one which will come home to the hearts of all present; it is the "health of the Ladies of Essex." (*Cheers.*) He then continued—Since our last agricultural meeting, opportunity has been given in the House of Commons for an expression of the opinion of the agricultural interest. You must have felt with me that we were expecting something to be done for us—that some boon would be conferred on us poor agriculturists. (*Hear, hear.*) At one time we were told that an alteration of the currency would be service-



able to us, and it has been insinuated to-day that it would cause a great revolution in our finances. I agree that we might make two sovereigns into three—

Here the CHAIRMAN told Mr. Baker that to enter on the question of the currency would lead to other subjects; and a political discussion would be the consequence—a discussion which the Committee had resolved ought not to take place.

MR. BAKER.—I wish to state a few observations that my brother farmers should not be buoyed up by false hopes—and that the currency question may not like the *ignis fatuus* dance before them over bogs, until it lead them to stick fast in the mire. I know it has been the case many years when the country has been flourishing, when we had all the talent and capital—

The CHAIRMAN.—Mr. Baker, I cannot allow you to go into that: if I do I must permit others to give their opinions to the contrary.

MR. BAKER.—I beg pardon, but—

MR. DISNEY (*laughing*).—If you stick to the ladies you will be right.

MR. BAKER.—Am I out of order? (*Contending cries of "No, no! Yes, yes!"*)

The CHAIRMAN.—I am unwilling to stop any gentleman who wishes to address us on general subjects connected with the cultivation of the soil, or the sale of wool to day, but it has been laid down by the Committee, that no particular political question shall be introduced. If Mr. Baker will adhere to the general question, it will be better than gentlemen calling out "no, no! yes, yes!" I must say he is a little out of our rule.

MR. BAKER.—I assure you, Sir, I considered that we, as an agricultural body, were assembled to state our opinions.

A Gentleman here exclaimed—Lord Western has addressed letters on the subject to the Society.

The CHAIRMAN.—We have no intimation of that; nothing has been introduced about it; I have not seen it.

MR. BAKER.—I will then state what I consider the cause of the present distress. We all know that at this moment we cannot realise as much from the land as will pay the expense of cultivating it. (*Hear, hear.*) We all know what it must be for a man to have to pay 100*l.* and only 80*l.* to pay it with. In such a case he must leave off business or compound with his creditors; that has been our state. (*Hear, hear.*) This country will, on the average, produce sufficient corn for its own maintenance. A gentleman has said he thinks good and bad seasons come in cycles; there I join issue with him. From the year 1827 to — we had a succession of bad seasons, and I believe that not a sufficient quantity of corn was grown for the wants of the country, and what was the consequence? a great importation took place, not only to affect us at the moment, but to fill every granary in the kingdom; and the bonded corn was long held over our heads, and as we had not met the time like other countries, by keeping our surplus corn—(*Hear, hear*)—and then the abundant harvest, instead of being a blessing, became a curse to us. I say a curse, because it comes to this—when wheat and flour are made the food of swine, because they are the cheapest articles, and when I see at one time the greater portion of the people eating barley bread, and the aristocracy eating no bread at all, because it is so dear, and when at another time I see bread given to the hogs, I say there must be something radically wrong, and I attribute it all to the operation of the Corn Laws. When wheat was at 60*s.* foreign corn was let in upon us in a quantity amounting to an inundation, and that has been operating upon us ever since. (*Hear, hear.*) But I

think I can hold out something a little more cheering. We have now arrived at the *minimum* of price, and it will be some time before foreign corn can be let in, and when wheat gets to 13*l.* a load, that will be a remunerating price. I think the farmer can grow it at that price. But we must go hand in hand; the landlord must assist the tenant, and the tenant the landlord, (*Hear, hear*), and if we follow up that principle, I doubt not that all will be well. I am sorry I entered too far into politics, but if the currency is a political question, and if we meet not to discuss such a question, then we shall be of no use as a Society. It is by union not only of men but of minds, that we can effect a great object, and if you chain the minds of men, they may as well stay at home. Mr. Baker concluded by expressing his regret for having violated a rule that had been laid down by the Committee. (*Cheers.*)

R. C. HASLEFOOT, Esq. proposed the health of the Judges of the day.

C. C. PARKER, Esq., returned thanks, and proposed the health of the wool buyers who had attended this day.

The CHAIRMAN gave the health of the Treasurer of the Society, T. Greenwood, Esq.

MR. GREENWOOD, in returning thanks, expressed his regret that Mr. Baker had been stopped in making remarks, because he believed that the Society had been framed for the purpose of discussing all subjects in which agriculture was concerned. He considered that the Currency question as much affected Agriculture as did the Corn Laws. (*Hear, hear.*) He believed that if Mr. Baker had been allowed to make his observations they would not have been unacceptable to the company. An idea had gone forth among agriculturists, which he thought injurious, and what Mr. Baker would have said might have gone materially to remove that idea. (*Hear, hear.*)

The CHAIRMAN said he had only acted by direction of the Committee, and should be very happy to attend any meeting of the Society that might be appointed to discuss the Currency or any other question.

MR. C. C. PARKER considered the question of the Currency not a political one; the questions the discussion of which he should deprecate would be those between the two parties of Whig and Tory. He much regretted that Mr. Baker had been stopped on a subject which was interesting to all.

MR. UNWIN, jun., returned thanks for the wool buyers.

MR. PARKER offered his growth of wool to Mr. Unwin, at 1*d.* per lb. more than he gave last year, but Mr. U. did not accept it.

MR. MATSON said he rose to call the attention of the meeting to the great purpose of the day. At his end of the room they were a little dissatisfied that more was not doing in the wool business. He, for one, was ready to sell his growth, and should like to know what had been done, but it had been done so secretly, that he knew nothing about it. He thought that the grand thing was to make this a mart.

The CHAIRMAN said he should like to know the market prices of wool this day.

MR. JONES said there were various qualities; the price of half-bred hoggets was 22*d.*, Downs, 20*d.*, and Down ewes, 16*d.*

Here Mr. Disney, accompanied by Mr. Round and other gentlemen, left the Chair, and apologised for doing so at so early an hour (it being only seven o'clock,) by referring to his lameness.

MR. PARKER was then called to the Chair.

Toast—"The health of J. Round, Esq., of Danbury Park," which was drank with great applause.

Mr. W. F. HOBBS offered his Leicester wool at 2s., and his second-clip Downs and Leicesters at 1s. 6d.

Mr. ISAAC BELCHER—I sold my hogget at 21d., and my Down wool at 16d.

Mr. JOHNS—I believe we were the buyers; and I beg to observe that Mr. Belcher gained a prize for wool.

The CHAIRMAN—A very proper observation.

Mr. HOBBS—I received the first prize for long wool. Mr. MASON said he had sold 120 half-bred Leicester hoggets at 22d., and 100 half-bred Leicester ewes at 21d.

Mr. BAKER (Maldon)—I sold my wool to Mr. Johns: Down ewes at 16d., but to no great extent.

Mr. W. COPLAND, of Writtle, said, that Mr. Johns ought to have credit for the competition that had taken place. He (Mr. C.) had to-day sold him 160 fleeces, down ewes, and some second clip half-bred Leicester at 16d. If it had not been for Mr. Johns, he thought he should have not got more than 15½d.

Mr. THOMAS BRIDGE, I should be happy to sell my wool, 1000 fleeces, half-bred hogget, at 2s.

Here the Chairman gave a toast "Live and Let Live."

Mr. W. CRUSH—I should be happy to make an offer to Mr. Unwin of my wool; 300 tags at 1s. 10d., and 100 ewes at 1s. 4d.

Mr. UNWIN—I will make you an offer of 1s. 9d., for the tags, and 1s. 4d. for the ewes.

Mr. CRUSH—I am obliged for the offer, but cannot accept it.

Mr. W. RIDLEY—I shall be happy to sell 300 Downs, and 100 between the Down and Norfolk, at 1s. 9d.

Mr. UNWIN—I will accept the 300 at 1s. 9d., and the 100 at 1s. 8d.

Mr. RIDLEY—That's a bargain.

The SECRETARY—By our rules if any gentleman says he will sell, and another says he will buy, that is a bargain.

Mr. SURRIDGE, of Feering, offered half-bred hoggets between the Norfolk and the Down, at 1s. 10d.

The CHAIRMAN—If they had been Leicester and Downs, I have no doubt the offer would have been accepted.

Mr. PORTER, of Writtle, sold his wool to Mr. Matthews—Down ewes at 16d.

Mr. CRUSH eventually sold to Mr. Unwin 100 Down and Leicesters at 1s. 10d.; 200 ewe hoggets, at 1s. 9d.; 200 ewes at 16d.

Mr. MATSON showed samples and asked 21l. per pack. Mr. Oram bid him 20l. 10s. which was accepted.

Besides the above the following quantities were weighed and sold in the fair.

|                                       | wt. | gr. | lb. |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Bought by Mr. MATTHEWS of Mr. Crooks, |     |     |     |
| Mr. Shepherd, Mr. Raven, and Mr.      |     |     |     |
| Hurrell (Boreham) . . . . .           | 24  | 2   | 27  |
| —by Mr. UNWIN, of Mr. Steele, Mr.     |     |     |     |
| Ruffell, and Mr. Christy . . . . .    | 15  | 3   | 27  |
| —by Mr. JOHNS, of Mr. H. Marriage,    |     |     |     |
| and Mr. Collier . . . . .             | 11  | 1   | 22  |
|                                       | 52  | 0   | 20  |

The above statements are from our notes, taken with as much care as possible, but if they contain any inaccuracy we shall be happy to correct it.

We understand that many other purchases were made during the day, the particulars of which we had no means of obtaining.

Much desultory conversation then took place on

various topics connected with agriculture, in which the Chairman, Mr. Trussell, of Danbury, Mr. Ridley, and Mr. Copland, took part.

Mr. COPLAND made an observation which gave offence to some gentlemen.

Mr. RIDLEY observed that though he did not like to pay tithe, and was a Dissenter, he would say that the far greater portion of the Church property was as much the property of the individuals who received it as the land was the property of the person who received rent for it.

It is with sincere pleasure we close our account by stating that the proceedings of the day were highly satisfactory to all parties, and gave rise to a most sanguine anticipation that this fair will confer highly important benefits on the wool grower and on the buyer. Such a mart in the county town has long been a desideratum.

The wool buyers are to send to the Secretary, on or before Monday next, a statement of the quantities purchased by them; and the silver cup will then be awarded to the gentleman who purchased the most wool.

## LORD STANLEY AND CONSERVATIVE CLUBS.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD STANLEY AND THE NORTH LANCASHIRE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.—In another column will be found a letter from Lord Stanley, addressed to Sir T. D. Hesketh, Bart., as chairman of the late meeting for the formation of a Conservative Association for the Northern Division of this county, and transmitted to us by his Lordship for insertion in our journal. His Lordship eloquently and argumentatively denies the alleged policy or necessity of establishing such a society, and deals out to the zealous associators a measure of castigation which they will find to be more startling than agreeable.

## NORTH LANCASHIRE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.

TO SIR T. D. HESKETH, BART.

Carlton-gardens, June 8.

MY DEAR SIR THOMAS—I have this morning received a copy of *The Preston Pilot*, containing an account of a meeting which was held in that town on Thursday last, for the purpose of forming a Conservative Association for North Lancashire. As this meeting was very numerous and respectable—as it was composed exclusively of those whom I have the honour to reckon among my constituents—as my opinions, or supposed opinions, were referred to by more than one speaker at that meeting—and as I have ever sought for, rather than shrunk from, an opportunity of making those opinions known to those whom I ought to represent, and to whom I am responsible for my conduct, I avail myself of the occasion offered to me, for the purpose—not of impugning the motives of those who originate—but of explaining why I deprecate the formation of such an association. I address myself to you, as having been the chairman of that meeting, and as being the chairman of the Permanent General Committee, without any fear that a difference of opinion on the policy of the course now pursued will in any respect diminish the sincerity of our old personal friendship.

I do not deny that the present is a period at which great interests are at stake. I do not deny that the Reform Bill itself, necessary as I believe that measure to have been, and called for by the deliberate



opinion of the country, may have had the effect of stimulating the desire of political change, and of exciting in men's minds an overweening anxiety for alterations in our institutions, and an unreasonable expectation of advantages to be derived therefrom. I am far from denying that to correct such exaggerated expectations, to reason away such overstrained desires, nay even to expose the sophistries of ignorant or mischievous quack doctors in politics, who impose upon the ill-informed, by persuading them that the benefit to be derived must be commensurate with the strength of the dose administered, may become the duty of those whom Providence has placed in a station to give them the means of forming a more dispassionate judgment, and the influence to add weight to that judgment on the minds of others. But that such objects may be most beneficially promoted by an organization of clubs and corresponding societies—that such organization, though it were compelled by an overwhelming necessity, can be productive of even partial good without entailing at least corresponding evils of fearful magnitude, I do, for my own part, utterly disbelieve.

And with regard to North Lancashire especially, where, let me ask, is the cogent necessity which calls for the formation of such a society? Are your objects general, or local? If local—if this be indeed a meeting of the constituency of North Lancashire, for the purpose of impressing or enforcing upon those who are the legitimate organs by which their sentiments are made known to, and effectual with, the Legislature—namely, their county members, the views which are set forth in your first resolution, I ask to which of us, my Honourable Colleague or myself, is this hint addressed? Which of us is supposed to require it? Which of us has failed to uphold the necessary connection between the Established Church and the State, the just prerogatives of the Monarch, the privileges of the House of Lords as an independent branch of the Legislature, and the deliberative power of the Commons House of Parliament unfettered and uncontrolled? For my own part, education, birth, position in society, principles, prejudices, if you will, all conspire to induce me to lend each and all of these my constant and unflinching support; nor, so far from believing them endangered, with the exception of the first, have I heard any one of them seriously questioned by any considerable portion of any deliberative assembly: and for the first, I should have hoped that the part which I have taken, the efforts which I have made, the sacrifices to which I have submitted, would have vindicated me, in the eyes of those who coincide in opinion with you, from any charge of hostility or even indifference to the connection between Church and State.

But you assure me, I will suppose, that I deceive myself; and that your Association is directed neither against my colleague nor myself; and with no purpose but the dissemination, within the sphere of your respective influence, of the principles which you possess in common. I am most willing to believe it: and still, admitting that your intentions may be good, I cannot divest my mind of the conviction that your means are injudicious. Against what are you defending yourselves? Are you united for the purpose of protecting your principles, and the representatives of your principles, against some dangerous counter organization, occupied in disseminating republican doctrines, in weakening the prerogatives of the Crown, in undermining the independent character of the House of Lords, in controlling the freedom of the House of Commons? If such general organization there be in North Lancashire, I have lived in an ignorance of it which I do not wish dis-

turbed. But if there be none such, as assuredly it is most desirable that there should be none, could the ingenuity of man suggest a source more certain to send forth such bitter waters, than the spirit that will be engendered by the establishment of your association. All the arguments of self-defence, all the reasoning by which as from an overpowering necessity you justify a deviation from the ordinary channels in which political feeling diffuses itself and evaporates, pass at once to the side of your opponents. They are those whom it is sought to oppress by combination—they are those who appeal to the sympathy of the country for the maintenance of the freedom of conscience, and more especially of "the deliberative powers of the House of Commons uncontrolled" by other influence than that of the constituents of each individual Member. You may say that you are numerous, and strong, and united: that your opponents, even if numerous, are disunited among themselves, and comparatively unimportant in wealth and station. If it be so, you have little to fear and little need of organization to oppose them. But beware then, for your own sakes, how you remove one cause of their weakness; beware of forcing them, for the sake of resisting your aggressions, to forget their own differences: beware how you organize the whole country in such a manner that every man must be a partisan; and do not deceive yourselves by thinking that such an occurrence, forced on by you, would strengthen your influence or augment your proportionate numbers. Beware, above all things, how you array the landed gentry and their dependents, in our mixed population, against the inhabitants of the mercantile and manufacturing towns. You ask no change in your county representatives, but you fear the democratic influence in the manufacturing boroughs. If you wish to create, to foster, to envenom it, interfere in their elections by your Conservative associations; bring an extraneous influence to bear on their internal proceedings; and if there be a democratic spark in the town you will kindle it into a flame.

But if, extending your views beyond local objects, you seek to form part of a general organization throughout the empire, of county clubs, and local clubs, and district associations, acting in concert, usurping, in fact, the powers of a government, and combining to carry on the affairs of the country through their instrumentality—I can conceive nothing more dangerous to public liberty, nothing more injurious to a stable or rational Administration than such a state of things. Power vested in clubs acting in concert for national objects was one of the most dangerous symptoms of the early stages of the French Revolution. Thank God! I see no cause here to anticipate such scenes as then occurred; but if there be a course calculated first to control the House of Commons, next to call in question and put in jeopardy the privileges of the House of Lords, the Church and the Throne, and in the progress of the operation to destroy public peace, private happiness, and national confidence, it would be a system which should establish throughout the country, for political objects, and for permanent and systematic exertions, two rival sets of political associations engaged in a deadly struggle with each other for the maintenance of extreme principles—throwing over by joint consent, at the first onset, the incumbence of all those who would lend themselves neither to the one nor to the other, and then entering upon a protracted (and the more protracted the more embittered and irreconcilable) warfare of opinion. You will not do me the injustice of supposing that my views of this question are biased by the consideration that I should myself be part of the lumber

thrown overboard in the first process of clearing the deck for the general action. In such a state of affairs public life would have even less attraction for me than it has at present. I hold it to be an honourable distinction to be the representative of a great county: you must forgive me if I say that I should hold it none to be the nominee of a club self-styled either Conservative or Liberal. Already, as you are aware, other associations are establishing themselves with avowed objects not less plausible than yours to maintain the freedom of elections, to protect the registration of votes, &c. The promoters of these associations admit that their effect, will be to tear the country in pieces, and to render the task of Government almost impracticable; but they shelter themselves under a political necessity of counterbalancing the combined organization of associations similar to yours. It is a lamentable state of things when national good is sacrificed for the attainment of party triumph: but that party incurs a heavy responsibility which takes the first step towards provoking such a conflict.

I have already said that I do not impugn the motives of those who have been engaged in forming the North Lancashire Conservative Association: where I conceive the fundamental institutions of the country to be endangered, no one will more strenuously and earnestly defend them than I will; but my feelings and opinions having been so directly referred to at your meeting, I hope I am not impertinently or unnecessarily obtruding myself when I venture to express my belief that the course pursued is uncalled for by any urgent necessity; and if not urgently necessary then mischievous; and when I presume earnestly, as a friend to the peace and happiness of our common country, and especially of our hitherto undisturbed and contented district, to warn you not to incur certain and formidable evils in the pursuit of very doubtful good; and above all to beware lest you create the very evil which you seek to avoid, and render that danger real or imminent, which as yet is distant, if not imaginary.

Believe me, my dear Sir Thomas,

Very sincerely yours, STANLEY.

## ON AN IMPROVED METHOD OF MOUNTING THE CRADLE-SCYTHE.

(From the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture.)

So far as I recollect, the Rev. Mr. Farquharson of Alford stated, in his former communication to the Highland Society on scythe-reaping, that latterly no appendage whatever was used on the scythe, in his neighbourhood, for assisting in carrying round the cut corn to the swathe; and that scythe-reaping had been brought to its present pitch of perfection by laying all that sort of thing aside, and using nothing but the common hay scythe. In his last paper, however, he seems to admit the necessity of using a bow, except when the crop is much lodged; but even in that case I am clearly of opinion that some appendage on the scythe is indispensably necessary, and certainly would prefer a small rake to anything I have yet seen. I have now had another year's experience of the cradle-scythe\*, and have no hesitation in saying that it is the most efficient implement of the kind that I know of. Its superiority to the "long curved handle" consists, as I formerly stated, in the comparative ease with which it is wrought, which every person who has used it, and with whom

I have talked on the subject, readily admits. I do not say that an experienced mower will not make sufficiently good work with a scythe fixed to the long curved handle, provided a rake be attached to it; but let any one compare such and the cradle-scythe at work together, and he will be at no loss to discover the preferable implement. Before the introduction of the cradle scythe, the scythemen used to complain a good deal, for some days at the commencement of harvest, of *sore sides*; but no such complaints are now heard of. This is easily accounted for: Before the cut corn can be laid nearly square to the uncut with the long curved or common handle, the mower's left hand requires to go at every sweep considerably farther round to the left than with the cradle-scythe, owing to the position of the handles on the sned; and this, of course, occasions a corresponding turn of his body in that direction, which must be very sensibly felt.

The rake can be made very light; in fact, very little, if anything heavier than a bow, and the expense of either is trifling. I find that one bar about 3-4ths of an inch thick quite sufficient to hold the teeth; and for all the cost I would recommend having rakes of various lengths, of from ten to thirteen or fourteen inches. For one of the shortest size, three teeth are commonly used; but I think they are no worse of four; and experience has taught me that much shorter teeth than those generally in use answer equally as well, and are much more easily disentangled of the cut corn. The teeth should be curved a little, like the blade of the scythe. Last harvest, a friend of mine suggested it as an improvement to have rakes of a circular form, and made so as to move out and in on a hinge at the lower end, in order to suit the different inclinations of the crop. Coinciding in his opinion, I got some of them made for a trial, and have the satisfaction to say, answered remarkably well. The head of the rake is eleven inches in length, and is curved to form a segment of a circle of about one foot four inches radius. The uppermost teeth is from five and a half to six inches long, and each of the three lowermost extends an inch beyond the one immediately above it. Instead of the rake being fastened to the heel of the scythe, as mentioned in my last letter, a piece of iron with two upright plates is clinked to the back of the scythe, about an inch from the back end of the blade. The rake is inserted between these upright plates, as in a socket, and a round nail with screw and nut is passed through them to keep the rake in its socket. By this contrivance, the rake can move backwards or forwards on the round nail as occasion requires. It is held steady, in whatever position it is placed, as follows: The small iron rod that connects it with the left handle of the frame is made thin at the end, and has seven or eight holes in it about 5-8ths of an inch asunder. This part of it is bent so as to correspond with the limb or plane of the handle, to which it is held fast with a nail and thumb-screw, and by which it is readily shifted. The nail is put through the handle, from the lower side, six inches above where the handles unite. When the corn stands upright, there is no difference in the position of the rake to the blade and handle of the scythe from the straight rake, except that the former is placed on the back edge of the blade, and the latter fixed into an eye-headed wedge at the heel of it. Both stand perpendicular to the blade, and it is only when the corn lies away from the scythe that the position of the circular rake differs from that of the other. If the corn be lodged or partly laid over with wind at the time of mowing, the circular rake is set back at the top by shifting the holes in the end of the rod that holds it fast to the handle, so as to answer the lay of

\* Cradle, a frame for a scythe. — *Bailey's Dictionary*.



the corn; and it is in this respect that it has the advantage of the straight-headed rake.

Last year, part of my crop, both oats and barley, was a good deal lodged; indeed, some of the former, on soft mossy land, were laid flat and twisted in every direction. The operation of cutting was consequently more tedious; but all was performed with the scythe in good style, and at much less expense than it could otherwise have been done. In instances of this kind, I would humbly recommend to cut *in* instead of *out* of corn, as it is usually termed. I adopted this plan last season, and really think it a good one. At first the scythemen were averse to it, but in less than half a day they changed their opinion, and acknowledged it to be the best. I commenced with it in a field of pretty ripe potato oats, which were a good deal lodged, and the grain dropping off in the working; and it was soon discovered that there was less loss of grain, a much freer cut, fewer rakings, and a neater stumble,—circumstances of no small moment to the farmer. The corn can be laid round, as even, and nearly as square, the one way as the other; but cutting *in*, if the crop is thick, seems rather hardest for the uptaker, which is owing, in some measure, to the free working of the scythe on the right hand, which allows the operator to come more speed.

Now that that very important operation, scythe-reaping, has become common in many parts of the country, and is practised in various ways in different places, it occurs to me that it would be an object well worth the serious consideration of our agricultural societies to promote its improvement, by holding competitions, and awarding prizes to the most meritorious competitors, as in the case of ploughing matches.\*

## A PAPER CURRENCY TO IMPROVE TRADE.

MR. EDITOR,—Every tradesman finds his business getting worse and worse, and every one knows that the distress brought upon trade and agriculture is owing to the gold currency, and there is no prospect of any improvement till a paper currency is given us. Now, the present Government says *it cannot be*. The Tory Government has said, *it shall not be*. What, therefore, are we to do, but to make a paper currency ourselves, and it may be done very easily and securely, and it would revive trade. Suppose I were a draper, or in any other trade, I would advertise, and send a circular round to my customers to say, that I would give them the usual credit, six or twelve months,—and then I would take an I O U for the amount, payable on a day agreed upon. Suppose I go to my draper, to pay my Christmas bill, and it is 27l. 14s. 6d. I pay 7l. 14s. 6d in cash, and I give four I O U notes, of 5l. each to be paid in cash, three months after, or at any time agreed upon. Suppose my name is Chalk, or Stone, or anything else, it is sufficient that I am considered a substantial man. I have given my draper four I O U notes of 5l. each, perhaps he wants to turn one or two of those I O U notes into cash—he goes to his neighbour, Mr. B., the ironmonger, and asks him; Mr. B. looks at the I O U, and says, I know Mr. Stone very well, he is safe enough; I will give you cash for it. In this way every tradesman might act, and it would be

better for him to have his cash box full of I O U notes, of substantial men, than to have his shop full of goods—and perishable goods—and no trade.—I can see no objection to this proposal; and it has been acted upon by the London bankers and merchants; and it is acted upon now by many manufacturers and farmers: for it must be known to any thinking person that there is not cash enough in England, nor half cash enough, to carry on the concerns of trade.—Some might say—one don't know who are substantial persons. A tradesman knows well who the substantial farmers are. Some might say the bankers won't like it, and they will make wry faces at it. But it would be for their benefit, for trade would be increased, and their notes would come more into use. For what objection could they have to give cash for Mr. Stone's I O U to a respectable tradesman? If any one can suggest a better plan than this, let him do so; for if something be not adopted, hundreds and thousands of tradesmen must give up.

MERCATOR.

## WILLINGDON SPARROW CLUB.

The members of this Club met lately at Willingdon, for the purpose of passing the accounts, &c.—The following return was produced by the Secretary of the numbers of sparrows and Eggs destroyed since the establishment of the club in 1832: viz:—

|      | Sparrows. | Eggs.                    |
|------|-----------|--------------------------|
| 1832 | 900       | No account of eggs kept. |
| 1833 | 2174      | 2580                     |
| 1834 | 2487      | 1203                     |
| 1835 | 4984      | 4308                     |
|      | 10545     | 8091 Total.              |

A premium is given to the person who destroys the greatest number of sparrows; and also to three boys who produce the greatest number of eggs.—The business of the club had concluded, about thirty gentlemen sat down to an excellent dinner, at the Red Lion, served up in a style of great superiority, which reflected the highest credit on Mr. and Mrs. Durrant, the landlord and landlady, and which could not have been excelled in houses of higher pretensions. Mr. J. Putland was in the chair, and Mr. T. Noakes, the Secretary, officiated as deputy. The day passed off with great pleasantry.

PRODUCE OF AN ACRE.—The Maine farmer enumerates the following articles as the produce of a single acre of ground, the past season. The land was cultivated by Stewart and Wadsworth Foster, but its situation is not mentioned:—Half a ton of hay; one hundred bushels of potatoes; eighty bushels russets, greening, and Baldwin apples; thirteen bushels of pears; twenty-five and a half bushels of parsnips; twelve and a half bushels, of beets; six bushels of carrots; thirty-five and a half bushels of onions; one bushel of corn; one bushel of beans; two hundred and ten pounds Isabella and Lisbon grapes; two hundred and twenty-three cabbage-heads; one hundred bunches of onions, carried to market; ten bushels cucumbers, for pickles; twenty-eight bushels of cider-apples; eight pounds of dry sage; eighty-one apple trees, in a bearing state, and four pear trees; three bushels of currants; three bushels of turriips; one hundred grape-roots raised and sold, and ready to sell next spring; three hundred and thirty-two mulberry trees, fit to sell,—and a plenty of green sauce of all kinds, for two families.

\* We cordially recommend this suggestion of our intelligent correspondent to all agricultural societies.  
—EDITOR.

## ON PRESERVING DAHLIAS FROM SLUGS.

BY MR. H. BOWERS, FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

*(From the Irish Farmer's Magazine.)*

Gentlemen,—If the following plan to protect young Dahlias, and other plants, from slugs, is worth a place in your valuable Magazine, it is very much at your service :—

Some few years since I superintended the reclaiming of a gentleman's garden which had been neglected for many years; and in changing the face of the whole, had an opportunity of destroying the hordes of vermin which infested the place, by burning and trenching the soil, and entrapping them in every possible way. Nevertheless, in the spring of the third season, when finishing the gardens, I discovered the common slugs (*Limax agrestis*—*hyalinus* and *ater alba*), to be very numerous, and annoying to the garden crops. Having procured a choice collection of Dahlias,—including the splendid Irish varieties, which were very scarce at the time in the London nurseries, and consequently small and expensive,—I felt great anxiety about protecting them; however, about the middle of May, I determined on planting a few of the cheapest and strongest kinds, by the way of feelers; and I then strewed hot slacked lime about some, shook saw-dust and coal-cinders about others, but to no purpose, for next morning my "*Lady Liverpool*," "*Star of Brunswick*," and "*Mountain of Snow*," were levelled with the dust. I planted others, and watered the ground with acids; indeed, after various experiments, I proved the following to be most effectual and satisfactory :—I procured a quantity of horse-hair, and cut it into lengths of four inches, which I mixed up in a heap, and twisted into large string of eighteen inches long; two or three of these platted together, (resembling what milk-maids use to restrain a kicking cow) and the ends nicely joined, giving them a ring-like, or circular appearance. When the required number is made, (one for each plant) and the Dahlias planted out, break the earth fine, and strew fine sand or coal ashes around each; then put on the rings of horse-hair pressing them slightly in the sand to prevent the slugs from getting underneath, and the numerous prickles on the hair guards will be a complete barrier against their getting over, either in wet or dry weather. It is amusing to see them approach the guards,—the instant they touch them they shrink back as if pricked with a hundred needles. The shorter the hair is the better, as furnishing a greater number of ends or prickles on the surface, which presents by no means an inviting road to these tender-bodied pests. Horse-hair is easily got in most country places, and readily made up for this purpose by any handy man; they have a neat and orderly appearance in the garden, and with a little care will last for an age. In this way I have preserved the Dahlias, some of which were very delicate, from these destructive intruders.

preserved for the table. The subject which we now, however, allude to, is a tree of the continent of South America, and is of recent introduction. The species *Cuttleyanum*—Cattley's or the purple-fruited guava—was introduced in 1818, and is a strong evergreen. The leaves are firm in texture, oval, somewhat pointed; the edges without any indentures or n flowers are small and white, produced o branches in great numbers, and are succeeded by berries, which become ripe in the winter. These are of a dark purple colour, about the size of small goose-berries, pulpy, and contain several seeds, which may be sown in January or February. We are enabled to speak with confidence of the treatment which the Guava demands to bring it to a fertile state. Let the seeds, divested of pulp (by rubbing them gently in the hand with some fine soft mould), be sown immediately in a pot of light loam, mixe with one-third of heath mould, and covered with the same to the depth of one-fourth of an inch. Press the surface even, and keep the earth constantly in a gently moist condition, and the pots in a house or frame where the heat will never be less than 52 degrees at night. The seed-leaves will soon appear, and when the young plants are two inches high, raise them very carefully, and transfer to very small pots, containing a soil composed of half loam and half bog-earth, or leaf-mould, one plant to each pot. Shade at first, and at all times give water regularly. Shift the plants as the roots reach the sides, which will be, perhaps, three times during the first year; and at every remove increase the proportion of fine rich loam. If the plants be cut back four inches, when they attain the height of 12 inches, the number of lateral shoots will be greatly increased, and the shrubs will resemble the pretty specimen figured in No. 5, p. 119, of Mr. Paxton's *Magazine of Botany*, though it must be admitted that the lateral shoots of the plant do not always assume so regular a form. If the leaders be not shortened they will grow erect without producing a succession of side shoots. Fertility will soon result from the amputation of the head of the main stems, and in two years from the sowing of the seeds, blossom-buds will, in many instances, be seen upon plants not two feet in height. The interest attached to this fine evergreen is greatly enhanced by the facility with which it adapts itself to almost any situation. After the first winter it may be kept in the green house; and in June may be exposed with myrtles and other plants. It has been kept in the open air till November, and received no injury from a degree or two of frost. It delights in frequent waterings, and retains the full verdure of its fine large opposite leaves, which literally clothe the shrub from the very surface of the soil. A few small plants will furnish a dessert, and these may be grown in pots scarcely seven inches broad at the rims; but in large pots or tubs, and especially if it be planted in the soil of a warm conservatory, the purple Guava will become a fine tree and yield a vast abundance of fruit.

## EPITAPH ON A GARDENER.

Beneath this sod an honest gardener's laid,  
Who long was thought the *tulip* of his trade;  
A life of many years to him was known,  
But now he his withered like a rose o'erblown.  
Like a transplanted flower be this his doom,  
Fading in this world, in the next to bloom.

THE GUAVA.—As a delicious article of the dessert, Guava jelly has long been known and esteemed; but few, perhaps, are acquainted with the tree which produces it. *Psidium pomiferum*, and *pyriferum*, the apple and the pear fruited Guava, are natives of the West Indies, and bear eatable fruit, which is also



## AGRICULTURAL REPORTS.

## BERKS.

The weather since our last has been everything that the occupiers of the soil could wish for; it has been alternately hot and cold, wet and dry, sunshine and cloudy, so that nearly every soil and situation has been suited. The gentle rains have brought the grass along beyond our expectations, and there appears everywhere the prospect of a bountiful crop of hay. The ray-grass is already fit for the scythe, and is grown of a fair length; and the clover, where the land is in good condition, promises uncommonly well. Trefoil and Dutch clover are also in a flourishing state, and many of the meadows would now mow more grass than they would last year at Midsummer, but we think that the crop of sainfoin is no better than it was last year. Scarlet clover, where there is a stock, has a beautiful appearance, and a great proportion will be saved for seed, and as the yield is generally most abundant, we shall not wonder if the market is overdone next year, and the price at one-third of what it was last seed time—a rich, gravelly, forward soil seems to be most suitable for this plant, and it is much more nutritious in a green state than when made into hay. The sowing of turnips has already commenced, and some few pieces are up and looking well, and the fallows are altogether in a fine and excellent state for this crop, and if the fly is not too numerous and too busy, there will most likely be an abundant crop. Rape gets more and more into fashion, as it is found to be better than any other kind of food for sheep, and the wheat grown after it is found to yield more and be a better sample than it is after vetches or turnips, and a great deal of rape has already been sown. The wheat on deep rich land is in general very broad in the blade, and of a particularly black hue; and will, we fear, as soon as it is out in ear, if not before, fall down and sustain great injury, and in some places, in the vale of Berks, the flag has been cut off with scythes to prevent its falling; on hills, and on high and exposed situations, the cold frosty nights have turned the blade yellow, but we do not believe that much injury has been sustained. The charcoal and poppy has amazingly grown and increased, and seems likely to get high and overpower the wheat and do it a vast deal of injury, and the late dripping weather has been uncommonly favourable for the growth of weeds, while it has kept the wheat so continually wet as to prevent the weeds from working. Although the look of the wheat crop to a passer-by is doubtless pleasing and satisfactory, and nothing that we can state will have any effect on a superficial observer, yet we must beg leave to state that we never knew a showery May produce a yielding crop, and, in our own private opinion, and which opinion has been formed after thirty years of observation and experience, the prospect is not in reality a good one, but we confess that our opinion is not the general one. The early-sown oats are looking uncommonly well, and are free from weeds, and promise an abundant crop. Beans and peas have also a very luxuriant appearance, and promise well, at least, for a good crop of straw. A part of the barley crop on light and chalky soils has been very seriously injured by the wire-worm, and in some places this mischievous insect has committed such depredations, and made the barley so thin of plant, that some of the pieces would be immediately ploughed up were it not that they are sown with grass, which has taken well; on deep soils, and on loamy and gravelly soils, the barley crop pro-

mises uncommonly well, and the bulk must to a certainty be great. Every kind of grain is we think a fortnight later than it has been for the last two years, for some of the wheat does not yet show any swelling for the ear, although it is grown of a good length, and we think, in some instances, the month of June will be past before the ear is fully out. The wheat markets continue in the same dull state, and as this is nearly the only grain a farmer has to sell, he is often put to most terrible shifts, and it is probable that, notwithstanding the low price at which wheat is selling, there will be less left in the farmer's hands than there was last year, because the majority of the farmers will be obliged to dispose of it for the purpose of paying their way. Sheep have maintained their price, and, contrary to the usual rule, ewe tegs have been more inquired after and sold higher than wether tegs. Lambs have begun selling at much higher prices than we expected, and we have heard of good lambs having been sold from the mother's side at 20s. per head. The wet weather that so damaged the wheat in this county last harvest has unfortunately done other mischief, for it has rotted many of the sheep, and we know of one or two parishes where it is just discovered they have not a sound sheep in the place, so that loss upon loss seems to rapidly fall upon the farmers in some situations, and many must inevitably be ruined in spite of all their efforts. A few of the long-woolled and white-faced tegs have already been shorn, and 50s. per tod has been asked for the wool, but we have not yet learned that any bargain has been made: sheep keep is everywhere most abundant, and the vetches are far better than usual. The crop of cherries is in general a good one, and we are in hopes that the apple crop will be equally good. Potatoes are very plentiful, and are pushed into the market in double quantities, and the common sorts may now be purchased at a shilling a bushel, and the low price at which they may be bought for seed has induced persons to plant more ground than usual this spring. Pigs are getting higher in price, particularly small ones, and if the beans and peas and barley turn out to be a good crop, so that food may be plentiful, it is fully expected that pigs will be dearer. There is a great breadth of turnip seed saved, and as soon as the same can be brought into the market, there will most likely be a fall in the price. The system of paying the able-bodied paupers in bread and other provisions has been adopted, but much murmuring and discontent has been the consequence, and in some few places the provisions have been systematically refused, and some turbulence and disorder has ensued; for our own part, we think this practice one of the best parts of the New Poor Law Bill, and we hope and trust that it will be persevered in throughout the country, for it is most shameful that the money extracted from the pockets of the suffering and industrious farmers and tradesmen, for the professed object of feeding the poor and destitute, should be squandered in ale-houses and beer shops by a parcel of idle and saucy fellows, who for several years past have been living on the industry of others. The man that is improvident ought to be paid in provisions instead of money, and he can have no real ground of complaint if such is provided for him to a reasonable amount, and no man ought to have the handling of money who is able to earn money but who will not, or does not try to earn it, and the able-bodied pauper ought never to be so well off as the independent labourer, or there will soon be an end to all industry.—June 1.

## SOMERSETSHIRE.

Hitherto there has been but little clear settled summer weather, with the degree of heat usual at this season; and there are no indications of an early harvest. The growing crops of corn and pulse of all kinds are however thriving, and in very many instances luxuriant. Of hay, particularly in the meadows, it may be calculated that the produce will be much greater than during any of the three preceding years. Vetches have been abundant, and the lands on which they were grown have been either planted with potatoes, or are under preparation for turnips, which, with a moderate quantity of fresh dressing, in addition to the produce of the fold, in this system are generally very good.

The orchards received a severe check from the frosts in May, when the blossom was injured to a considerable extent on the early fruits, but of even these there will be a good sprinkling, and of all others, unless fresh accidents should occur, the produce will numerically be unusually large. Yet we do not anticipate that the cider will be in proportion, for the number of crumplings seem to be immense. It is almost impossible to quote the price of cider. Whatever be the offer, the seller accepts it from dire necessity.

Of the various articles of farm produce, fat beasts alone have obtained an advance since our last report. Prime winter-fed heifers and small oxen are now worth 9s. a score. The season for maling is just passed, and the sale of barley closed for more reasons than one: there is none in the hands of the growers.

Our best thanks are due to the Marquis of Chandos for his noble perseverance in seeking to alleviate the urgent distress of the agriculturists, although we have never been among those who thought this object could be obtained merely by remission of taxes. This, however, may be co-efficient with other means, and is not to be undervalued. But if the agricultural interest, in which we include both landlords and renters, escape general ruin, there must be an alteration in the currency of such a nature as to enhance prices. Last year we were told how much benefit was to accrue from the new poor law; but we find none, the expenditure is as great as ever, more persons are in the workhouses, and more idle fellows are nominally set on work, but literally are more idle and profligate than ever. We receive prompt and civil answers from the board of commissioners to any interrogatories, but of the rules and regulations for the guidance of parishes and select vestries, we are still left to conjecture what they may be. The Radical press would wish us to believe that a reduction of rent is all that is wanted to make the condition of the farmer quite delightful. But at present prices of corn, tillage land can pay no rent. What is then the landowner to do without an income? On this farm, in 1793, the palmy days of the economists, *eighty bushels of wheat paid our poor rates*; we are now obliged to sell *three hundred to discharge them*. *Sixty bushels of wheat* paid the lay impropriator for tithes; now he demands *one hundred and fifty*. *Three hundred bushels* discharged the smaller parochial rates and labour; now *eight hundred* are hardly sufficient. With the present amount of national debt, and the incumbrances on land, let the economists solve this problem.

## SUSSEX.

We sit down to write our monthly report with a heavy heart—for on every side the agricultural

horizon, (if we may be allowed to use the term) seems dark and gloomy—and scarcely a speck of light to be seen even to warrant the hope of returning sunshine. There have been three motions made in parliament for our relief—two by the Marquis of Chandos, and one by Mr. Cayley, all of which have been negated by considerable majorities: as in each case several members whom we know to be at heart sincere friends to the agricultural interest, have either not supported the motion or voted against it,—we are quite sure that they have failed to do so from a conviction that better times are at hand and that other remedies will be applied. Most heartily do we pray that they may be correct—sure are we, that one more year like the last will crush many thousands of industrious men—occupiers of arable land.

In this county as we said last year, the humorous caricaturist, H. B., might make an excellent hit, respecting three farmers in the water, one up to his neck, merely resting his head on a cloth of wool; the second in the same state, varying it by resting his on a pocket of hops; the third unfortunate man who has neither to rest on, just making his disappearance being engulfed in the deep. The moment there comes a general good crop of hops, down will go the price, and the growers will be as bad off as they were some years since when hops sold at 40s per cwt.

Again, as to the wool growers, if through a great increase of importation of foreign wool, and a sudden falling off in demand for our woollens, Southdown wool should fall, as a few years ago, to eight pence per pound, they would sink with their brother farmers. One need bring forward no other argument to prove the unfortunate situation in which the agricultural interest is placed, than the fact that nothing but a bad harvest can be of service to them.

The late rains have been very partial—in some places the barleys are suffering very much from the drought. Wheat on strong soils look very well, but on the lighter soils the dry weather has been too much for it. In this county, the labourers in some places have, from mistaken feelings, shown symptoms of resistance to the New Poor Laws; but, by the prompt measures of the magistrates, the ringleaders have been secured and things are going on quietly. All that is wanted is to enable the farmers to employ them, but at the present price of wheat it is quite out of their power to do so. In your last, it was stated by a correspondent, that it was the intention of ministers (or rather, we suppose, of Mr. Poulett Thomson), to reduce the duty on foreign cloverseed; this, we should think, must be a mistake. We cannot believe the government so lost to all feeling for the farmer as to discourage the grower of an article which gives more employment for our labourers in the winter season than any other produce of the soil. Should it be proposed, we trust every market town in England will immediately petition against it; and let every member of parliament be urged to oppose so impolitic a measure.

## NORFOLK.

Although the wheats have materially improved in their appearance since our last report, yet the prevalence of cold northerly winds and frosty nights has contributed to keep them in check and to confirm the opinion which we have uniformly advanced relative to the backward state of the crop. As compared with last year, there will be a difference of nearly three weeks in the process of shooting the ear, which then commenced about the 25th or 26th of May, whereas at the present



moment there is no probability that a wheat-ear will be forthcoming before the 10th or 12th of June. Thus the commencement of the harvest will necessarily be deferred to the second or third week in August, or even beyond that period if it should happen to be dripping weather, of which there is some probability. This will afford a month's additional consumption to clear off the surplus stock of old wheat arising from two super-abundant harvests in succession—namely those of 1833 and 1834. Now experience has at all times contributed to establish the fact that however trifling the supply of any article, which must be forced upon the market, is above the demand, and *vice versa*, that the value of that article will be raised or depreciated thereby in an undue proportion; a notable proof of this position may be adduced from the relative prices of wheat and barley during the last malting season, and in the price of beef at this moment compared with what it fetched within the lapse of one month only. No further demonstration is required to establish our position, and we confess that we are somewhat sanguine in our expectations that similar causes will produce similar effects in the price of wheat before very many weeks have transpired. Barley and oats are rather of a questionable character, particularly the former; in some districts the plant is promising and luxuriant, and in others meagre and unhealthy, and so thinned by the wire worm that it would seem more than two-thirds deficient of plant. We do not anticipate a very heavy crop of hay, although the weather would seem to favour that supposition; nevertheless the land is well covered, the bottom thick set, the stem fine, and the quality will be excellent if the season should turn out propitious for the harvesting. The clipping season is likely to satisfy the wool growers; generally speaking the fleeces weigh well, and the price of wool from 50s to 56s a tod, with rather a tendency to advance than otherwise; this with the improvement in the value of beef will help to bring up some of the lee-way and back-reckoning of those who are fortunate enough to be the holders of either the one or the other.—June 1.

#### RUTLANDSHIRE.

This county is remarkable for its quantity of useful land, suitable to a variety of modes of husbandry; it possesses fine rich pastures and excellent red tillage land, and generally throughout the county well watered: it has hills, dales, woods, and abounds in pleasant and beautiful scenery. It is not a thickly populated county, but its population in the humbler classes are aided and assisted in almost numberless instances by voluntary charity in the shape of county institutions, district institutions, village institutions; in short, it may fairly be said, the county of Rutland, in acts of benevolence, stands foremost in the rank of prosperity, if there is any to share. These voluntary contributions and personal services of the more wealthy part of the inhabitants adds much towards the reduction of compulsory payments. Consequently rates and payments usual upon occupation are for the most part under the generality of amount.

The occupiers may be considered an intelligent people, possessing much good will and feeling for each other, and though agriculture is so much depressed in all parts of the country, this county bears up against such alarming depression with unaltered *zeal and industry*; and no county in England has made greater improvements in husbandry in the last seven years than this.

The fine weather of late has rapidly brought forth promising crops of hay, the clovers are abundant, and in some few instances cut: old hay is very scarce, but lately reduced in price. The pastures have been quite as good as in former seasons, and the sheep turn out of their long wool in good condition; the price of the latter does not appear to be settled, about another fortnight will inform the sellers what may be expected, but it is thought that at present it will not command so good a price as last season; 42s per tod for mixed clips is spoken of. Beasts are backened in condition in consequence of the hay being scarce in the spring.

The wheats look well, and promise a full crop, but there are not the acres sown as in former years. The price of this article causes general dissatisfaction, 36s to 38s per qr., and *must ruin* the occupiers of thousands of acres of land, even if the landlord gives up *all his rent*.

Barley, oats, and beans promise well. Some few turnips have been sown with varied success, but the last week has been considered favourable, and the preceding burning suns unfavourable.

Oak and oak bark lower than last year by about 10 or 15 per cent.

What will be done for agriculture generally remains to be known, evidently it is and has been a bad business to follow with a view to profit, and is likely to continue so if the *burthens* are not taken off, and all foreign produce imported under better regulations and higher duties. Many of the great landholders say why do not the farmers *unite* and petition government? The farmer answers with question—Why don't you unite and save your estates from the monied interest?—June 16.

#### NORTHUMBERLAND.

Since my last report we have had a continuance of cold dry pining weather, with generally frosty nights, which has caused a late backward spring, in consequence of which, almost every particle of both hay and straw have been eat up, and the pastures kept very short; within these few days we have had some fine rains, which has changed the appearance of the country very much; the winter sown wheat is looking tolerably well considering the cold weather which we have had, and also the spring crops are looking well. It can now by no means be an early harvest; fortunately there is a great quantity of wheat in hand, so that there need be no apprehension of any scarcity on that account.

Our markets here for wheat still keep in a very languid state; the best wheat is scarcely worth 5s per bushel. Oats have considerably improved in price, and barley also, owing to its being in few hands.

Beef is selling from 5s to 6s per stone; mutton 4d to 4½d per lb. clipped sheep.

The market at Whitsunbank for rough hogs was about 4s a-head lower than last year's price; the best Leicester hogs 36s a-head, and inferior from 30s to 32s a-head; a dull market, with few Yorkshire buyers out.

The sowing of turnips has now commenced pretty generally, the Swedish turnips being nearly all sown. The weather within these few days has been rather wet, and retarded that operation, but as soon as it gets out again, the sowing of white turnips will commence briskly.—June 4.

#### CUMBERLAND.

Since our last report the weather has been favourable for the farmers in the cleaning of land

for the different green crops. Potatoes were planted in what was considered in fine order, but great complaints are made that large plots have not vegetated. Turnip sowing goes on without any interruption, and in general the land is well prepared for the seed: the fly is making destruction amongst some of the Swedes, but it is hoped not to the extent as to cause the land to be re-sown. Wheat has the appearance of making a bountiful crop. Oats are very backward, and in many situations very thin upon the ground. Barley was favoured with a fine seed season, and looks well. Sown grasses are making out very well upon good conditioned land, but upon poor and undrained lands they are very thin. Fat cattle have become very scarce, and consequently dear; sheep also sell at remunerating prices. Wool is much the same price as last year; Cheviot hog wool is worth from 1s 6d to 1s 8d per lb. Lean cattle and milch cows are low in price, and difficult to make into money. Horses that are good, both for draught and harness, are readily sold, and at good prices.—June 9.

#### BERWICKSHIRE.

Agricultural operations have met with no interruption in the course of the month which is now come to a close. Preparing of land for turnips went on in the best style, the sowing of which commenced in the middle of the month. The Swedish species are now nearly all in the ground, and the earliest sown are presenting a promising braid. The sowing of yellow turnips is going on, and of common about to begin. Our prevailing winds have been from the east, and the temperature lower than in many former years. Vegetation, of course, has been slower than we have seen it; but there is nothing discouraging in the aspect either of the growing crops or of the pastures. The latter afford a fair supply for the keeping stock, all of which are in good condition. Over the whole country winter wheat has a very promising appearance, and if the weather be favourable, the earliest sown will soon be in the shot blade. The earliest planted potatoes are making their appearance above ground. We hear of no complaint at present among agriculturists, but that prices will not enable them to pay their rent and defray other expenses.—June 1.

#### PERTSHIRE.

The seasonable May showers which followed the dry weather in the Spring months, have proved highly favourable to vegetation in general. The soil is now completely moistened, and with genial warmth every part of the growing crop will make rapid progress. In the higher districts wheat had a rather thin and unequal appearance about the date of our last, on dry bottoms the appearance has been much improved by the rains. In the lower districts the appearance of wheat is highly flattering. On ordinary soils the plants stand sufficiently close. On rich lands an over luxuriance may render that part of the crop more liable to be lodged by rains, after the plant has been some time in the ear. Oats having come up fair on all sorts of soils, have on dry bottoms improved much by the rain. On retentive soils the temperature has of late been rather low for producing a healthy vegetation, with so much moisture in the soil, and on such grounds, the foliage has a yellowish and rather sickly tinge, but on all friable loams, and well drained lands, oats have a promising appear-

ance; in some instances the grub or wireworms have been at work. On stubborn soils barley gave an unequal braid, but the rains have remedied that defect, and the plants now stand closer, and promise to ear evenly. Barley like oats show symptoms of too much moisture at the root on "water eaten" lands; with this exception the appearance is highly favourable. Cutting grass has improved much by the rains, but still it is likely to yield a light crop of hay. Pastures have improved much in the course of the month, and pease and beans have grown rapidly since the rains reached the root. Potatoes were all planted, with very few exceptions, by the 20th of May, and the soil was sufficiently moist for promoting their growth. In some situations where they were planted very early we have heard some few complaints of the seed tubers rotting: this disease cannot well be attributed, this season, to over dryness of the soil, and at present strong hopes are entertained that there will be little ground of complaint as to rotting. Fallows have received a furrow, and turnip ground is in a state of forward preparation.

Wheat is still low in price, in barley there is little to do. Oats are still in demand, but of them there is not much on hand. Cattle improved a shade in price at the Spring markets. Horses for some years past brought high prices compared with other stock, of late their price approximates more nearly to that of cattle.—June 2.

#### EAST LOTHIAN.

The wheat everywhere continues to improve, and, perhaps, in no former season were appearances ever more promising in regard to the bulk of the crop, although much depends on the weather during summer for its ultimate productiveness; some of the earliest fields are beginning to spindle, and in eight or ten days hence will be bursting into ear. The oats and barley have recovered their natural verdure, and are thriving vigorously, while the horse and hand hoe are actively employed among the drilled beans, as besides the benefit to them, much of the success of the following white crop depends upon their accurate cultivation. A considerable portion of the Swedish turnip is sown, and as the ground works uncommonly well, a continuation of the present favourable weather will allow that interesting branch of husbandry to be finished to the wishes of the farmer. As much had been said, through the medium of the press, and otherwise, in favour of *Trifolium Incarnatum*, a species of clover lately brought into notice in the south end of the island, different trials have been made of its value by sowing it last autumn, on some of the finest land in the country, but it has turned out a total failure. A new kind of rye grass, named the Italian rye-grass, and greatly lauded, has also been tried here. It was sown last spring in the usual manner, and this season it was obviously earlier than the common sort; it had a tender and succulent appearance, and seems relished by the stock where the land is pastured; but it will require more extended experience to speak decisively on the subject. In the Corn Markets, oats, beans, and peas, have for some time past been comparatively scarce, and the same appears to be the case generally through the country. Fat cattle have lately sold better than for months previous, and the demand for sheep and lambs continues fair, and the prices reasonable, yet many of the young sheep or hogs, from being bought in when lambs were at high prices, will leave when fat, but little profit to the grazier.—May 30.



## AGRICULTURAL INTELLIGENCE, FAIRS, &c.

**CHELMSFORD WOOL FAIR AND PRIZE CATTLE SHOW.**—The first Wool Fair for Essex, was held here June 16, under the patronage of the "Chelmsford and Essex Agricultural Association," and was well attended, notwithstanding the unavoidable absence of many of the neighbouring gentry, whose engagements, and among others their Parliamentary duties, which demanded their presence, and could not be dispensed with. The sheep, cow kine, swine, and horses, were all admired. Among those which excited the greatest curiosity was a three-year-old Merino wether, that had never been shorn, the property of Lord Western. This animal, the fleece of which was of the most beautiful quality, has been a great object with his lordship to make equally desirable to the butcher and the consumer as the fleece is to the manufacturer, and in this endeavour his lordship has in a great measure succeeded. A very considerable quantity of wool was disposed of, part produced in the bulk, and some by sample only. The prices varied from 15d to 16d for ewe, and 19d to 22d per lb for teg. The principal buyers were Messrs. Johns, Chelmsford; Unwin, Coggeshall; Matthews, Witham; Oram, Fyfield; Page, Manningtree, &c. &c. These gentlemen are required to send to Mr. Gilson, the Secretary, on or before Monday next, certificates of the quantities purchased by them, in order to determine to whom the silver cup offered by the Society, shall be awarded. The new Market House was open for the reception of the wool, and also of the company had the weather proved unfavourable. The sheep shearing attracted a large concourse of spectators. In this department, the skill exhibited by the competitors was various, but commendable in all.

The Prizes in the different classes were adjudged as follow:

### SHEEP.

Judges: Messrs. T. Seabrook, James Christy, and C. Matson.

**DOWN RAMS.**—1st prize of 2l 2s to Mr. I. Belcher, of Danbury.—2nd prize of 1l 1s to T. W. Bramston, Esq. M. P.—For these prizes there was no competition.

**LONG WOOL LAMBS.**—1st prize of 2l 2s to Mr. W. F. Hobbs, of Marks Hall.—2d prize of 1l 1s to Mr. S. Bridge, of Halstead, for a ram teg.—The other competitors were: Mr. T. Bridge, who showed a long wool ram hogget—much commended; Mr. Wm. Steele, a shearing ram; Mr. Henry Cleve; Mrs. Douglas, of Great Baddow, three Leicester rams, one, two, and three years old; and Mr. Wm. Gale, a Kent ram.

**DOWN HOGGETS.**—1st prize of 2l 2s to T. W. Bramston, Esq., M. P., whose pen of four ewe hoggets was the only one shown,

**LONG WOOL HOGGETS.**—1st prize 2l 2s to Mr. W. F. Hobbs.—2d prize of 1l 1s to Mr. Henry Cleve, of Rottendon.—The other competitors were: Mrs. Douglas, four Leicesters; Mr. Wm. Gale, four Kents; Mr. Thomas Bridge, four ewe hoggets, fourteen months old.

C. T. Tower, Esq., showed four beautiful hoggets, but being Merinos, the Judges did not consider them qualified. (The sheep generally were greatly admired.)

### STOCK.

Judges: C. C. Parker, Esq., and Messrs. W. Pavitt and J. Buttle.

**FOR THE BEST BULL.**—Mr. I. Blythe received a prize of 2l 2s for a short-horned two-year old bull, of beautiful symmetry; Mr. Bramston a prize of 30s for a yearling of the same stock.

**TWO YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.**—Mr. T. W. Crooks, a prize of 30s for a Durham.—The prize of 30s for the best Yearling Heifer was also awarded to Mr. Crooks.

Mr. R. Baker, of Writtle, obtained the prize of 30s for the best milch Cow, a Durham.

### HORSES.

Judges: Messrs. Robert Baker, William Crush, Philip Dowsett, and John Smith.

**CART STALLIONS.**—1st prize of 3l 3s to Mr. John

Upson, of Rivenhall, for a Suffolk stallion.—2d prize of 2l 2s to Mr. Wm. Simmons, of Little Baddow, for a home-bred.—Mr. Simmons exhibited two stallions in this class.

**CART MARES.**—1st prize of 2l 2s to Mr. William Seabrook, of Boreham, for a home-bred.—2d ditto of 1l 1s to Mr. Wm. Wright of East Hanningfield, for a home-bred.

### SWINE.

Judges: Messrs. M. Mason, Thomas Bridge, and T. W. Crooks.

**FOR THE BEST BOAR.**—Mr. Charles Milburn, of Great Baddow, a prize of 1l 1s for a very handsome boar of the Sussex breed.

**FOR THE BEST SOW.**—Sir John Tyrell, a prize of 1l 1s for a fine Neapolitan sow.

### WOOL.

Judges: Messrs. Thomas Johns, R. Oram, and Stephen Unwin, jun.

A prize of 2ls for the best down fleece—Mr. Isaac Belcher.

A similar prize for the best long fleece.—Mr. W. F. Hobbs.

### SHEARERS.

1st prize of 1l 1s for the best sheep shearers, clipping any of the sheep shown—Richard Jarvis, recommended by Mr. T. W. Crooks.

2d prizes of 10s 6d to Josiah Kemp, recommended by Mr. W. F. Hobbs.

3d prize of 5s Wm. Neale, recommended by Mr. T. Bridge.

At four o'clock, about 120 gentlemen, members of the Society and their friends, sat down to an excellent dinner at the Saracen's Head Inn, John Disney, Esq. the President, in the Chair.

## WISBEACH HORSE AND CATTLE FAIR.

—It is with great pleasure we announce that the regulations made for the improvement of this fair are attended with the most flattering prospects of success. On Thursday, June 11, a greater quantity of stock was exhibited than has been known for a number of years; the increase of company was very considerable; and, on the whole, there is no doubt but that the hopes of the most sanguine of its projectors will be realised. The stock shown for the premiums were in fine condition, and gave general satisfaction. The umpires, Mr. Isaac Mears, of Gedney Hill, and Mr. John Hall, of St. Mary's, near Lynn, having attentively viewed the horses, beasts, and sheep, retired to the White Hart Inn, where an excellent dinner was provided. The town bailiff, (Mr. Henry Leach,) with upwards of forty of the principal graziers in Wisbech and the neighbourhood, attended. After the customary toasts had been given, the chairman, Samuel Jealous, Esq., of Parson Drove, distributed the following premiums:—

Five Sovereigns to Mr. George Chapel, of Melbourn, in this county, for the best two-year-old cart gelding.

Five Sovs. to Mr. Freeman, of Spalding, for the best two-year-old filly.

Three Sovs. to Mr. Cork, of Tydd St. Giles, for the best yearling cart colt.

Three Sovs. to Wm. Ullett, Esq., of Wiltsthorpe, Lincolnshire, for the best yearling filly,

Five Sovs. to Mr. Charles Oldham, of Wisbech St. Mary, for the best half-score short-horned beasts.

Five Sovs. to Mr. John Murley, of Walsoken, for the best score of shearing wethers; and

Five Sovs. to Mr. Wm. Smith, of Tydd St. Mary's, for the best score of lambhogs.

Great praise is due to the umpires in making their award, selecting from many excellent animals those that were truly superior.—John Johnson, Esq., of Leverington, and Mr. Wm. Dow, of Needham Hall, showed some beasts which were generally admired. Some extra stock were exhibited, not with a view of

obtaining premiums, but to show the improved breed of animals in the neighbourhood; particularly a fine young short-horned bull, the property of Mr. John Peck, of Parson Drove; and a very superior ram lambbrog, bred by Mr. Porter, of West Walton, which for symmetry of frame, covered by an extraordinary fleece of wool, claimed much attention. A discussion took place respecting the utility of establishing a fat stock market at Wisbech. The town bailiff explained the views and wishes of several of the inhabitants, and it is contemplated to call an early meeting to forward so desirable an object. A considerable sum of money was collected in the room to continue the premiums next year. Many loyal and agricultural toasts were drunk, and the company separated highly gratified with the business of the day.

**THE DENVER SHEEP SHOW.**—It is not generally known that the Messrs. Brown of Denver and Wimbotsham, near Downham, have for many years turned their attention to rearing tups of the pure Leicester breed; and that they have established an annual meeting, open to all agriculturists for the disposal of these animals. The meeting for the present year took place on Wednesday the 10th of June, and was attended (besides many of the neighbouring farmers) by several friends from a distance, who, if not all practical farmers, were warmly interested in the success of agricultre. The sheep were exhibited with and without their fleeces (these were of remarkable length of staple and fine fibre, one measuring nearly 15 inches long,) and all the stages, from a hogget to a three, four, and even five year sheep, and were greatly admired for their symmetry, weight of wool, and for those various points which, in the estimation of good judges, go to make up a perfect animal. One thing respecting this excellent breed of sheep not a little staggered us, and that is, they have been bred in and in for the last forty years—in other words, neither male nor female of any other flock have been resorted to, to keep up the breed. We were assured of this fact by Mr. Chester, who had known the flock during the whole of that period. After viewing the sheep, the company set down to an excellent dinner, which had been prepared under an awning in front of the house. A variety of appropriate toasts were drunk, and the afternoon passed in conversation suitable to the occasion; in the course of which Mr. Cline's little treatise on the form of animals was adverted to by Messrs. Hunter, R. Childs, and others, as containing what may be termed the golden rules of breeding. Mr. Childs, who last year reprinted this work for distribution amongst his agricultural friends, very liberally offered copies of it to all who would accept the same and read it with attention. Having enjoyed the good things so plentifully provided by their worthy hosts and their fair relations, the company once more adjourned to the sheep-yard, where much business was done—by which it would appear they saw double the beauties in the stock after, than they did before dinner. We only hope the day passed off as profitably for the Messrs. Brown, as it did for their respective guests.

At **DERBY FAIR**, there was a tolerable good show of milking cows and store cattle; for the former there was a good attendance of buyers, but owing to the dry weather business was unusually dull, except in very fresh barren cows. In the sheep market there were only a few shown, and very little done. Horses were not numerous; a string or two of useful ones were exhibited, and good hacks, as well as smart ponies, were looked for, and might have reached improved prices.

#### LEWES COLT SHOW AND HORSE FAIR.

—On Tuesday last a meeting of the subscribers to the above Show and Fair was holden at the Star Inn, and we are gratified to learn that it was determined, that the exhibition shall again take place in the spring, which is decidedly the most preferable season of the year for the sale of riding and carriage horses, it being a period when the London dealers are generally in the market, although the cattle may not be in the condition in the spring, that they would be at the latter end of the summer. It is necessary, however, in order that colts may be bred to be profitable to the owners, that they should be well kept through the winter, and the fair being held in the spring, will, no doubt, be an inducement to the breeders to be particular in this respect.

**ROSS FAIR.**—The fat sheep at this fair were as plentiful as usual; small weights sold readily at full 5½d per lb, heavy sheep fetched only 5d, with a dull sale. There were few steers, but they sold at better prices than of late. A small supply of fat cows, which did not sell so well as at the last fair. Very few hack horses; good ones sold readily. Cart horses met with a dull sale.

**MONMOUTH FAIR** was not very numerously attended, but the business transacted was of a more lively description than of late, and there was a visible improvement in price. Fat cattle, of which description very few were brought to the fair, sold from 5½d to 6d per lb; cows and calves, steers and bullocks, full ten per cent. higher than at the monthly market. Sheep fetched 5½d to 6d; lambs, 6d to 6½d per lb; couples were in demand. Pigs experienced rather a dull sale. The horse fair was well attended, and a good deal of business was done.

**NORTHAMPTON WOOL FAIR** will be held on the 4th July. We take this opportunity of reminding shepherds who propose to become candidates for the premiums offered by the Farming and Grazing Society to the Shepherd who shall rear the largest number of lambs, that their certificates must be sent in on or before the day appointed for the wool fair.

**ROWELL ANNUAL FAIR** exhibited a large stock of store beasts, but few of good quality. All the latter were sold at high prices, as well as a great part of the inferior. This fair is usually supplied with large numbers of Scots. It is remarkable that on the present occasion not one was to be seen.

At **WHITTLESEY HORSE FAIR** there was a tolerable show of cart colts, which went off rather slowly at late prices. For nags the demand was better, and more might have been sold. A few short-horned steers were shown, but the prices demanded seemed too high.—At the show-yard for cart colts and fillies there was considerable competition; the prizes were awarded to—Thos. Bowker, Esq., of Whittlesey, for the best two-year-old cart gelding, 5 sovs.; to Mr. John Freeman, of Spalding, for the best two-year-old cart filly, 5 sovs.; to Mr. Wm. Nix, of Somersham, for the best yearling cart colt, 5 sovs.; to Mr. Chas. Boyce, of Whittlesey, for the best yearling cart filly, 5 sovs.

At **TURRET MARKET**, held at Crief, the supply of cattle, which consisted chiefly of lean stock, was large, for which there was but little demand, and prices considerably on the decline. Stots of two years old brought from 3l 10s to 5l 10s, being a reduction since last year of 15s a-head. Good fat, which was scarce, sold readily, and may be quoted at from 4s 6d to 5s 3d per imp. stone. The best in the market was four three-year-old stots, belonging to Sir Patrick Murray, Bart. Ochfortyre, which were sold at 15l each.



**NORTHAMPTON FAIR** presented a very poor show of store beasts. There was very little beef and not a great quantity of either mutton or lamb, but the greater part of what there was of the two latter sold at fair prices.

At **BIRMINGHAM WHITSUN FAIR**, there was a large show of horses, though but few were disposed of. In the cattle market pigs were not so numerous as they have been on former occasions. The prices of meat were as follow:—Beef averaging from 5d to 5½d per lb. of which there was a large supply, but the sale exceedingly dull; Mutton from 4½d to 5d; Veal, 5½d to 6d; Lamb, 6½d to 7d.

**MELTON WHIT FAIR** was but thinly attended, there were but few sheep and cows, horses and ponies more plentiful, some of which fetched good prices. The pleasure fair was not so well attended as might have been expected from the preparations that were previously made.

**TRINITY MUIR FAIR**.—At this great market the sale of sheep was good, and nearly all sold. Black-faced hill wethers brought from 15l to 21l; ewes and lambs, 12l to 18l; and hogs, from 10l to 12l per score. There was a fair show of cattle yesterday, for which the demand was rather slack, with the exception of prime fat, which sold briskly at 7s to 7s 3d per stone, and nearly all sold. Three-year-old stots brought from 8l to 13l; two-year-olds ditto, from 5l to 8l; year-olds ditto, 3l to 5l. Good fresh farrow cows and queys brought about 4s 6d to 5s per Dutch stone, estimated at what they will weigh when fat. The north country cattle stood long, and the dealers complain on the prices. Upon the whole, the market may be termed good for the best fat, but all other sorts were in slow request.

At **OSWESTRY FAIR**, live stock "looked up," fat cattle fetched from a penny to three half-pence per lb. more than a month ago, and all were sold. Calves sold well, and there was a great demand for sheep at improved prices; and all sold. Pigs also were on the rise. As to horses, the general observation is applicable here: "Good ones sold well, but for ordinary ones no demand."

**CHEAP PROVISIONS**.—At Gloucester market, on Saturday se'nnight, prime dry home cured bacon was retailed at 5d per lb. In the same city, the 4lb loaf of excellent bread is selling at 5d. In 1812 the bacon sold in Gloucester at 1s 2d, and the loaf of 4lbs 5½ ounces, at 1s 5d.

**BRESLAU WOOL FAIR**.—The German wool fairs have commenced, and we have been favoured with extracts from letters received in this town from Breslau, where the first fair is held. They concur in stating that the wools fetched prices fully as high as those of last year, and that the English manufacturers have bought largely. The following is an extract:—

"Breslau, June 7, 1835.

"This great wool fair has gone full higher in prices than I expected, and though the proportion brought to market has been larger than usual, it is nearly all sold at last year's prices.

"The English manufacturers and the Netherlanders are the greatest buyers, and have all bought largely; the dealers have mostly held off and bought little, on account of the high prices.

"The wools, generally speaking, have been but very indifferently washed at this fair, owing to the cold weather prior to the fair, and few buyers have pleased themselves as well as usual on that account.

"Some few of the clips that I purchased last year, and which were this year greasy and ill-washed, I could have purchased five per cent. cheaper than last year, but all wools that were clean washed, have gone full as high as last year."

**NORTH CLAY HOPS**.—During the early part of the season, good judges were of opinion that the crop in the Clays would be a decided failure. The recent seasonable rains have, however, materially changed the face of things within the last few days. The bine has assumed a more healthy appearance, and in some yards is six feet high. The late easterly winds had brought a considerable quantity of filth, which the heavy rain has washed away, so that many growers anticipate an average crop.—*Lincolnshire Chronicle*.

**THE CROPS**.—The appearance of the country is truly gratifying; the corn crops in general present prospects indicative of an abundant harvest—the agriculturist may now behold with gratitude signs of sample recompense for his past industry. The Wheat is already in ear in several places in this county, and as far of the county of Waterford as we have seen; and meadows exhibit such luxuriance that an ample supply of fodder may be anticipated. Potatoes present an anti-cobbett appearance. *Clonmell Advertiser*.

**THE CROPS**.—Hay harvest has already commenced in several of the southern counties. The grass, though later than usual, is well-bottomed, and the produce is abundant. The grain crops almost every where present a very luxuriant appearance: the wheat crops look particularly healthy. The apple and pear trees look well; the fruit has set, and an abundant produce is now expected.—*Colchester Gazette*.

**EARLY HARVEST**.—The late genial rains have been of immense service in bringing forward the young crops. A field of wheat, after fallow, in the parish of Gladsmuir, the property of John Veitch, Esq., Woodside, is already in ear, and promises shortly to be ready for the sickle.

**SINGULAR OCCURRENCE**.—Last week, a mare, the property of Mr. Lancaster, of Matherby Grange, near Thirsk, dropped a foal all perfect except one of its fore legs, which is divided at the knee, and from thence proceeds two feet, hoofs, &c. This curiosity is living and doing well.

**HARVEST PROSPECTS**.—The genial weather which we have had for some weeks past has effected a rapid and remarkable improvement in the crops in this part of the country. Specimens of wheat and oats, grown by Samuel Parsons, Esq., on the lands of Temple Gowran—and of oats, sown in September, on a light exhausted soil, by Mr. Thomas Crothers, of Glassdrummond—have been left at this office; they are pretty full in the ear, heavy, and healthy—the wheat particularly so. From these and other evidences of the fertility of the season, we are led to anticipate, under Providence, an early and what is still better—a plentiful harvest.—*Newry Telegraph*.

**WOOL**.—The weight as well as quality of the present year's clip is the subject of general remark, but the following circumstance it is believed is almost unprecedented. A few days since Mr. Hewett of Land Farm, Silverton, Devon, sheared a two year old ram, which gave the extraordinary quantity of 22½lbs. of wool, of 14 inches in length. This animal was sheared as a hog last year, and gave 18½lbs. of wool.

Haymaking has commenced extensively throughout the neighbouring counties, and the crops are considered heavy both in grass and clover. The apple trees promise abundance, but the appearance of the pears is not so good.—*Western Luminary*.

Mr. T. Falcon, of Workington, had a five acre field of grass cut on the 4th inst., and housed in capital condition on the 13th. This is the first of the hay harvest of the present season, in the neighbourhood of Workington.

## REVIEW OF THE CORN TRADE IN MARK LANE DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE.

During the past month, the malting season having entirely terminated, and all excitement in favour of barley having subsided, the consumptive as well as the speculative attention of the corn trade has been directed towards oats, and appears likely to be the only article that will command any interest on the market until harvest, "provided the weather continues favourable for the crops; indeed the opinion prevails, that the price of oats before the new produce can be brought into the consumption, will so far advance, as to cause a decline in the duties to a point, that will enable the importers of foreign qualities to pay the duties; which, however, unless any unforeseen casualties should arise, are not likely to decline lower than to 10s 9d for at least the next six weeks or two months. For though the deficiency both in the growth and produce of the last growth has been considerable in this country, and the consequent exports from Scotland and Ireland have greatly exceeded the shipments of any other season during a similar period, having received from the former country upwards of 125,000 qrs., and from the latter 150,000 qrs., yet the low price of wheat throughout England, Scotland, and Ireland, comparatively weight for weight, with that of Oats, has forced an increased demand, to an unusual extent, for the former article. In England, the mixture of inferior wheat in the food for horses, has been most successfully resorted to; in one instance, we know that a party, who is extensively concerned, as a proprietor of horses, and who feeds his cattle by *weight* instead of *quantity*, has, by the substitution of wheat, inferior barley, &c., effected a saving in his outlay of as much as 20l. per week, which is readily accounted for, when taken into the calculation, that the consumption is about 60 qrs. weekly, and the saving 3d in every 14lbs. For distilling purposes also less oats have been consumed, so that the demand, though more extensive than customary in Mark Lane, is yet proportionably less, than would otherwise have ensued, had the currency of wheat not been so depressed. In Scotland, flour has materially superseded the consumption of oatmeal, and it is even *subject of complaint*, that dealers in meal use a proportion of wheat with the oats, when being ground into meal, by which means they are enabled to undersell the fair trader, as oats are getting scarce, and prices improving, while the supplies of wheat are more than commensurate to the demand, and the prices uncommonly depressed. In Ireland, the grinding of oats into meal, has been diminished to a considerable extent, and more flour consumed than ever before experienced. Under these circumstances, the exports from both countries, but particularly the latter, may, and no doubt will, be this year augmented to an unprecedented amount. But, notwithstanding the various substitutions for oats, and

the extent of the imports into London, the period of sixteen to seventeen weeks must elapse before the new crop can be made available, and as the resources of Ireland are not inexhaustible, but on the contrary; at many of the principal ports the shipments in future to be expected are extremely limited, and as in Scotland, the exportations have been so excessive, that a re-import is, and will be required from Ireland, there is every reason to believe that recourse must be had to foreign supplies, though perhaps not to the extent, nor so soon, as has been anticipated by sanguine speculators.

The supplies of wheat during the commencement of the month having been limited, and the weather up to the 6th continuing cold and ungenial, the trade assumed more firmness, and prices advanced 1s to 2s per qr. The millers, however, very reluctantly submitted to higher demands. After the above period, the weather set in extremely warm and favourable for the crops, and the currencies receded fully 2s per qr. with a very heavy trade; towards, however, the close of the month we experienced one of those vicissitudes in the weather, for which our climate is remarkable, a glowing sunny atmosphere being exchanged for stormy wind and rain; and as the crops from their over-exuberance are rendered more liable to casualties from the weather, prices of the finer qualities of wheat evinced a tendency to improve, and 1s more money was realized.

Little interest has existed in bonded wheat, as the only chance left the speculator in foreign corn entirely depends on the state of the weather; for though the previous harvest was unusually early, and the ensuing is likely to be protracted to a later period, say three weeks or a month, by the cold and unfavourable temperature until the beginning of the month, added to the fact, that the consumption of wheat, both in its raw and manufactured state, is more extensive, than perhaps ever before experienced, yet the stocks are still so large throughout the kingdom, that no fluctuation of any moment can be expected from a falling off in the supply. At the close, however, of the month, owing to the rapid advance in the price of wheat in the United States, in consequence of the reported failures of the crops, some inquiry existed for wheat under lock at low prices, and holders were making shipments to America.

Flour has sustained little alteration in value, but the heat of the weather has rendered the sale heavy, purchasers only taking the quantity requisite to meet their immediate wants. The advices from New York having reported a sudden rise in the flour trade in America, and best brands being noted at 31s 6d per barrel, the bonded article has attracted some attention, sour quality being held at 17s to 19s, sweet at 22s to 24s. At Liverpool, large parcels of sour flour have been taken at 18s to 18s 6d; old sweet at 22s; fine, 24s.

The alterations in the duties consist of a decline of 1s per qr on wheat, making the duty at the close of the month 47s 8d, an advance of 1s 6d per qr on



barley, a decline of 3s per qr on beans, and 1s 3d per qr on peas.

The receipts of barley, both British and foreign, have been extremely limited, and as the malting season had closed at the commencement of the month, the prices of malting barley have remained perfectly nominal; Chevalier qualities being quoted at 34s to 35s, Norfolk and Suffolk 30s to 33s, distilling 29s to 32s. For grinding purposes, there exists a steady consumptive demand, which is principally met by the free foreign parcels in warehouse; stout Irish qualities realising 25s to 25s 6d; good English 27s to 28s. The better descriptions of foreign being worth 30s to 32s.

The malt trade has continued in a dull and inactive state, and with the exception of choice qualities, made from Chevalier barley, of which the samples offering form a very small proportion, sales could only be effected by submitting to a decline of 1s to 2s per qr.

The supplies of oats from Scotland and Ireland have been extensive, and exceeded those of the foregoing month by 17,185 qrs, but the arrivals from our own coast have been 1400 qrs less. The continued influx of oats, principally from the sister kingdom, has caused a depression in the prices, and though an extensive country, as well as speculative demand, has been experienced, yet sales could not be effected without submitting to a decline throughout the month of 1s 6d to 2s per qr, principally of Scotch and Irish samples. The trade however latterly has become more firm, with a tendency, on any diminution of the supplies taking place, to rally and regain the previous currency. The amount returned as sold in Mark Lane, comprises 114,721 qrs, but these accounts, from which the consumption is estimated, does not at any time, but more particularly during an excited period of the market, afford any just criterion of the fact, as many and the same parcels are purchased on speculation by different parties, and returned as sold to the inspector over and over again. In Ireland the leading houses at the principal shipping ports agree in stating, that they consider the exports for the present season fast drawing to a conclusion; and in fact the shipments during the last fortnight have been very limited to London, though they are increasing to some of the Scotch ports. The prospects therefore are improving as to the probable advance in value of the article, and the realisation of the anxious hopes of speculators. The free on board Irish sales have been partial; Galway qualities have obtained 12s 4d to 12s 9d per barrel; Derry do, 13s 3d; Limerick and Waterford do, 13s 4d to 14s. Owing to the increased supplies, oats in bond have rather receded in price; the late arrivals from Denmark, Jutland and Friesland having been stored in granary, as the prices demanded are higher than speculators at present feel inclined to accede to: fresh feed are held at 12s to 14s; brew, 16s to 17s.

The only article exclusive of oats which has created any speculative attention, is that of beans; and

as the crops have proved deficient in this country, recourse is had to foreign imports. The prices being almost always actuated by those of oats, the currency has latterly rather given way in value, and must be noted 1s per qr lower than in the early part of June. In Holstein, Mecklenburg, Hanover and Friesland, the ports of which countries are the nearest from whence we draw our supplies, have also had a crop much below an average produce, and prices have in consequence advanced with the demand, having ruled from 21s to 24s 6d and 25s, and the stock now almost exhausted. The duties have of late declined to 12s 6d. Tick qualities in bond are at present held at 26s to 28s; small, 27s to 28s; fine 30s.

Owing to the advance in the price of beans, old white peas have continued to meet enquiry, and sales to be effected for horse feed, which has caused prices to remain steady at the improvement of 1s to 2s per qr for the finest English qualities, and 1s per qr on foreign, of which the principal portion of the samples offering consist.

During the month of June the following quantity of grain and flour has arrived in the port of London.

|              | Wheat.<br>Qrs. | Barley.<br>Qrs. | Oats,<br>Qrs.    |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| English .... | 26,628         | 1,161           | 5,370            |
| Scotch ....  | 42             | 260             | 26,979           |
| Irish .....  | 101            | —               | 81,233           |
| Foreign .... | —              | 630             | 11,106           |
|              | Beans.<br>Qrs. | Peas.<br>Qrs.   | Flour.<br>Sacks. |
| English .... | 2,078          | 118             | 26,853           |
| Scotch ....  | 440            | 30              | 70               |
| Irish .....  | —              | —               | 18               |
| Foreign .... | 1,462          | 390             | 198              |

In France the crops continue to hold forth the most promising appearances, though the thickness of the wheat on the ground has caused apprehensions for the result, as the grain is thus rendered very susceptible of injury from the weather, indeed the rains and hail have in some places already had the effect of laying it. Prices, however, are not yet affected by these circumstances, the highly favourable appearance of the produce still checking all speculative enterprise. In many districts the rain has been extremely heavy, and the inundations of several rivers have ensued, particularly of the Garonne and neighbouring streams, which have caused severe local loss. The quotations of wheat at Toulouse, Bordeaux, and adjacent markets, have in consequence advanced. In the vicinity, however, of Dunkirk, Bergues, Bourbourg, &c., the drought on the contrary, is beginning to prove detrimental to the summer grain, tares and linseed; the crop of the latter article having been almost entirely destroyed. At Paris the currencies remained steady of the better qualities of wheat, finest parcels being noted at 35s 10d to 38s 2d; secondary, 32s 8d to 35s: oats also were firm, heaviest samples obtaining 21s 4d to 21s 10d; prime parcels, 22s 1d to 22s 10d; secondary, 19s to 19s 11d. Wheat was not expected to undergo much further depression, as it was considered the crops were still liable to many accidents. From Marseille the reports state that the crops are excessively promising on the Rhine and in Provence and Languedoc, though the wet experienced would retard the harvest. Prices were languid, and nothing

passing in bonded wheat; owing to the closing of the Spanish ports. Rape plants are generally stated as being strong, and the yield likely to be productive.

The harvest in Italy will be rather later than usual, though the crops generally are satisfactory, and as the Spanish ports were closed, all incitement to speculation had for the present subsided. At Naples the stock of Barletta wheat was large, and prices declining. At Leghorn the supplies of foreign wheat were extensive, and should further arrivals be received from the Levant as well as the Neapolitan and Roman states, prices will further recede; Hamburg and Danzig wheats were not worth more than 25s free of all expenses. In Sicily the harvest was expected to be late, but the crops on the north and east coast promised very favourably.

At Odessa hard wheat continues to maintain a high currency, being quoted at 23s 7d to 28s 9d; soft qualities obtaining 22s 11d to 25s 6d; oats, 11s 10d to 13s 2d. The weather was favourable for the harvest, and the hopes were well founded for an abundant produce.

Considerable excitement has existed in the markets of the United States, owing to the failure of the crops and the quotations of flour and wheat, as well as other grain, and in fact provisions of all kinds are on the advance, and the former articles maintaining already a high range of price. At New York some Illinois wheat, which had arrived, via New Orleans, had realized 51s 4d. Rye was selling at 33s 6d; Indian corn at 33s to 36s; New York flour at 29s 3d; Western Canal and Baltimore, Howard-street, ditto., 31s 6d; rye flour, 18s per barrel. In Philadelphia the currencies are proportionably high, and the reports as to the wheat crop are unfavourable. At Baltimore the best brands were obtaining 27s 7d per barrel, and both flour and wheat were improving, owing to the statements as to the failure in the crops of wheat in the south. At Richmond the same articles had risen in value, in consequence of the gloomy prospect of the growing wheats, and the unfavourable character of the weather which had been experienced until the middle of May.

By the latest advices from Australia, the market at Sydney was well supplied with agricultural produce, and the prices low, as the harvest promised well. There had, however, been a failure in the vine plantations throughout the colony. At Van Diemen's Land flour was selling at 16l per ton, and the supply of the article, together with wheat, expected to be most abundant, the crops throughout the island being extremely satisfactory.

At St. Petersburg and Riga few transactions of any interest have taken place in grain. At Riga, rye, owing to the demand from the interior, had attained a higher range of price than wheat, being noted at 27s to 29s, and wheat 23s 6d to 27s 10d. Linseed, however, has continued to meet attention; Morschansky qualities realizing 44s 9d; and Riga, ditto., 40s 10d to 44s 3d and 46s 5d. At Danzig, the trade, though firm in price, has been dull, but prices steady at 29s to 31s for high-mixed qualities. The supplies have continued limited, and which are not likely to be much augmented, as the rates paid in the provinces are considerably higher than at Danzig; and such was the exhausted state of the stocks in the southern districts, that orders had been received for oats, barley, and rye, but of these articles there was little warehoused in the City. The resources also of the nearer places on the Vistula were greatly exhausted, and it was estimated, that the supplies of the country as well as

Poland were more limited than at any period since the year 1816. Petitions had been presented to government for a reduction in the excise duties on wheaten flour, which it appears are, in the towns, nearly four times as high as on rye. The weather had become extremely warm, which vegetation required. At Königsberg the currencies have remained firm, in consequence of the demand experienced from the interior, where, owing to the failures in the potato crop, great dearth of provisions existed. The Mecklenberg markets have sustained an improvement in the rates of wheat, in consequence of the steadiness of the prices in Holland, and the sales effected at Danzig on Prussian, Silesian, and Pomeranian account, best samples having obtained 24s. Latterly, however, the fine weather had rendered the quotations dull, and rather lower; barley, of 51 to 52 lbs, obtained 14s to 15s; the heaviest oats offering did not exceed 37 lbs, and which were noted at 12s to 13s. At Lübeck and Kiel, wheat remained at 22s 6d; barley, 15s; oats, 12s to 13s, as in weight. At Copenhagen the trade has been generally firm, a few sales of wheat had been made on Swedish account; a demand had also existed for rye to ship to Finland, and old barley to Norway; oats were held at 11s 6d to 12s 9d, as in quality. In Sweden, oats were realising the same rates. The weather had become favourable for the growth of the rape plants which had consequently much improved in their appearance, and the speculative purchasers of seed on delivery had been checked. At Copenhagen, as well as in Holstein and Schleswick, offers had declined to 26l 10s to 27l 10s. At Hamburg, the trade in wheat has not been animated, but oats and beans have both found purchasers: the former article, on the west coast of Holstein, was noted at 11s 6d to 12s, for quality of 34 to 35lbs. In Jeverland, the quotations were the same, freights varying from 2s to 2s 3d. In Jutland, oats of 38lbs have been bought at 11s 8d to 12s 4d, and on the west coast of Sweden, at 11s 10d to 12s 6d, weighing 38 to 39lbs. The stock of beans was nearly exhausted; small qualities on the Elbe and Jahde were held at 24s 6d to 25s; middling sized, 23s to 23s 6d. On the east coast of Holstein, the young rape plants are represented as looking very promising, but on the west coast, and in Jeverland, great numbers of insects, which have been brought to life by the very hot weather that had been experienced during the past week, had made their appearance, which, it was stated, would not only considerably diminish the quantity, but, it was feared, injure the quality of the seed. The Dutch have already begun their purchases, and a parcel of new Jutland seed has been sold on contract for delivery, at 7l 10s.

#### CURRENCY PER IMPERIAL MEASURE.

| BRITISH.                                | JUNE 1. |       | JULY 1. |       |
|-----------------------------------------|---------|-------|---------|-------|
|                                         | s.      | s.    | s.      | s.    |
| Wheat, red, Essex, Kent, Suffolk.....   | 33      | 10 41 | 34      | 10 42 |
| White.....                              | 38      | 47    | 40      | 48    |
| Norfolk, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire.... | 32      | 36    | 33      | 36    |
| White, do. do. ....                     | 35      | 40    | 36      | 40    |
| West Country Red .....                  | 32      | 35    | 33      | 36    |
| White, ditto.....                       | 34      | 40    | 36      | 40    |
| Northumberland and Berwickshire Red     | 30      | 31    | 33      | 35    |
| White, ditto.....                       | 33      | 37    | 34      | 38    |
| Irish Red .....                         | 29      | 31    | 30      | 32    |
| Ditto White .....                       | 30      | 33    | 31      | 33    |
| Barley, Malting, new .....              | 30      | 34    | 30      | 33    |
| Chevalier, new .....                    | 35      | 38    | 32      | 35    |
| Distilling .....                        | 28      | 30    | 28      | 30    |
| Grinding .....                          | 26      | 28    | 27      | 28    |
| Irish .....                             | 24s 6d  | 26 6d | 24s 6d  | 26 6d |



|                                      | JUNE 1. |        | JULY 1.     |        |
|--------------------------------------|---------|--------|-------------|--------|
|                                      | s.      | s.     | s.          | s.     |
| Malt, Brown.....                     | 35      | 49     | 35          | 40     |
| Ditto, Chevalier.....                | 60      | 61     | 60          | 61     |
| Ditto, Norfolk and Suffolk Pale..... | 46      | 54     | 46          | 54     |
| Ditto Ware.....                      | 60      | 65     | 60          | 65     |
| Peas, Hog and Grey.....              | 33      | 37     | 33          | 37     |
| Maple.....                           | 38      | 40     | 39          | 40     |
| White Boilers.....                   | 32      | 36     | 33          | 38     |
| Beans, small.....                    | 41      | 41     | 39          | 43     |
| Harrow.....                          | 40      | 42     | 39          | 41     |
| Ticks.....                           | 38      | 41     | 37          | 39     |
| Mazagan.....                         | 35      | 39     | 35          | 38     |
| Oats, English feed.....              | 23      | 26     | 23          | 25     |
| Short small.....                     | 24      | 27     | 24          | 25     |
| Poland.....                          | 24      | 27     | 23          | 26     |
| Scorch, Common.....                  | 27      | 28     | 25s6d       | 26s6d  |
| Berwick, &c.....                     | 27      | 28     | 26          | 27     |
| Potatoes, &c.....                    | 27      | 29     | 27          | 28     |
| Irish, Feed.....                     | 21s 0d  | 23s 0d | 19s 0d      | 21s 0d |
| Ditto Potatoe.....                   | 23s 0d  | 25s 6d | 22s 0d      | 24s 6d |
| Ditto Black.....                     | 22s 0d  | 23s 6d | 22s 0d      | 23s 0d |
| Bras.....                            | 11s 0d  | 12s 6d | per bushel. |        |

PRICES OF FLOUR.

| Per Sack of 280 lbs.                       | JUNE 1. |    | JULY 1. |    |
|--------------------------------------------|---------|----|---------|----|
|                                            | s.      | s. | s.      | s. |
| Town-made.....                             | 33      | 35 | 33      | 38 |
| Norfolk, Suffolk, Kent, and Essex.....     | 27      | 30 | 27      | 30 |
| Sussex and Hampshire.....                  | 27      | 30 | 27      | 30 |
| Superfine.....                             | 32      | —  | 32      | —  |
| Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and Stockton..... | 27      | 29 | 27      | 29 |
| Northumberland, Berwick, and Scotch.....   | 27      | 29 | 27      | 29 |
| Irish.....                                 | 27      | 29 | 27      | 29 |
| Extra.....                                 | 30      | —  | 30      | —  |

AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF THE LONDON AVERAGES, During the Month of June.

|             | qrs.    | £ | s. | d. |                   | qrs.  | £ | s. | d. |
|-------------|---------|---|----|----|-------------------|-------|---|----|----|
| Wheat.....  | 24,109  | 2 | 2  | 6  | Beans.....        | 3,684 | 1 | 19 | 7  |
| Barley..... | 2,159   | 1 | 8  | 11 | Peas.....         | 437   | 1 | 16 | 3  |
| Oats.....   | 114,721 | 1 | 4  | 2  | Bere or Bigg..... | 0     | 0 | 0  | 0  |
| Rye.....    | 65      | 1 | 10 | 6  |                   |       |   |    |    |

IMPERIAL AVERAGES

|                                                                                                                                       | Wheat. | Barley. | Oats. | Rye. | Beans. | Peas. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------|-------|------|--------|-------|
| Weekending.....                                                                                                                       |        |         |       |      |        |       |
| 8th May.....                                                                                                                          | 38 9   | 31 8    | 23 8  | 31 0 | 36 11  | 35 7  |
| 15th .....                                                                                                                            | 39 8   | 31 5    | 23 10 | 31 3 | 37 8   | 34 4  |
| 22d .....                                                                                                                             | 40 0   | 30 9    | 23 11 | 30 7 | 38 1   | 35 10 |
| 29th .....                                                                                                                            | 39 10  | 30 4    | 23 8  | 32 6 | 38 11  | 36 0  |
| 5th June.....                                                                                                                         | 39 8   | 30 10   | 23 10 | 31 7 | 39 2   | 37 4  |
| 12th .....                                                                                                                            | 40 1   | 29 6    | 24 2  | 30 9 | 39 9   | 36 7  |
| Aggregate Average of the six weeks which regulates the duty.....                                                                      | 39 8   | 30 9    | 23 10 | 31 2 | 35 5   | 36 1  |
| Duties payable in London till Wednesday next inclusive, and at the Outports till the arrival of the Mail of that day from London..... | 47 8   | 16 10   | 12 3  | 22 9 | 12 6   | 15 6  |
| Do. on grain from British possessions out of Europe.....                                                                              | 5 0    | 2 6     | 2 6   | 3 0  | 3 0    | 3 0   |

An Account of the Quantity of Grain and Flour imported into the United Kingdom during the month ending the 5th June 1835; the Quantity on which the Duty has been paid for Home Consumption, and the quantity remaining in Warehouse.

|                                       | Wheat.  | Barley. | Oats.   | Rye.    |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                       | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    |
| Quantity imported....                 | 935     | 14,565  | 17,993  | ..      |
| Do. entered for home consumption..... | 1,765   | 61,999  | 138     | ..      |
| Do. remaining in warehouse.....       | 635,269 | 94,751  | 350,151 | 4,710   |
|                                       | Peas.   | Beans.  | Brank.  | Flour.  |
|                                       | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | cwts.   |
| Quantity imported....                 | 861     | 5,596   | ..      | 5,589   |
| Do. entered for consumption.....      | 129     | 475     | ..      | 1,314   |
| Do. remaining in warehouse.....       | 10,556  | 33,941  | 23      | 235,014 |

PRICES OF HOPS IN THE BOROUGH.

|                            | JUNE 1. |    | JULY 1. |    |
|----------------------------|---------|----|---------|----|
|                            | £       | s. | £       | s. |
| East Kent Pockets.....     | 6       | 0  | 8       | 8  |
| Mid-Kent Pockets.....      | 5       | 8  | 6       | 10 |
| Weald of Kent Pockets..... | 5       | 5  | 5       | 12 |
| Sussex Pockets.....        | 5       | 5  | 5       | 12 |
| Yearlings, Bags.....       | 3       | 10 | 4       | 15 |
| Old Olds.....              | 1       | 1  | 3       | 10 |

BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS MARKETS.

|                                                                     | JUNE 1. |    | JULY 1. |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----|---------|----|
| Per ton.                                                            | £       | s. | £       | s. |
| Ware, Scotch reds.....                                              | 2       | 10 | 3       | 15 |
| York kidneys.....                                                   | 2       | 15 | 3       | 10 |
| Marsh Champions.....                                                | 2       | 0  | 2       | 15 |
| London whites.....                                                  | 2       | 2  | 3       | 3  |
| Shaws.....                                                          | 2       | 0  | 3       | 0  |
| Middlings, Scotch reds.....                                         | 1       | 15 | 2       | 5  |
| York kidneys.....                                                   | 2       | 2  | 2       | 5  |
| Marsh Champions.....                                                | 1       | 15 | 2       | 0  |
| London whites.....                                                  | 1       | 12 | 2       | 0  |
| Shaws.....                                                          | 1       | 10 | 2       | 0  |
| New Potatoes from 15s to 30s per cwt. Old Chats 15s to 20s per ton. |         |    |         |    |

SMITHFIELD MARKET.

Per stone of 8lbs. to sink the offals.

|                    | JUNE 1. |    | JULY 1. |    |
|--------------------|---------|----|---------|----|
|                    | s.      | d. | s.      | d. |
| Inferior Beef..... | 2       | 0  | 2       | 2  |
| Do. Mutton.....    | 2       | 2  | 4       | 4  |
| Middling Beef..... | 2       | 6  | 2       | 10 |
| Do. Mutton.....    | 2       | 5  | 2       | 10 |
| Prime Beef.....    | 3       | 10 | 4       | 6  |
| Do. Mutton.....    | 3       | 6  | 4       | 2  |
| Veal.....          | 3       | 4  | 4       | 8  |
| Pork.....          | 3       | 0  | 4       | 0  |
| Lamb.....          | 5       | 0  | 6       | 0  |

WOOL MARKETS.

BRITISH.

|                        | JUNE 1. |    | JULY 1. |    |
|------------------------|---------|----|---------|----|
| Per lb.                | s.      | d. | s.      | d. |
| Down Teds.....         | 1       | 7  | 1       | 8  |
| Half-bred Hoggets..... | 1       | 5  | 1       | 9  |
| Ewes and Wethers.....  | 1       | 3  | 1       | 3  |
| Leicester Hogs.....    | 1       | 7  | 1       | 8  |
| Do. Wethers.....       | 1       | 4  | 0       | 0  |
| Blanket Wool.....      | 0       | 9  | 1       | 1  |
| Flannel.....           | 1       | 0  | 1       | 4  |
| Skin Combing.....      | 1       | 2  | 1       | 3  |

SCOTCH.

Per Stone of 24 lbs.

|                                       | JUNE 1. |    | JULY 1. |    |
|---------------------------------------|---------|----|---------|----|
|                                       | s.      | d. | s.      | d. |
| Laid Highland Wool, from 10 3 to 10 6 | 10      | 3  | 10      | 0  |
| White Do.....                         | 13      | 3  | 13      | 6  |
| Laid Crossed Do.....                  | 13      | 6  | 14      | 0  |
| Washed Do.....                        | 14      | 6  | 16      | 6  |
| Laid Cheviots.....                    | 14      | 6  | 16      | 6  |
| Washed Do.....                        | 18      | 0  | 20      | 0  |
| White Do.....                         | 25      | 0  | 27      | 0  |

FOREIGN.

JULY 1.

Electoral Saxony Wool, from 4s 6d to 5s 6d; first Austrian, Bohemian, and other German Wools, 4s to 4s 4d; second ditto, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; inferior ditto, in locks and pieces, 2s to 2s 4d; ditto lamb's ditto, 3s to 4s; Hungarian sheep's ditto, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; Leonesa sheep's ditto, 2s 6d to 4s 6d; Segovia ditto, 2s 8d to 3s 2d; Soria ditto, 2s 4d to 3s; Cacaris ditto, 2s 1d to 2s 6d; Spanish lamb's wool, 1s 6d to 2s 10d; German and Spanish cross ditto, 1s 8d to 3s; Portugal sheep's ditto, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; ditto lamb's ditto, 1s 3d to 2s 6d; Australian fine crossed ditto, 2s 9d to 4s 9d; ditto native sheep's ditto, 2s to 2s 7d; and Van Diemen's Land native sheep's ditto, 1s 6d to 2s 7d per lb.

# THE POLITICAL COMPANION

TO

## THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

### POOR LAW STRUGGLE.

(From Cobbett's Register.)

"For it really appears to be another 'Rural War,' and threatens to be much more durable and mischievous than the last rural war; and there is this circumstance in addition, in this case; that is to say, that this new scene of trouble, of turmoil, and of boiling blood, has been caused by the Parliament itself; that Parliament duly warned by me of all the consequences. In this respect it is another Peel's-Bill affair. The proposition is made in the year 1833; the projectors are then warned, and are besought not to adopt the measure; they persevere a great deal more eagerly on account of the warning and the prediction, as if for the express purpose of making the prophet a liar. Half a dozen counties are in a state of partial commotion; the jails are opening the doors to receive those who are called the rebels against the Poor-law Bill. No matter as to any other thing relative to this measure; here is the country disturbed; here are the jails filling; here are wives and children screaming after their fathers; here are these undeniable facts, and what is the cause? Not a desire to overturn the Government on the part of the people; not a desire to disobey the settled laws of the country; not any revolutionary desire; not any desire to touch any one of the institutions of the country. What is it then? Why a desire and a resolution, as far as they are able to adhere to it, to maintain the laws of their country, as they were settled at the time when the present church of the country was established; to maintain those laws which form the foundation, the very fundamental principles of the Government; and which are of two hundred and forty years standing.

\* \* \* We shall bye-and-bye see the Duke of Richmond selling off from divers workhouses all the utensils for brewing, for grinding malt, for killing and preserving meat; we shall bye-and-bye see this Leviathan-pensioner at this amusing work; we shall bye-and-bye hear a poor law commissioner advising the guardians to look upon and treat poor persons coming for relief as 'beggars'; we shall bye-and-bye hear a peer chairman complaining of the destruction of cattle, and of fires being set; we shall bye-and-bye have to take a sort of survey of the blood boiling in Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Kent, Sussex, and Suffolk. But, just at present, let us say that every one knows that this is at present the great immediate cause of trouble to the government. When old Grey, who was all thunder and all vigour, as long as he had cunning Althorp's majority at his back, and who became all feebleness and old age and incapacity as soon as he had lost that; when old Grey went snivelling off (having first not wholly forgotten his family) he complained of the difficulties in which the Government was placed; and it was curious enough that he had vigour enough left to offer, at that very moment, to bring in the Poor-Law Bill, which had been passed by t'other place. That

is to say, to make a greater difficulty than any that already existed, or than any that could by any possibility exist, short of an open and notorious rebellion and civil war. \* \* \* I will explain what the authors of the bill meant by 'swallowing up the estates of the landlords.' This singular race of beggars, called English landlords, have, in fact, generally speaking, no estates; that is to say, they have no ownership in the rents of those estates. They have a great share in the taxes, generally speaking; they have it in military, naval, diplomatic, sinecure, pension, parsonship, something or another; but these, though enormous in aggregate amount, are principally grasped by a comparative few; and, upon the whole, the havings in this way do not at all equal the amount of the rents of the estates. The money-mongers take those rents almost entirely, whether in interest or mortgage, or in taxes. The money-mongers own more than half the estates as mortgagees: they are every day bundling out the old stinking aristocracy, who have basely abandoned the working people. These old wretches, not able to sell and alienate for ever, first get away out of their mansions and sell their goods to get a ready penny; turn graziers, and, as carcass-butchers, send their venison to London to be eaten by the Jews, who have got the mortgages on their estates. They next think of the Game! All ideas of feudal honour fly from their minds. No longer the old pretence that the game is kept for sport, and that none but gentlemen ought to possess the game. After punishing men for two hundred years for selling or buying game, they pass a law to enable themselves to sell game, or to buy it, while they pass another law to transport a poor man, if he be in pursuit of it in the night-time. This trade of carcass-butcher and poulterer brings them a little relief; and enables them to live at Boulogne, or amongst the 'enchanted beauties' of the Swiss Cantons, and the 'high state' of morals there existing amongst the peasantry. Still the carcass-butcher and the poulterer do not yield enough to satisfy their wives, who probably have brought them a good supply. They resort to marriages with the daughters of contracting butchers, millionaire loan-mongers, old miser-jewellers, and the stock-jobbing crew, to say nothing of play-actresses in high feather, on whom they very frequently live until their voices get cracked; and then they abandon them to be buried by subscription; though it now and then happens that one of these women has the spirit to abandon them, and leave them to the enjoyment of their titles and their empty pockets. — The reformed parliament having, at any rate, blasted the hopes of getting at new heaps of spoil from the public purse; and the beggars finding that they have overdrawn with the poulterer and the retail butcher of their carcasses, look back again at the estates; and we will suppose my Lord Lump-skull sitting down with his steward to see if nothing is to be got out of the estate, and finally coming to the necessity of a Poor Law Bill. There has



been a run upon the shabby tawdry goods in town : my lady has almost been routed : down he comes to the village of Starve-gut ; squats himself down in a rage in a broken-bottomed rush chair, in a cob-webbed room where the servants used to be, and sends away for the steward some skeleton that he finds chopping about among the weeds in that garden where his grandfather had one gentleman employed with a dozen men under him, and two or three boys apprenticed to him, all of which the 'heddekated' son has discovered to have been excessively extravagant and foolish. Comes the steward upon a horse worth a hundred pounds ; and his servant in gay and rich livery, having taken away his horse, in he walks. \* \* Lumpskull. Oh ! as to reducing the taxes that is impossible. Althorp could not spare the malt-tax, and Peel could not spare it ; that Cobbett might talk as long as he likes, but we must keep 'national faith.'—Scut. Keeping faith is a very good thing to be sure, my lord ; but has 'national faith' been kept with you, whose estates has to pay interest for three times the sum that was borrowed ?—Lumpskull. That's very true, Mr. Scut ; as far as that goes you are right enough ; but there are other things besides the interest of the debt.—Scut. To be sure there are other things, but that is nothing to you. Make this deduction from the interest of the debt, at any rate.—Lumpskull. Ah ! Mr. Scut ; you do not seem to know what we may come to if we once begin. That amiable and excellent man, Sir James Graham ; that great statesman, so beautifully described by Harriet Wilson ; he proposed to take thirty per cent. from the interest of the debt at once ; and all of us landlords were delighted at the proposal ; when all at once, what does that d—m—d fellow Cobbett do ! You know the fellow, I suppose ?—Scut. Oh yes, my lord ! If we don't know him it is not the fault of his enemies, at any rate.—Lumpskull. Well ; what does that rascal do, think you. He sees what relief the proposition would bring us ; he pretends to be our friend : he is always bawling for the land, and against the funds ; and what now do you think this wicked devil did ?—Scut. 'Pon my word I cannot guess.—Lumpskull. Why, he said that the proposition of Graham was just, provided (now do mark this promise) that all unmerited pensions, sinecures, grants, retired allowances, useless places, military and naval half-pay, were clean lopped off at the same time : and that unless that were done, to reduce the interest of the debt would be an act of enormous injustice.—Scut. Well really my lord, I—Lumpskull. Really ! What do you agree with him then ? And so then you want my brother Tom to lose his half pay because he never saw a shot fired. You want my uncle Ned to lose his pension, which Pitt gave him for having lost his estate in a contested election. You want my uncle, The Rev. R. Lumpskull, to lose his place as chaplain and librarian ; you want my sister Sally's husband to lose his snug retired allowance, after a service of five years, and the abolition of his office. You want my brother Henry—in short, you want my whole family to be ruined.—Scut. Indeed I do not my lord. I want you to have an estate which you have not now ; and out of that estate to provide in proper manner for all your younger brothers and your sisters ; and to be what an English gentleman formerly was, the independent head of a family, living on his estate ; respected and beloved by all around ; and not the miserable dependant on whatever gabbling adventurer gets the handling of the public wealth into his power. By the present system of taxation you may be totally ruined and beggared, in spite of all your efforts to save yourself ; but without making such efforts you will rich-

ly merit your ruin ; in the one case, you will sink amidst the applause of all good men ; in the other case you will sink covered with their contempt ; and, as to your project for putting the wages of labour into your pocket by compelling Englishmen to submit to Irish treatment and Irish fare, all the reward you will receive will be the execration of the millions whom you vainly imagine you can succeed in oppressing. Now, stupid loggerheads of Saint George's Hanover-square, here are the true objects of the bill. This is the light in which the people all over the kingdom view it ; and everything that they see done towards the execution of the bill, convinces them that these reasons are here truly stated and described. There is as much of folly as of savage baseness in the supporters of this bill ; for, if they could bring the people to Irish fare, by the means of stipendiary magistrates and police, which they have always had in contemplation, where would they then find a market for their wheat at all ? And if this family of pensioned Lumpskulls could see the English labourers reduced from six shillings to two shillings a day, where would the taxes come from to pay their pensions ? Lumpskulls never think of this ; and they are carrying on a war (which is only just begun) from mere motives of greediness unparalleled, conjoined with ignorance unparalleled."

#### SPAIN.—THE QUADRUPLE TREATY.

(From the Morning Chronicle.)

"Talleyrand has hitherto been deemed the author of this Treaty. For the name of that Prince the people of England will feel some little pride in substituting for the future that of the Foreign Secretary of the Whig Cabinet—a man who has never yet deserted a friend to whom he has been attached, or a principle which he has advocated, through a political life of now nearly twenty years. In a season of great excitement, of marvellous changes of doctrine, when many of those who are called statesmen amongst us have felt the necessity, if they were to remain before the public at all, to disavow the tenets of their early years, to alter but yesterday, and even to reverse the notions with which they identified their claims to office so late as only a year ago, the author of the Quadruple Treaty has had no opinion to abandon or even to revise. And yet this is the only man in our Cabinet whom the apostate *Times*, the drivelling *Herald*, the Russian *Gazette of Augsburg*, the misguided *Post*, and the reckless though able *Standard*, have condescended to put down ! 'What then,' asks our antagonist, in his own simple-minded way, 'is to be the ulterior fate of the Quadruple Alliance ?' If the writer in *The Post* will read the Treaty, he will find that its whole design is to create upon the basis of physical strength, reposing at this side of the Pyrenees and the Tagus, a moral control which shall operate beyond them. The intended effect has been already realized in Portugal. We shall soon be in a position to judge how far it is likely to be attended with success in the larger portion of the Peninsula.—*The Post* also asks, 'Are we, for example, to send to the Queen's fleets, arms and stores ?' To this we answer, that ships of war are already in preparation to visit the north-western coasts of Spain, to menace the disaffected, to encourage the timid, to sustain the faithful subjects of the Queen, all of which may be done simply by the firing of a salute. Arms and stores we have sent, and shall continue to send, to Spain, in any quantity that may be reasonably required. We shall adhere to our bond in that respect, and execute it as becomes a people who know the price of freedom."

## THE CURRENCY.

(From the Herald.)

Mr. Cayley's motion on the subject of agricultural distress was brought forward on Monday night, and that of Lord John Russell on the subject of Corporation reform was, as we expected, postponed to a future day. The importance of Mr. Cayley's motion no one can deny, for whatever may be thought of either of the measures which he suggested for its relief, the existence of agricultural distress to a ruinous extent is incontestable, and the necessity of some inquiry undertaken with a view to its relief would seem to be almost a necessary consequence of that admission if the dread of looking difficulties in the face did not operate to prevent it. The motion was, "That a Select Committee (based on the Parliamentary declaration of agricultural distress) be appointed to inquire if there be not effective means within the reach of Parliament to afford substantial relief to the agriculture of the United Kingdom, and especially to recommend to the attention of such Committee the subject of a silver or conjoined standard of silver and gold." By this it will be seen that two questions at least, and each of those including considerations of the greatest moment, were brought under the discussion of the House, namely the state of agriculture and the state of the currency. Whether it was judicious to have thus combined them, we leave to the debate itself to determine, but that a case was made out by Mr. Cayley, as it had been by the Marquis of Chandos, in three several instances before, to call for the interference of the Legislature in behalf of the agricultural interest, may be capable—for what is not capable of dispute?—but cannot be effectually contradicted even by the disingenuous tricks of debate so often resorted to by those who call themselves statesmen. Mr. Cayley well observed, with respect to the depression of agriculture, that "the question was, whether the land should be cultivated?" "Before a Committee of that House it had been shown that it was necessary to have 60s. per quarter for wheat to sustain the average rental of the country, with the cost of cultivation. Since then there had been a descending ratio of prices down to 36s. and 35s.; at which not one-half the arable land of the country could sustain rent." And yet the Reformed Parliament has now, for the fourth time, in the course of the current Session, decided not only against the particular measures suggested for the relief of agriculture, but against all inquiry into the question whether relief be practicable or not.

## THE BRITISH VOLUNTEERS.

(From the Morning Post.)

"We should not wonder soon to see a monument raised to the memory of General Alava, for enabling our chivalrous countrymen to become the Swiss—the mercenaries of a foreign Power. He has opened a new road to the needy and enterprising, upon which they may travel to honours, renown, and fortune. At a moment when the accumulated weight of suffering and disappointment presses heavily on our country; when the miseries of the people continue, and employment is nowhere to be had, the considerate representative of a foreign State humanely steps forward and contracts with Government to take off 10,000 of our surplus population, by conveying them to a land flowing with milk and honey. Such benevolence, such philanthropy, as this cannot go unrewarded. We should, however, advise the 'splendidly equipped

volunteers, to be led by Colonels Evans and Hodges,' to look before they leap, and not trust to all the idle tales invented to entrap them. They are not going to Portugal. They are told that so soon as the Gallo-African legion is landed at Malaga, and 10,000 British volunteers reach Bilboa, 'the war will be probably terminated, without further resistance on the part of Don Carlos, whose position has already become desperate.' Such is the lure actually held out to adventurers on the very day in which information is received that the Bastan is evacuated; that the commanding fortresses in the four provinces are taken or abandoned; that seven hundred Christinos have deserted; and that the army under Valdez is demoralized and weakened to such an extent as to compel that General to seek shelter beyond the Ebro.—This is base and mischievous delusion. The position of Charles V. is brilliant, and it has been rendered so partly by the victories of his gallant adherents, but chiefly by the errors, follies, and crimes of his opponents in power. The Queen-Regent has been *en spectacle* before the Spanish people for more than two years, and they have judged her merits and her alleged rights. Experience has taught them that they can never be at peace under her administration; and thence the extreme party, those who lately supported her, would gladly call into their aid the Constitution of 1812, or that of any of the South American Republics, provided they can escape from the anarchy and degradation into which she has plunged them. They waited only for the *dévolement* of the piece got up by Martinez de la Rosa, which commenced the moment foreign intervention was pronounced necessary. The Government had not dared to avow the fact of foreign aid having been demanded; but every one knew that this was the only course left for the Christinos. In anticipation of the impending crisis, numbers, according to the last accounts were leaving Madrid—all, indeed, who had the means, bankers, Proceres, &c. Resolutions had been adopted in the principal clubs, and handbills issued by them, actually inviting all Spaniards to join the Carlists rather than suffer their soil to be polluted by armed foreigners, on the principle that strangers can never settle the main question at issue, although their presence may for a short time prolong a petticoat Regency, with all its humiliations and debaucheries. Under these circumstances, what kind of reception, we ask, can our deluded countrymen expect in Spain? On every side they will be surrounded by a hostile population, regarding them with an evil eye, and always ready to compass their destruction. They will be considered as mercenaries, incited by no previous provocation, but landed in the country for the mere purposes of outraging and plundering the inhabitants.

## WILLIAM COBBETT.

This powerful and original writer died on Thursday, June 18th, at ten minutes past one p.m., at his farm, in Surrey, aged 73. He retained his faculties till the last moment, and died with perfect composure.

In an account of himself, to be found in the collection of the works of *Peter Porcupine*, Cobbett states that he was born in 1765. As, however, we have derived the above particulars from his family, there can be no doubt of their accuracy; and it would appear, therefore, that he was inaccurately informed as to the particulars of his early life, on his return from America to England in 1801.

Cobbett was a self-taught man in the true sense of the word. His father possessed a small piece of



ground at Farnham, in Surrey, and Cobbett himself was brought up as a common agricultural labourer. In 1783 he quitted his father's roof, and repaired to London, where he succeeded in finding employment in the office of an attorney. Having enlisted as a common soldier, he was sent to Nova Scotia, and attained the rank of Sergeant Major. On the return of the regiment to England, he became involved as prosecutor in a court-martial, but did not await the issue. He left England for France, and sailed from a French port to the United States, where he maintained himself for some time by teaching English to Frenchmen. At that time the French, or democratic party in America, were loud in their abuse of England, and Cobbett was induced to espouse the cause of his mother country. He published a succession of pamphlets, under the assumed name of *Peter Porcupine*, written with great force and vivacity, some of which were reprinted at the time in England. He was convicted of a libel against Dr. Rush, and subjected to heavy damages. In 1801 he returned to England and established a morning paper under the title of *The Porcupine*, in which he warmly supported Mr. Pitt. That paper, however, soon failed, and he soon afterwards set up *The Register*, which has been continued to the present time. Cobbett commenced his career as a public writer in England under very favourable circumstances. He was powerfully patronised by the Ministry. Mr. Wyndham went even so far in the House of Commons as to declare that a statue of gold ought to be erected to him. His health was drunk at Tory dinners throughout the island. His letters on the subject of the Treaty of Amiens produced a great sensation both here and on the Continent. Of this production it was said by the celebrated Swiss historian, Muller, that it was more eloquent than any thing that had appeared since the days of Demosthenes. It is generally understood that Mr. Pitt gave offence in some way to Cobbett; for on his return to power, Cobbett lost no opportunity of attacking his Ministry with great bitterness. Of Mr. Wyndham he long continued to speak favourably, but to him he became also hostile. From a Church and King man, Cobbett became, in 1805, a Radical. In 1810 he was sentenced to two years' imprisonment in Newgate, and a fine of 1,000*l.* From an idea that he would be deprived of his liberty, under an anticipated suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, he left England for America in 1817, whence he returned when the suspension terminated. It had long been a great object of his ambition to sit in the House of Commons, and after the passing of the Reform Bill he was returned for Oldham, through the influence of Mr. Fielden, an extensive manufacturer at Todmerden. By his death a vacancy takes place for Oldham.

We have merely noticed a few of the incidents in Mr. Cobbett's life. In fact, he has been so continually before the public during the last 40 years, and his *Register* is so complete a record of all that he has said and done—felt and thought, that there is no man, perhaps, of whom so little can be told that would be new to any class of readers.

Cobbett was perhaps the greatest egotist that ever lived: and as every thing that he did, and every sentence that he uttered, was important in his own estimation, he is the constant theme of his voluminous writings.

It would be vain to deny that William Cobbett was one of the most powerful writers that England has ever produced. He felt keenly and observed accurately, and he never failed to make a strong impression on his readers. His last *Register*, published on the 13th inst., is as animated as his first American pamphlet, published in the full tide of

youthful vigour. The wonder is, how a man writing every day for upwards of forty years should never exhibit any symptoms of coldness or indifference, but communicate to his pages a constant interest.

As an advocate he was without an equal. In that first of requisites—the statement of a case—he particularly excelled. He instinctively seized on the circumstances which favoured the views he wished to support, and he seldom failed to produce the impression at which he aimed. What he could not effect by direct statement, he attained by innuendo. He was shrewd beyond most men, and he could detect and expose a subterfuge more successfully than most men. But after all, Cobbett was not a wise man. We question if, in the whole course of his life, he ever set himself seriously down to discover the truth. He was a man of impulses. William Cobbett was the object towards which the thoughts of William Cobbett were constantly directed. Hence the constant changes of opinion, with respect to all subjects and all men. There is not, perhaps, a question which he has not by turns advocated and opposed—there is not a man whom he has not by turns praised and abused. Hazlit supposed this change of opinion was the result of a fickleness of disposition, and that without this fickleness we should also have been without his freshness. It is certain that it was always sufficient to be in the way of William Cobbett to incur his enmity and become the object of his abuse.

As a reasoner, in the proper sense of the word, Cobbett did not rank high. He never saw the whole of a subject, and his views were, therefore, always partial. But give him a special case, and he could make more of it than any man. His illustrations were peculiarly forcible, and whatever he had to describe, he described well. His "*Rural Rides*" contains, perhaps, the very best descriptions of English scenery that ever were written. His descriptions of rural life in Pennsylvania, when he left England in 1817, are also admirable. Being an accurate observer, his language was always graphic. His style was always racy and idiomatic. In his earlier productions he was somewhat declamatory, and indicated a familiarity with French writers. As he advanced in years his language and style became more Saxon.

Though Cobbett upon the whole was a good speaker, he was not a good debater, and therefore was not in his element in the House of Commons. He could get on well enough in a lecture, when he had all the talk to himself; but he could not bear opposition with temper, and he had not a command of resources sufficient for the exigencies of a discussion. What he might have been had he entered Parliament at an earlier period of his life we know not; but he was evidently too old at seventy years of age to cut a figure as a ready speaker. He made one or two good speeches; but he repeated himself, and always made the same speech. To a certain extent, indeed, his *Register* was liable to the same charge of sameness; but his happy illustrations and descriptions made you forget that you had heard the same opinions repeated by him a hundred times before.

He has left a widow and a large family. Two of his sons are at the Bar, and are, we believe, exceedingly well liked. One of them wrote the well-known description of the turning up of the Rats, quoted by *The Quarterly Review* as one of the happiest of Cobbett's effusions.

No man could have occupied the public so constantly with himself as Cobbett has done, without possessing great talents. Take him with all his faults as a writer, and he will still be an extraordinary man.

# THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE Farming & Grazing Society,

ESTABLISHED 1819, FOR

THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF GOOD PLOUGH-  
ING, GOOD SHEPHERDING,

And for the general good Conduct of Farming Labourers.

PRESIDENT,

C. HILLYARD, Esq., Thorpe-lands, near North-  
ampton.

STEWARDS FOR 1835,

Mr. WILLIAM WATTS, Scaldwell;

Mr. MICHAEL HARRIS, Weston Favell; and

Mr. THOMAS BOSWORTH, Highgate House.

The following **PREMIUMS** are offered by the Society, to be awarded at the Annual Meeting, on Wednesday, Sept. 9, 1835, viz.:

To the ploughman who shall plough, in the best manner, with two horses abreast, and without a driver, half an acre of land within the space of three hours and a half, and not less than four and a half inches deep ..... £2 2 0

To the next best ploughman ..... 1 1 0

To the next ..... 0 10 6

To the farmer of this county, or a farmer's son not exceeding 25 years of age, who shall plough, in the best manner, with two horses abreast, without a driver, and within three hours and a half, half an acre of land, not less than four inches and a half deep, a Silver Cup, given by Sir WILLIAM WAKE, Bart., EDWARD BCUVERIE, Esq., and the President of this Society.

\* \* A ploughman who has in any previous year gained the first prize will not be allowed to plough again for a Prize; nor any ploughman to plough for a prize more than three times. The same regulation will be observed as to labourers, in order that no one shall in the future receive more than the amount of the first prize. Persons intending to send teams, to give notice to the Secretary, on or before the Saturday preceding the day of show. The teams of those who fail to do so will not be permitted to plough. To prove the skill of the ploughmen, each ploughman is to put on his own plough irons on the ground, before starting for the prize.

To the shepherd (whose master is a member of this society), who shall rear, to the 4th of May, the greatest number of lambs, in proportion to the number of ewes put to the tup on the farm; the number of ewes to be not less than four score ..... £2 2 0

To the shepherd, who shall rear the next greatest number ..... 1 1 0

To the next ..... 0 10 6

\* \* Certificates as follows, to be signed by the master, to be sent (if by letter, post paid), to the President, Treasurer, or Secretary, on or before the first Saturday in July:—

*"I do hereby declare that the whole number of ewes I put to the tup in the autumn of 1834, did not exceed \_\_\_\_\_, from which said number of ewes my shepherd, \_\_\_\_\_, has raised to the 4th of May, \_\_\_\_\_ lambs."*

To the unmarried man, who has lived in the house of a member of this society, or the former occupier of the same farm, the longest time without intermission, and is now living there as a farming servant ..... £2 2 0

To the unmarried woman, who has lived with a member of this society, or with a former occupier of the same farm, the longest time without intermission, and is now living there, doing the work of a farm-house ..... 2 2 0

To the labourer of a member of this society who has been, and is now employed entirely in husbandry, without intermission, (by illness excepted), the longest time in the same service or on the same farm ..... 2 2 0

To the labourer who has served the next longest time ..... 1 1 0

To the next ..... 0 10 6

To the labourer employed entirely in husbandry, by a member of this society, and who is now supporting by his labour the greatest number of children, but not less than four, under 12 years of age, without having received parochial aid (illness excepted), or having property to the amount of ten pounds or upwards, exclusive of his household goods ..... 3 3 0

To the labourer supporting the next greatest number of children, not less than three, under the circumstances as before mentioned ..... 2 2 0

To the next, with not less than two ..... 1 1 0

Offered by EARL EUSTON.—To the labourer in the county, whether employed by a member of the society or not, but who has been employed entirely in husbandry, and who is now supporting by his labour the greatest number of children, but not less than four, under 12 years of age, without having received parochial aid (illness excepted), or having property to the amount of ten pounds or upwards, exclusive of his household goods ..... 3 3 0

Offered by JOHN PERCIVAL, Esq.—To the labourer supporting the next greatest number of children, not less than three ..... 2 2 0

To the next, with not less than two ..... 1 1 0

Offered by SAMUEL PERCIVAL, Esq.—To the youth, under 20 years of age, that has been the longest time employed entirely in husbandry, by the same master, or on the same farm, in this county 1 1 0

To the youth, under 20 years of age, who has lived in the house the longest time with the same master, in this county, and employed entirely in husbandry ..... 1 1 0

The prizes to ploughmen, shepherds, and labourers, to be received at the Mercury Printing Office, the Saturday after the annual meeting.

\* \* Certificates, signed by the master, and overseers of the poor of the parish, to be sent to the treasurer or secretary (if by letter, post paid), on or before the 1st of September, stating if they have previously received any money from this society. Certificates from those masters whose subscriptions are in arrear cannot be received.

## FORMS OF CERTIFICATES FOR THE ABOVE PREMIUMS.

This certifies that A. B. a single man, has lived with me and been employed entirely in husbandry, \_\_\_\_\_ years, without intermission.

(Signed) E \_\_\_\_\_, master.

F \_\_\_\_\_, } Overseers of the  
G \_\_\_\_\_, } parish of \_\_\_\_\_.

This certifies that A. B. has been employed by me entirely in husbandry, \_\_\_\_\_ years, without intermission. Signed and witnessed as above.

This certifies that A. B. of C., and now employed by me entirely in husbandry, is now supporting \_\_\_\_\_ children, under 12 years of age, without ever having received parochial aid, illness excepted. Signed and witnessed as above.

To a resident of the county who shall exhibit the best boar, worthy of a premium, under two years old, his own property, and that is intended to be used in the county ..... 2 2 0

Subscriptions due each year on the 4th of May, to be paid to the treasurer or to the secretary, on or before the annual meeting; and the se-



cretary will attend at the show and the ordinary for the purpose of receiving such subscriptions and arrears as may not have previously been paid. All persons elected members of this society, will be considered as such until they have given a notice of resignation to the secretary of the society.

#### THE FOLLOWING PRIZES ARE OFFERED BY MEMBERS OF THIS SOCIETY:—

[All animals intended to be shown for prizes or sweepstakes to be at Earl Spencer's farm, at Brampton, on Tuesday morning, September 8th, by 11 o'clock, at which time the judges will enter upon their office.—Extra stock to be at Brampton by nine o'clock on Wednesday morning; at ten o'clock all the animals will be exhibited for public inspection; and at one o'clock the awards will be made known.—None of the animals to be removed from the show-ground till after two o'clock.]

BY EARL SPENCER.

1st. To the owner of the best fat ox or steer (quality and age as well as weight to be taken into consideration), weighing not less than 90 stone of 14lbs and that has not had from the 1st of January, 1835, to the 1st of August, either cake, corn, linseed, meal, oil, or grains..... 10 0 0

2d. To the occupier of land of the county, who produces the best fat ox or steer (quality and age as well as weight to be taken into consideration), weighing not less than 70 stone, nor above 90; that has been in the county from the 4th of May, 1835, and that has not had from the 1st January either cake, corn, linseed, meal, oil or grains 7 0 0

To the owner of the second-best beast shown for the above prize ..... 3 0 0

*By* In consequence of a late Act of Parliament weights will be computed by the stone of 14lbs instead of 8lbs as heretofore.

3rd. To the occupier of land in the county, who produces the best fat cow or heifer, (quality as well as weight to be taken into consideration) that has been in the county from the 4th of May, 1835 ..... 7 0 0

To the owner of the second-best beast shown for the above prize ..... 3 0 0

4th. To the owner of the best pen of five long-woolled ewes, which have reared lambs in the county in the year 1835, and which are intended to be bred from in the next year. The ewes are to be taken from a regular store breeding flock; they are not to have had their lambs weaned, or themselves to have been separated from the rest of the flock of ewes previous to the 30th of June, 1835. They must have been in the possession of the person who shows them from the 1st of January, 1835, and not had from that time either cake, corn, linseed, or meal..... 7 0 0

To the owner of the second-best pen.... 3 0 0

5th. To the owner of the best pen of five long-woolled theaves, bred by himself in the county, and kept therein, and which have never had either cake, corn, linseed, or meal..... 7 0 0

To the owner of the second-best pen.... 3 0 0

6th. To the owner of the best pen of five long-woolled shearhogs, bred by himself in the county, and kept therein, and which have never had either cake, corn, linseed, or meal..... 7 0 0

To the owner of the second-best pen.... 3 0 0

\* Persons who have let in the preceding or present years five or more tups, not to show for the above prizes for ewes or theaves.

7th. To the owner of the best shearling long-woolled tup, bred in the county, and kept therein, without ever having had either cake, corn, linseed, or meal ..... 10 0 0

8th. To the occupier of land in the county, who produces the best long-woolled tup, of any age, either his own property, or that he has exclusively hired to be kept in the county during the season 10 0 0  
Mr. Dent, of Milton, adds two sovereigns to this prize

9th. To the occupier of land in the county, who shall send to Earl Spencer's farm at Brampton, before noon on Tuesday, September 8th, the best sample of not less than four bushels of wheat, thrashed out from a crop produced in the county in 1835 ..... 3 0 0

10th. To the occupier of land in the county who shall send the best sample of not less than four bushels of barley, the produce of the county in 1835 ..... 3 0 0

11th. To the occupier of land in the county who shall send the best sample of not than four bushels of oats, the produce of the county in 1835 ..... 3 0 0

12th. To the person who shall shear a sheep in the neatest and most skilful manner, at Earl Spencer's farm at Brampton, on Tuesday the 23rd June, 1835 ..... 7 0 0

To the next best ..... 5 0 0

To the next ..... 3 0 0

Candidates for the above prizes to be at Brampton by nine o'clock in the morning. Shearing to commence at ten.

13th. To the labourer in husbandry of any county, who shall, at Earl Spencer's farm at Brampton, on Wednesday the 23d December, 1835, cut, lay, and ditch, in the most workmanlike manner, 11 yards of hedge-row..... 10 0 0

Competitors for the above prize to send in their names to the secretary on or before Saturday the 19th December. No one can compete for the prize whose name is not so sent in.

14th. To the owner of the best cart stallion, to be exhibited at Althorp Park, on Friday the 4th day of March, 1836 ..... 10 0 0

The horses to be exhibited for this prize must be brought to the stables, at Althorp, at nine o'clock in the morning of that day.

The prize will be declared when the horses are exhibited on the market place, Northampton, on the following day, at twelve o'clock at noon.

The condition on which this prize will be given is, that the horse which shall be declared to be the best shall serve mares one day in the week during the season, at Northampton, at a price not exceeding thirty shillings each mare. The prize will be given to the exhibitor at the annual meeting in September, on a certificate being produced to this effect.

BY LORD SONDÉS.

To the occupier of land in the county of Northampton, who shows the best fat ox or steer, under 70 stone (quality as well as weight to be taken into consideration,) that has been in the county from 20th February, 1835, and that has not had since that time either cake, corn, linseed, meal, or grains, and grazed from the 10th May, without hay or roots, to the time of showing ..... 5 0 0

To the occupier of land in the county, who shows the best fat cow or heifer, being neither marten nor spay, if worthy of a premium (quality as well as weight to be taken into consideration,) to be in the possession of the person who shows it from the 20th February, 1835, and has not had since that time either cake, corn, linseed, meal, or grains, and grazed from the 10th of May to the time of showing without hay or roots ..... 5 0 0

BY SIR J. H. PALMER, BART.

To the occupier of land in the county, who shows the

best pair of open heifers of any breed (crosses excepted,) the value to the butcher not to be taken into consideration, and not to exceed two years old, and that has never had after 8 months old, linseed, cake, corn, meal, or milk 5 0 0

BY THE HON. E. S. PERY.

For the best beast of any kind, exhibited as extra stock, age, quality, and feeding to be taken into consideration ..... 5 0 0 which sum is to go to the society's fund, should the judges be of opinion that there was no animal of sufficient merit shown to have the prize awarded. The feeding and age to be specified and sent, with the beast, to Brampton, on Wednesday morning by nine o'clock.

To the owner of the best pen of five longwoolled shearhogs, bred in the county by the same person —no restriction as to keep ..... 5 0 0

BY STAFFORD O'BRIEN, ESQ.

For the best bull, that has been exclusively used in the county for the last twelve months, or that is intended to be used in the county for the next twelve months ..... 5 5 0 No bull will be allowed to be shown for the prize that is not brought to the show with a ring in his nose, and properly secured.

BY SIR FRANCIS LAWLEY, BART.

To the owner of the most valuable two-year-old colt, bred either in the counties of Northampton or Warwick, by a person who is not an owner of more than five hundred acres of land .. 10 0 0

BY E. BOUVIERE, ESQ.

To the tenant, occupier of land in the county, being a member of this society, who can show about the first week in November, the cleanest and best crop of not less than five acres, of Swedish turnips, on old tillage land which has the preceding year borne a crop of white grain ..... 5 0 0 Persons who intend to show for this premium, to give notice to the president or secretary on or before the first of October.

\* Entries must be made, and certificates, according to the underneath form, must be sent for all stock intended to be shown for the above prizes, or underneath sweepstakes, to the Mercury Printing Office, or to the secretary, not later than the Saturday preceding the day of the show; and any person proved to have intentionally sent in a false certificate, will not again be permitted to exhibit any animal at any future show; and if a member of the society, his name will be struck out of the list. No individual to be allowed to make more than one entry for each prize, or to enter any beast for two prizes, or to enter any one which has been shown for the same prize in a former year; or to enter any sheep in the same class where it has gained a prize in any former year.

It is expected that the arrears of subscriptions shall be paid before the prizes are awarded to any member's stock, servants, or labourers.

FORM OF CERTIFICATE.

I do hereby declare that the (ox, steer, cow or heifer, as it may be,) which I intend showing for Earl Spencer's prize, No. , or Lord Sondes's, or Sir J. H. Palmer's, or the Hon. E. S. Pery's (or sweepstakes, No. , or both, as it may be,) is old, was bred by (if breeder known,) and fed by me, and is in every respect duly qualified according to the condition specified for prize No. or sweepstakes, No. (or both as it may be.) Witness my hand, this day of August, 1835. Name, —. Place of abode, —.

Certificates for sheep to be in the same kind of

form, but to mention by whose tup the theaves and shearhogs exhibited were by.

The judges not to award any premium if the animal or animals exhibited for it have not in their judgment sufficient merit. If they should have any reasonable doubt as to the weight of a beast, not to exclude it from the prize if it does not exceed, or should appear to be under one-twentieth part of the prescribed weights.—No animal to be excluded from being shown for any prize or sweepstakes, if it should exceed, or be under, the prescribed age, fourteen days.

A public ordinary at the George Hotel, Northampton, at four o'clock. A meeting of the members will be held there immediately on returning from Brampton, to transact business before dinner.

Written communications on agricultural subjects will be acceptable to be read at the meeting, either by the president or by the writers of them. New agricultural implements exhibited at the show will be attended to, and noticed, if deserving.

Wool fair the first Saturday in July. The ordinary at the George Hotel, at two o'clock.

These printed papers may be had at the Mercury Printing Office, or at the Secretary's, Northampton; of Messrs. Hill and Son, agents, 17, West Smithfield; and of Messrs. Cormack's, Bedford Conservatory, Covent Garden, London.

T. E. DICEY, Esq. Parade, Northampton, Treasurer. C. GOODMAN, Drapery, Northampton, Secretary.

### THE FOLLOWING SWEEPSTAKES

Are open, to be decided at the annual meeting of the Northamptonshire Farming and Grazing Society, in September, 1835, by the judges appointed to decide on the stock shown for the prizes offered by Earl Spencer, age and quality to be taken into consideration.—All the stakes to close on 31st August, if not otherwise expressed.—Those marked thus \* not confined to the county.—The ages of the animals to be computed to the day of showing. Stakes to be paid to the treasurer on or before the Saturday preceding the show, or at latest at the show at Brampton.—In consequence of a late Act of Parliament weights will be computed by the stone of 14 lbs., instead of 8 lbs., as heretofore.

Any persons wishing to have their names added to any of the stakes, or to open any fresh one for any kind of stock, will please to give notice either to the President of the society, C. HILLYARD, Esq., Thorpeland; or to the Treasurer or Secretary.

\* No. 1. A sweepstakes of five sovereigns each. for the best ox, under five years old, fed without restriction.—Spencer.

\* 2. A sweepstakes of three sovereigns each, for the best ox or steer, which shall qualified for the 2nd class in the Christmas Smithfield show, 1835; to be in the possession of the person who shows it before the 4th May.—Spencer. Geo. Peach. J. Beasley.

\* 3 A sweepstakes of three sovereigns each for the best steer, not exceeding three years and nine months old, and not weighing more than 70 stone, that has been in the possession of the person who shows it from the first of January, and has not had since that time cake, corn, linseed, meal, or grains, nor since the 10th May has had anything but grass. Quality as well as weight to be taken into consideration.

\* 4. A sweepstakes of three sovereigns each, for the best beast shown for Earl Spencer's prize (No. 1) for a fat ox.—Spencer. Geo. Peach. J. Beasley.

5. A sweepstakes of two sovereigns each, for the best beast shown for Lord Spencer's prize (No. 2) for a fat ox.—W. Wake.

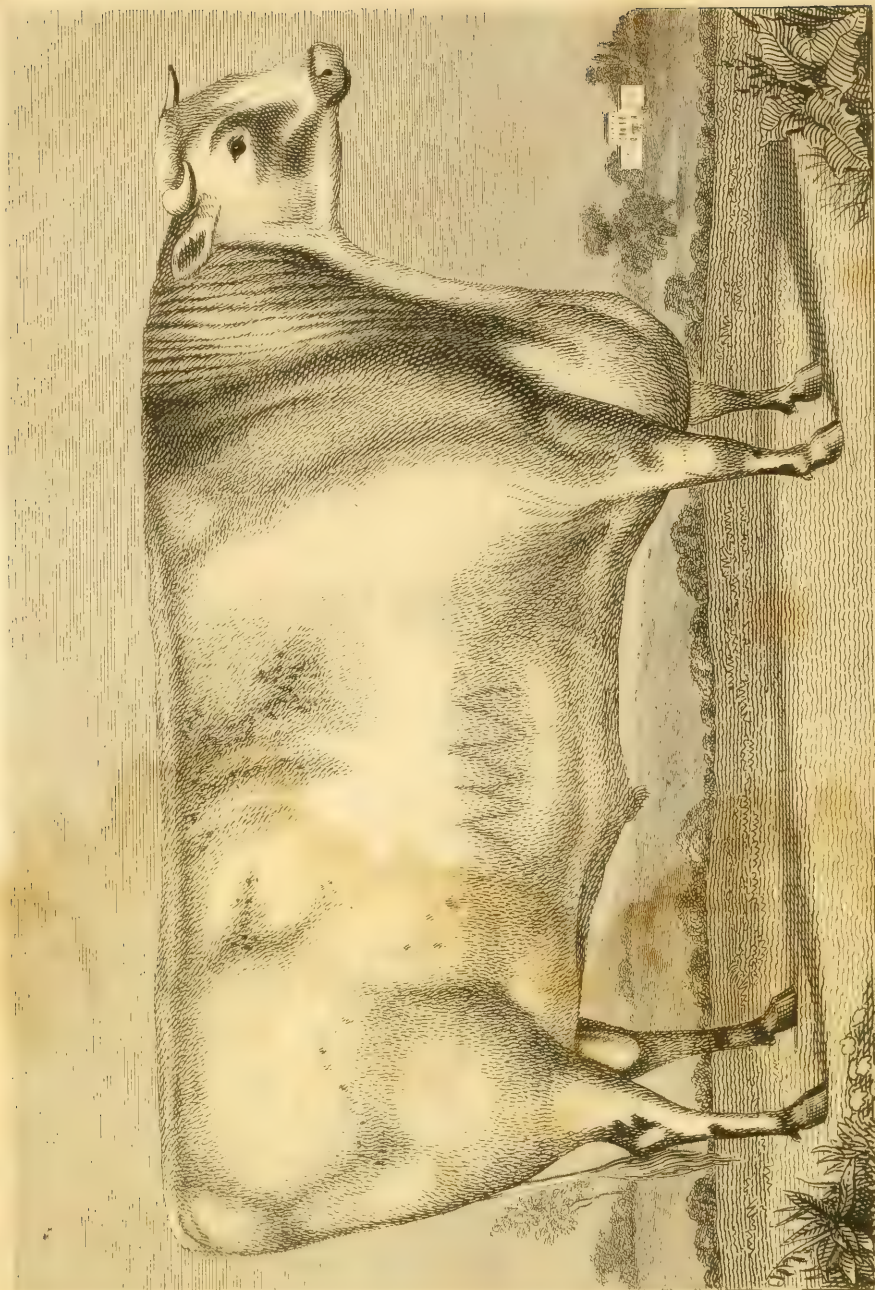


- \* 6. A sweepstakes of three sovereigns each, for the best pair of steers, of any breed, under four years old, age and quality to be taken into consideration, to be in the possession of the person who shows them on or before the 20th of February, and not had since that time either cake, corn, linseed, meal, or grains.—W. Wake. Spencer.
7. A sweepstakes of two sovereigns each, for the best pair of Hereford steers, fed in the county, under four years old, age and quality to be taken into consideration, that have been in the possession of the person who shows them from the 20th of Feb. that have not had since that time either cake, corn, linseed, meal, or grains.—W. Wake.
8. A sweepstakes of one sov. each, for the best pair of Hereford steers, under three years and a half old, and not exceeding 60 stone that have been in the county from the 20th of February, and have not had either cake, corn, linseed, meal, grains, or milk, after six months old, and nothing but grass from the 10th May.—C. Hillyard.
- \* 9. A sweepstakes of three sovereigns each, for the best steer of any breed, under four years old, that has been laying out at grass from the 10th May, and that has not had, after six months old, cake, corn, linseed, meal, milk, or grains.
10. A sweepstakes of one sovereign each, for the best beast exhibited for Earl Spencer's prize for a fat cow or heifer.—Geo. Peach.
11. A sweepstakes of two sovereigns each, for the best steer, not exceeding four years old, or 70 stone, that has been in the county not before the 1st of October or later than the 20th February, that has not had from the 1st January, either cake, corn, linseed, meal, malt dust, or grains, and has had nothing but grass from the 10th May.
12. A sweepstakes of one sovereign for the best Durham steer, not exceeding three years and nine months old, age and quality to be taken into consideration, which has been in the county from the 1st January, and not had since that time either cake, corn, meal, linseed, or grains, has laid out, and had nothing but grass, from the 10th May.—C. Hillyard. Spencer.
13. A sweepstake of one sovereign, for the best pair of Hereford steers not exceeding two years and a half old, that have been in the possession of the person who shows them from the 1st January, and that have not had since that time either cake, corn, linseed, meal, or grains, and that have laid out, and had nothing but grass, from the 10th May.—C. Hillyard.
14. A sweepstake of one sovereign, for the best steer under two years old, that has been in the county from the first January, and has not had since that time either cake, corn, meal, milk, linseed, or grains, and has laid out, and had nothing but grass, from the 10th May.—C. Hillyard.
15. A sweepstakes of one sovereign, for the best Durham steer, bred in the county, and that has never had, since eight months old, either cake, corn, linseed meal, grain, or milk.—J. H. Palmer.
16. A sweepstakes of one sovereign, for the best open heifer not exceeding 60 stone, and that has never had, after eight months old, either cake, corn, linseed, meal, grains, or milk.—J. H. Palmer.
17. A sweepstakes of five sovereigns each, with two sovereigns added by Mr. Dent, of Milton, for the best bull which has served 25 cows, to be the property of the exhibitor.—To close the 10th May.—John Price. Thomas Beesley. R. W. Baker. John Wetherell, jun. Francis Lawley. William Hanbury.
18. A sweepstakes of one sovereign each, for the best beast shown for Lord Sondes's prize for a fat ox.—W. Wake.
19. A sweepstakes of one sovereign each, for the best beast shown for Lord Sondes's prize for a fat cow.—Jas. Rice.
- \* 20. A sweepstakes of five sovereigns each, for the best breeding cow in calf: value to the butcher not to be taken into consideration. To close on the 18th of August.—John Wetherell, jun.
- \* 21. A sweepstakes of three sovereigns each, for the best cow or open heifer, that has never had after six months old either cake, corn, linseed, meal, or milk, and had nothing but grass from the 10th of May.—Jas. Rice.
- \* 22. A sweepstakes of two sovereigns each, for the best pair of open heifers, under two years old, bred by and the property of the exhibitor, to have had neither cake, corn, linseed, meal, grains, nor milk, after eight months old. To close 18th August.
- \* 23. A sweepstakes of three sovereigns each, for the best pair of Scots, fed without cake, corn, linseed, or meal, and that have been in the possession of the person who shows them from the 20th of February.
24. A sweepstakes of five sovereigns for the best shearing tup, bred by a person in the county, who has not in any one year let out to hire five or more tups.
- \* 25. A sweepstakes of five sovereigns each, for the best tup of any age. Open to all England to the 18th August.
- \* 26. A sweepstakes of five sovereigns each, for the best shearing tup, that has never had either cake, corn, linseed, meal, or any artificial food. Open to all England to the 18th August.—Richard Garratt.
27. A sweepstakes of one sovereign each, for the best ewes exhibited for Earl Spencer's Prize. To close on the 18th August.—G. Hillyard.
28. A sweepstakes of one sovereign each, for the best theaves exhibited for Earl Spencer's Prize. To close on the 18th August.—C. Hillyard.
29. A sweepstakes of one sovereign each, for the best shearhogs shown for Earl Spencer's prize.
30. A sweepstakes of one sovereign each, for the best five whether sheep, fed on grass only.
31. A sweepstakes of two sovereigns each, for the heaviest crop of mangel wurzel, of not less than three acres, on old tillage land after a crop of white grain. Average weight of the crop to be taken the latter end of October. To close on the 1st August.—Spencer. C. Hillyard.
32. A sweepstakes of two sovereigns each, for the heaviest crop, of not less than five acres, of Swedish turnips, on old tillage land, after a crop of white grain. The average weight of the whole crop to be ascertained about the first week in November, by the Judges chosen at the Annual Meeting in September. To close on the 1st August.—Spencer. C. Hillyard.
33. A sweepstakes, for tenant farmers, of one sovereign each, for the best crop, from three to five acres, of swedish turnips, on old tillage land, after a crop of white grain. To close on the 1st of August.—James Rice.
- Match.—For three sovereigns each, a Northamptonshire farmer, under 21 years of age, against a Rutlandshire farmer of the same age, to plough half an acre of land, at Brampton and at Cottesmore.





COMET.  
*Bred by C. Collins, Esq.*



# THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

AUGUST, 1835.

No. 2.]

[Vol. III.

## COMET.

No. 155, IN THE HERD BOOK.

Red and white roan, calved in 1804, bred by Mr. C. Colling, got by Favourite, d. (young Phoenix,) by Favourite, g. d. (Phoenix,) Foljambe gr. g. d. (Favourite,) bred by Mr. R. Alcock's bull, gr. gr. g. d. by Mr. Jacob Smith's bull, gr. gr. g. d. by Mr. Jolly's bull. Comet died in 1815, was sold for 1,000 guineas, and 1,500 was afterwards offered for him.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "FARMER'S MAGAZINE."

Attemper'd suns arise  
Sweet beam'd, and shedding oft thro' lucid clouds  
A pleasing calm; while broad, and brown, below,  
Extensive harvests hang the heavy head.  
Rich, silent, deep, they stand; for not a gae  
Rolls its bright billows o'er the bending plain:  
A calm of plenty! ——— THOMPSON.

SIR,—Thus has the above beautiful poet sung the bountiful provision of a beneficent Providence, at this season of the year when the toil and industry of the husbandman is blessed to him. At this time the various anxieties of the farmer, peculiar to each other season of the year, are concentrated to the attainment of the object to which all his operations have been directed,—namely, his "Harvest Home." It may truly be said that this is a matter in the success of which all have a common feeling, and it would be a difficult task to find any other object possessing the like deep and general interest which the harvest commands. Could the state of the weather and the yielding of the crops be reduced at this time to matters of certainty, this universal anxiety would, no doubt, considerably subside, and instead of being thought of as a subject of the deepest interest, as the harvest now is, it would be accepted as a matter of course.

He who promised a "seed-time and a harvest," does indeed abundantly fulfil that promise; and experience illustrates to my mind, that the chance of securing corn in good condition, is created by the injurious hurry of the farmer, whereas less haste on his part would nine times in ten reward him with success. I know to an anxious mind, to wait another "day or two," (when the corn has reached that particular state of maturity—when to say the least of it, it is become a questionable matter if it be not fit for the barn, or at all events for the rick), requires no

small share of self-restraint; but at the same time, I have constantly observed that those who have had most patience to endure, have always the best chance of a dry sample.

As regards the present prospect of the crop—like seasons in general—that prospect differs in various situations and soils,—very rarely, if ever, is the weather alike suited to the relative circumstances of our several agricultural districts. The summer of 1832 was certainly an exception from this principle. In that delightful and genial season, *every* thing appeared to flourish, on *every* soil; and although it was the time at which the price of wheat began to decline, and so far, certainly not attended with any pleasant reflection, still it will always be remembered as a year in which it pleased Providence especially to bless, and wonderfully increase the produce of the earth.

The wheat on the whole—as far as my observation extends—appears to be decidedly a good crop. On the good and on wet stiff land, the promise is beyond an average produce; but on the poorer light soils and shraives, there is undoubtedly a deficiency. On this last description of land, the summers since 1832 have been too dry, inasmuch as the growth of corn is concerned, and consequently the falling off of the bulk of straw for the last three years' begins now to have a perceptible effect on the quantity of manure bestowed on the land. The forward sown barley and oats are looking better certainly than could be expected from the extreme dryness of the weather; but the late sown Lent corn bears but a miserable appearance; and indeed the Spring corn for the last three years, which has been sown as late as the first week in May, has barely produced in the growth of the three years, one average crop of grain. The turnip crop of last year having been a plentiful one, and the winter so favourable for the feeding off the turnip with sheep, is of course vastly in favour of the early sown barley and oats, and may perhaps be the chief reason of the present appearance of that crop being better than circumstances appear to warrant; but, however, judging from past events, the probability is, that the present dry summer will not fail to produce its due effect even on the early sown barley and oats, and the result will be, we shall find these crops deficient both in quantity and quality, and the like cause will also operate injuriously to the pulse crops, which are not very strong or healthy.

The young rape and turnip, particularly the forward sown, have suffered from the ravages of the fly, and in many instances it has been necessary to repeat the sowing. The crop of hay throughout this county is very limited, and this deficiency, together with the fact of there being but little saved over from last year, will no doubt cause hay to be unusually dear during the ensuing winter. The harvest here will, I think, become general in the last week of this month, and if there were the like prospect of a fair price for the wheat that there is for a good crop of this "main staff"



of life, an immense deal of trouble would, I apprehend, be spared to the farmer, which he will now experience in making a price for labour during the harvest, and which must undoubtedly be done at a much lower rate than it has been the practice to give for many years past. The reduction of wages, like the reduction of the rent of land to the standard value of both—namely, the price of the bushel of wheat—is a difficult matter to effect in anything like an exact ratio; and even where rents and labour be paid at a corn-rent, difficulties are found to arise beyond the ingenuity of man, which occasionally operate unfairly either on one interest or the other. Use becomes second nature, and where a landowner has been in the habit of receiving £1,000 a-year as the rent of his estate, a farmer of realizing £200 or £300 per annum as the profit of his farm, or a labourer of earning eleven shillings a week, and seven or eight pounds for his harvest month; in either case there is a natural reluctance to submit to a reduction of income, although the standard value to the chief necessities of life may be considerably reduced in price. The secret I believe to be this—that in each of the above gradations of society, certain luxuries or superfluities have become almost essential to the comforts of life, the cost of which is not materially altered either by a rise or fall in the price of wheat, and consequently a reduction of income in proportion to the reduced price of this commodity, which is the first necessary, but which had not the effect of lowering the price of luxuries to a like scale, would be the cause of less of these superfluities being within reach.

It is a hard task for a nation—as a people—to become less luxurious in their manner of living than they have for years been accustomed to; but it is a much more difficult matter to induce, or even to compel any portion or particular class of that society to relax in their accustomed wants and expenses, when the remaining part of the society immediately around them, are not only enabled to continue their former manner of living, but perhaps even to increase their expenses, in being afforded additional means by the selfsame cause which is operating to the destruction of the declining interest. Thus do circumstances at the present moment depress that part of the community immediately depending on the land, and at the same time these very circumstances operate with a counter effect on certain other interests of the country. The conviction of this fact constantly presenting itself to the mind, it is truly heart-sickening to the farmer to observe, not only the indifferent, but the opposing spirit of the present House of Commons to all relief proposed for the agriculturist. It surely would not have been too great a boon to have exempted lime for manure from turnpike toll, as proposed by Mr. Lawson as an amendment of a clause in the “Manure-toll Exemption Bill,” and tiles for draining, as proposed as an amendment to the same bill by Mr. Halford in the House of Commons on Thursday the 9th inst.; however both these amendments our legislators thought proper to reject.

An incendiary fire occurred at the extreme western part of this county, at the beginning of the present month, which destroyed more than twenty loads of wheat, with a double barn, out-buildings, &c. &c. Persons who are not acquainted with the real state of things in this respect, are apt to imagine that these fires are usually the work of some half-starved and oppressed pauper, to revenge an injury received from some tyrannical parish officer, or oppressive and overbearing master. The truth is really the reverse of this, and the several fires which have happened in this neighbourhood on almost every occasion, if the conviction of the offender has not fol-

lowed, suspicion has been attached to persons very far removed from the distress which would in any degree justify such a proceeding. Let me not be here misunderstood: I am quite aware that an incendiary cannot be justified in his diabolical purpose; but at the same time, if I was about to witness execution on two persons, condemned for this crime, the one excited to the commission of the offence by imminent distress, occasioned more by the relentless inhumanity of a hard task-master, or from the unfeeling conduct of a cruel parish officer, than from any misconduct of his own; while the other proceeded from a malicious temper, or from a spirit restless of that controul which the situation of one man fairly gives him the right to exercise over the conduct of another, both for the protection of his own property, and for the good of society in general,—I must confess that I should feel a far deeper regret for the fate of the former than for the latter. But, however contradictory it may appear, the latter is generally the character of the incendiary; at least in this county such has been the case; the fires have not proceeded from *oppressed and half-starved paupers*, but from the *maliciously disposed and dissatisfied labourers*, being in the receipt of good wages, but who have happened to have some dispute with their masters. The recent fire which I have mentioned above, fully bears out this view of the matter. Here the individual whose property has been destroyed, is a highly respectable man, and a considerate and humane master. The delinquent, who is committed for trial for the offence, is a labourer in his employ, and in his master's confidence too, as a sort of foreman; and last year received for himself and a boy or two, seventy pounds in money, besides those little perquisites and favours a man in his situation is sure to enjoy. I know it would be a difficult undertaking to satisfy persons entirely unconnected with country life of the correctness of my views, both as regards the character and motives of action to the crime—of those who commit the vile deed of incendiarism—because a false notion has so long existed on the subject. To such persons rural riots and rick-burnings are synonymous terms with oppression and starvation; they think the employment on these occasions of that gentleman, cypleped Jack Ketch, a national disgrace, and at the same time deplore his exemption duty in case of forgery, &c. &c. as a national misfortune. One would be inclined to think these good people may have extensive effects in the hands of their bankers, but that they are not troubled with farm buildings and stack-yards.

I have a design in contemplation, which I hope before long, through the instrumentality of your pages, to carry into effect, viz.—to give the name, together with the circumstances of the case of every criminal who has been convicted either in this county or in Kent for the crime of incendiarism, since the year 1830.

I am sir,

Your obedient and very humble servant,  
AGRICULTOR.

Sussex, July 15, 1835.

## ON SOILING.

BY MARTIN DOYLE.

(From the Irish Farmer's Magazine.)

Although a free range of pasture is essential to the health of young bullocks, heifers, colts, and fillies, and above all to sheep, there can be no advantage under any circumstances in leaving them exposed to the rays of a broiling sun; during the heat of summer all these animals are much more comfortably

as well as more profitably kept in shade on green food. As to cattle employed in farm or in any other work, and milch and fattening cows, there can be no doubt of the advantages derivable from the steady practice of the soiling system, both by day and night.

I have over and over again admitted that a single cow on good pasture and in favourable weather, will yield more milk if at liberty than when in a state of confinement, even on the most succulent food: but at the same time maintained, that a given portion of land under green crops for cattle-feeding, will maintain a much greater number of cows, and, on the balance of accounts, supply a much greater quantity of milk than under the wasteful grazing system—experience has not led me to alter my opinion. I have no doubt that two acres of good heavy clover will keep eight or ten milch cows during the summer, especially if there be a small supply of vetches to come in between the first and second crops of clover to meet an obvious want, and at the same time afford a desirable change of food. If regular sheds be not in sufficient number, boughs of trees resting on stakes driven into the ground, and rudely thatched with straw or heath, or coarse sour grass cut from ditches and other waste places, will form a ready and sufficient substitute. An ass and well-constructed cart, filled as occasion may require with clover from the field, with a single man to attend, will enable the farmer to feed fifteen or twenty head of cattle; and even if the clover fields (as must periodically be the case where a proper rotation is observed) be at a considerable distance from the farm yard, the time occupied in bringing the clover or vetches to the cows, will not be much more than that occupied in driving them, morning and evening, to and from their milking places. In the neighbourhood of towns, where great dairies are required, and whence manure is easily obtained, soiling is especially advantageous; for in those places land is of considerable value, and there it becomes a great object with the dairymen to obtain the greatest possible quantity of succulent food from the least portion of surface; and as agricultural skill advances, we find that the practice of soiling is pursued as the most fertilizing and beneficial. And if this system be found the most favourable in situations where rich manures are most easily obtained, I think we may reasonably conclude, that it must be much more desirable to adopt the same practice in those districts where such manures are not to be purchased, and where consequently, if they are to be applied at all, they must be created on the spot.

The advantages of soiling are, indeed, so satisfactorily proved by experience, that the threadbare objections of—"cows not yielding milk," and "thriving well"—"the trouble of constantly mowing," &c. &c., are all frivolous and false. I admit that one great difficulty sometimes exists—the want of straw, or other suitable litter; but this obstacle, though a very important one as regards the economy of manure, can only affect the farmer at the commencement of the system: for after the first year or two of steady house-feeding three of his cattle, he will have, through the means of manure supplied by those cattle, such an increased quantity of corn crops as will meet all future demands for litter. If he can purchase straw at first starting, let him do so—it will amply repay him; if not, let him contrive some substitute—dry sand, if he be near the sea shore, will be an excellent receiver of the droppings of his cattle.

It is no uncommon matter in Ireland, to see a superabundance of straw—in those districts where the abundance of lime, and the practice of fallowing,

enable the farmer to raise large corn crops—and this in winter and spring, profusely scattered in lanes and high-ways, or thrown into pools, in order to be rendered rotten by the weather, with little advantage from the cattle, except their occasional trampling over it. Many men who call themselves farmers, thus misapply their straw in winter, instead of keeping it over for bedding down their cattle in the ensuing summer, when the poor animals are starving on worn-out and over-stocked pastures, while all the juices of the meadow grasses are allowed to escape in evaporation before they are converted into hay;—were these grasses to be given in a succulent state, the quantity of land required for the support of a given stock, would be much smaller than is usually imagined.

I prefer clover as a general soiling crop, because almost all land, if in heart and clean, is suited to it. Lucerne, on appropriate soil, is an earlier and more desirable food; but on an average of soils, clover is by far the most advantageous, and the heaviest in proportion to the quantity of land which it occupies. A rich clover crop is invaluable: and when the farmer takes care to have other green food (vetches, lucerne, meadow grasses, &c. &c.) for use during the cuttings of the clover—and earlier and later in the season—he will not revert to the old and unprofitable grazing system; a regular succession and variety of succulent food, should be his object.

Where dairies are kept on a large scale, an incredible number of pigs may be supported by clover (cut and brought to the yards) and almost fattened, if this be washed down with buttermilk. Three hundred pigs have been kept on a single farm in this way, and often without the accompaniment of the buttermilk. But too many of us while we preach about the advantages of soiling, neglect the practice of it. I hardly know any person in my neighbourhood who practices soiling, on any thing approaching to a large scale. I have, however, one exceedingly good example to adduce—that of John Lloyd, Esq. of Ballycogley, (about twenty miles from my farm of Ballyorley) who furnishes a complete practical proof of soiling, as well as of every branch of farming. This gentleman has lately gone to Flanders for the purpose of obtaining hints on farming, which it will be very desirable for him to communicate to the readers of this Magazine on his return. His general practice of husbandry deserves a minute but very brief notice from me. Mr. Lloyd's farm (with a southern aspect) consists of one hundred and twenty (Irish) acres, held in fee. The soil with a gravelly substratum is generally good; on the north side there is marl, within a few feet of the surface. His course is an eight year's shift—1st, ley oats,—2nd, potatoes and beans in drill or fallow,—3rd wheat,—4th, turnips, winter vetches in dry spots, cut early and succeeded by transplanted Swedish turnips—5th, barley laid down with rye grass and clover, two bushels of rye grass, and one of red clover to the acre, for at least three years. The turnips are consumed in the farm yard by stall fed cattle, young stock, and dairy cows, during the winter and spring.

The stock consists of forty dairy cows, (ten calves reared every year) ten two-year olds, ten yearlings, some older ones, to keep up the dairy stock, and the remainder fattened at three years old. The cows get hay and straw during the winter, with turnips, and in spring previous to their calving, and are soiled in the house during the summer on clover an dryegrass, except for short periods, (I don't like the exception,) during the hay-making season, and harvest. While being soiled, they are turned into the farm-yard for two hours every day for exercise and water.



Mr. Lloyd's establishment consists of a steward, whose wife acts as housekeeper, and superintends the dairy—two ploughmen—two boys to assist the stable, and in carting—two spademen—two cattle herds, (one of whom cuts soil in summer for the stock, and hay in winter for the horses,)—and two dairymen, with assistance at milking in summer. Occasional hands are employed in hoeing, weeding, haymaking, and binding in harvest. There are six horses, regularly employed, with occasional aid from young ones.

All that is wanting here in the soiling department, is some pure clover, to afford successive cuttings. To conclude, whether we consider the economy of the practice, or the health of stock abundantly fed on green food during the summer season, there can be no question as to the superiority of the soiling system.

### TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORWICH MERCURY.

SIR, I now beg leave to communicate a few observations regarding manure—and first as to quantity. Having by spade culture more soil, I must of necessity have more manure than by plough culture. The quantity I put on is thirty loads per acre annually. This quantity is not absolutely necessary, but being near Norwich that quantity is within my reach, and by this means I am enabled to reap two crops in the year.

As to the quality, my soil is generally rather light, and it is my good fortune to have a quantity of brick earth in one of my fields, and I dig it to the depth of six feet from the surface. In providing 150 loads of manure therefore for five acres of land, I first cast 100 loads of this earth for the bottom of my heap, and then put on 50 loads of muck. This earth receives the drain from the muck, which in wet weather is considerable, and I thus obtain when mixed together 150 loads of excellent manure at a moderate expence. But supposing I occupied a farm and kept stock, I should, supposing my stock would produce 50 loads of muck, first convey into my yard 100 loads of clay, brick earth, or mould, the best I could obtain for my purpose. This would receive all the drain of the muck from first to last, and would increase my manure (equally beneficial) threefold. It must be evident to every one of common observation, that a great portion of the virtue of the muck on the present plan sinks into the earth, and is of no use whatever but so far as the dimensions of the heap extend. No land is wasted by this plan, for I cultivate the surface of my pit the same as the other part of the field. I have often, Mr. Editor, been concerned to see the dilapidated state of banks raised in the neighbourhood of Norwich where the soil is loose; sometimes these defects arise from too much, at other times from too little moisture.

All fortifications are raised on an angle of 45 degrees, for it is well known to scientific men they will stand at no less, and for this plain and obvious reason, that if you throw up a mountain of sand, it will run down to that angle. In stiff soils the adhesive qualities will preserve the banks in their original position, but in loose soils the necessary repairs are a continual expence. I determined therefore to raise my fences on this angle, and they stand to admiration; but for the depredations of a rude population they would I am convinced, require no repairs, and against these they are considerable barriers.

It may not be amiss to state the simple method which I practice to form my angle. I take a common lath about two feet long, with which I form a circle on the ground, which I divide into eight equal parts; one of these parts taken from the centre from the two legs of an angle of 45 degrees. I take the lath of two feet in length for my upright, the other leg which I design for the slope of my bank I carry out to the length the height of my bank requires.

The only precaution required in using this instrument is to keep the upright leg a true perpendicular—for this purpose the line and plummet used by builders will suffice. In my next I shall with your permission Mr. Editor, attempt to shew the kind of carriages which I consider the best adapted for agricultural purposes.

I am, Sir, yours truly,  
A PRACTICAL AGRICULTURIST.

### POOR LAWS IN IRELAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUSSEX ADVERTISER.

SIR,—I concluded my last letter by stating that if the landlords of Ireland were to pay that attention which the landed proprietor of England and Scotland bestow upon the improvement of their estates, no doubt could be entertained that the produce of land already cultivated in Ireland might very speedily be doubled, and that a very great addition might be made to the present amount of Irish rents without at all distressing the cultivators.

The subject of Irish rents is much misconceived in this country. One hears of six, eight, or even ten guineas per acre talked of as rent paid for land in Ireland; and too often jumps at the conclusion that an Irish proprietor receives a much higher rent for his estate than an English landowner. That there are in Ireland many acres of land, which for a single season, let for ten guineas, is undoubtedly true; but it should be recollected that these are small parcels of land, termed in the language of that country "con acres;" that is to say, single acres of fresh and unbroken soil, which having remained long in a state of pasture, are ready and fit for the production of an excellent crop of potatoes. The occupier, or to speak more correctly, the cropper of this acre, incurs no other charge in respect of it, than the labor of planting; he pays no rates, taxes, or other outgoings; all these are defrayed by the person who lets the land. In addition to this, it should also be remembered, that in point of extent, the Irish acre bears to the English acre a proportion of 7840 to 8840. This reduces the rent of ten guineas to about six pounds per English acre. This is the enormous rent which is sometimes said to be paid for land in Ireland. All that can be gathered from the statement, however, is the fact that under peculiar circumstances of situation and culture, some detached acres of land, in a condition fit for immediate cropping, let for about six pounds the English acre. Now I would ask, what would an English farmer, occupying a soil of very moderate fertility, say to an offer of such a rent for one season for an acre of land, which having been long laid down to grass, or having been plentifully manured, should be considered capable of yielding an abundant crop of potatoes? I am inclined to think that he would laugh at an offer of even double that amount. With the exception of land let under the circumstances just detailed, rent in Ireland is greatly below the average rate paid for land of equal

quality in England. I have seen various estimates drawn up by persons well acquainted with the subject; and in none of these is the average of Irish rents, taking the whole of the cultivable land into the account, estimated at a higher rate than fifteen shillings per Irish acre. When the natural fertility of that island is considered, nothing can furnish a more decisive proof of the backward state of Irish agriculture. An improved and energetic system of tillage; the application of more labor to the cultivation of the soil, would probably, in twenty years double the rents; if the population which now subsists in complete idleness, or upon half employment, were regularly and constantly occupied in digging, ploughing, and hoeing, they would not only raise an ample supply of provisions for themselves, but also a very large surplus, which would go, in the form of an augmented rent, into the pockets of the landlords. The improved system of agriculture followed in this country, owes its introduction chiefly to the efforts and encouragement of enlightened proprietors resident upon their estate. But with exceptions that have little effect upon the general produce of the country, no successful attempts have been made to introduce the convertible system of husbandry into the South of Ireland, although the tenantry are stated to be really desirous of following any useful advice which might be given them upon the subject: hence, the land, having yielded a few crops of potatoes, is then allowed, for a long succession of years, to fall into a state of nature, and yields both to the cultivator and the public, infinitely less than it would produce under an improved system. During the seed-time and harvest, the Irish peasantry are fully employed, each upon his own allotment; but those seasons over all demand for labor ceases, as they are generally unacquainted with the various processes practised by skilful cultivators to increase the productive powers of the soil.

It may, with perfect truth, be said, that the whole attention of the body of Irish cottiers, is devoted solely to the cultivation of one crop—the potatoe. They bestir themselves in the spring while planting, and in the autumn while taking up this crop; but, with the exception of those who come over into England in pursuit of employment during the summer months, the rest of their time is spent in absolute idleness, and thus entirely lost both to themselves and the public. This idleness and waste of time, is the true source of all the poverty and misery which are so prevalent in Ireland: they are really employed only during about three months in the year, and hence it cannot appear at all wonderful that men who are idle for nine, out of every twelvemonth, should be steeped in poverty and distress. Some of the most enterprising and industrious come over to England in the beginning of the summer in pursuit of work; they return home with their earnings at the close of the harvest season, and live with their families in perfect idleness, until the ensuing spring, when they again set out upon their travels.

The present distribution of the Irish population seems to me, to bear considerable resemblance to that which prevailed in this country, as lately as the close of the sixteenth century: until that period many of the evils now complained of in Ireland existed here; and it appears, at least, probable, that they would yield to the discreet application of the same remedy.

It will be seen that I have suggested the introduction into Ireland, of a proper system of laws for the management of the poor, not for the purpose of enabling the idle to subsist at the expense of the industrious, but of forcing the owners of land to pay some

attention to the habits and occupations of the peasantry. The misery which prevails among the Irish population is all brought on, not by any peculiar oppression under which they labor, but by their own bad management and inactivity; they are mostly stout and active, and can work well if they will; but the *will* to work is generally wanting: hence the quality of their fare, the slovenly appearance of their dwellings, and the raggedness of their clothing. A large proportion of them live entirely on potatoes and salt, with an occasional supply of milk in the summer months:—the fire being in the middle of the hovel, the pot in which they boil the potatoes, is set on three stones, and the man, his wife, and their children, all sit round, enveloped in smoke. If the family possess any poultry, a pig, a cow, an ass, a horse, they are all inmates of the same cabin, and the provender which they get for these animals, which sometimes extends to the luxury of a few oats, is laid down on the floor, which is composed of the natural earth. With all this company it may easily be conceived, that the floor must be nearly as dirty as the highway; yet the whole family generally lie on it, and there is not a seat to be met with in the house. That their clothing appears so ragged is entirely their own fault; they are so lazy, that as long as they can get any new clothing, they will never mend any of the old. They never darn a hole in the stocking, but wear it till the foot comes off; and they treat every other part of their dress in the same manner.

I had intended to have brought my remarks to a close, in this letter, but as it has already grown to what I fear you will consider an alarming length, I must trespass upon the columns of your next week's paper.

I am sir, your obedient servant,

Lewes, June 16, 1835.

JUSTITIA.

#### TO THE EDITOR OF THE MAIDSTONE GAZETTE.

SIR,—The hop-grower hails with pleasure the appearance of the lady-bird, when his bine is infested with lice. He knows the efficiency of the lady-bird in clearing bine, but is he equally well acquainted with the same beneficial propensity of it in its earlier stage of existence?

The larva of the lady-bird is an insect of which I do not know the name. It is about half an inch long when full grown; jointed in the body; with six legs; of a dark-brown color, with a little yellow on the head, and four yellow spots on the body. It is somewhat like the glow-worm, but not so large. These shrimps or larva are as destructive of lice on the leaves of plants, as when in their perfect state. They lay themselves up or become pupæ for eight or ten days, and emerge lady-birds. I have many specimens in the larva, pupa, and perfect state, in a cage of gauze, now before me. They destroy only the plant lice or aphides, and feed on no vegetable matter.

This information, if it should be new to any hop-planter, may be instructive and useful to him.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
WILLIAM MARTER.

Shelley's Farm, July 10, 1835.

P.S.—The insects which I have caged, to mark their transformation, were taken from some caraway plants. The species found on hops may not be exactly the same, for the varieties of this insect are very numerous.



**SMITHFIELD CLUB CHRISTMAS SHOW, 1835.**  
**IN THE REPOSITORY YARD, IN GOSWELL STREET,**

On FRIDAY the 11th, SATURDAY the 12th, and MONDAY the 14th of DECEMBER,

The Right Hon. EARL SPENCER, President.

VICE PRESIDENTS.—His Grace the DUKE of RICHMOND; the Right Honourable Lord WESTERN; the Honourable Lord STRATHAVEN; Sir JOHN SAUNDERS SEBRIGHT, Bart.; JOHN M. CRIPPS, Esq.

STEWARDS.—Mr. THOMAS CHAPMAN, Mr. THOMAS C. BEASLEY, and Mr. SAMUEL DRUCE.

BANKERS.—MESSRS. HOARE, Fleet Street.

COLLECTOR.—Mr. I. HAILES, Foxley Road, Kennington.

SECRETARY.—Mr. WM. FAREY, 37, Howland Street, Fitzroy Square.

PREMIUMS AND MEDALS offered, weight 14lbs. to stone, for stock duly qualified and properly certified, according to the general and particular conditions below, and the blank forms opposite.

CLASS 1. Oxen or steers, of any breed, under 5 years of age, without restrictions as to feeding, yet the kind or kinds of food must be certified.

To the feeder of the best fat ox or steer, a premium, plate or money, 20 sovereigns.

To the breeder of the same, a silver medal.

CLASS 2. Oxen or steers, of any breed, under 6 years of age, weight 90 stone and upwards, that shall not have had cake, corn, meal, seeds, grains, or distillers' wash, previous to the 1st of August, 1835.

To the feeder of the best fat ox or steer, 1st premium, plate or money, 20 sovereigns.

To the breeder of the same, a silver medal.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the 2d premium, plate or money, 10 sovereigns.

CLASS 3. Oxen or steers, of any breed, under 5 years of age, under 90 stone and above 70 stone weight, that shall not have had cake, corn, meal, seeds, grains, or distiller's wash, previous to the 1st August, 1835.

To the feeder of the best fat ox or steer, the 1st premium, plate or money, 15 sovereigns.

To the breeder of the same, a silver medal.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the 2d premium, plate or money, 10 sovereigns.

CLASS 4. Oxen or steers, of any breed, not exceeding 4 years and 3 months of age, under 70 stone weight, that shall not have had cake, corn, meal, seeds, grains, or distiller's wash, previous to the 1st of August, 1835.

To the feeder of the best fat ox or steer, a premium, plate, or money, 10 sovereigns.

To the breeder of the same, a silver medal.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the 2d premium, plate or money, 5 sovereigns.

CLASS 5. Fattened cows or heifers, under 5 years of age. Freemartins and spayed heifers are not qualified.

To the feeder of the best, a premium, plate or money, 15 sovereigns.

To the breeder of the same, a silver medal.

CLASS 6. For fattened cows, of 5 years old and upwards. Freemartins and spayed heifers are not qualified.

To the feeder of the best fat cow, a premium, plate or money, 15 sovereigns.

To the breeder of the same, a silver medal.

CLASS 7. Long-woolled fat wether sheep, one year old, that have never had cake, corn, meal, seeds or pulse.

To the feeder of the best pen of three, under 22 months old, 10 sovereigns.

To the breeder of the same, a silver medal.

CLASS 8. Long-woolled fat wether sheep, one year old, without restrictions as to feeding.

To the feeder of the best pen of three, under 22 months old, the 1st premium, plate or money, 10 sovereigns.

To the breeder of the same, a silver medal.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the 2d premium, plate or money, 5 sovereigns.

CLASS 9. Long-woolled fat wether sheep, two years old, without restrictions as to feeding.

To the feeder of the best ditto, above 22 and under 34 months old, a premium, plate or money, 10 sovereigns.

To the breeder of the same, a silver medal.

CLASS 10. Short-woolled fat wether sheep, one year old, without restrictions as to feeding.

To the feeder of the best pen of three, under 22 months old, the 1st premium, plate or money, 15 sovereigns.

To the breeder of the same, a silver medal.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the 2d premium, plate or money, 5 sovereigns.

CLASS 11. Short-woolled fat wether sheep, two years old, without restrictions as to feeding.

To the feeder of the best ditto, above 22 and under 34 months old, a premium, plate or money, 10 sovereigns.

To the breeder of the same, a silver medal.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the 2d premium, plate or money, 5 sovereigns.

CLASS 12. Pigs, of any breed.

To the feeder of the best pen of three, above 4 and under 9 months old, the 1st premium, plate or money, 10 sovereigns.

To the breeder of the same, a silver medal.

To the feeder of the second best ditto, the 2d premium, plate or money, 5 sovereigns.

A gold medal, value 5 sovereigns, to be awarded to the breeder of the best beast that is exhibited in any of the above classes, provided of sufficient merit.

A gold medal, value 5 sovereigns, to be awarded to the breeder of the best pen of long-woolled sheep, exhibited in the 7th, 8th, or 9th classes, provided the judges consider them of sufficient merit.

A gold medal, value 5 sovereigns, to be awarded to the breeder of the best pen of short-woolled sheep, exhibited in the 10th or 11th classes, provided the judges think them of sufficient merit.

**EXTRA STOCK.**

A silver medal will be presented to the exhibitor of the best beast in extra stock.

A silver medal ditto, to the best long-woolled sheep in extra stock.

A silver medal, ditto, to the best short-woolled sheep ditto.

A silver medal, ditto, to the best pig. If the judges in each case deem them worthy of commendation.

THE BET OF LAST YEAR ALTERED.—A BET—“Lord Huntingfield bets with Mr. Charles Stokes to produce in each of the years 1836, 1837, and 1838, two Hereford steers, against Mr. Stokes's two Durham steers, all of them to be under 36 months old, to be bred by themselves; and for 5 sovereigns each year, the best to receive the bet.”

**A MATCH.**—Between Earl Spencer and the Marquis of Exeter, for 10 sovereigns; Lord Exeter's Freemartin heifer, calved in September 1832, against Earl Spencer's Freemartin heifer, calved in May 1832; Earl Spencer to allow 6 stone (14lb. to the stone) to Lord Exeter in consideration of the difference of age; each bred by themselves, and to be without restrictions as to feeding.

**GENERAL CONDITIONS, APPLICABLE TO ALL THE CLASSES.**

(*Weight 14lbs. to the stone, sinking the offal.*)

Dead weight returns of every animal exhibited for these premiums must be sent by the butcher who slaughters them to the Secretary as early as possible after the show.

Each animal, whether shown for premium, medal, or extra stock, must have been at least six months in the possession of the exhibitor.

**CERTIFICATES.**—The breeder's certificate of the age of all animals shewn for premiums or gold medals (Scotch, Welsh, and Irish cattle excepted,) must be sent to the Secretary along with the feeder's certificate. The feeder's certificate is to contain the name, designation, residence, and post town of the feeder—the name of the breed—the number of the class in which the animal is to be exhibited—the christian and surname, residence, and post-town of the breeder—the pedigrees of the animals exhibited, as far as they can be obtained—their ages at the date of the show—and the kinds of food upon which the animals have been fattened, must all be certified;—and each certificate must be signed by the feeder, and dated a short time before the show.

**CERTIFICATES, AND ARRIVAL OF.**—They must be sent per post, or otherwise, so as to reach Mr. Wm. Farey, No. 37 Howland street, Fitzroy square, on or before Thursday evening, the 3rd of December, 1835; each certificate must be filled up either in, or copied agreeably to, the printed form, written on one side only of the paper, and if more than one certificate is written, it should be in such manner that they can be separated. Without attention to the above particulars, the feeders of such animals will not be entitled to standing, straw, and hay at the expense of the club, during the show; and animals positively cannot be admitted into competition for the premiums, or medals.

No animal or pen shall gain more than one premium (medals excepted;) not more than one beast to be sent, in either of the classes: and only one pen of three sheep, or three pigs, belonging to the same person, can be allowed to enter the show yard, unless certified to be exhibited for separate premiums, or as extra stock.

That no beast, sheep, or pig, once exhibited here for a premium, be again permitted to enter the yard, at any future show, except as extra stock; and the paper sent to the Secretary, must mention such previous exhibition, here or elsewhere:—no bull or any boar, above 12 months old, can be permitted to enter the yard.

**EXTRA STOCK.**—Only one ox and one cow to be received from any one person, and they must be properly described as to the age, breed, breeders' and feeders' names, residences, feeding &c.;—every animal sent, whether for a premium, or as extra stock, must have been previously so described to the Secretary, in order that the labels may be prepared for every animal, or pen, that a yard gate-list of all such qualified animals may be sent to the show-yard, on

the morning of the 9th; and all stock not in such list will be refused admission.

**STOCK, ARRIVAL OF.**—All animals, intended to be exhibited at the show for a premium, must arrive at the yard before one o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, the 9th of December, and none can be admitted after that time; and that no extra stock be admitted into the yard during the time the stewards are classing and arranging the stock, or the judges deciding the premiums;—and that each candidate, or some one on his behalf, must be in attendance at the yard until the evening in order to answer any questions, as to the animals or certificates, which the stewards may require, while classing the animals.

**IMPLEMENTS, SEEDS, &c., ARRIVAL OF.**—They are required to be in the show-yard on the Tuesday previous to the show.

That no person, formerly a member, but withdrawn whilst standing indebted to the club, be permitted to show stock or other things.

That no person be allowed to untie or remove any of the animals from their places during the show.

**PARTICULAR CONDITIONS, IN ADDITION TO THE GENERAL ONES ABOVE.**

**OXEN.**—That the age, in years and months, of each ox or steer—the distance each has travelled on foot or in caravan from the place of feeding to the show, and if partly by canal-boat it should be mentioned how far—also in class 2, 3, and 4, the case of those oxen or steers that have been fed on corn, meal, cake or seeds, that no corn, meal, cake, seeds, grains, or distiller's wash were given to them previous to the 1st of August, 1835.—and the kind and quantity of corn or meal, and the weight in pounds (and not the number) of oil cake or of oily seeds they have consumed, must all be certified.

**COWS.**—The cows exhibited in classes 5 and 6, the whole number of times of calving, if any,—the ages of the cows,—the breeders' names, residences, and post-towns, and the distances the cows have travelled on foot (or in a caravan or boat) from the place of feeding to the show, must all be certified. There is no restriction as to feeding in either of these classes, but the kind or kinds of food on which the cows have been fed must be mentioned in the certificate.

**SHEEP.**—The three sheep in each pen must all have been lambed in the same year, and bred by the same person, and that the sheep in class 7 have never eaten cake, corn, seed, pulse, or meal of these must all be certified. They must be shown in their wool.

**PIGS.**—That each pen of pigs exhibited, are all of the same litter, and the kind of food upon which they have been fed for the last three months previous to the show, must be certified. The quantities also of food would be desirable.

**THE STEWARDS' INSTRUCTIONS.**

The stewards are requested to meet on Wednesday morning the 9th of December, to receive from the Secretary the several certificates, and to reject all stock entering the yard, unless their certificate have been received in due time by the Secretary; and in case of informality detected by or shown to them, before awarding; and whenever any objection is made to the certificate which accompanies any stock that are exhibited, that such disputed certificate be submitted to the stewards and judges for such sort of stock, and that they do settle finally upon such objection; that if it appears to them that there is any material incorrectness in the certificate, which was wilful, that



they report it to the club, and the club have determined that if mistatements, or wilful incorrectness shall at any time be detected in any certificate, the premium shall be withheld, and such candidate shall, for wilful mistatement, be deemed disqualified ever afterwards. The stewards are requested to close the show-yard gate at one o'clock noon, on Wednesday the 9th to arrange the stock, and number each lot, and on Thursday morning to meet the judges, and while examining each animal, to read to them such parts of the certificates as are in conformity with the printed forms for each class, omitting from them all such matter as is not required to be certified by the rules of the club, and the names of all persons and places, as the exhibitors, breeders, &c. The stewards are also requested to read the whole of the certificates sent with the extra stock, omitting only the names of persons and places therein:—they are likewise requested to mark the ear of all the one year old sheep exhibited at each show, and no sheep in the show-yard are allowed to be shorn until after the judges' award, and not then, without permission of the stewards.

#### THE JUDGES' INSTRUCTIONS.

After the stewards have classed and affixed numbers over each animal, or pen, the Judges (without knowing any names of parties or places, until after their decision) are to determine and adjudge, by the numbers, for the best fat stock, having regard in forming their judgment—to quality of flesh—lightness of offals—age—feeding—and to early maturity in sheep and pigs, and also in oxen, if not worked,—and in cows to the age and number of calves; but the Judges are requested to observe that in the classes 1, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, and 11, the prizes are offered without restrictions as to feeding; yet to keep strictly in view the object for which the Smithfield Club was originally instituted, viz. The supplying of the cattle markets of Smithfield, and other places, with the cheapest and best meat.

The feeder's certificate of feeding to be evidence to the Judges, if not contradicted by counter evidence; in which events the stewards and judges will determine on the case, from the circumstances of it, without reference to any other persons. The breeder's certificate to be the only evidence of the ages. When the judges shall have reasonable doubts, as to the weight of any ox or steer, which they may deem to be worthy of the premium intended for such an ox or steer, he shall not, on account of weight, be excluded, provided, in the opinion of the judges, he does not vary from the limited weight, by more than one-twelfth part thereof. And that any ox who shall be excluded from class 3 or 4, in consequence of being above weight, may be exhibited for the Silver Medal offered in extra stock. They are not to adjudge any premium, unless they shall deem the animal or animals, exhibited for such premium, to have sufficient merit, especially where there is no competition. And the judges are to be allowed the whole of Thursday, without the admission of strangers, for making their adjudication, and signing their award.

At the meetings of the Club, held in the parlour of the Show Yard, on the 12th, and on Monday the 15th of December last, Earl Spencer, President, in the chair,

It was Resolved, that no person be allowed to send more than one ox and one cow into the yard as extra stock; that an additional premium of ten sovereigns be offered to one-year old long-woolled sheep, with restrictions never to have eaten cake, corn, seeds,

pulse, or meal of these; and a silver medal to the breeder of the same.

That the first premium for one-year old short-woolled wethers be altered to 15 instead of 10 sovereigns; that an additional five sovereigns be added as second prize to the two-year old short-woolled wethers; that any ox or steer who shall be excluded from Class 3 or 4 in consequence of being above weight, may be exhibited as extra stock, and may compete for the medal given to extra stock; that steward's instructions be printed in the next bill. Four noblemen and seventeen gentlemen were elected new members of the club. The secretary was ordered to incorporate all the alterations and get the new bill printed, advertised and circulated as usual.

Exhibitors and members are requested to pay proper attention to the conditions; and to make them known amongst any of their acquaintance, who may be likely to send stock, or useful implements, roots, seeds, &c. to the show. That no charge will be made for the standing of any stock, by whomsoever exhibited, if certified properly, and in time, to the secretary, or for any implements or seeds, &c. exhibited by the members of the club, except before Tuesday the 8th December, and after dusk on Monday 14th.—Any breeder or grazier may have one of these bills sent by the post, on writing for it to the secretary; or their Smithfield salesman can, at any time procure them a bill in Smithfield Market, by calling at Mr. Mitchell's, Draper's Shop, No. 57, near Duke-street; at Mr. Plenty's, Implement Factory, in the market; or of Messrs. Thomas, Silversmiths, No. 153, New Bond-street.

The next meeting of the Club will be held in the parlour of the Show-yard, on the Friday of the Show, the 11th of December, at Three o'clock.

EARL SPENCER, PRESIDENT, Chairman.

FORMS FOR CERTIFICATES, one of which, proper to the CLASS, the Candidate is required to use or follow in preparing his CERTIFICATE, for each beast, or pen of sheep, or pigs, intended to be shewn in December, 1835, agreeably to the general and particular conditions before mentioned; and which Certificates must be delivered to the Secretary, on or before Thursday Evening, the 3rd of December, being six days before the stock are to arrive in the Show-Yard, as there mentioned.

W. FAREY, SECRETARY,  
37, Howland-street, Fitzroy-square.

For Steers or Oxen, under five years of age, to be any how fed, Class 1.

I of near in the county of , do certify, that my ox or steer, of the breed, to be shewn for the premium in Class 1, was bred by Mr. [see the breeder's certificate of age sent herewith] from the stock of Mr. ; he will at the show be years and months old, and was fed by me, on He travelled on foot miles from the place of feeding to the show.—He has been in my possession since the 1st of June, 1835.

Witness my hand [viz. the feeder's] this of 1835.

For Oxen, fed on cake or seeds, and without corn or meal, Classes 2, 3, or 4.

I of near in the county of , do certify, that my ox, of the breed, to be shewn for the premium in Class , was bred by Mr. [see the breeder's certificate of age sent herewith] from the stock of Mr. ; he will at the show be years and months old, and was fed by me, on ; no

corn, meal, cake, seeds, grains, or distiller's wash were given to him previous to the 1st of August, 1835; the [weight not number] of cake or seeds he consumed was lbs., and the quantity [if any] of corn He travelled on foot miles, from the place of feeding to the show.—He has been in my possession since the 1st of June, 1835.

Witness my hand, [viz. the feeders's] this of 1835.

*Form for Breeders' Certificates of Oxen or Steers in Classes 2, 3, or 4.*

I of near in the county of do certify, that the ox, Mr. intends shewing for Class , was bred by me, and will at the show be years and months old; he has not had, while in my possession, after the first of March, 1835, either cake, corn, meal, seeds, grains, or distiller's wash.

Witness my hand, [viz. the breeder's] this of 1835.

*For Fattened Cows any how fed, Classes 5 or 6.*

I of near in the county of do certify, that my fat cow or heifer, of the breed, to be shewn for the premium in Class , was bred by Mr. [see the breeder's certificate of age sent herewith] from ; she will at the show be years and months old; has calved at her full time, separate times; she was fed by me on . She travelled on foot miles, from the place of feeding to the show.—She has been in my possession since the 1st of June, 1835.

Witness my hand [viz. the feeder's] this of 1835.

*For Long-Woolled Wether Sheep, One Year Old, that have never eaten cake or corn, Class 7.*

I of near in the county of do certify, that my three wether sheep of the breed, to be shewn for the premium in Class VII. were each bred by [see the breeder's certificate of age sent herewith] from ; they will at the show be months old; they have not at any time eaten cake, seeds, corn, pulse, or meal of these.—They have been in my possession since the 1st of June, 1835.

Witness my hand, [viz. the feeder's] this of 1835.

*For Wether Sheep any how fed, Classes 8, 9, 10, or 11.*

I of near in the county of do certify, that my three wether sheep of the breed, to be shewn for the premium in Class , were each bred by [see the breeder's certificate of age sent herewith] from ; they will at the show be month old.—They have been in my possession since the 1st of June, 1835.

Witness my hand, [viz. the Feeder's] this of 1835.

*For Pigs, Class 12.*

I of near in the county of do certify that my three pigs, of the breed, to be shewn for the premium in Class XII., are of one litter; were bred by [see the breeder's certificate of age sent herewith] from ; and will at the show be weeks old, respectively, and have been fed by me, on . Within the three last months their food has been . They have been in my possession since the 1st of June, 1835.

Witness my hand, [viz. the feeder's] this of 1835.

## ON THE CULTIVATION OF TURNIPS.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE IRISH FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

This is a crop so essential to introduce in order to insure a good and profitable system of husbandry, that it must be a matter of surprise to the experienced farmer why its cultivation is so limited in many parts of Ireland, notwithstanding there is an extensive tract of land in most counties well suited to its introduction. Indeed it is well ascertained that, in many instances, different sorts have been grown with great success; also that the expense of producing them—especially the Norfolk and Globe—is trifling, compared with the cost and trouble of a potato crop. A question, then, naturally arises—why are not turnips more generally cultivated? I have heard the different opinions of many intelligent agriculturists on this subject, yet none of them are advanced to condemn the turnip system, but merely to prove the difficulties to be combated before it can be advantageously introduced;—it may be therefore advisable to investigate those objections, and see if they cannot be counteracted.

In the first place it has been stated that—although there is much land suited to the growth of turnips in Ireland, yet it is not of that nature to be benefited by eating the crop off in the winter or spring months: consequently, that if it is necessary to draw the turnips off the land to be consumed elsewhere, the object of their cultivation for its improvement cannot be effected. Now when this is the case, I admit the principle to be good; but from what I have witnessed in passing through many counties in Ireland, I am satisfied there is a very large proportion of soil, on which the turnip crop could be fed on the land, and which never having grown this crop, would produce abundantly, with the aid of a small dressing of manure. Indeed I have seen good crops of white and red turnips produced after a good fallowing, sown in July; and surely this is a better system than risking a crop of wheat after a fallow, should the land not be in good condition.

Second—it is argued that a turnip crop is precarious, from being so liable to destruction from the fly. This is admitted: but is not a potato crop liable to casualties also—not only in its infancy, but in its growth? An extensive dry summer will materially diminish the weight of the produce; and a very wet and cold one, the quality of the tubers—in fact all crops are subject to casualties, and even failure; therefore this can be no fair objection to the cultivation of turnips. I have had much information from experienced farmers in England and Scotland on this matter, and it seemed to be their general opinion—that although a first or second sowing of the seed may fail, yet a third sowing is usually successful: and that by proper attention and good management, there is rarely a failure of the crop. Besides, as there is a variety of these roots which can be advantageously cultivated for sheep, each of which require different periods to be deposited, the farmer can easily manage to prepare his land to suit this circumstance; and in case of failure from the fly, or drought, he can renew the sowing with a later sort of seed.

The third objection is the most serious, and, I fear not so easy to counteract or be provided against, namely—the depredations committed on those crops; or to prevent this—the great expense of protecting them from being plundered. It may be naturally asked, however,—why should this be permitted more in Ireland than in England? for the same laws for the protection of green crops, exist here also; therefore, why should not the property of the industrious Irish farmer be equally safe from depredation? But



it is not turnips alone that are stolen, but peas, beans, and even potatoes, in many parts of the country; and for this reason—individuals are afraid to prosecute. It is well known, that on green crops being first introduced into Great Britain, the farmers had the same difficulty of protecting them as now exists in Ireland; but the landed proprietors and magistrates in the different districts, formed associations for this purpose, by which individuals were relieved from the expense and odium of the prosecution, and the offenders were punished by those patriotic bodies—this had the desired effect, and agricultural improvement flourished. The expense of such associations would be trifling to each individual, and the result most beneficial.

The best season for saving Swedes is early in June, but on rich soil in high condition, good crops may be obtained by sowing even three weeks later. The yellow Scotch is the next in succession, but also require to be well manured, especially if sown on light or dry soil. However, on such land the red Norfolk, the white Globe, or the Stone turnip, is a more certain crop; and although these don't go so far in feeding either sheep or cattle, yet on light soils there will be a much greater weight of produce than if sown with Swedes, or Scotch turnips. On strong land on which the crops cannot be fed off, it is advisable to add some extra manure at the time of sowing, by which the land will be brought into such good condition as to admit the crop to be carried off, and afterwards be in sufficient heart for a corn crop to follow. In such case the turnips, whether Swedes or Scotch, should be pulled as soon as full grown in December, the tops cut within an inch or two above the crown, and then carted to a dry piece of land, where they can be secured from the weather by a good covering of straw. The tops must be kept separate and given to the cattle or sheep. If the common turnips are drawn off in this manner they should be stacked and thatched for their security.

Large farms containing much light or thin soils, cannot be profitably managed without the introduction of the turnip system, for the expense of obtaining sufficient manure to keep them fertile without being occasionally renovated by the folding of sheep would soon swallow up the value of the crops produced. By the judicious introduction of turnip crops, the expense of manuring is much diminished; for half the manure that would be necessary for potatoes, would insure a good crop of the Norfolk or Globe turnip; and thus the land can be easily renovated. Barley and seeds should follow, if the land be sufficiently clean; otherwise it may be sown with barley or oats, but no seeds, and the succeeding year well cleaned for a turnip crop, and then laid down for grass. Clover or grass seeds seldom hit on foul land, and even should they succeed, their produce the following year will not remunerate for the expenses; besides a good crop of wheat cannot be expected to follow after an indifferent crop of clover, as it is from the bulk of the roots of the latter ploughed in, or its advantages as a smothering crop, that the land is fertilized for the succeeding one cultivated.

Some of the best crops of turnips I have seen have been obtained by burning the surface of coarse grass land, in the month of June, and seeding after one ploughing in the latter end of July. Half the quantity of ashes necessary for the production of a potatoe crop, is sufficient for the Norfolk or Globe turnip; therefore this system may be safely practised even on thin soil for a turnip crop, as only half the sods need be burned; consequently the land will be but little deteriorated. Excellent crops of turnips may also be obtained off reclaimed bog, or mountain soil, by the aid of ashes or lime; and although the produce

cannot be consumed on such land, yet the crop may be carted off for home consumption with advantage; for maiden soils of this description are but little reduced in quality by the production of the first crop; and even should this be the case, there is generally a great facility of renovating them, in consequence of their depth, by additional sprinkling of ashes preparatory to cultivating the corn crop.

I am aware, there are many intelligent farmers in Ireland, who advocate the cultivation of Mangold Wurtzel in preference to Swedes, or other turnips; but I am inclined to think that this former crop is cultivated in many cases more through necessity than choice, in consequence of the risk there is of the latter being plundered. I will admit Mangold Wurtzel to be a most valuable root, and very productive on deep and fertile land, or even on lighter soil, well manured; but it is a most exhausting crop, and therefore should not be sown for the purpose of renovating light or exhausted soils. No doubt it is valuable for milch and feeding cattle; but for sheep, turnips are far preferable, and can be obtained on soils of inferior quality, on which Mangold Wurtzel would scarcely pay the expense of cultivation. Let then the landed proprietors in their respective districts but effectually protect this sort of property, and the British system of cultivation and industry will before many years extend itself advantageously throughout Ireland.

E. BURROUGHS,

30, Upper Mount-Street.

#### LETTER TO FOX MAULE, ESQ., M.P., ON THE GAME LAWS.

Sir,—The extraordinary quantity of Game that has so long been the just and loud complaint of farmers in many parts of Scotland, seems still to suffer no abatement. The writer of this has had an opportunity of seeing many corn fields in the county of Fife roaded from one side to the other, and cropt as bare as if traversed and eaten with sheep. This is a grievous hardship at all times; but, in the present straitened circumstances of farmers, it bears upon them with double severity. That tenants placed in such situations can go on with the necessary improvements, and make good their obligations to their landlords is impossible, and to expect it is both unreasonable and unjust; but, in fact, it appears that there is something about Game that misleads the judgment, and hardens the heart. Gentlemen could be easily pointed out, who, if their stock were to break through their enclosure and injure their tenants' crops, would pay the damage frankly if demanded, or make an apology for the accident; and yet, although thousands of vermin issue from their preserves every night, and destroy acres, and damage fields to great extent, if the sufferer but dare to complain, he is marked as a discontented, fault-finding person, and loses favour for ever. This, to say the least of it, is certainly very inconsistent conduct, and is attended with intolerable oppression to the party suffering; and yet it appears in the present state of the law, no legal redress can be obtained. Surely nothing calls more loudly for legislative interference than this grievance does. And as you have most disinterestedly taken it upon you to procure, if possible, justice for the oppressed, the eyes of the suffering tenantry are intensely turned towards you.

As the writer is altogether unacquainted with the proposals you mean to submit to the honourable House, and as there is a great diversity of opinion on this subject, permit me to state my

own views on the best mode of redressing this grievance.

The tenantry of Perth, I think, once proposed, and many of the tenants of Fife are of the same opinion, viz. that the tenantry at large should be allowed to kill Game along with their landlords—that those who feed the Game has the best right to kill them, may be plausible enough, but lies open to the following objections:—

1st. From time immemorial the proprietors of the soil have considered themselves the proprietors of the Game, and any attempt to transfer the whole, or any part of it, to other hands, would be too great a change to expect success; and probably success is not desirable, as it might be a strong temptation to the sons of farmers to become sportsmen. Now, however good a thing field sports may be to those who have nothing else to do, they are calculated to induce habits of idleness and a waste of time in young persons, altogether at variance with that strict application of both their time and talents, which alone can give any reasonable hope of success in any department of business.

2d. Any law enacted to allow the tenant to kill Game as well as the landlord, might work on estates where the proprietor is indifferent about field sports; but, with landlords of sporting character, the first shot a tenant fired would be a signal of war betwixt the parties, which is of all things the most disagreeable. Besides there is a great number of farmers that neither can, nor has any wish to kill game, indeed, many of them would sooner submit to engage in the meanest drudgery on their farm, rather than attempt a thing they cannot do, nor would have any pleasure in.

3rd. The extermination of Game is not contemplated nor expected. Now if the landlord and tenant were merely joint proprietors of it, then who is to decide how much of it is to be killed, and how much left for a breeding stock? This is a point on which the parties would likely have very different feelings, and little chance of coming to a cordial agreement.

For these reasons it is difficult to see how any such system could work to the satisfaction of the parties; and the only efficient enactment that is most likely to redress the grievance, is simply to allow the landlord the full and free disposal of the Game, on the fair and equitable condition that he pay his tenants or neighbours for their maintenance. This to be ascertained by neutral men, appointed by the Sheriff of the County, at the expense of the landlords; and if the tenants should think they would have a better chance of justice by choosing their own man, let them have that liberty on condition they pay for him.

The strongest objection that probably can be brought against this plan, is the difficulty of ascertaining accurately the damages suffered by Game, and no doubt this difficulty is very great; but by appointing proper men, and these men examining the fields at proper seasons, they will come very near the thing. It is more difficult to please the parties than to do justice; for the proprietor, however highly he may esteem his Game, can scarcely be brought to believe that it is possible the damages could be so great, while the tenant overrating the mischief, can as little be brought to think these damages high enough; but it is no worse a sign of the justice of an award that it pleases none of the parties. Submitting these observations to your consideration, I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,  
A FARMER.

Banks of the Leven, 8th June, 1835.

## FOX MAULE'S ANSWER.

H. O., London, 16th June.

Sir,—I received your obliging communication, and return you my best thanks for it. We agree, I think, as to the existing leases, but not to future ones. I propose in my bill to afford compensation for all damage done in existing leases, and to allow the tenant to kill the game as *vermin* in all future leases where a direct bargain by clause in the lease is not made between landlord and tenant. This seems to me to be the fair way of proceeding, and I hope it will please the farmers. However, I will take all suggestions into my mature consideration, as my only object is to afford protection to the farmer.—I am, Sir, your most obedient,

F. MAULE.

## MR. MAULE'S BILL

*For the Protection of the Tenants and Occupiers of Land, in Scotland, against the injury done to their Crops by certain kinds of Game.*

Whereas the tenants and occupiers of land in that part of the United Kingdom called Scotland, suffer great loss and damage from the destruction of their crops by hares, pheasants, and rabbits, for the recovery of compensation for which no adequate remedy is afforded them by the existing law, and it is just and reasonable that such remedy should be secured to them, by altering, in some respects, the law relating to Game in that part of the United Kingdom.

Be it therefore enacted, &c., that from and after the passing of this act, it shall be lawful to and for any tenant or occupier of land in Scotland, held under or by virtue of any lease, missive, or agreement, entered into subsequent to the passing of this act, or to and for any person, to be from time to time appointed by such tenant or occupier as aforementioned, (where there is no condition to the contrary in such lease, missive, or agreement, but so long only as the appointment of such person shall not be recalled by the nomination of such tenant or occupier, of another person for that purpose), to kill or destroy any hare, pheasant, or rabbit, which may be found on the land occupied by such tenant, without taking out any license or certificate for killing game, or being liable in the duty thereon, and without any other qualification whatever, any law or custom to the contrary notwithstanding; provided always that it shall not be lawful for any such tenant or occupier to appoint more than one person to kill or destroy hares, pheasants, or rabbits, at one and the same time, excepting only when his lands may happen to lie more than ten miles apart from each other, in which case he shall be entitled to appoint one person for each such discontinuous possession; and provided further, that no such person so appointed shall be authorized to kill or destroy any hare, pheasant, or rabbit, as aforesaid, until ten days after notice of his appointment shall have been given in writing by such tenant or occupier to the surveyor of taxes for the district in which such lands are situated, and which notice shall state the full names and designation of the person appointed, and the lands on which he is to kill or destroy hares, pheasants, and rabbits, as aforesaid.

And be it enacted, that in case any tenant or occupier of land in Scotland, held under or by virtue of any lease, missive, or agreement, entered into prior to the passing of this act (where no special provision is made in such lease, missive, or agreement, relative to the game on such lands, and the settlement of the damage



done thereby to the crops of such tenant or occupier, and where the landlord will not consent to the tenant, or a person to be appointed by him, as aforesaid, killing and destroying the game on his farm,) shall consider that he has sustained any loss or damage from the destruction of his crops by hares, pheasants, or rabbits, whether reared on his lands, or which haunt the same from any neighbouring property; and he cannot agree with his landlord relative to such loss and damage, it shall be lawful to one person to be arbiter on his behalf in fixing the amount of such loss and damage, and the compensation to be made to him therefore; and the landlord of such tenant or occupier shall be bound, within ten days after receiving notice in writing of such appointment, to appoint, by writing under his hand, one person to be arbiter in his behalf for the settlement of such compensation, and to give notice in writing of such appointment to such tenant or occupier; and the arbiters so appointed shall, and they are hereby required, within one month after their appointment, to investigate the matter of such claim in such way as they may think proper, and to fix and determine the amount of such loss and damage, if any, which such landlord shall be liable for, and to pay to such tenant or occupier as compensation for the same.

And be it enacted, that in case the landlord shall not, within ten days after receiving notice of the appointment by the tenant or occupier of his arbiter as aforesaid, appoint an arbiter on his behalf, and give notice of such appointment to the tenant or occupier, in manner before provided, the arbiter so appointed by such tenant or occupier shall, and he is hereby required, within one month after his appointment, to investigate the matter of such claim in such manner as he shall think just and proper; and shall fix and determine the amount, if any, of such loss and damage, and declare the sum, if any, which the landlord shall be liable for, and pay to such tenant and occupier as a fair and reasonable compensation for the same.

And be it enacted, that in case the arbiters or arbiter, appointed as aforesaid, shall not decide the matter referred to him or them within the time before limited, it shall be lawful to the sheriff-depute of the county wherein the lands in question are situated, or any of his substitutes, and he and they is and are hereby required, at any time within one month after the expiring of the time within which such arbiters or arbiter ought to have given his or their decision as aforesaid, on the application of such tenant or occupier, and after ten days' notice of such application shall have been given to the landlord to nominate and appoint a fit and proper person to be arbiter between the parties relative to such loss and damage, and shall administer the oath *de fidei administratione officii* to such person; and the person so appointed shall, and he is hereby required to investigate the matter of such claim in such manner as he shall think proper, and fix and determine the amount of such loss and damage, if any, and declare the sum which the landlord shall be liable for, and pay to the tenant or occupier as a compensation for the same.

And in order to discourage the making of unfounded claims for compensation, as aforesaid, be it enacted, that it shall be lawful to the arbiters or arbiter, appointed as aforesaid, and he and they is and are hereby authorised and empowered, in case it shall appear to him or them that the claim made by any such tenant or occupier for

loss and damage as aforesaid was frivolous and vexatious, so to declare the same, and to order such tenant or occupier to pay to his landlord any sum or sums of money such arbiters or arbiter may fix and determine, not exceeding in all one-fourth part of the sum claimed by such tenant or occupier.

And be it enacted, that the decision of the arbiters or arbiter appointed as aforesaid, shall be given in writing under their or his hand or hands, and shall be final and conclusive, and not subject to question or review by suspension, advocacy, or reduction, or in any other manner of way whatsoever, and both parties shall be bound to implement and fulfil the same in every respect, and all execution shall follow thereon which may competently follow on a direct arbitral by the law of Scotland.

And be it enacted, that it shall be lawful to the tenant or occupier, after the decision of the arbiter or arbiters shall be given as aforesaid, to retain the amount for which the landlord is by such decision found liable to him, out of any rent due or which may fall due by him to his landlord, but it shall not be competent to any tenant or occupier before such decision shall be given, to withhold or delay the payment of any rent to his landlord, on the ground that he has any such claim for loss or damage.

And be it enacted, that all appointments which by this Act are required to be made by the landlord, and all notices to be given to or by him, shall be deemed sufficient if made by or given to or by his known factor or agent if he any have, and if any landlord shall be forth of Scotland and his factor or agent be not known, such notice shall be deemed sufficient if given on the doors of the parish church of the parish within which the lands in question are situated.

And be it enacted, that no tenant or occupier shall be entitled to avail himself of any of the provisions of this act, unless he shall make his claim for loss and damage as aforesaid, within three months after such loss or damage shall have been sustained.

#### APPLE TREES FOR COTTAGE GARDENS.

Mr. Thompson, of the Chiswick Gardens, gives the following selection of Apple Trees for Cottage Gardens, where the soil and situation are favourable for the production of the Apple:—Where the space will admit of only one tree, the best is the Ribston pippin; where two, the Ribston pippin and the Dutch mignonne; where three, the Wormsley pippin, Ribston pippin, and Dutch mignonne; where four, the Wormsley pippin, King of the pippins, Ribston pippin, and Dutch mignonne; where five, the Wormsley pippin, King of the pippins, Ribston pippins, Old nonpareil, and Downton nonpareil; where six, the Wormsley pippin, King of the pippins, Ribston pippin, Alfriston, Old nonpareil, and Downton nonpareil; where seven, the Wormsley pippin, King of the pippins, Ribston pippin, Alfriston, Dutch mignonne, Old nonpareil, and Downton nonpareil; where eight, the Wormsley pippin, King of the pippins, Ribston pippin, Bedfordshire foundling, Court pendu plat, Alfriston, Brabant bellefleur, and Scarlet nonpareil, or Downton nonpareil; where nine, the Wormsley pippin, King of the pippins, Ribston pippin, Bedfordshire foundling, Court pendu plat, Alfriston, Brabant bellefleur, Scarlet nonpareil, and Downton nonpareil; and where ten, to the preceding add Pennington's seedling.

## ON THE INFLUENCE OF PARENT-AGE ON OFFSPRING, IN BREEDING ANIMALS.

(*Farmer's Register.*)

The prejudice against speculation may be carried too far in matters which have not attained to perfection. No subject affords a wider scope for investigation, than those to which the Register is devoted. Among us agriculture is certainly in its infancy, and its zealous friends are left to inquire whether we had better entirely depend for information on writers in foreign lands, where soil, climate, political institutions, and popular habits are so different from ours—or occasionally make some efforts to grope our own way through the mystery that surrounds us. Until we begin to interchange opinions with each other, it is not likely that our interest in the subject will become very deep. And although we smile occasionally at each other's notions, yet I feel assured it will be the smile of good nature, and that any original article that may appear in the Register, written with a sincere desire to search after truth, will be received with pleasure by its readers. Indeed, Sir, I feel so certain that this apology is unnecessary, that I would not make it, were I not assured that many much better qualified are deterred from writing by these *good-natured* smiles. My excellent neighbour, —, could furnish you with an article on the culture and management of tobacco, or on many other subjects, which you would gladly receive, were he not afraid of finding by the succeeding number of your work, that some person had been greatly amused by it.

In your second number I read with much pleasure some sensible remarks extracted from the "New England Farmer," on the subject of breeding cattle. The hereditary transmission among brute animals of peculiar powers and qualities, from ancestry to offspring has, in some countries, long excited great interest among farmers as well as gentlemen of the turf. We in Virginia delight in looking at fine horses, and riding them too; and some few among us know very well how to raise them. But, in the general, we are guided more by fancy for the individual animal, or the price of the season, than by the rules of breeding. The most common error is, to breed from a small delicate mare and a large coarse horse, and *vice versa*—thus destroying every natural tendency to the production of peculiar powers and qualities, and reducing the race of our horses to a standard of common mediocrity. In rearing cattle we *seem* to have a rule, which is, to breed from that race which can most hardly endure the extreme of privation in food, water, and salt, the most cruel beating from negroes, and which requires the least shelter from weather. Whatever may be its design, its certain tendency is, to produce the most worthless animal that the race is capable of affording. I have known a man who experimented with so much economy, as actually to ascertain that a cow could be sustained through a hard winter on a single ear of corn a day. This beats Paddy's horse, for he died as soon as he had learned to live on nothing.

Having, in the general, in my section of the state (the tobacco region) a stock of cattle descended from ancestry reared according to the foregoing rule, we have felt but little need of any other rules; for with but one breed, we could not well apply rules for mixing breeds. For some years, however, a spirit has been awakening for improvement on this subject, and although not

general, and not often directed by skill on the subject, has already produced very manifest benefit. This spirit has led to the raising from the best animals among us, and in some neighbourhoods to the purchase of cattle from the mountains. And, until animals of the peculiarly fine races become more common, we will have to rely chiefly on these sources. I am very glad to learn that there are gentlemen in various parts of the state who have been willing to incur both trouble and expense, in order to introduce stock of cattle, hogs and sheep, of superior races. I expect that much benefit will result to the public, and I hope also to these patriotic individuals, from their efforts.

I should be highly pleased, were it in my power, to furnish an abstract of all that is known on the subject of breeding. If there be infallible rules for improving the breeds of animals, in relation to any given points of form, powers, or qualities, I have not access to the books which contain them. But having long been an observer of the laws by which nature seems to regulate the transmission of these things from parents to offspring, I have thought the result of my observations might not be unacceptable to you and your readers. I will attempt to offer them in the following propositions.

1. The direct offspring of two animals, belonging to different races of the same species, partake equally of the peculiarities of both parents, in colour, form, powers, and properties, and may be called mongrels. The mulatto, whose parents are one white and the other black, forms a suitable example of what is here meant, for, in every particular he seems to stand half-way between the white man and the negro. I would advert particularly to the mongrel character of his hair: it is neither straight nor very much crisped, but woolly. Animals of this description, while they are almost certain to attain to mediocrity in physical qualities, rarely rise much above it in any one particular. The offspring of the blooded racer and the dray-horse, for instance, might transcend the former in weight and strength, and the latter in speed, while his running powers would bear no comparison with those of the former, nor his size and strength with those of the latter.

2. In order to form distinctively a new race possessing some characteristic peculiarities, it is necessary that both parents should be mongrels, similarly descended. An example of this kind occurs in the offspring of two mulattoes. Persons of this description approach towards the peculiarities of the Indian. They are apt to be straight, active, delicate, and somewhat deficient in strength. Their most striking peculiarity, however, is a remarkable glossiness of hair. This, though often perfectly straight, is sometimes curled, yet always shining and free from crispness. I have been able, from this appearance of the hair, to pronounce—and, on inquiry, found the opinion correct—that a child, itself nearly black, being three-fourths negro, had white blood through both parents. The mongrel between the hound and cur dog mingles the qualities and appearance of both races remarkably, but the offspring of two such mongrels, is a slender swift animal, somewhat resembling the wolf in appearance, and possessing such a wolf-like propensity to attack sheep, as to insure its own extinction as a race wherever I have known it.

It is generally believed that animals take size from the sire: this is certainly true with the canine species. I have known many a very large



dog whose mother was a fice, and I own a very small one whose mother was a hound of ordinary size. I mention these facts with a view of suggesting, that it might be proper, in order to obtain in perfection the characteristics that might belong to a new race, to alternate the sexes of its progenitors in such a manner, as that a due transmission of the qualities to be derived from each of the sexes might be insured. For example, I have been informed by a friend, that the Durham short-horned breed of cattle may be produced by crossing the Holderness with the Alderney breed. Now, I would judge it necessary, in order to give sex its due influence on the progeny, that the sire of one of the mongrel progenitors of such a race, should be a Holderness bull, and that of the other an Alderney. Indeed, the objects in view might possibly be more perfectly obtained, by beginning with four animals bred with reference to this principle. It may be here objected, that so much intricacy in the formation of a new race, seems to be in opposition to the simplicity of nature. But we find nature—while she sufficiently yields her secrets to patient observation, for all useful purposes—constantly guarding the durability and value of her works against the injuries of mere casualty. It is not difficult to conceive what a mongrel world this would have been long since, if simply a first crossing of animals could have constituted the fundamental characteristics of a distinct race.

Some distinguished breeders have held the opinion that breeding "in-and-in" affords important benefit in the improvement of stock. May not this have arisen from the better opportunity thus afforded of more perfectly mingling the elementary essentials of new race? Nothing, I believe, is better settled among us Virginians, than that this practice will deteriorate an old-established race. And we find it necessary to change our breeding animals frequently. My own cattle are descended from a stock which, five and twenty years ago, were remarkable for size and deep milking. They were the offspring of an imported English bull—I know not of what peculiar race; and although some slight resemblance to their progenitors may still be seen, yet they are now small and very scanty milkers. This I ascribe chiefly to breeding in-and-in. The distemper among them almost compelled the continuance of this practice, as it destroyed new comers. I am now determined to introduce a new set, and brave the risks of that malady.

I profess to know very little on the subject of breeding horses. What I have to say, should, of course, be taken in the way of surmise. I believe it is generally admitted that a great improvement in the breed of race horses was effected by the introduction of the Arabian horse into England. Now, in conformity with the foregoing principles, I would suppose that mongrels, or animals produced by the first crossing between the Arabian and the old English horse, would not distinguish themselves so admirably on the turf, as their offspring who might inherit the blood of the Arabian and of the old English race-horse, both on the side of the sire and the dam. And further, those breeds which have distinguished themselves greatly on the turf, will probably be found, on examining into their pedigree, to have inherited an equal share of Arabian blood from the male and female progenitors.

There can be no doubt but that nature is regulated by fixed laws in the formation of distinctive breeds or races of animals, which, if known, might guide to the transmission of any particular desir-

able quality. In attempting to develop these laws, we may readily conclude that they are not to be found in the first cross, because of the unequal influence which the sexes exert on their progeny, and because of the multiplicity of races which would thus be formed, liable constantly to deterioration from every admixture. We must then seek for them by breeding in-and-in, from the same stock, until we get a due mixture of the two races used in the experiment, or,—which I think would be better,—breeding the subjects of such an experiment, with animals similarly descended.

It is as certainly necessary that we should endeavour to find out the laws of nature in this matter, as that we should ascertain those which regulate her in the growth of our crops. Some of the gentlemen who have paid great attention to the pedigree of fine horses, and to breeding them, could doubtless afford us valuable information on this subject. It would at least be a source of amusement, to see a precise calculation of the quantity of Arabian blood in both the sires and dams of some of our noblest animals of this species. A. B. C.

THE NEW MANURE.—The manures which have been introduced in Scotland by Mr. Owen, of Copenhagen, and now creating so great a sensation there, are at length offered to the English agriculturist by Mr. E. J. Lance in London. The trials of the Animalized Carbon, which have been made by Scottish agriculturists, fully bear out the character given of it by the French, the Belgians, and the Danes. Two hundred and fifty tons are now said to be ordered by farmers in the counties of Forfar and Kincardine alone. The Quarterly Journal of Agriculture gives the following remarks and directions relative to this interesting manure:—"The chief excellence of this manure is, that it is powerful in its effects, occupies little room, is easily separated, and conveniently used either by hand or by drill. Its effects are further to insure a rich crop by gradually ameliorating the soil and rendering fallowing unnecessary. Half a ton is in general sufficient for an acre; light and warm soils requiring less, and cold stiff soils more than the average; but it is left to the farmer's judgment to make use of these directions according to local circumstances. It develops its effects so slowly and gradually that it may be supplied without danger in contact with the seeds or roots of plants, in which it differs from many manures which are less rich, but more heating. In Scotland it has been tried in 1854 on eight different soils, and has been found equal to bone dust, or sugar scum for turnips, and has since been ordered in large quantities from the manufacturer." There are two sorts of manure, Animalized Carbon, and a Fertile Mineral in union with Animal Matter.

A few days since a horse, belonging to a gentleman who was on a visit at a friend's house at Woodham Mortimer, whilst feeding on tares, was bitten severely in the mouth by an adder. The parts swelled to an enormous extent; but by copious cupping they were after a time reduced, and the animal has recovered. On examination of the tares, the poisonous reptile, a very large one was discovered, and it had evidently been severely bitten in several places by the horse.—A similar circumstance occurred on Monday week, at Bentley Mill, when the tongue of a valuable chaise horse, the property of Mr. Moss, was bitten by an adder. The swelling was so instantaneous, and to so great an extent, that it was at first apprehended the horse would be suffocated.

## ON THE FLY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

SIR,—I am induced to this communication by observing that the fly has began its usual attack on sheep and lambs; I have suffered by its effects on my flock and regularly used to buy white stone to destroy the maggots at this season of the year. This custom I have discontinued these two years past from using Baiss' Golden Fly Powder (as prepared by J. P. Ward, at his Cattle Medicine Warehouse, 47, West Smithfield.) I have for the last two summers escaped the ravages of this annoying insect, and by using this preventive have secured myself from former inconveniences attending the deposition of their lava. Many respectable graziers and salesmen are in the habit of using it, and I am glad that it is now being advertised, as its good effects have hitherto been confined to the few. At this present period of agricultural depression, I thought that a hint tending to the slightest diminution of expense, and having for its object to prevent suffering in the animal, would be acceptable to you and your readers.

I remain, Mr. Editor,

A CONSTANT READER.

June 10th, 1835.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORWICH MERCURY.

SIR,—Agreeable to my promise, I now propose to communicate a few observations on my mode of cultivating the land which I occupy. At Michaelmas, 1834, I adopted spade culture for a crop of vetches, persuaded that it possessed advantages which would compensate me for the extra expense. Then it was a matter of opinion, now a subject of history. Now I know that it does possess advantages which has compensated me for the extra expense. The superior advantages of this mode of culture I find to be—first, my soil was cleared of weeds more expeditiously as well as more effectually; those which time would destroy were buried at the depth of ten to twelve inches for manure, others thrown on the top for burning. The second and most prominent advantage I found in the abundance of my crop, which far exceeded that of my neighbours who practice the common mode of culture by the plough. A third advantage I found in the employment of the poor; the 15<sup>l</sup> which I paid for digging 7½ acres of land being, as the overseer of my parish informed me, principally saved out of the poor's rate. In the first instance I paid 3d. per rod, or 2<sup>l</sup>. per acre. I have very lately been digging my land a second time for another crop at 2½d per rod, or 1<sup>l</sup> 13s 4d per acre—the soil being now free from weeds, except such as are buried for manure, and the digging less laborious—and I found that to the very bottom of the soil (ten to twelve inches from the surface) the roots of the vetches had penetrated. Common sense, independent of agricultural knowledge, is sufficient to decide, that if the roots of any plant or vegetable are checked at five or six (as by ploughing), where they will naturally penetrate through ten or twelve inches of soil, the crop

must be materially injured. In my next I shall state the quantity and quality of manure which I think most expedient.

In the interim I remain, yours truly,

A PRACTICAL AGRICULTURIST.

## HORSE SELLING.

A SCENE AT ———.—“Gentlemen, what can you hesitate about? Only look at her! She is one of the most beautiful creatures that I ever had the honour of submitting to your notice! So gentle in her paces—indeed so safe a goer, that a child might ride her. Her pedigree is excellent—she is thoroughbred from her ear to her hoof; and the Heralds' College could not produce a more sound and satisfactory one. She comes from a good house, I pledge my word, gentlemen. My Lord Duke, will you allow me to say 250<sup>l</sup>. for your Grace? She will, notwithstanding the excellence of your Grace's stud, be an ornament to it. She is a picture—complete to a shade; in fact, I could gaze upon her for ever, and always be struck with some new beauty she possesses. Thank you, my Lord Duke; I was certain your Grace would not let such an opportunity pass. There is not a horse-dealer in the kingdom who can show such a fine creature! She is above competition—I may say she is matchless! The Regent's Park might be betted to a mole-hill with safety that she has no paragon. Sir Henry, let me call your attention to Cleopatra! She is like her namesake in the olden times—but beautiful without paint! She is pure nature, and no vice! Her action, Sir Henry—yes, her action—you shall judge for yourself. Run her down, John. The Graces, I am sure, *Sir Harry*, were they to behold her movements, would be out of temper with their captivating excellence! *Taghioni*, I must admit, can perform wonders with her pretty feet; but *Cleopatra*, my Lord Duke, can *distance* the whole of them put together, and positively leave the Opera House, with all its talent, in the background. 300<sup>l</sup>., *Going!* 310<sup>l</sup>. Thank you, my Lord Duke, she must be your's. For the last time going at 310<sup>l</sup>. : I will allow you five minutes to compose your minds before you lose sight of this handsome creature. I do impress upon you to remember that the opportunity once lost—320<sup>l</sup>.; *Sir Harry*, I am obliged to you—the world has always acknowledged you as a man of great taste in matters of this kind; and, without flattery, you have never shown it more than in the present instance. *Going!*—*Cleopatra*, my Lord Duke, will be in other hands—a good bidding will make her your own for ever.—340<sup>l</sup>.—My Lord Duke, I can only express my gratitude by saying, that you have done me honour.—*Going!*—*going!*—in fact, gentlemen, I am like an artist in this case. I do not like to leave such a delightful picture, and I could *dwell* upon the qualities of *Cleopatra* to the echo that applauds again—but most certainly I have given you all a fair chance:—are you all silent? *Going* for 340<sup>l</sup>. What is that sum for one of the greatest English beauties ever submitted to the inspection of the public?—350<sup>l</sup>.—thank you, Sir Charles—worth your money at any price. I have witnessed your notice of *Cleopatra* for some time past—she will bear looking at again and again! I am glad to see she has so many suitors for her hand—I beg pardon, gentlemen—a slip will happen to the best of us—her *feet*, I should have said; but, nevertheless, I am happy to see she has a host of ad-



mirers. I cannot *bid* myself, or else I would 'make play,' and Cleopatra should become a noble prize.—370l.—Bravo! my Lord Duke! For 370l. positively, yes positively, 'pon my honour, positively the last time! You are sure, gentlemen, that you have all done? Don't blame me, blame yourselves! Going, *once!* Going, *twice!* Going, *three times!* [The auctioneer makes a long pause, and numerous flourishes with his hammer.] Gone!!! Cleopatra belongs to the Duke."—*Egan.*

## HAY AND STRAW ROBBERY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—In your paper of Tuesday is an account of the conviction of a person for selling a load of hay, every truss of which was under weight, and some very just remarks made by Sir Peter Laurie were also reported. Now, Sir, I do not know of a more crying evil than the one in question; the amount that the public is constantly plundered of is incalculable; a more nefarious system than the one now exposed does not exist, or one in which baser fraud is unblushingly practised. Being connected with an establishment in which a large quantity both of hay and straw is consumed, I can speak pretty accurately as to the truth of the statement, and at the present time, when both articles are at high prices, it is an affair of serious moment. My object in addressing you is to propose, through the medium of your excellent paper, a remedy, and I am sure if you think it a practicable one you will give it publicity. I would suggest that every farmer or other person sending hay or straw to market should have the weight of the waggon or cart legibly painted on the side. I would then propose that each hay-market should be provided with a weigh-bridge, and that it should be compulsory on salesmen, under a penalty of 10s for neglect, that every load of hay or straw sold should be drawn on and weighed previous to its leaving the market, and as it is very well known what a load of hay or straw should weigh, by deducting the weight of the waggon or cart you would be able to ascertain pretty nearly its correctness. I am aware that some little alterations would inevitably take place in the weight of the waggons and carts, from the accumulation of dirt, repairs, &c., but that would be a thing of no amount in comparison with the present system of wholesale robbery; and every farmer can without expense or inconvenience occasionally ascertain if any material alteration has occurred in the weight of the machines; at all events, I would make it his business and interest so to do, as, in the event of detecting a fraudulent statement, for the first offence the hay or straw should be forfeited; for a second, the cart also. To defray the expense of the weigh-bridge, &c., a toll of 3d or 6d. on each load should be paid by the purchaser, which I think he would be amply compensated for, and the clerks of the market might be charged with the proper execution of the plan.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

AN ENEMY TO FRAUD.

## COMPTON POOR RATE.

The following appeal was tried lately at the Hants Quarter Sessions:—

This was an appeal by Mr. James Comley and Mr. George Langridge, the tenants of two farms of Sir Wm. Heathcote, at Compton, against the poor-rate of that parish. The appellants complained that they were over-rated in the assessment in respect of their farms in comparison with the sum at which Messrs. Goldfinch were therein rated for their own farms. It was proved by two surveyors on the part of the appellants, that in their opinion, the lands in the occupation of Messrs. Goldfinch exhibited finer crops, and are superior in staple and quality to the lands of the appellants, and therefore ought to have been more highly rated. On the part of

the respondents, who are the churchwardens and overseers of Compton, it was proved by three eminent surveyors, and also by three gentlemen of great agricultural experience, that upon the average the lands of Messrs. Goldfinch are inferior in staple and quality to those in the appellants' occupation, and that it is by expensive and artificial means that the crops of Messrs. Goldfinch were rendered superior to those of the appellants. Here the court interfered, and stopped the further progress of the respondents' case, and thus a variety of witnesses, who could have proved that Messrs. Goldfinch's farms without artificial aid are naturally less productive than the lands of the appellants, were consequently not examined. The Chairman, in giving judgment in the appeal, stated that his mind had been long made up, it being his decided opinion under the act of parliament, that the staple and quality of the soil afforded no criterion of the annual value of it, which can only be ascertained by the appearance and value of the crop at the time the rate was made, and he therefore raised Messrs. Goldfinch's considerably upon the assessment, thereby laying down a rule that the agriculturists who, by employing a large number of labourers and making a great outlay of capital upon his farm, is to be rated in respect of the full annual value of the lands at the time the rate is made, without any allowance for the extraordinary expenses by which his farm has temporarily been rendered more productive than that of his neighbour, whose soil may be naturally better in quality though not so highly cultivated.

THE GREAT AMERICAN ALOE.—One of those sights which are said to occur but once in a century, the blooming of this plant, will shortly take place in a fine specimen of the variegated variety at the Surrey Zoological Gardens. It is believed to be about seventy years old. The crown of the plant opened on the 8th of June, and the flower stem has been growing at the rate of about four inches a day; it is calculated by gardeners that the stem will reach to the height of from 24 to 28 feet, and that the number of flower buds will be from 3,000 to 4,000, and that it will continue blowing nearly six weeks. The period at which the agave arrives at maturity varies according to circumstances; in hot or otherwise favourable climates it grows rapidly, but in cold regions or under the care of the gardener it requires the longest period that has been assigned to it, which has given rise to the popular error that the flowering occurs only once in a hundred years. A building is about to be erected for its protection and every care taken to accelerate its development. When having produced its gigantic flowers, and fulfilled the purposes of its existence, the plant perishes.

As an example of what the author of "*The Landscape Gardener*" conceives to be a perfect model of garden and park scenery recommended in the volume, he instances Luscombe, near Dawlish, the seat of Charles Hoare, Esq., brother to Sir Richard Hoare. Of this celebrated place he observes, that "it forms the closest copy of natural scenery as yet produced by means of plantation, in any part of the kingdom;" and that "any proprietor about to form a new place, would be abundantly compensated for the trouble and expense of a journey from the remotest district in the United Kingdom, to inspect every feature of this unrivalled production of fine taste." The view of such a place, deserving the encomiums thus bestowed on it, would be of the greatest use for instilling the principles of fine taste, and would also be a practical exposition of the writer's opinions as set forth in the volume we have just closed.

## POOR LAWS—IRELAND.

It affords us much satisfaction to be enabled to state that the necessity of introducing some system of Poor Laws into Ireland is beginning to be admitted in very many influential quarters, where but a short time since the utmost opposition was offered. On Thursday last the Duke of Richmond presented a petition from the county of Clare, in favour of making a provision for the poor. The Earl of Limerick availed himself of the opportunity to put forward the oft-repeated fallacy, that such a step would destroy the "charitable feelings" of the people of Ireland, and, moreover, added, that the Poor Laws had nearly ruined England. With respect to this latter proposition, we believe it is admitted by all those who have directed their attention to the subject, and more especially since a large body of important information has been furnished by the evidence and report of the Poor Law Commissioners, that it is not the existence of Poor Laws, as established by the Stat. of Elizabeth, but the abuse of them, which has led to the evil consequences resulting from those laws. The great defects in the administration of those laws are now discovered, and efficient means have been taken to correct them under the superintendence of the Poor Law Commissioners. Abuses which have been years taking root, must necessarily take much time to irradicate. The little experience, however, which has been already had, proves incontrovertibly that they are not irremediable. The objection which might have been urged against a system of Poor Laws as administered under the old law no longer exists, and the Irish nation will have all the advantages of the improved code in England. Mercy to the poor starving peasantry in Ireland, and justice to the British farmer and British labourer imperatively demand that not a moment should be lost in putting a stop to the scenes of destitution and misery which now desolate that fertile but unhappy country. The same journal which announced a few days since that 800 tons of potatoes had been imported into Liverpool from Ireland in one week, communicated the heart-rending intelligence that the inhabitants of some whole districts were either upon the verge of, or in an absolute state of starvation. In one parish in Dublin, consisting of 24,800 inhabitants, 18,000 are said to be in a state of destitution. Will the Earl of Limerick for an instant contend that such a number of individuals can be even kept alive by the contributions arising from mere private "charitable feeling." Experience shows the fallacy of the proposition that Poor Laws destroy all feelings of charity. Where? we would ask, have "feelings" of charity been more pre-eminently displayed than in England, ruined as it is said to be, by its system of Poor Laws. Is there a quarter of the globe in which suffering humanity has not received relief at the hands of a British public. Nay, have

not the poor-rate paying inhabitants of England been found ready, when occasion required, to contribute for the purchase of those articles of life which had been sent over to this country, and to cause them to be re-conveyed to Ireland for the use of their starving fellow-countrymen? And if any were found wanting in generosity upon such appalling and heart-rending occasions, have they not been the non-poor-rate paying landlords of Ireland, whose rents have been paid out of these self-same contributions. It is not, however, justice to the starving pauper-population of Ireland, but justice to the people of England, which requires that the owners of property in that country should support their own poor. The *Liverpool Standard* of last week, states, "that on the preceding Sunday the Irish steamers brought over 2,000 Irish labourers, all in the greatest state of destitution. The passage money is said to be only three-pence per head." These individuals come to this country to work if they can get it, if not, to beg. Should they obtain employment it will tend to pauperise the English labourer by reducing his rate of wages below the legitimate standard. If they are unsuccessful an additional contribution is levied upon the already over-taxed inhabitants of this country, who yet possess too much "charitable feeling" to see them starve in the streets unmoved. The changes which have taken place in the government of this country, and the protracted period of the session will, we fear, preclude the possibility of any measure being passed this year, but we are happy to perceive that the subject is taken up by some kind-hearted private individuals who are alive to the neglected condition of the Irish peasantry. We are not sanguine enough to think that an efficient remedy can be obtained by private exertion, but benefit cannot fail to arise from agitating the question. On Saturday a meeting was held at the Exchequer Coffee House, Palace-yard, to take into consideration "suggestions by Sir R. Sydney, as to the best means of employing Irish labourers, and for raising funds for that purpose without taxation." The meeting was not numerous, but highly respectable. Mr. Ruthven took the chair. Several resolutions were passed, and printed papers, setting forth the particulars of the plan, which consists in raising money by way of lotteries, were distributed to the meeting. It is thus developed by Sir R. Sydney himself—

"This plan is at once simple, practicable, and certain; and the relief, so essential to Ireland in her present deplorable condition, must directly flow from its three-fold purpose:—first, opening a wide field for the employment of the poor; next, making that employment conducive to their own future prosperity; and, thirdly, providing the means of defraying the cost of labour, without a charge upon the public purse, or an appeal to the bounty of individuals. In forwarding this plan, were it necessary to encounter difficulties, and were obstacles to be surmounted at every step, there would surely be enough in the exciting causes of country and humanity to urge every



reasonable sacrifice to overcome them; but so far from discouragements of any kind existing, facilities on the contrary, as will presently be seen, invite to the undertaking, and the way, as it were, is already opened to its execution. The public works whereon it is designed to engage the poor, and which demand attention in the first instance, could not be more auspiciously begun than at the present moment and, without reference to the immediate objects it is calculated to serve, or to the easy means of its accomplishment, it will be allowed to demand universal support on account of its own pre-eminent utility. In this view must be considered the project of forming railways in Ireland.

"It is impossible to enter here into details, or to expatiate on the comforts that would be communicated to the poor, the change that would be produced in their general condition, or the impulse that would be given to industry. Enough has been said to establish the necessity of employing the poor, and the last branch of the plan to be considered, is that of raising the necessary funds, which it is suggested can be readily done by the agency of a series of lotteries; and that the profits of the first should be applied exclusively for the improvement of the navigation of the Shannon, for assisting in the construction of railways from Kingstown and Waterford to Valencia, according to the proposed plans, and for draining the numerous bogs of Ireland."

Mr. Pearce Mahony observed, that the prohibition of lotteries in this country did not produce the desired effect. The money which Englishmen spent in gambling—if so it must be called—in lotteries, went into the pockets of foreigners instead of being made a source of profit for Englishmen. Tickets from the Continent were sold to a very large amount in this country.

A committee was appointed to submit the plan to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

**THE SCARLET TREFOIL.**—MT. FOAKER'S DIRECTIONS FOR HARVESTING, &c.—As the time for harvesting the Scarlet Trefoil is now fast approaching, a few hints to those who have not yet had this work on their hands may not be amiss.—First as to cutting:—Now as neither this or any other crop comes to perfection the whole precisely at the same time, they must be taken when the greater and best part of the seed can be saved. When ripe, the seed will appear by the top of the capsule opening of a yellow or gold colour, and when one half has attained this state, do not wait for the other; for although this will retain a green hue, it will be good growing seed; and if this is waited for, half the other will be left in the field. After cutting, move it as little as possible, or the capsule will separate from the stem; and when raked in for carting, perhaps it had better be done in the dew of the morning. A gentleman said to me the other day, "With the utmost care, you leave so much in the field;" the reply was, "If you carry fourteen or fifteen bushels per acre out of the field, about fifty-five times what you carried in, do not grumble." It may be carted the third or fourth day after cutting (weather permitting;) but it must be placed directly under the flail or thrashing machine, and the cob thus separated must be left in heaps without moving, as it would consequently heat. In all other respects it is managed as our clover seeds, and will cost for cobbing and seedling about 4s. or 4s. 6d. per bushel. In regard to

seed time, and mowing, we have received some lessons this year that we shall profit by. The earlier after harvest the seed can be sown the better: our plan has been on the wheat stubble, consequently the fourth year after the fallow—there are, however, changes taking place from this system which I will notice presently. The land should be ploughed once only, harrowed and rolled sufficiently to have a surface mould of about an inch deep and solid at the bottom: there is no doubt that on tender soils it would be equally well without ploughing by only passing the harrows over once or twice; but as an autumn ploughing cleans and airs the land, it is preferred. The few failures that have taken place in this neighbourhood have arisen solely from two or three ploughings, the land not being sufficiently solid beneath; this is clearly proved in the very fields where the failures have occurred; for on the head-lands, where the ploughs and horses have turned and the land become solid, the plants have been perfect and luxuriant. But were this failure not so well accounted for, let the Agriculturist recollect the uncertainty of their other crops; how frequent are the wheats destroyed by mildew, blight, and yellow germ; the oats and barley swept away by the wire worm; the turnips cut up by the fly; the beans and peas ravaged by the aphid; and so frequently this occurs, that they have received the appropriate *soubriquet* of "lottery crop;" and as for our clovers, it has become a common expression in every farmer's mouth, "Our lands are tired—worn out with clovers." The Scarlet Trefoil on the contrary, is new to our soil, and the earth will kindly receive it into her bosom as a newly-adopted child.

## SIR THOMAS HESKETH'S ANSWER TO LORD STANLEY.

(From the Preston Pilot.)

Sir Thomas Hesketh requests that the annexed letter, in answer to Lord Stanley's, may be inserted in Saturday's *Pilot*.

Rufford-hall, June 17.

Rufford-hall, Preston, June 15.

My dear Lord Stanley,—Your letter of the date of the 10th of this month only reached my hands on my return home from Knowsley on Saturday, the 13th, which circumstance will account for any apparent inattention in your not receiving an earlier acknowledgement of it.

Permit me to assure you, my dear Lord, that as through life politics have never had the most remote influence upon my private conduct and friendship, so least of all can they possibly affect those sentiments of sincere regard and esteem which I entertain for your private character and worth, as well as for your public conduct and talents.

I have received, therefore, with grateful and corresponding feelings, and reciprocally acknowledge the assurance, that in addressing yourself to me you do so "as having been the chairman of that meeting (the meeting held on the 4th of June for the purpose of forming a Conservative Association for North Lancashire,) and as being the chairman of the permanent general committee, without any fear that a difference of opinion on the policy of the course now pursued will in any respect diminish the sincerity of our old personal friendship."

You do me but justice in this confidence in my friendship, and, in the same reliance upon yourself, I feel assured that you will receive what little I may feel myself called upon to say in reply to your letter in the spirit, and in the spirit only, in which it is written—as a question of public political discussion which you have forced upon me.

Though we may differ in opinion as to the means and measures by which the political constitution of Great Britain in church and state may be best maintained and secured unimpaired, no man, I am sure, can more cordially concur in the spirit of the "Declaration" on which the principles of the North Lancashire Conservative Association are founded, than your Lordship must do, having, as you have done, given such noble and disinterested proof of your attachment for, adherence to, and support of, the vested rights of that most important branch of that constitution, "The Protestant Church as by law established."

It is not my intention, indeed it would be impertinent in me to do so, to enter the lists of controversy with your Lordship, as the champion of the merits or demerits of the Conservative Associations; but individually I feel, and I believe I speak the sentiments of all who were present at the meeting in question, when I say, that they all felt and feel that such associations have been necessary and unavoidably forced upon the country—1st, by the baneful effects of the Reform Bill, constituted as the elective franchise by that measure is, a measure which I must differ from your Lordship in believing "was called for by the deliberate opinion of the country;" and, 2d, by the measures of the present Administration as now proposed, to despoil the rights of property both of church and state, in addition to those encroachments already effected by that Administration, when last in office, upon the institutions of the country.

I must be permitted to say that I feel it to be a somewhat extraordinary degree of inconsistency that they who, in the time of excitement, caused by the progress of that measure, invited and encouraged the nation at large to form "political unions" to carry, by popular clamour and by threats of physical force, their measures, should declaim against those who associate together to regain that legitimate influence in the great Council of the State which has been for a time wrested from them, but which influence is, I thank God, returning to them as the public mind becomes gradually disabused of the fallacy of those doctrines, which, as your Lordship justly observes, "The sophistries of ignorant or mischievous quack doctors in politics impose upon the ill-informed;" and while we assert our legitimate right to associate together to regain that influence and that just and fair representation in the Senate, we would also exert that influence in endeavouring to stem the torrent of those innovations with which the most sacred as well as civil institutions of our country are threatened. We uphold not abuses, nor blindly resist improvement.

Your Lordship asks, "And with regard to North Lancashire especially, where is the cogent necessity which calls for the formation of such a society? Are your objects general or local? If local, I ask, to which of us, to my hon. colleague or myself, is this hint addressed?" Our objects, I reply, are general; I disclaim on my part, and I take upon myself to disclaim on the part of the Conservatives of North Lancashire in general, any, the most remote, design or desire of injuring or weakening, even if we had the power, that popularity which has placed you in that honourable post which you deservedly hold as one of the representatives of North Lancashire; equally do I disclaim, if it can by possibility be requisite that I should do so, any other feelings than those of admiration and respect for your excellent and hon. colleague.

I must stand excused if I decline to enter into any argument upon the further general questions contained in your Lordship's letter; it is foreign to my habits of private life and retirement to obtrude myself in public controversy on the public notice, further than the necessity of the case in the present instance demands of me.

With all due deference and respect for the motives which have dictated your Lordship's letter to me as chairman of the permanent general committee of the North Lancashire Conservative Association, but which is, through me, intended of course to apply to all who compose that association, I will only add further, and I do so in justification of that

vast body of highly honourable, enlightened, and respectable men of whom it is composed, that the North Lancashire Association has for its object the very reverse of those political unions to which I have alluded, and the very reverse also of those results which you fear. Our object is—

Not that of "weakening" but of protecting "the prerogatives of the Crown."

Not of "undermining," but of maintaining "the independence of the House of Lords."

Not of "controlling," but of restoring and securing "the freedom of the House of Commons," enslaved as it now is under the domination of the Irish Agitator and his satellites.

Believe me, my dear Lord Stanley,

Yours very faithfully and sincerely,

T. D. HESKETH.

The Right Hon. the Lord Stanley, &c.

#### AVERAGE PRICE OF WHEAT IN DEVIZES MARKET.

| From June 19, 1834, to June 18, 1835, inclusive: |            |          |            |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------|----------|------------|
| June 19                                          | .....24 5  | Dec. 24  | .....19 11 |
| June 26                                          | .....24 3  | Jan. 1   | .....20 1  |
| July 3                                           | .....24 2  | Jan. 8   | .....20 1  |
| July 10                                          | .....24 3  | Jan. 15  | .....20 7  |
| July 17                                          | .....23 9  | Jan. 22  | .....20 10 |
| July 24                                          | .....23 11 | Jan. 29  | .....20 5  |
| July 31                                          | .....24 10 | Feb. 5   | .....20 5  |
| Aug. 7                                           | .....26 3  | Feb. 12  | .....20 5  |
| Aug. 14                                          | .....25 10 | Feb. 19  | .....20 7  |
| Aug. 21                                          | .....23 7  | Feb. 26  | .....20 3  |
| Aug. 28                                          | .....22 7  | Mar. 5   | .....20 5  |
| Sept. 4                                          | .....22 11 | Mar. 12  | .....20 5  |
| Sept. 11                                         | .....22 11 | Mar. 19  | .....20 4  |
| Sept. 18                                         | .....23 4  | Mar. 26  | .....20 6  |
| Sept. 25                                         | .....23 2  | April 2  | .....19 10 |
| Oct. 2                                           | .....22 10 | April 9  | .....19 9  |
| Oct. 9                                           | .....21 9  | April 16 | .....19 4  |
| Oct. 16                                          | .....21 8  | April 23 | .....19 2  |
| Oct. 23                                          | .....21 9  | April 30 | .....19 1  |
| Oct. 30                                          | .....21 8  | May 7    | .....19 6  |
| Nov. 6                                           | .....21 4  | May 14   | .....19 3  |
| Nov. 13                                          | .....21 3  | May 21   | .....18 11 |
| Nov. 20                                          | .....21 4  | May 28   | .....11 11 |
| Nov. 27                                          | .....21 5  | June 4   | .....18 8  |
| Dec. 4                                           | .....20 8  | June 11  | .....17 10 |
| Dec. 11                                          | .....20 6  | June 18  | .....17 11 |
| Dec. 18                                          | .....20 1  |          |            |

PICKLING OF MEAT. — Professor Refiensque denounces the use of saltpetre in brine intended for the preservation of flesh to be kept for food. That part of the saltpetre which is absorbed by the meat he says is nitric acid, or aquafortis, a deadly poison. Animal flesh, previous to the addition of pickle, consists of gelatinous and fibrous substances, the former only possessing a nutritious virtue. This gelatin is destroyed by the chemical action of salt and saltpetre; and, as the professor remarks, the meat becomes as different a substance from what it should be as leather is from raw hide before it is subjected to the process of tanning. He ascribes to the pernicious effects of the chemical change all the diseases which are common to mariners, and others who subsist principally on salted meat—such as scurvy, sore gums, decayed teeth, ulcers, &c.; and advises a total abandonment of the use of saltpetre in the making of pickle for beef, pork, &c. The best substitute for which he says is sugar, a small quantity rendering the meat sweeter, more wholesome, and equally as durable. This statement ought to be made known to all, and recommended to farmers, butchers, packers of sea provisions, and all the people who, owing to their residence from towns and villages, or to other causes, are in the habit of curing their own meat.



## ON SUMMER FALLOWING.

(EXTRACT FROM SINCLAIR.)

Exposition to the atmosphere is another advantage. The most stubborn, and unfertile soil, if exposed to atmospheric influence, will be improved in its texture, and rendered much better calculated for the process of vegetation. This is effected, either by the soil acquiring properties from the atmosphere, or by those substances which rendered it barren, being neutralized, destroyed, or washed away. The fact is that by no other means but by a complete summer fallow, can a wet bottomed clay be freed sufficiently of the moisture it has imbibed, which having been long locked up in the soil, holds saline and mineral matters in solution. These matters being discharged the soil readily imbibes fresh water, and gets into a mellow and fertile state.

By these means, the soil becomes more friable, the crops which it produces are vigorous, and abundant, and, comparatively speaking, free from weeds.

Some have suggested, that instead of a fallow, the land should be trenched. But even if hands could be procured, heavy clay, the soil which it is alone necessary to fallow, is seldom fit to be dug, as the rain makes it too compact in winter, and in summer the heat makes it too hard. In Flanders where so much land is trenched, light soils are preferred for that operation, and it is frequently done by the shovel instead of the spade\*.

The expense, and the practicability of substituting a crop in its stead, are next to be considered.

The expense attending this process is considerable. It must vary according to the amount of the rent, and the number of ploughings, harrowings, &c., but the following is considered to be a fair average statement.

|                                                       | Per Statute Acre. |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| The six ploughings, harrowings, &c. cost .....        | £3 11 0           |
| Rent for two years, at 2l 7s per acre per annum ..... | 4 14 0            |
|                                                       | £8 5 0†           |

Besides these sums, the expense of the crop to be raised, and its share of the manure, required for the whole rotation, have to be added. But the advocates for fallowing maintain, that these ploughings, and the rent of the land while in fallow, ought not to be charged against the subsequent crop, but to the whole

crops in the rotation, as they are all, in a greater or lesser degree, benefited by it.

From the objections urged against a summer fallow various attempts have been made in Scotland to omit it, but hitherto unsuccessfully. Beans were tried, and they are certainly well calculated for strong soils, being an excellent preparation for wheat. When drilled, they enable the farmer in some measure to keep his land longer in a clean state, than could be done were that operation to be omitted. Yet their culture cannot prevent fallow from being necessary at certain periods, when the land becomes foul and hard by cropping. Potatoes, planted on part of a fallowed field where the soil was favourable, with a greater allowance of manure than the naked fallow, proved so severe a crop, that the part cultivated with potatoes, yielded a less crop of wheat, than the ground that had been fallowed:—the after crops on the fallowed part, were likewise more abundant; and the land much cleaner in the end. Swedish turnips were also sown early, and taken off the field in September but the soil was found to be so much exhausted by that root, that the succeeding crop of wheat was less than the usual average.

On this subject, so far as respects Scotland, it may be proper to add, that a great reduction in the frequency of fallows, has already taken place, since the introduction of the turnip husbandry on light land; and though on the clayey adhesive soils above described, they can hardly be ever totally abolished, in that part of the united kingdom, yet there is ground to hope, that in process of time, circumstances may occur, which may prevent the necessity of recurring to them, even so often as is requisite at present. The climate may improve as cultivation is extended;—by more effectual draining, and the frequent additions of lime and dung, the texture of the strongest soil will be altered, and necessarily become more of a loamy nature,—by repeated cleanings, the quantity of weeds of all descriptions, must be greatly lessened;—instruments also may be invented, which may prove more effectual for cleansing and pulverizing the soil, than those at present in use;—new plants may likewise be discovered, or a more advantageous mode of cultivating old ones may be introduced: and it is impossible to foresee, what improvements may be effected by draining: in consequence of which, the cultivation of wet and strong soils may be facilitated, and either stock may be fed upon the ground, or its produce may be removed with less injury. But till these alterations take place the Scottish farmer will not easily be induced to relinquish the advantages he derives from a well executed summer fallow.

## ENGLAND.

The climate of England is certainly superior to that of Scotland; yet even in that part of the kingdom, many respectable authorities consider an occasional fallow to be necessary.

Mr. Marshall states, that if land be in a state of foulness with root weeds, (as half of the old arable lands of the kingdom may be said to be,) a year's fallow is the shortest, the most effectual, and the cheapest way of cleansing it. He also accounts it the best preventive of the wire worm. All herbivorous insects which have not the power of flight, at least in their early states, are best extirpated, by keeping the soil which they inhabit free from every thing herbacious, especially during the summer months, when they are in a state of activity, and doubtless require daily support. In that case, abating tillage must prove their destruction.

\* The expense of trenching, in Flanders, are calculated as follows: 1. Light lands, eighteen inches deep, 1l. 6s per acre; 2. Strong land, eighteen inches deep, 1l. 11s; 2d per acre; 3. Strong land, two feet deep, 2l. 5s per acre. In those parts of England, where men are to be found accustomed to dig, light land would be trenched at 3d per perch, or 40s per statute acre; and even strong land, at the rate of 4d per perch, or 50s per acre.

† In the Appendix, No. VIII, there is a detailed account of the expense of fallowing, on the improved system of the Lothians, from which it appears, that the expense is greatly diminished by the use of the scarifier or grubber. In England, the fallow ploughing is seldom begun so early as it ought to be nor in cross-ploughing attended to, without which the process is imperfectly done. The ploughings should also be carried on in the dry seasons, being better calculated for the destruction of root weeds.

In Kent, they have what are called autumnal fallows, in which way the stubbles of fallow crops are prepared for wheat, by several ploughings and harrowings. Barley also is sown late, that it may be thrice ploughed, and operate as a cleansing crop; but after all, the intelligent reporter of the Husbandry of Kent, (Mr. Boys), states, that there are some untoward soils, which all the art and industry of man can not keep clean and in good order, for any considerable length of time, without a fallow; that cold and wet clays, if they were tolerably clear from weeds, are subject, after two or three crops, to run together to become exceedingly stiff, and to require the intervention of a summer fallow to mellow the soil; that a good summer fallow is the best preparation for a crop of clover; and that the course of, 1. Fallow; 2. Barley; 3. Clover, or beans; and 4. Wheat, which is the system most practised in the Isle of Thanet, is there considered to be, the foundation of all good management. In Essex, fallowing is thought essential, especially for barley. In some parts of the country, half the arable land is under a dead summer fallow; in others, a fourth, a fifth, or a sixth; but the practice is universal, except on dry turnip soils. Mr. Cheere of Cambridgeshire is convinced, by much experience, that a perfect clean fallow is indispensable every four, five, or six years. It is necessary however that all the requisite ploughing should be given in dry weather.

That celebrated Norfolk farmer, Mr. Overman, gave a strong proof of his concurring in that opinion, for entering upon a farm, where some fields were full of spear grass, and other weeds, he gave the outgoing tenant £5 10s per acre, for the privilege of completely fallowing them. He cleaned the ground thoroughly by four ploughings. The soil was sandy, on which a hot July sun destroyed the root weeds, without raking or burning. Such are the effects of climate.

The Reporter of the Husbandry of Staffordshire, (Mr. William Pitt,) explains, in an able manner, the advantages of summer fallows; acknowledging, at the same time, that he had once been a sufferer, by too implicit a confidence in the opposite theory. He says, that fallowing for wheat, is practised by the best farmers, on cold, wet, or strong lands; and that he who shall attempt to manage such land without fallowing, will most probably find his mistake. Fallowing is there necessary, because the roots of perennial grasses, such as couch grass, &c. cannot otherwise be sufficiently weakened or extirpated; nor can any attempt at extirpation be so successful, by any other means, as by repeated deep summer ploughings. It appears also, from the Derbyshire Report, that whenever the soil is strong, clayey, adhesive, and wet-bottomed, many intelligent farmers in that district, approve of summer fallowing.

There is a most striking coincidence between these and Mr. Boys's remarks, and the doctrines already detailed on the importance of fallows, from farmers residing in Scotland, though there could not be any previous knowledge that they followed the same practice, and approved of it on the same grounds.

Mr. Curwen also states, in a recent publication, that the practice of fallowing the more distant parts of his farm, has, with great reluctance, been adopted by him. This practice he considers both requisite and beneficial, in so wet a climate as that of Cumberland, where it is wholly impracticable, in all seasons, to make green crops so free from couch and other weeds, as is necessary for the successful cultivation of the succeeding crops, particularly those of clover.

But as the system of fallowing is condemned by authors of great eminence, in reference to southern districts, as either rarely, or not at all admissible, even on strong soils, we shall briefly state their sentiments upon the subject.

Mr. Young only admits a fallow during the first course, advising it to be rejected the second course, and ever afterwards.

Mr. Marshall is of opinion, that when land is once thoroughly cleansed, it may, by fallow crops, and due attention, be kept so for a number of years, and more especially, that where the farmers attend so particularly to the seed and vegetating processes, as in the Vale of Gloucester, a whole year's fallow judiciously made, will be found sufficient to keep land in a state of tilth and cleanness, for ten, fifteen, or perhaps twenty years. In another work he maintains, that after an eighteen months' fallow, land may be so effectually reclaimed, that it would not require a repetition of the operation of fallowing, for half a century afterwards.

But the author who most decidedly disapproves of the summer fallowing system, is Mr. Middleton, the Reporter of Middlesex. Instead of a naked fallow, he recommends a crop of winter tares, which may be obtained in perfection before midsummer. It is the nature of this crop, he observes, while growing, to render the soil more mellow, than is done by a fallow. It tends to enrich the land, by retaining the air stagnant while the crop is growing; and when the crop has reached maturity it supports and fattens the farmer's stock. Green tares may be given in racks to cattle and sheep upon the land, if the season permits, or in fold, fixed in convenient parts of the fields. By either of these modes, the soil is abundantly fertilized by their dung and urine. The arguments in favour of a naked fallow, arising from a clay soil and a moist climate, are thus in a great measure obviated, in districts where winter tares will thrive, and where they run no risk of being destroyed. As they delight in a moist climate, and, as in England, they come to maturity in June, and require to be taken off the ground during the driest months in the summer, the farmer has all the months of July, August and September, to render his land as clean as a well-conditioned garden, and as fertile as he can desire.

MR. FOAKER'S ACCOUNT OF THE SCARLET TREFOIL.—The following gentlemen are growers of the Scarlet Trefoil in my own immediate neighbourhood:—Mr. Blyth, Thorp, tenant to J. M. Leake, Esq.; M. Baker, Kirby, farms upwards of 800 acres of land under—Barber, Esq.—Hunt, Esq., and—Turner, Esq. Mr. Hicks, Walton Hall: Mr. Hicks, Little Clacton; Mr. Lenny, Thorp; Mr. Orpen, ditto, tenant to—Bennett Esq.; Mr. Mumford, Kirby Hall; Mr. Pertwee, Thorp Park; Mr. Salmon, Beaumont Hall, tenant to Guy's Hospital; Mr. Pearson, Horsey Island, tenant to—Blanshard, Esq.; Mr. Stone, Kirby, proprietor; Mr. Wrinch, Holland, tenant to Rev. J. Kirby; Mr. Wrinch, Little Clacton; Mr. Warner, Kirby, tenant to—Hume Esq.; Mr. Wright, Thorp, ditto; Mr. Wilson, Walton ditto. Here are sixteen gentlemen, who farm between four and five thousand acres of arable land, practical men, bred up to agriculture from the time they could reach a plough handle. The first question I put to them was, excluding three pieces of the Scarlet Trefoil which failed in consequence of two or three ploughings in the Autumn—Will the rest cut three tons of hay per acre on the average? Thirteen of the sixteen said



they had no doubt but it would ; the other three said, two tons and three quarters, certainly. 2nd. Question—What will the Red Clover cut per acre, for hay ? it was unanimously agreed it would not average one ton on the same farms : several assured me that they should not have half a ton.

### ANECDOTE ILLUSTRATING THE HAZARDS ATTENDING SPECULATIONS IN FARMING.

Several years ago, a very ingenious person, the inventor of some useful machines, for which he had taken out patents, but from which he did not derive the profits he had expected ; and who found also, that the profession he followed, (that of a writing-master,) produced but a moderate income, formed an idea, that he could make his fortune, by an improved mode of cultivating the soil. With this view, he took up his residence in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, where he purchased eight Scotch acres of land, from which by means of his new system, he expected to derive an income of 1600*l* per annum. His plan was, to plant 5000 gooseberry bushes per acre, making in all 40,000 ; and in the interstices between the bushes, to raise cabbages and other vegetables, by the sale of which he expected, to be enabled to defray, both the expenses of the cultivation, and the interest of the money he had paid for the ground. He admitted, that no profit could be made till the fifth year, when the bushes would come into full bearing ; but he calculated, that though the bushes were reduced from five thousand to about four thousand plants per acre, yet that each bush, on an average, would produce three Scotch pints, which, (making allowances for the rivalry of other cultivators), he would be able to sell at the rate of fourpence per pint, or one shilling per bush. Thirty-two thousand bushes, therefore, even at that low price, would produce 1,600*l*. per annum. Hence the plan, seemed to him certain of success. It was in vain that his friends pointed out an objection which he had not taken into his consideration, namely, the hazard of not finding a market for such a quantity of the same article. He was too sanguine to admit of any difficulty in effecting a sale. The event however proved, that the difficulty anticipated, was perfectly well founded. The gooseberry bushes produced an abundant crop ; and both the quantity and quality of the fruit exceeded his most sanguine expectations. But the occasional inclemencies of the season,—the numbers destroyed by the boys and women sent to pull them,—the circumstance, that a large proportion became ripe early at the same time,—and the fruit being of so very perishable a nature, that it could not be preserved in a perfect state for above a day or two,—all combined, to render the plan unsuccessful ; and a very small proportion of the crop, under these disadvantages, ever came to market. He was reluctantly compelled therefore, to extirpate the gooseberry bushes and to try some other expedient.

He had heard of the great value of a crop of carrots, when produced on ground properly manured and cultivated ; and he determined to sow his eight acres with that root. The carrots thrived, and, to all appearance, were an excellent crop ; but when raised to be sent to market, a large proportion of them were diseased, having got the distemper called "*Fingers and Toes* ;" and nobody could be found to purchase them.

Still, however, he was not discouraged ; and being unwilling entirely to lose a crop, from which he had

expected to derive so much profit, and having heard that carrots contained much sugar, and consequently afforded a great deal of nourishment, he bought an immense quantity of poultry, invented machines for scraping, boiling, and washing the carrots, and fed his poultry with them to a remarkable state of fatness ; but, alas ! even these were not marketable ; for although he sold a few of them, nobody who once bought them, would purchase them again ; for their flesh appeared to be quite raw, even when well cooked, in consequence of their having been fed on sored a substance as carrots.

It is much to be regretted, that so ingenious and persevering a character, should have experienced so many disappointments ; and it will be admitted, that the plans he tried, were sufficiently plausible to justify his making the experiments above detailed. Perhaps the gooseberry experiment might have been more successful, had he converted the fruit into wine, which, when properly made from that fruit, is an excellent and wholesome beverage.

### STATE OF THE POOR IN LIMERICK.

(From *Inglis's Ireland*.)

But there are objects of a far different nature, in the old towns of Limerick—objects of a deeper, and more melancholy interest. The reader will recollect, that in Cork, Waterford, Kilkenny, and in other towns which I have visited, I have made it a part of my duty to inquire into the condition of the poor ; and having been informed by those upon whom I thought some reliance was to be placed, that I should find more and deeper destitution in Limerick, than in any place which I had yet visited, my inquiries in Limerick were prosecuted with all the care which I was capable of bestowing ; and I regret to say, that I found too dreadful confirmation of the very worst reports. I spent a day in visiting those parts of the city, where the greatest destitution and misery were said to exist. I entered upwards of forty of the abodes of poverty ; and, to the latest hour of my existence, I can never forget the scenes of utter and hopeless wretchedness that presented themselves that day. I shall endeavour to convey to the reader some general idea of what I saw.

Some of the abodes I visited were garrets, some were cellars ; some were hovels on the ground-floor, situated in narrow yards, or alleys. I will not speak of the filth of the places ; that could not be exceeded in places meant to be its receptacles. Let the worst be imagined, and it will not be beyond the truth. In at least three-fourths of the hovels which I entered, there was no furniture of any description, save an iron pot—no table, no chair, no bench, no bedstead ;—two, three, or four little bundles of straw, with, perhaps, one or two scanty and ragged mats, were rolled up in the corners, unless where these beds were found occupied. The inmates were some of them old, crooked, and diseased ; some younger, but emaciated, and surrounded by starving children ; some were sitting on the damp ground, some standing, and many were unable to rise from their little straw heaps. In scarcely one hovel, could I find even a potato. In one which I entered I noticed a small opening leading into an inner room. I lighted a bit of paper, at the embers of a turf which lay in the chimney and looked in. It was a cellar wholly dark, and about twelve feet square ; two bundles of straw lay in two corners ; on one, sat a bed-ridden woman ; on another, lay two naked children, literally naked, with a torn rag of some kind thrown over them both. But I saw worse even than this. In a cellar which I entered, and which was almost quite dark, and slippery with damp, I found a man sitting on a little sawdust. He was naked, he had not even a shirt ; a filthy and ragged mat was round him ; this man was a living skeleton ; the bones all but protruded through the skin ; he was literally starving.

In place of forty hovels, I might have visited hun-

dreds. In place of seeing, as I did, hundreds of men, women, and children, in the last state of destitution, I might have seen thousands. I entered the alleys, and visited the hovels, and climbed the stairs at a venture; I did not select; and I have no reason to believe that the forty which I visited were the abodes of greater wretchedness than the hundred which I passed by.

I saw, also, another kind of destitution. The individuals I have yet spoken of were aged, infirm, or diseased; but there was another class, fast approaching infirmity and disease; but yet able and willing to earn their subsistence. I found many hand loom weavers, who worked from five in the morning till eight at night, and received from a task master from half a crown to four shillings a week. Many of these men had wives and families; and I need scarcely say, that confinement, labour, scanty subsistence, and despair, were fast reducing these men to the condition of the others, upon whom disease and utter destitution had already laid their hands. The subsistence of these men consist of one scanty meal of dry potatoes daily.

I will only add one other instance of destitution. Driving in the neighbourhood of Limerick, on the Adair road, in company with a medical gentleman, the apparition of a man suddenly appeared by the side of our car. The gentleman who accompanied me knew him; he had been a stone breaker, but had become infirm, and at length utterly disabled by disease, from labour; his cabin was close by, and we ascertained, that he and his family had subsisted, during the last three days, on the leaves of that yellow flowered weed which grows among the corn, and which is boiled, and eaten with a little salt. I think I have already mentioned the use of this weed for a similar purpose, by the destitute poor of Kilkenny, or if I have not, I ought to have done so.

I think it is impossible for me to select a better opportunity than this, to advert briefly to a topic, on which I have not hitherto offered any direct observations. I allude to the disputed question, whether there be, or be not, a necessity for some legal provision for her poor; and I confess, that with such scenes before me as I have at this moment, it does seem to me an insult to humanity and common sense, to doubt the necessity to which I allude. I might carry the reader back with me, to gather arguments from Kilkenny, Waterford, Cashel; and, indeed, from almost every town, village, and hamlet, that has lain on my way; but the situation of the poor at Limerick is at this moment fresh in my memory; and I ask any man of ordinary intelligence, whether such a state of things can or ought to be allowed to continue? Why should Lord Limerick in Ireland, be exempt from the duty which Lord Limerick, in England, must perform? Why, under the same Government, should men be allowed to starve in one division of the empire and not in another? I mention the name of Lord Limerick, not because I suppose he, or any other man can prevent pauperism on his city property; but because when I inquire who are the individuals that contribute to keep the bodies and souls of these miserable creatures together, and when I ascertain that many a humane citizen contributes more than the noble owner of all the property, then I perceive there is some wrong; and,—that leaving for a moment the question, as it relates to the poor, out of consideration—justice demands, that in the ratio of their abundance, men should be forced to contribute.

**A GOOD IRISH LANDLORD.**—The landlord, Lord de Vesci, built neat cottages for a number of paupers, several of them outcasts from other estates, who had found an asylum in some lodging houses in his lordship's village of Abbeyleix. They had no claim upon him beside that to which he has never turned a deaf ear, the claim of suffering humanity. They were intruders upon his estate, but he has now made them denizens by establishing each in a comfortable residence, with a garden attached, at a yearly rent of *one shilling*. They enjoy the privilege of cutting turf for their own use and for sale without any additional charge, and the ground which is thus reclaimed by their

labour is appropriated to their use for the growth of potatoes, oats, or any other crop that may be raised upon it. A large portion of land has been thus brought into cultivation, and the persons whom the inhabitants of Abbeyleix a few years ago regarded with alarm and suspicion, are now amongst the most orderly and comfortable of our peasants. Every one of them is master of a good house, abundance of fire, a well-cropped garden, with a field or two annexed, and some who have been more industrious, or more successfully so than their fellows, have even achieved that first step to independence—a milch cow.

## WATTON FAIR

Is another among the many proofs that have occurred of the triumph of utility and perseverance over party prejudice. It is now some six or seven years ago, (as Mr. Hastings stated after dinner), since this annual fair was established through the instrumentality of that gentleman, who was immediately assisted in his attempt by the recommendation and personal attendance of Mr. Coke. Whatever was likely in the least degree to forward the interests of the farmer, and to elevate the science he so fondly loved, has always found a warm supporter in purse and in person from the proprietor of Holkham. To have the semblance of utility is amply sufficient—any agricultural project has always been perseveringly pursued until its merits have been ascertained and a fair time for trial has ever been afforded before it has either been discarded or adopted, when the whole world was always free to reap the benefit of Mr. Coke's experiments.

Such has been the mode pursued with Watton Fair, in spite of insinuations and open assertions that the object of Mr. Coke was a political one. Turning neither to the right or the left—pursuing an even path, certain of the benefits the fair would confer upon his beloved science, and upon the farmers, in conjunction with its supporters, this first of agriculturists has continued annually to be present. On Wednesday, July 1, Mr. Coke arrived from London about twelve o'clock, and immediately proceeded to the fairstead, where an equally numerous, if not more numerous show of cattle, sheep, and lambs than at that of last year, were exhibited. Those which attracted the most attention were some pure and some crossed Hampshire tups and shearlings and two-shear sheep, shown by Mr. Saul from the flocks of Lord Berners. One of the tups, a pure Hampshire shearing, attracted considerable attention, from its size, fatness, breeding, and symmetry—all however that were exhibited by Mr. Saul from his lordship's property were greatly and deservedly admired. Mr. Dawe had a pen of by far the finest lambs in the fair; they were sold at very high prices; we heard as much as two guineas having been offered and refused. Mr. Russell's lambs were very good, although not equal to those of Mr. Dawes'; lambs, generally sold freely. Soon after two o'clock a party of upwards of eighty agriculturists sat down to an excellent dinner, in a booth erected on the bowling-green of the George Inn. Mr. Coke presided, and was supported at the right hand table by W. L. W. Chute, Esq., and at the left by A. Hamond, Esq., W. Birch, Esq., Master Edward Coke, Master Henry Coke, and the Rev. P. Gurdon, were present. Among the agriculturists were—Messrs. H. Abbott, Boyce, Boughen, Edward, Thomas, and Wm. Farrer, Hudson, jun., Hart, Hastings, Land, Ling, March, Milne, Morse, Oldfield, Palmer, Russell, Stebbings, T. Saul, S. Tut-tell, Wrightup sen. and jun., Waller, &c., &c. Mr. Land was Vice-President. The following toasts were given:—"Constitution and King"—"The Duke of Sussex and the Royal Family"—"The Navy"—"The donor of the venison, Lord Walsingham"—"The Bishop of Norwich"—in whose name the Rev. Philip Gurdon returned thanks in brief but expressive terms "Prosperity to the Fair."

Mr. HASTINGS, in allusion to this toast, declared that the farmers were deeply indebted to the Chairman,



for the powerful support he had given to the Fair from its commencement. To him they owed its prosperity—another proof that whoever Mr. Coke upheld, was almost certain to prosper, for through the countenance the President had given it, and the example he had set, it was fast rising to a Fair of extent and interest. Mr. Hastings concluded by proposing “The Health of Mr. Coke.” The toast was received with the loudest cheering.

MR COKE, in expressing his acknowledgements, declared that nothing could afford him more satisfaction than the gradual progress which the fair was making, and at the statement Mr. Hastings had given of the increase of stock. It had been said that in the establishment of the fair a political object was in view. Had that been the case he would not have come to it, and it would perhaps a little surprise some gentlemen when he said that upon looking at the poll book he found that only one of the original promoters had voted for him. His object in assisting in the establishment of the fair was the promotion of agriculture, that first of all sciences. He looked to meetings like the present as the best means of causing a more extended intercourse among each other, and by promoting a better knowledge of their neighbours, to unite all parties on such occasions. He was rejoiced to see gentlemen that day who had never before been present, and he earnestly hoped they would continue to join these and similar meetings. There were occasions when it was quite right for every man not to shrink from the assertion of his political opinions, but that time past, it was best to throw a shade over them. He must again express the pleasure he felt at the union he that day saw of all opinions, and he hoped that nothing would fall from him to destroy the unanimity that prevailed. (*Cheers.*) Mr. Coke then entered into several statements relative to sheep, and expressed his determination so long as God granted him health, to preside at that fair.

“The Lady Anne Coke,” by the Vice-president. MR. COKE acknowledged the toast.

“The Vice-president, Mr. Land,” who returned thanks and gave “The Heir of Holkham,” for whom Mr. COKE returned thanks, and said that although at Eton his son had not forgotten Watton fair.

“The Lord Lieutenant of the County.”

“The Health of Mr. Chute, of Pickenham, as a most excellent landlord and friend to agriculture,” by Mr. Hastings. MR. CHUTE in acknowledging the toast, regretted that he had hitherto not attended the fair. *Mr. C. agreed in the evil attendant on mixing politics with agricultural meetings like that, and was of Mr. Coke's opinion, that the oftener such meetings were held, the more would the better feelings be brought into play among agriculturists, and knowledge communicated that would be advantageous to all. He knew it had been the intention of other gentlemen to but they had been called elsewhere. He hoped that the fair would proceed with increased prosperity,*

MR. COKE again expressed a wish that gentlemen of both opinions in politics should meet and lay aside all party distinction, making the benefit of agriculture alone their object. The Hon. Gentleman then alluded to his first turning his attention to agriculture, and proceeded to show that at the sheep shearings at Holkham, gentlemen of all parties had always taken a part at those meetings. He was happy to see Mr. Chute on this occasion, and he hoped that gentlemen would bring others. Nothing approaching to politics had ever been the object—that alone being the dissemination of information and promotion of good feeling and conviviality.

“Mr. Hamond,” That gentleman also returned thanks, expressing his pleasure at seeing the Chairman of Mr. Bagge's Committee there—nothing would be more likely to rub off the sharp edges of political feeling than such meetings.

The healths of Mr. Birch and the Rev. P. Gurdon were also drank, and each gentleman acknowledged the compliment.

The following toasts were afterwards drank.

“The Hon. G. Milles and the Norfolk Fox hounds”

—“Prosperity to the Yarn Factory in Norwich”—“The County Members”—“The Tenantry of Holkham,” which was acknowledged by Mr. H. Abbott—“Mr. Milne,” who spoke at considerable length on various agricultural subjects. Several discussions were debated in the course of the evening, which space will not allow us to enter into. About eight o'clock Mr. Coke left the chair, and soon after departed for Holkham. The arrangements were exceedingly creditable, and the meeting gave the utmost satisfaction.

#### POPULATION OF IRELAND AS RETURNED TO PARLIAMENT IN 1731.

|              |                  |         |
|--------------|------------------|---------|
| ULSTER.....  | Protestants..    | 360,630 |
| LEINSTER.... | Protestants..... | 203,087 |
| MUNSTER....  | Protestants..... | 115,130 |
| CONNAUGHT..  | Protestants..... | 21,604  |

Total..... 700,451

|              |                      |         |
|--------------|----------------------|---------|
| ULSTER.....  | Roman Catholics..... | 158,028 |
| LEINSTER.... | Roman Catholics..... | 447,916 |
| MUNSTER....  | Roman Catholics..... | 482,044 |
| CONNAUGHT..  | Roman Catholics..... | 221,780 |

Total Roman Catholics..... 1,309,768

Add Protestants..... 700,451

Total Population..... 2,010,219

#### TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, MR. SPRING RICE.

Sir,—The reformed House of Commons, under a Whig ministry, has declared by two large majorities, that the Agriculturists, admitted on all hands to be on the verge of ruin, have to expect no relief at its hands. You, sir, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, have unequivocally declared, that bruised and broken as we are, blind chance must decide whether we are ever again to raise our heads, or for ever perish. This, sir, is the interpretation every man must give to the speeches of yourself, and your honourable colleague, Lord John Russell. The question, the mighty question, whether the tenantry of England are longer to exist as a class of society, has been put to you and the reformed House of Commons, twice within the space of eight days, by the Marquis of Chandos and Mr. Cayley; you have virtually decided that they are not, you have come to the bold resolve of abandoning agriculture, now sinking beneath the burden of unequal taxation and the vascillating policy of successive administrations.

I cannot, without the most fearful apprehensions, picture to myself the Chancellor of England's Exchequer, looking calmly on the chief pillar of a mighty fabric, bending, yielding to the weight of its uneven load, and whose certain and speedy fall must overwhelm, in one common destruction, the fellow pillars of the edifice, superficially appearing to enjoy an immunity from the pressure, which forces the great mainstay to the earth; I am lost in utter astonishment at the seeming indifference with which this most momentous subject is treated; and in order sir, that you may not hereafter plead a want of correct information as to the actual state of the farmer, I beg you to bestow a few minutes on the subjoined debtor and creditor account of a stock farm of fair quality: I say stock farm, because I am aware many half-informed people suppose, that because sheep and wool are realising a much higher comparative price than corn, that stock farmers have no cause of com-

plaint; you will please to observe, sir, that I have not, like Sir Robert Peel, ransacked Mark Lane for the highest price of wheat, barley, or oats, but that I have put the former at the average country price, and the two latter articles at what they would realise under an average produce, it being notorious to all that both have this year fallen short full one-third of the usual produce, so that 25s for a full crop of barley is more than equal to 31s, the present average, and so in proportion in the oats. I have also given the farm credit for producing more than three-fourths of my agricultural friends will admit can be obtained; I have debited it below rather than above its constant liabilities, and now will proceed to figures:—

## FARM, FIVE HUNDRED ACRES, ARABLE.

## ANNUAL PRODUCE, SAY—

|                                                | £   | s. | d. |
|------------------------------------------------|-----|----|----|
| 50 Acres of Wheat, 6 sks per acre, at 18s..... | 432 | 0  | 0  |
| 140 do. of Barley, 5 sks ditto, at 12s 6d..... | 500 | 0  | 0  |
| 40 do. of Oats, 10 sks ditto, at 10s.....      | 200 | 0  | 0  |
| 60 do. of Grass, at 3/ per acre.....           | 180 | 0  | 0  |
| 25 do. of Sanfoin, at 4/ 5s 0d ditto.....      | 166 | 5  | 0  |
| 70 do. Turnips, fed.....                       | 0   | 0  | 0  |
| 30 do. Vetches, fed.....                       | 0   | 0  | 0  |
| 20 do. Grass, fed.....                         | 0   | 0  | 0  |
| 60 do. Old field, fed.....                     | 0   | 0  | 0  |
| 15 do. Sanfoin, fed.....                       | 0   | 0  | 0  |

500

On which farm shall be kept, 150 Togs and 400 Ewes, breeding annually 350 Lambs, half of which being Ewe Lambs, will be required for stock, there will be Wether Lambs for sale—  
175 at 20s each..... 175 0 0  
150 sale Ewes, 25s..... 157 10 0  
550 Fleeces, taking 10 to the tod, at 35s per tod..... 95 5 0

Total amount of annual Produce.....£1977 0 0

## PER CONTRA.

|                                                                                |     |    |   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|---|
| Rent and Tithes of 500 acres, at 25s per acre....                              | 625 | 0  | 0 |
| Poures' Rates.....                                                             | 100 | 0  | 0 |
| Seven constant Labourers, at 9s per week.....                                  | 163 | 16 | 3 |
| Grass mowing, turnip hoeing, and harvest, extra.....                           | 100 | 0  | 0 |
| Four Carters, at 10s per week each.....                                        | 104 | 0  | 0 |
| Under Carter, 5s, five boys, 3s per week.....                                  | 52  | 0  | 0 |
| Shepherd, 10s per week, two boys, 3s each.....                                 | 41  | 12 | 0 |
| Keep of 15 Horses, at 9s for 52 weeks.....                                     | 351 | 0  | 0 |
| Seed Wheat, 3 bushel per acre, at 48d per bushel.....                          | 54  | 0  | 0 |
| Seed Barley, 100 acres at 5 bush., 2s 6d per bush.....                         | 75  | 0  | 0 |
| Seeding 50 acres of Grass, at 9s per acre.....                                 | 36  | 0  | 0 |
| Seed Oats, 40 acres, 6 bush. per acre, 2s 6d.....                              | 30  | 0  | 0 |
| Seed Vetches, 3 bush. per acre, 30 acres, 7s.....                              | 31  | 10 | 0 |
| Blacksmith, Carpenter, Wheelwright, Harness-maker, Farrier, and Turnpikes..... | 70  | 0  | 0 |

Total annual Expenditure.....£1833 18 0

Value of Live and Dead Stock, 2,000/; on which ten per Cent. is allowed by custom for reparation of losses, wear and tear, &c..... 200 0 0  
Further amount of Capital vested in ploughings, Labour preparations for Crops and Manure, &c. 10,000/; at 5 per Cent. .... 50 0 0

2083 18 0  
Deduct Amount of Produce..... 1877 0 0

Annual loss to Cultivator.....£206 18 0

Such, sir, is the situation of the farmer under what are supposed to be comparatively favourable circumstances; here is not a shilling charged for house-keeping, unless it should be argued that the last item of 50l should be partly charged to that account; what then must be the condition of those occupying the vast territory of acres, confined almost exclusively to the production of corn? from figures there is no shifting; here is my statement, and I dare all the ingenious calculations of political economists to controvert it; I ask then, are you satisfied merely to follow up the recommendation of the misinformed agricultural committee, "by trusting to the forbearance of parliament, rather than to an active interference?" Will the forbearance of the surgeon to staunch the

wound pouring forth two ounces of blood while the system makes but one, save the patient from certain speedy death? or is it matter of indifference whether the patient in this case sink or recover? In quite as great probability will the human patient recover under the circumstances, as your state-patient, agriculture, under the system of forbearance alone. It is a great misfortune, however classical, poetical, or eloquent, that the college productions, which constitute so large a portion of our statesmen, are so little acquainted with the true practical part of the affairs of the country; with pain I am bound to express my conviction that they are a long march behind their constituencies in this indispensable acquirement; many of us humble persecuted clodhoppers saw in 1819, that this forbearance, which you never dreamt of until 1833, when we were ruined, was then imperatively necessary. Had "forbearance" been exercised towards the productive classes, by "forbearing" to pass that devastating measure, called Peel's Bill; had we not by its operation been compelled to pay a double quantity of produce in the discharge of every engagement entered into in a paper currency (more particularly affecting the agricultural class who were tied to payments of rent and tithes for terms of years, while the trading community, having withstood the first shock, and disposed of their goods in hand, which on an average might be taken at six months' consumption came to us, the producers, and bought at the reduced prices this bill had brought about, we still producing under paper money, rents, tithes, &c., during the continuance of our leases for many years after), you, sir, would not have beheld such a balance sheet as the one I have now presented you.

"Forbearance" would have been effectual, if timely, but is it any profit to forbear loading our beast, when he is prostrate at our feet, unable to rise with the load already on him? utterly exhausted, his load must be left to the mercy of the wayside, or borne by another, unless protection and nourishment be immediately afforded.

If, sir, the landed interest is worthy of thought, if the collection of the rents of the aristocracy, the tithe of the clergy, the very existence of country tradesmen, the welfare of the labourer, and the consequent ill or well being of the public treasury, be objects of solicitude to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, instant and extensive relief must be afforded the tenantry of England, and believe me, sir, it must be of a far more comprehensive nature than your contemplated reduction of county rates, abolition of statute duty, or church rates (though just in principle), can ever afford. In your speech on Mr. Cayley's motion on the 2nd instant, I find the following passage, "Was this the time for England, the first of all nations in a commercial point of view, to set an example to all who lived within its dominions, and to the nations of the earth, for the first time in her modern history, of a violation of faith?" With all deference, sir, I maintain the example has already been set, I am prepared to prove that vested rights have been most unjustly interfered with, that public faith has been shamefully violated towards all the debtors and productive classes of these kingdoms; I am myself an occupier of land and a joint owner of a small estate, which was let some few years since; this land came into the possession of myself and another, the two youngest of the family, subject to a mortgage made in 1818, then supposed to be half the value of the farm, to pay off two elder branches their equal share of the property; the tenant with justice applies for a reduction of rent, truly stating that he is paying full half of it from his capital, which



must soon be exhausted. Your reduction of county, church, and highway rates, may ease him from 15 to 20 per annum; will he thank you for it? can I relieve him to any thing like the extent required, without becoming a beggar myself, seeing the mortgagees demand the same interest, now that the farm is worth only 250*l* per annum, as when worth 500*l*? the then value of half the farm, is now the value of the whole; the elder brother and sister have had their share in money, placed it in the funds, and are called public creditors; but I and my other sister are not acknowledged by such a gracious title, are told that Peel's Bill having deprived us of the whole of our property, "forbearance" of further wrong is all we can hope for! Such, sir, is the situation of half the landed property in England. Can you, can the House of Commons recognise no breach of "national faith" here, no interference with "vested rights," no violation of the sacred rights of property? or is it incompetent to break faith with others of his Majesty's subjects than the privileged orders of the stock exchange placemen and annuitants, or do you acknowledge no "vested rights" but those which an insatiable hierarchy claims on every improvement and outlay of embarked capital, on the produce of the sweat and toil of the goaded and despised labourer? An important rise in the price of produce, or a vast reduction of tithes and taxation must instantly be effected, or it requires no argument, further than the statement I have the honour to lay before you, to prove that there can be no other than a labouring tenantry in England; the capital of the present race of tenants, either is, or is about to be annihilated; will another race embark in agriculture at one-third of the present rents, with everything to fear and nothing to hope for? Assuming that such can be found, can landlords with upwards of 60 per cent. reduction of rent, pay the interest on their mortgages or family claims, established in a paper currency? can any other than Irish or Polish serfs afford to pay them sufficient rent to enable them to meet these claims? Such being found, what is to become of the innumerable multitude pauperised by the abstraction of the two hundred and eighty thousand agricultural families from the face of society? what of the customs, of excise, deriving such an immense revenue from their and their dependents' expenditure? I humbly submit, sir, these are questions worthy your immediate consideration.

You have many weighty affairs on the carpet; the Irish Church question, the municipal reform question, are both important, but compared with the consideration of the agricultural distress, they both sink into insignificance, and that, sir, however unheeded our voice, the winter of 1835-6, with wheat at 5*s* per bushel, will too fully convince you.

Like many Whigs and Tories of my acquaintance, you may exclaim, I admit your distress, but where is the remedy? Undoubtedly, a country, as an individual, deeply involved, requires the aid of great prudence, skill, and foresight, to prepare for the liquidation of its various liabilities, but I venture to affirm that there is less want of remedies, than of disposition or courage to carry them into effect.

You fear to repeal the malt tax (arguments in favour of which I would desire no stronger, than I find in Sir Robert Peel's speech against the repeal), and thereby do an act of justice to laborious industry, annihilate many temptations to immorality, and very materially benefit the farmer, because you stand in awe of the money-mongers of the stock exchange, or some other wealthy portion of the public, seeing that they must be called on to make up the deficiency, by paying their just taxation. You allow the Irish

landlords to starve their countrymen out of Ireland, and compel them to inundate this country with their untaxed and comparatively untithed commodities, for the purpose of raising their grinding rents, not to be expended on Irish produce, but upon the produce of every other clime under the sun.

You compel the English tenants to bear the charge not only of the general objects of parish relief, but of the superfluous able-bodied labourers, thrown out of employment by the combined influence of the influx of starved Irishmen into the labour market, and the existence of general distress, a charge neither reason or justice can sanction, it being as much at variance with every principle of fair dealing to compel the agricultural interest to employ or support superfluous hands, as it would be to compel a gentleman to keep two footmen or coachmen, where one only was required.

Moreover, you continue the iniquitous tithes' system, giving the wealthy Church every advantage of the increased skill and industry of the farmer, and more particularly of the superfluous labourers, without its contributing one shilling in carrying into effect the improvements arising from the application of their skill, industry, or superfluous labour, which Church since the year 1750, has added to its revenues the tithe of seven millions of acres of land, converted by the capital of agriculturists from barren heaths into fertile fields.

You allow the titled, wealthy, aristocratical portion of the community, a comparative immunity from taxation, the weight of which falling with such overwhelming force upon the lower and middle classes, renders them incapable of consuming the products of the land, while the higher orders expend incalculable sums, directly or indirectly, derived from British soil by British labour, on foreign superfluities, which sums, if taxation were equal, would remain in the hands of the consumers of home produce.

These, sir, are a few of many subjects, the consideration of which might, in my humble opinion, be entertained with advantage by a reformed parliament. The idle cry of robbing the public creditor, when we pray for the removal of cruel and partial taxation, the senseless balderdash of "vested rights," when we humbly ask that the spirit of our constitution, in church and state, may be strictly abided by, will no longer avail. If it was no "breach of faith" to compel every debtor by the passing of Peel's bill, to pay his creditor double what he borrowed; if it was no "breach of faith" with the tenantry of England, thrice in nine years to alter the corn laws, while they were bound to discharge rents and tithes covenanted for under the higher protecting scale of 80*s* per quarter for wheat, and 40*s* for barley, passed immediately on the restoration of peace; if it was no violation of the sacred principles of justice to compel us to ransack our pockets for the support of labour we needed not, or our brains and pockets for improvements, of which the grasping tithe law gave the church the benefit, surely it can be no "breach of faith," to call on the favoured fundholder to take in liquidation of his claims, the same paper, or its value that we borrowed, or to acquiesce in a fair commutation of taxation.

The body to which I belong, sir, is firmly attached to the institutions of the country, both of church and state, in their original purity. It knows that under these, when untainted by their present many abuses, England has seen her happiest days; but it is with the families of nations, as with the families of men; loyalty must not be altogether unrequited any more than filial love and attachment. When a child has honoured his father and mother, done all in his power

to minister to their wants and increase their comfort, the law of heaven and of earth forbids that he should be treated with churlish indifference; his just and reasonable requests must be attended to. In this situation are we, the farmers, our persons and purses have always been at the service of our country in the hour of its peril, either when threatened by foreign enemies or assailed by intestine commotions. In the ever memorable year of 1830, we stood in the gap between an infuriated peasantry and its intended prey, the aristocracy and clergy; by physical efforts and raising their wages, we quenched the wildfire of rebellion, which in its sudden fury threatened to level with the dust, the mansions of the country gentlemen. Is here no claim for consideration? was here no sacrifice to be repaid by a country's gratitude? blazed there no fires in our stack-yards, the beacons of revenge diverted from their first aim, the aristocracy, towards us, who had taken the burden from their shoulders? Whether you now think so or not, sir, these will be found to be grounds on which we justly lay claim to protection and relief; we have been ever given to understand, and have ever hoped, that the reform bill, of which you Whigs boast the parentage, was to have been the means to an end of eradicating corruption, enforcing economy, and of shifting the burden of taxation from the shoulders of the sinking productive classes, to the shoulders of the unproductive rich, so much better able to bear them; this was the cry of reform candidates in every canvass, and well I remember the honied words of our members for North Hants, when comparing the claims of the Reformers with those of the Tories, on the suffrages of the constituency; what, said they, will you not accept the proffered boon? a reforming ministry, with economy, reduction of taxation, *the malt tax, for instance, and abolition of tithes?*\* We, sir, groaning under Tory chains, seized the gilded bait, and returned two professing reformers; but, alas! the thought of reducing tithes and taxes perished with the hour which seated our men in parliament. Experience has now convinced us, that the difference between Whig and Tory, exists but in name; there is yet a golden opportunity of immortalising yourself and party, not by shifting the question, or cowering to the arbitrary will of despotic oligarchs, but by turning a ready ear to the just and earnest importunities of a suffering and hitherto patient, yet powerful body, the agriculturists of England. It is now the eleventh hour, the cancerous bill of Peel, in its slow but sure progress, has nearly reached the vitals; in your hands is the remedy, and I beseech, I implore you, while it is called to-day, to apply it; if neglected, his most gracious Majesty's speech to another parliament, in place of sympathy, may contain expressions of unavailing regret, connected with and arising out of the utter annihilation of hope in the long suffering farmers, and the confusion consequent upon their irretrievable ruin, the destruction of a link in the chain of society, to repair or find a substitute for which will never be in the power of either Whig or Tory tinkers, is the humble, yet decided opinion, of, sir,

Yours, most respectfully,  
A NORTH HANTS UNPOSTATIZING  
REFORMER.

THE LABOURER IN IRELAND.—Let me now in a few words sketch a year of the life of an Irish labourer. I allude particularly to those of the

province of Connaught; but the same description may be given very generally of the entire country. In the beginning of spring he takes, from a neighbouring farmer, a portion of con-acre according to his means, from half a rood to half an acre; in it he usually sets potatoes, (though some, at times, in a small portion of it, sow corn.) When this is done the cabin is shut up and the family separate. The husband goes to a distant part of the country, or to England, to obtain employment; the wife and children go to a distant parish to beg, from a shame of being beggars where they are known, and are supported during the summer by the charity of the farmers and cottiers, and at times obtain small sums of money, which help to make up the rent of the cabin and con-acre. At the end of harvest all return to their home; if the husband has been successful in his efforts to obtain employment the rent of the potatoe ground is paid. The potatoes are dug out, and upon them and a little butter-milk when it can be procured, the family live in perfect idleness during the winter. Yes, I repeat it, the Irish peasant lives in perfect idleness during the winter, solely, I assert, because there is then no way in which his time and labour can be turned to advantage. It would be worth the consideration of the legislature how well those long and restless nights, restless because following days of inaction, are fitted for the purposes of the incendiary and the villain, and what effect this periodical idleness must have upon the character of a people whose situation is frequently so very wretched, and is always so precarious.—*O'Flynn's Present State of the Irish Poor.*

#### SHEEP SHEARING.

On Tuesday, June 23rd, a competition for three prizes, to be awarded to the persons who sheared a sheep each in the most skilful manner, took place at Earl Spencer's farm, at Chapel Brompton, near Northampton. Nineteen competitors for these prizes appeared, and the prizes were awarded.

1. To Edward Bagshaw, of Great Hawarden, near Wellingborough.
2. To Jeremiah Pavin, of Dallington, near Northampton.
3. To Joseph Timms, of Abthorpe, near Towcester.

The first prize was seven sovereigns, the second five sovereigns, and the third three sovereigns.

#### ADULTERATION OF BREAD WITH ALUM.

—By the 1 and 2 Geo. IV., cap. 50, sec. 6, it is enacted that bakers, either journeymen or masters, using alum or any other unwholesome ingredient, and convicted on their own confession, or on the oath of one or more witnesses, shall forfeit not exceeding 20*l*, and not less than 5*l* if beyond the environs of London. Justices are allowed to publish the names of offenders. The adulteration of meal or flour is punishable by a like penalty. Loaves made of any other grain than wheat, without the city of London and its liberties, or beyond ten miles of the Royal Exchange, to be marked with a large Roman M.; and every person exposing such loaves without such mark shall forfeit not more than 40*s*, for every loaf so exposed,

\* These identical words were uttered at the hustings, by the present members.



## ON WEEDING LAND.

FROM SINCLAIR.

Preventing the soil from being injured by weeds, is attended with much greater difficulties than are commonly imagined. It is not only important to free the cultivated soil, by every means that can possibly be devised, from those destructive intruders, and to prevent their growth, in grass lands, in plantations, and in commons, but also on the sides of roads, in hedges, or wherever they are to found.

It is the more necessary to attend carefully to this subject, as the powers of propagation, which have been imparted by nature in this description of plants, render it extremely difficult for farmers to prevent their growth. Many of them are propagated both by their roots and their seeds. Some plants extend their roots so far under ground, that it becomes extremely difficult to dig them up. In some instances, new plants spring up from every joint left under ground. Others stretch out runners or stolons every way above ground, and to a considerable distance, while many plants from their seeds with wings, by means of which they are scattered about by the wind in every direction and frequently to a considerable distance. These are so dangerous as to require, not only partial attention, but general efforts to have their future progress arrested, by cutting them down wherever they are to be met with, before or as soon as they have flowered.

From a perusal of the County Reports it appears that both in England and in Scotland, weeding is too much neglected: though, in several districts, since the introduction of turnips and other cleansing crops, with row culture, and a more correct mode of fallowing, the ground is kept much cleaner. But still on many farms, weeds continue to occupy a considerable proportion of that surface, for which the farmer annually pays rent and taxes; and by their growth, the production of useful articles is considerably lessened.

In discussing this subject, it is proposed to consider—the various sorts of weeds;—the descriptions of lands in which they are respectively found, and how they may be eradicated; the instruments made use of in weeding;—the expense of the process;—the means of preventing their increase;—the civil or legislative regulations which would contribute to their destruction;—and the advantages which would ensue, were their extirpation accomplished.

## 1. OF WEEDS IN GENERAL.

Weeds are commonly divided into three classes—Annuals, which continue only one year, the plant dying after its seeds are perfected; Biennials, which continue two years, and die after maturing their seeds the second year; and Perennials, which continue in existence several years. Many of these are propagated both from the root and from the seed.

These different sorts of weeds are found in corn fields;—in grass lands;—in hedges;—in waste and uncultivated lands;—and in woods and plantations; and even gardens, notwithstanding the care bestowed on their culture, are not exempted from them,

1 Corn-fields.—In a list given by an intelligent author, of the weeds which infest our corn fields, no less a number than *fifty-five* are enumerated.\* For-

\* See Mr. William Pitt's Essay on the extirpation of Weeds, in the Communications to the Board of Agriculture, vol. v, p. 240.—In Marshall's Gloucestershire, 77 are enumerated.

tunately their extirpation can in general be accomplished, by nearly the same processes.

The most effectual means of ensuring their destruction, on strong land, is by a clean and complete summer fallow; or on light soils by the culture of turnips, potatoes, or tares, in rows, and kept perfectly clean; but for the attainment of that object, it is necessary, 1. To bring the seeds within the limits of vegetation; and 2. To destroy every weed which vegetates.

1. Seeds of an oily quality, such as those of charlock or field mustard (*raphanus*, *raphanistrum*, and *sinapis arvensis*), and several other annuals, will remain for a long period of time in the ground, capable of vegetation, when acted upon by moisture and heat. It is absolutely necessary, however, to make them germinate, before their destruction can be effected. This is accomplished by the operation of ploughing, harrowing and rolling, by which the ground is pulverized, and a vast number of seeds are brought so near the surface, as to promote their vegetation. In fallowing, those processes should be performed early in the season, when the powers of vegetation are the greatest, and the weeds most likely to come forward.

2. When the first crop of weeds appears above the surface, a second ploughing should be given, by which that crop will be instantly destroyed, and a foundation laid for producing another crop of weeds. Harrowing, and were there are clods, rolling should also be resorted to, after every ploughing; and in this way, several crops of weeds may be destroyed, in warm and moist seasons, before the succeeding crops are drilled. During the growth of those crops, both the hand and the horse hoe should be constantly employed; and the greatest care taken, to prevent all weeds from running to seed.

As the several hoeings given to the cleansing crops, destroy every annual weed as fast as it appears, if the seed-furrow, for the crop which succeeds, be not ploughed or scarified deeper than the last furrow given to the cleansing crop, (and a greater depth is then unnecessary,) few weeds will appear in the crop of grain which follows, but as the clover stubble, which follows the grain crop, must be ploughed a little deeper than the seed furrow formerly given, a fresh growth of weed may then be expected. To get the better of these enemies, some farmers hand weed these crops, at an expense of from ten to twenty shillings per acre, and have found it much to their advantage; while others have resorted to the drill husbandry, and in that manner have been enabled to destroy them in a satisfactory manner.

By an attention to these measures, the quantity of weeds is regularly diminished; and many farms, which forty years ago, were a nest of seedweeds, are now brought into such order, that these injurious plants no longer materially impede the growth of corn.

*Perennial Weeds.*—It is much more difficult to eradicate perennial weeds, as several propagate both by their seeds and their roots. Under this head are comprehended, all the sorts which come under the general name of couch, (*triticum repens*). These are among the greatest banes that husbandry has to contend with. They are sometimes so interwoven in the soil, when it has been negligently cultivated, as to form a species of matting. Their destruction can only be effected, by an early and complete summer fallow, when, by repeated ploughings, with sufficient harrowings between each ploughing, the roots may be worked out, and brought to the surface.—The scarifier or grubber, and some recently invented har-

rows, are of peculiar service in extracting the couch, after the land has been completely pulverized. Besides collecting the roots by these instruments, it is an excellent practice, to gather them by hand-labour, employing boys and girls to follow the plough, and to pick up every root as fast as it is turned up. When collected, the roots should either be burnt, or deposited in a large heap, and mixed with lime, and thus may become the basis of an excellent compost.

It is proper to observe, that the destruction of root weeds, as couch, and of seedlings, as charlock, must be effected, in arable land, upon different principles; the former, by working them out of the soil, so as to induce the seed to germinate after the rain, and afterwards ploughing in the young plants.

### REMARKABLE INSTANCE OF MAL-ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE LATE POOR LAWS.

From several parishes of—in the county of —, a petition was forwarded in November last, to the poor law commissioners, for the formation of a union. On the most experienced of the assistant commissioners repairing to the spot, he was received with acclamation by all classes of society; but without any reason being known or assigned, a strange prejudice seemed everywhere to exist among these amorous parishes, against any matrimonial connexion with the parish of A. The Mayor of the most influential parish in the proposed union, assured the commissioner that he would do anything to facilitate the project, *provided* his dominions were not to be united with the said parish A. Go where he would the commissioner met with the same request, the blooming parishes all saying, “we will do anything you want, but PRAY don’t unite us with parish A!” No one, however, had any reason to assign, except that so often used by man against his neighbour—namely, that he was a being much more demoralized than himself.

The commissioner listened to these objections with respectful suspicion, but on directing his attention to the common enemy, he found that during the last five years four members of parish A had been hung—that nine had been transported for fourteen years—and that the number of convictions in proportion to their population had trebled that of any of the contagious parishes. With a population of 850, the poor rates amounted to 1,300 a-year, being about 17 11s 6d per head on the number of inhabitants!

On inquiring who might be the overseer, the commissioner learnt that this UNPAID individual had virtually reigned ten or eleven years; that he lived at his farm-house, and was himself a large landholder. On calling upon and demanding an inspection of the parish books, the overseer appeared confused, and said he would send for them, but Mahomet insisted on going to the mountain, and accordingly the commissioner and the overseer proceeded together to a large shop (in the village) on *the counter of which* lay the volume. This shop was kept by the overseer’s brother, who was also his servant, and on passing the threshold it was evident to the commissioner that he had reached a bazaar of considerable importance. Three hundred loaves were sitting on the shelves—more than two sheep were hanging in joints—bacon, groceries, and draperies of all sorts filled up the interstices—and with these articles arrayed in evidence before his visiter, the officer confessed,

that besides being overseer of the parish, he was a farmer, a miller, a baker, a butcher, a grocer, a draper, and a general dealer in all sorts of provisions and clothing. With this scene before his eyes, it was impossible for the commissioner to help silently comparing in his own mind the thriving business of the overseer, with the profuse expenditure and hectic symptoms of the parish funds; and indeed the parochial books as they lay on the counter seemed to hint that between the parish account and the shop account, there existed a consanguinity—in fact that they were cousins barely once removed. A few days afterwards the commissioner unexpectedly appeared at the vestry, held as usual at the public house, and as soon as the pipes and ale were finished, the business of the day commenced. As the paupers successively appeared, their cases were heard, and in every instance they were desired to attend “*at the shop*” the following morning, when the decision of the vestry would be communicated to them—this had been the constant practice.

On arriving at “the shop,” the pauper was freely permitted, if he chose, to receive the whole of the relief ordered by the parish for his support, IN MONEY; but odd as it may sound, he generally found out that somehow or other he happened to be in debt at this very shop—and by all of his class moreover, it had long been remarked that they were dealt with by the vestry according to their docility at the shop. The sum of 1,200*l* a-year, transferred from rate-payers to rate-receiver, had thus annually passed over the overseer’s own counter; and if as was generally said, his goods had been sold at 40 per cent. above the usual price, it was not surprising he had made no complaint against the inconvenience of such an arrangement.

The overseer himself confessed that the paupers were sometimes in his debt for half a-year’s wages, but as on his counter there was also lying the book of ‘casual relief,’ the parish was the shopman’s security, and so what the vestry did not decree to his creditors, he himself had the honour to award!

The overseer besides thus picking up the crumbs which fell from the rich table of the parish, was also the proprietor of fourteen cottages, the rent of which was paid by the parish, that is to say, by himself to himself.

It may appear strange, and “passing strange it is,” that this man should have managed to maintain his influence in the vestry; but the paupers becoming *dependent* upon him, in proportion to their insubordination and degradation, these aggressions were successfully urged by him as a plea for gaining the confidence of those whose concurrence he required. In short he had the entire control over the collection as well as distribution of the rate; and when the little shop-keepers became indignant at seeing their fair-dealing profits thus absorbed by their overseer, they were bribed to silence by being left out of the rate altogether; nay even the *vicar of the parish* honestly declared to the commissioner that though but too well aware of the existing oppression, he also had been left out of the rate, on the distinct understanding that he was not to interfere in any of these concerns. In fact so completely was the overseer triumphant, that he had even dispensed with the ordinary form of making a rate, but when he wanted more cash he laconically stuck on the church door the following official notification:—“A rate wanted.” In obedience to this mandate, “a rate was granted,” and the said rate was collected by his brother



and servant, who was also the paid servant of the parish.

As samples of this man's conduct to his inferiors, the following cases may be selected:—A member of parliament, who is also a magistrate, informed the commissioner that a parishioner of parish A who lately applied to him for relief, stated that he had been working for a considerable number of weeks (not on the parish account), for the said overseer, nominally earning 10s a week; that during so long a period, 'never having seen the colour of his master's money,' he at last ventured on a Saturday night to ask for *two shillings* instead of wages of the shop—that his request was granted, but that he was discharged—and thenceforth all parochial relief denied him.

A man with his family, consisting of a wife and four children, solicited permission to live in a hovel belonging to the parish, with an understanding that he should pay no rent, but should support himself by his own exertions. He performed his contract—until at last a small sum was requested and allowed him for the maintenance of his ninth child, an idiot. The poor man kept his dwelling in tenantable repair, and for eighteen years spent his earnings in "the shop." At length having ascertained that half-a-crown would go elsewhere as far as four shillings *there*, he deserted "the shop;" however, no sooner did the small stream of his earnings cease to flow over that counter than a Sheriff's Officer demanded from him the sum of 4*l*, for forty weeks' rent in arrear—the debtor was insolvent, and his very bed was sold to satisfy his creditor. On hearing this tale the commissioner again inspected the overseer's books, and he there found, in *his own hand writing*, a single charge of 46*l* 10s for rents paid *by himself to himself*!

The above case duly attested, being forwarded to the poor law commissioners for England and Wales, they deemed it their duty to order that this overseer should instantly be dismissed. No sooner did he fall from his exalted station, than the base feelings which his own demoralizing system had created unkindly turned upon him; among the lower orders there was left no sentiment of generosity to pardon his errors—no disposition to overlook his frailty—no creditable reluctance against trampling on a fallen foe—the poor wretch fell a victim to vices of his own creation—his life became a burden to him, and with very great regret we add, he has just ended his career by suicide. —*Quarterly Review*.

## PAROCHIAL AND STATE PENSIONS.

SIR—I lately attended a vestry meeting, held for the purpose of reducing the expenditure of a parish in this neighbourhood, where a general feeling prevailed among the paymasters, chiefly farmers, that, as provisions were so much reduced in value, and they, in consequence, so much less able to pay the rates, a proportionate deduction ought to be made in the pensions to the parish paupers. This resolution was accordingly acted upon, and a considerable reduction effected. Viewing, however, the age and infirmities of many whose pittances were lessened, I could not help regretting the necessity of the case, and considering with how much greater propriety the measure might be applied to the State pensioner. On referring to some old papers and recent bills, I gathered a list of a few articles that are in general use, with their prices towards the end of the war and at the present time (some of

them I subjoin),—but wearing apparel, house rent, and all other necessities, as well as wines and luxuries, are also much diminished in value since the former period,—so that at least £25 per cent. may be considered as a fair reckoning for the decreased cost of a family establishment. If, therefore, the salaries of all officers, who are even usefully employed, were to be adequately reduced, if unmerited pensions were to be lopped off, and useless sinecures abolished, would not such an amount of saving be effected, that the Minister might be enabled to remit some of the most oppressive taxes, and thereby afford relief, however slight, to the distressed agriculturists and the overburthened members of the community in general?

Another point has often occurred to me, that, without going into a minute calculation, the country received the value of 60 bushels of wheat on an average for the amount of Stock created during the war, taking the £3 per cents. at £60. Now, if the people were able to pay off the debt, or a part of it, they would be required to supply 360 bushels of that grain to each holder of £100 £3 per cent. at the present time. The doctrine of an equitable adjustment I would not enter upon were I capable; but I think that, were the original purchasers of the stock in all cases the present holders, there would be no injustice in obliging them to take an equivalent in proportion to the present worth of wheat, or, at least, of provisions in general. This property, however, has so much changed hands, and at so many different prices, that there appears to be great difficulty in fairly meeting the case. One thing, however, is certain, that the people of this country have had a heavy burthen to bear, and which, I fear, they must still sustain; it, therefore, behoves the Government to alleviate their distresses by the adoption of rigid economy, and the promotion of just and good laws. List of articles with their prices, above alluded to:—

|                                  | About 1813. | 1835.   |
|----------------------------------|-------------|---------|
|                                  | £ s. d.     | £ s. d. |
| Malt, per bushel                 | 0 15 0      | 7 0     |
| Wheat, ditto                     | 1 0 0       | 5 0     |
| Sugar, per lb.                   | 0 1 0       | 0 8     |
| Tea, ditto                       | 0 8 0       | 5 0     |
| Meat, ditto                      | 0 0 9       | 0 6     |
| Butter, ditto                    | 0 1 6       | 1 0     |
| Cheese, ditto                    | 0 0 9       | 0 6     |
| Candles and Soap, ditto          | 0 1 0       | 0 6     |
| Cider from the press, per gallon | 0 1 0       | 0 3     |
| Salt, per 3½lbs                  | 0 1 3       | 0 2     |

Leadbury, June 17, 1835.

J. Y.

## THE POOR RATES OF FROME.—A REMEDY.

We have always maintained that the Allotment System, which we designate the Cottage System, would entirely relieve this country from the pressure of poor-rates, except for the aged and impotent. We have frequently adverted to the present condition of certain parishes, where we have been enabled to come at particulars, and shewn the competency of the land to maintain its population, and the capability of the people, if allowed a portion for cultivation, of keeping themselves above the disgrace of dependence on parochial pay. We have never found, nor has any one ever pointed out, an instance where the theory could be disputed, or where its practical adoption has failed. If anything remains to make the truth more evident, it is the citing of such places as, from the great amount of their poor population, are the least

likely to offer so beneficial a remedy to the extent required; for this purpose we have made enquiries relative to the parish of Frome, which is a town of importance in respect to its trade, and has a population, according to the return made to the Poor Law Commissioners, in 1834, of 12,240 souls. Either from the falling off of trade, or the loss of employment on the part of the working manufacturers, in consequence of its being monopolised by a few masters—say two or three, instead of fifty or sixty, as was formerly the case—or else from both of these circumstances combined, the labouring portion of the people are in great poverty, and nearly one-sixth of the population are actual paupers. The total receiving relief, including those who are in the workhouse, amounts at the present time to 1,922, for maintaining whom, the rates levied on the inhabitants in the year 1834, amounted to £9,475, of which about £7,478 were collected, the deficiency being occasioned by poor, voids, &c.

Every one will readily admit that, if it were possible to remove from the inhabitants so burthensome a tax, a great good would be effected, but how much greater would the good effected be in respect to the paupers themselves! It is quite evident that, in this country, crime has increased in proportion to the poverty of the people; and that the moral character of the English labourers and peasantry shews a powerful contrast to that which it was before the enclosure of small farms, and the depriving the labourers of their pieces of garden ground, common privileges, &c.; and we may rationally infer, that if the peasantry and the whole of the labouring people be not restored to their former condition, education, religion, temperance societies, &c. will be of no avail. Education is a good only when those who receive it are in a condition to make it useful; it is of no use to give religious instruction without enabling the people to practise it; and all advice of a moral tendency, and all institutions for the promotion of virtue, temperance and honesty, will be fruitless, unless those whose benefit is designed thereby be placed in a position where their moral good will be of some advantage to them—where they will have a command over their offspring—have powerful inducements to industry and economy, and feel sensibly alive to the advantage of integrity on the part of themselves and children. While a great portion of the labouring poor are paupers, and of those who are not, scarcely any are to be found who have been enabled by their exertions to accumulate sufficient for more than a few weeks lodging and food—they lose every inducement to economy, and therefore have no motive to refrain from spending their idle hours in the beer-house; and the motive to industry and economy being lost by the impossibility of bettering their condition thereby, is the main source of the intemperance and crime which have not pauperised the people, but which are the results of their poverty.

Much greater good, then, in behalf of the poor would be effected by reducing this burthen, than in behalf of those on whom it falls.

Frome is one of those places where a remedy has been sought by getting rid of what is called the surplus population; and very probably, a remedy will be sought in the adoption of the New Poor Laws—in the Malthusian system of imprisonment for poverty; but the second case will be as deceptive as the first. First of all, what good can emigration do to Frome? If of the 1922 paupers they send off only the able-bodied, they will be able to make a diminution in the number of 110, for 1812 of

the paupers are not able-bodied. And, secondly, what object will be gained by the imprisonment and separation of man, wife, and children system? The disabled must be maintained; and therefore neither terror, or cruelty, or coarse food will induce them to leave the parish. By coarser food, the expenditure may be somewhat, but so triflingly reduced, as to be hardly worth the experiment on this account.

If a remedy to the gaunt evil of pauperism be wanted, even in Frome, that remedy is to be found in the land, where the fabled treasure still remains undiscovered—a fortune for all. The 1,922 paupers divided into families of 5 each, would amount to 384, for which 150 acres would be ample to relieve the parish from the cost of every pauper capable of working occasionally. The obtaining of this land cannot, we should think, be a matter of difficulty in a parish containing 8,000 acres let at a rental whose average is less than 30s, the prime pasture land not exceeding 40s. It may be asked, what good would this do to 1,922 paupers, of which only 110 are able-bodied? We can only answer by asking what the disabled did when the poor rates, in no parish of an equal population, exceeded one quarter their present amount? The fact is, that then every honest labourer felt it the greatest disgrace that could attach to him to have his parents or a brother in the workhouse: children and parents were knit together in a common bond of gratitude; the children, prospering by their industry, were the props of their parents in old age. It will require a generation to pass away before the poor can be again restored to this high feeling of integrity and affection; but it is none the less necessary that we should immediately adopt the means which give a certain prospect of its being ultimately effected.

What is wanted in Frome and other places is not that the poor should be maintained at a less expense, but by the profit of their own industry; it is necessary for the good of the poor, and for the welfare of the nation, that less should be paid in the shape of poor-rates, and that more should be paid in the shape of wages. There is wanted in Frome not a reduction in the number of hands: bad as the trade is, only 110 able-bodied men out of 12,240 are receiving parish pay; we may therefore conclude, that 500 hands could not be spared; what is wanted is a diminution of redundant labour—that is, a means of employing, profitably, that labour which the master does not want, and occupying occasional periods when trade is slack. This redundancy should be reduced to such an extent as to enable the labourers to obtain higher wages. In proportion as the labourer obtains higher wages, and the whole of his time is profitable to him by working for himself when his master does not want his services, will he rise in the moral scale; he will be dependant on his own exertions—his children, like olive branches, will add to the produce of his toil—every family will become a school of industry; the cottage will be a comfortable home; there will be no inducement to squander time in the beer-houses; no time for idle habits either for parents or children; there will be every inducement to attend faithfully to the duties of life, and no other inducement will be strong enough to entice men from their duties.

If this plan were adopted in Frome, the poor, instead of being a burthen, would be an advantage; instead of deeming it necessary to expatriate our labourers, (the most valuable portion of the community,) we should find them the support of the home market—giving a fair price, and honestly



paying for our redundant produce, of which redundant produce, the farmers and manufacturers complain as much as rate-payers do of redundant population. Instead of being a tax on the shopkeepers, our labourers would then be the customers of the shopkeepers—millions would be earned and expended in furnishing their present comfortable cottages, and in renewing their present tattered garments.—*Bath Journal*.

## CULTURE OF POTATOES.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE LEEDS MERCURY.

GENTLEMEN,—Having read in your last week's *Mercury* a few lines on the causes of the failure of Potatoe crops, wherein the writer states that salting them by the Lincolnshire growers was the cause of that failure. Although it might possibly be the case with him, I am very much in doubt of its general application, as the crops have failed in different places, for which the Lincolnshire men have nothing to answer. I am induced to lay before the public through the medium of your widely extended Journal what I conceive to be the principal cause of the failure of the crops of this most useful of all roots, and also the method by which a crop may, under Divine Providence, be with certainty relied on. The importance of the subject must be my apology for obtruding my opinions on the public, and for all defects of grammar or phraseology. I humbly hope it will be taken with the same spirit it is written, a desire to do good to my country, and especially to that class to which I belong, the labouring poor.

During the time I had the charge of the gardens of the Rev. J. A. Rhodes, of Horsforth Hall, I was permitted, with his accustomed liberality and kindness, to try several experiments on the culture of potatoes, and those experiments brought me to the conclusion, that the failure of the potatoe crops arose principally, if not altogether, from the causes below, viz.—

1st. From overripeness in what is popularly called seed, (though it must on a moment's consideration be perceived that a root cannot be a seed.)

2dly. In the method of preserving them through winter.

3dly. In taking all sizes of potatoes for sets, and cutting them into too small divisions.

4th. Exposing the sets too long to the atmosphere, especially when cut.

5thly. Covering too deep with rotten manure, or heavy soil, especially in a wet season.

1st. Over ripeness in the seed. When the tops are quite dead and withered away, and the roots are easily shaken off the straw, they are commonly said to be ripe, and in most sorts are extremely dry and mealy when boiled,—a quality very desirable for the table, but by no means necessary, but even injurious for the continuance of the plants.

I saved some that were as ripe as possible, and some that had been taken up as soon as they were fully grown, and while the tops were quite fresh and green. Between the two, next season, there certainly was a wide difference; of the roots that were quite ripe, about two out of three perished, and of what did grow, some had curled tops, and none were so healthy as they ought to have been, considering the soil, and the pains that was bestowed upon them. Under exactly the same treatment, of those that had been taken up while the tops were green, every one grew, and that with a vigour and luxuriance that astonished every one that saw them; whilst the produce was equally different,—the un-

ripe sets producing at least double the quantity at each root more than those that grew of the ripened sets.

2d. In the method of preserving them through winter. As soon as the potatoes were taken up, those that I intended for seeds, I had put into small pits, in a situation quite dry, and as little exposed to the sun as possible. The pits were about three feet wide, and made a little below the surface; a little clean straw was put in the bottom, and two, three or four, to six bushels of the sets placed in a pyramidal form, covered with some more straw, and then with soil, ten or twelve inches thick, beating it with a spade or shovel, so as to exclude the air as much as possible. This, it may be perceived, is a very different method to that commonly practised of putting large quantities in one pit, and that pit generally exposed to the heat of the sun, by which method they sprout much earlier, and those sprouts are obliged to be rubbed off to separate them, and the set is much weakened, and often its vitality destroyed.

3dly. Taking all sizes of potatoes for sets, and cutting them into too small divisions.

In the above experiments alluded to, I always found the best crops from the largest sets uncut, and the next from the middle sized sets also uncut, and the next from the large sets, cut just in two, and planted immediately. The small sets produced one or two fair sized potatoes, all the rest were small, and often of a deformed shape. Cut small sets were the worst of all. The common practice is to cut the large roots into several sets, the middle size into two, and the smaller ones planted whole. The consequence is, that if some of the largest have nearly lost their power to grow, cutting kills them, and a large number of sets will fail, and the small roots planted whole will not produce above half a crop.

4thly. Exposing the sets too long to the atmosphere, especially when cut.

It is a practice in many places to spread out the roots intended for sets to the sun, with the (in my opinion mistaken) notion of ripening them, by drying up still more the vegetable sap. I tried this plan, and almost every root failed. I have also seen large heaps of potatoes cut and thrown together for weeks, in sheds, so that when they were planted the sets were all wrinkled, and dried almost to a chip. Was it likely they should produce, in such a state, any thing like a crop?

When I intended to set potatoes, in what I considered the best method, every necessary operation was performed before the potatoes were taken out of the pit, and they were immediately planted whole, and covered up as quickly as possible. If I received any from a nursery or seedsman, I spread them on the surface of the ground, watered them well, and covered them with soil until they sprouted; if any failed, of course they were thrown away, so that I never was disappointed of a crop, excepting those which I experimented on.

5thly. Covering too deep, with rotten manure or heavy soil, especially in a wet season.

The method by which potatoes are generally planted by market gardeners and farmers is not, I think, calculated to encourage the growth of the roots that have been weakened by overheating and sprouting, and still more by being severely cut and exposed to the drying action of the atmospheric air. A trench is made with the spade or plough, and the sets are placed at the bottom, covered with manure, and then with soil. If the manure happens to be light stable litter, and the soil light and open, and a favourable season, the potatoes may get through and produce something like a crop, but if the dung be

wet and heavy, and a strong soil, with a wet season, any rational thinking person might prognosticate, with tolerable certainty, a failure. The plan which produced me the best crops was, to place the manure at the bottom of the trench, and the sets upon it, and a light covering of soil over them. In that way my success was perfectly satisfactory.

The after management was much the same as is generally practised, hoeing deep between the ridges, to loosen the soil, and earthing up in ridges as high as the plants will admit.

In considering over the above observations, the points to be attended to, to produce with certainty good crops of this important vegetable, are, to have sets taken up when fully grown, while the tops are green; to preserve them through winter in small pits; to choose the finest roots for sets to plant them whole; to expose them as little as possible to the open air; and not to cover them deep with any heavy wet material likely to prevent them coming freely through the soil.

I remain, Gentlemen, your obedient Servant,  
T. APPLEYBY.

Leeds, near Woodhouse Church, May 19th, 1835.

## THE LAND TAX.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—You have on several former occasions allowed me to intrude upon your columns my suggestions for an equitable adjustment of the land-tax, I am induced once more to take advantage of your kindness and forbearance, and to solicit a revival of your attention to this most important subject. In consequence of the unceasing excitement which has prevailed among members of the House of Commons throughout the present session, I had determined to wait a more favourable opportunity previous to renewing my discussion upon a matter requiring so much calm and deliberate consideration; but Sir Robert Peel, whose authority as a practical statesman cannot be surpassed, having expressed his opinion that some alteration beneficial to the revenue might be effected with regard to the land-tax, I conceive that no time should be lost in carrying out his views, by directing public attention to them. Sir Robert in his speech on the Marquis of Chandos's motion relative to agricultural distress on the 25th ult., after adverting to the relief which might be afforded to agriculturists with regard to the auction duty observed, "Some new regulation, too, should be made about the land-tax. The law relating to its redemption was, in fact inoperative: some new plan should be devised."

Since your attention, and, through your widely circulated paper, public attention also, was first directed to the unequal pressure of this tax, most persons have become so thoroughly convinced of the anomalous and oppressive operation of the acts under which it is collected, that it is no longer necessary to adduce examples for the purpose of showing that property in thriving and populous districts is assessed to the land-tax at less than a farthing in the pound, while the same description of property in decayed and half-deserted neighbourhoods has to contribute 3s and 4s in the pound towards the same tax; and that in the one case the burden is thus ridiculously trifling, because property in the district has greatly improved in value, while in the other it is grievously oppressive, because the property has become greatly depreciated.

Assuming, therefore, that a revision of the laws

which regulate the collection of our present land-tax is admitted by all to be imperatively required, I will at once proceed with a statement of the great advantages that would accrue to the state by a general equalization of it throughout the country:—

The amount of the land-tax assessed upon England and Wales is.....£1,989,673

Of which the amount redeemed is somewhat less than £800,000, or about 3-7ths.

The annual value of property in England and Wales upon which the land-tax is chargeable is about.....60,000,000

4-7ths of which is.....34,285,712

And a land-tax upon this of 2s in the pound, equally rated, would produce...3,428,570

The amount at present collected for land-tax in England and Wales is 1,200,000*l.*, and thus a surplus revenue of at least 2,000,000*l.* would accrue from an equalization at 2s. in the pound, without in any way interfering with those who may have redeemed; but supposing Mr. Pitt's view to be acted on of including those who have redeemed, and giving them credit for the amount of their redemption, the increase would be considerably more.

Among the most plausible arguments urged by persons interested in perpetuating the present unequal collection of this tax are those which appeal to our national honour, and although the whole of them have been to my mind on several occasions most satisfactorily refuted by your able pen, I hope you will not consider me too encroaching in again slightly adverting to them.

It is stated, that because the land-tax was by 38 George III., c. 60, made perpetual for the purposes of redemption, no alteration can ever be made either with regard to its collection or distribution, and that, however anomalous its assessment may become, it would be a breach of national faith, as well to those who have redeemed, as to those who pay only a farthing in the pound, to make any essential alteration in its assessment. Now, without waiting to discuss the absurdity which such arguments would establish, of legislating upon taxes for a perpetuity, I will take the liberty of directing the attention of such objectors to the arguments used by Mr. Pitt, when he proposed the resolutions upon which the first Land-tax Redemption Act was framed. "Parliament," said that Minister, "now has the undoubted right of raising more than 4s. in the pound on the land: and what greater authority would it acquire were the present redeemed? If the whole were to be redeemed, the only thing necessary to be provided as expressly as any legislative provision can guard is, that if ever a new land-tax is imposed, it shall not be imposed upon those who have redeemed in any different proportion from that on those who have not redeemed. It would be necessary to provide that the amount of what may have been redeemed shall be deducted from any new impost."

Let us suppose that the government were to buy up the whole of the present land-tax remaining unredeemed, can any one say that after such a purchase it would be a breach of faith to impose a new land-tax, and give credit to those who have redeemed for the amount of their redemption? Assuredly not; and any equalization of the present tax upon the same principle would not only be strictly justifiable towards those who have redeemed, but an act of justice towards those decayed places where the tax is now grievously oppressive.

But even confining the equalization to the amount



of tax unredeemed, the benefit accruing to the state will, as we have seen, be very great, and I sincerely hope that many months will not elapse ere we see the revenue deriving its full advantage from a tax which, if properly regulated, is capable of being made the most equitable and the most productive of any that can be imposed.

I had intended to add a few observations for the purpose of showing that by a small addition to the spirit duties, and an alteration of a portion of the stamp duties, a surplus revenue might be obtained, which, with the amount capable of being produced by an equalization of the land-tax, would be sufficient to justify the abolition of the malt duties; but I shall have already trespassed so much on your columns that I must reserve any further suggestions to a future opportunity, of which I will avail myself should you conceive that the least good is likely to be extracted from my lucubrations.

I am, Sir, your obliged and obedient servant,  
M.

### TETANUS IN THE SHEEP.

(From the Veterinarian.)

Of all our domesticated animals, the sheep seems to suffer most from this disease. Thousands of ewes after lambing, and tens of thousands of lambs lately dropped, are lost every winter, by careless and unfeeling agriculturists. It is not a great deal of attention that these poor beasts require: a linney or shed, a few clumps of trees, or even a thick hedge, to break a little the force of the wind, would render them in a manner comfortable, and certainly would remove very much of the danger; but when they are left altogether unprotected, nothing is more common than, after a cold night, to find some of the ewes, and more of the lambs, dying or dead; every limb being drawn together, spasmed, stiffened by the cold. In travelling over some of the open parts of the country early on a winter's morning, and in the space of twenty or thirty miles, I have seen more than as many sheep and lambs dying or dead.

This happens again occasionally about weaning time, and the old shepherds pretend to tell what lambs will fall victims to it after castration. If, when the operator is sawing through the cord with his blunt knife, or gnawing it asunder with his teeth, the jaws of the little animal are strongly and spasmodically clenched, he says that that lamb is in danger of locked jaw; and, in order to prevent its occurrence, he thrusts his thumb into the mouth of the patient, and forcibly separates the jaws. There is, notwithstanding the sarcasm of Hurtle D'Arboval, much good sense in this: the spasm is interrupted, and the charm is broken, and the disposition to this excess of muscular action is got rid of before it has had time to establish itself generally. Rams are particularly subject to tetanus after castration, and especially, it is said, when the operation by torsion (*bistournage*) is improperly performed.

**SYMPTOMS.**—Tetanus generally commences in the sheep, with singular involuntary spasmodic motion of the head, and some or all of the extremities. To this succeeds a peculiar stiffness of the greater part or the whole of the frame: the neck is protruded, and the head bent back, and forcibly retained in that bended form: one leg is drawn up, and fixed in an unnatural condition. The rigidity occasionally relaxes, and gives way to violent convulsions of the head, neck, and extremi-

ties, followed again by fixidity of them and of the whole frame. The disease runs its course most speedily. The animal is often dead within twelve hours after the first attack, and, if he lingers on beyond six-and-thirty hours, it may be regarded as a pledge of his ultimate recovery.

**TREATMENT.**—The indications of cure and the means of accomplishing it are the same. A bleeding from the jugular, or from the eye vein, should be immediately effected; and, before the jaw becomes thoroughly fixed, one or more doses of the "castor oil mixture," already frequently recommended, should be given; it combines the purgative and the anodyne, which such a case requires. Some administer two drachms of aloes, or three or four drachms of Epsom salts; and, after that, and as long as the spasm continues, they give repeated doses of that well-known compound, the calves' cordial. The object sought to be accomplished is the same; the opium should at least speedily follow the purgative. I would, however, rather say, that they should be combined; and in the castor oil, syrup of buckthorn, and syrup of white poppies, there is a combination of purgatives and an anodyne well calculated to produce the desired effect.

Tetanus is a far more manageable disease in the sheep than in the horse or ox. Thousands die, because nothing is done;—but a bleeding being effected—the bowels having been opened—the lamb opened having been put into a warm bath—and then being tolerably dried and wrapped in blankets, and placed in a basket in a warm place or before the fire, and a little gruel, mingled with ginger and ale, or even the housewife's gin, being administered, a cure will often be effected.

### TO THE EDITOR OF THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS."

SIR,—It is but a short time ago since I was first favored by a friend with the perusal of your weekly publication, which I now read with much interest as regularly as it arrives, and in which I find almost whole columns filled with lamentations on the distress of the farmers in England, together with advices, plans, and projects for the ostensible purpose of alleviating such distress, but which plans, &c. we natives and inhabitants of the continent, judging impartially, and without being biassed by any prejudice or particular views, plainly see to be chimerical, and that the agricultural distress in England arises from causes which cannot for a long time to come be removed, and that the whole machinery of Government, and the system of agriculture must undergo an alteration, before any cure of the disease can be expected.

In order to explain this, I beg leave, to state my thoughts on this subject.

England by a series of wars, subsidies to continental Powers, &c. has burthened itself with a national debt of such monstrosity, that it is shuddering to think on the millions required to pay only the interest of it; this and all the other heavy expenditures of the Government, such as the unheard-of salaries to its servants, pensions, sinecures, with a long train of et ceteras naturally require heavy duties and taxes, which are levied on the community, while at the same time a great part of this revenue goes into the pockets of comparatively a few only, without affording any material benefit to the mass of the people. The whole of this system, with a variety of other causes attending it, taken together, has enhanced the value of almost all

the necessities of life to double and treble of what they are in other countries, and following the whole chain of causes and effects, we find the imperious necessity of heavy taxation, imaginary value of landed and other property, consequent high rents, and inability of the farmer to pay both rents and taxes, when corn, from natural causes, is so low that its price will not pay the rents, taxes, and the expense of producing it. Taking all this for granted, (and I doubt whether it can be contradicted) it would appear, that were it possible to reduce the expenditure and the revenue of the Government to half of what it now is, the value of every article, landed property included, would also be reduced in proportion. Rents would of course, be lower; the expenses of farming diminished, and the corn prices coming on, or near a level with those on the Continent, the English farmer would be in a condition to compete with his continental brethren, and the importation of foreign corn, would prove no injury to him. By the decrease of value of landed property, and consequent diminution of rent, the landowner would lose very little, as in proportion as his income would be less than it is at present, he would be enabled to live in the same style as he does now, and to purchase the same enjoyments, at a price equally proportionate.

Allow me now, Sir, to state some other points, in order to show how a farmer on the continent, (and I will take Holstein, where heavy taxes are paid, as an example) is enabled to produce his corn at a cheaper rate than an English one.

Let us in the first place consider that it is an undeviating rule laid down in our system here, that a farm must support itself, and work on its own resources; i.e. that the farmer must not on any account, part with his cash, except for such things as cannot possibly be produced on his farm. Even a part of his apparel must be made on it, and by sowing hemp and flax to be spun by his maids, during the long winter evenings, he provides for deficiencies arising in his household linen.

Secondly, let us consider the cheapness of his implements, in comparison to those in England. He can get a very good plough made complete for about 30s. sterling; a harrow with twenty-four iron tines, for about 14s. to 16s.; a strong waggon twelve to thirteen feet long, for 9l. to 10l.; a winnowing machine for 4l. to 5l., and other instruments in proportion, and when the landowner allows his farmer to cut as much wood annually, as is required for the completion of his agricultural implements, which very often forms an article in the contract, he procures an artificer to make them on his farm, at a much cheaper rate than what they would otherwise cost him. On large farms where twenty, twenty-four or more horses are kept, the head man is regularly something of a mechanic, who makes and repairs the wood part of ploughs, &c., and on those who have no smithy of their own, a contract is made with the nearest blacksmith to keep the ironwork of each plough in repair for 7s. sterling, and each horse shod for 8s. per annum. Now compare these prices with those an English farmer has to pay for his instruments, &c., and you will see what an immense advantage the former has over the latter in this article only.

Thirdly, and of the greatest consideration is the production of the manure, which ought *never* to be bought, except in the single instance when to be had cheap. Within the distance of no more than about six or seven miles from a large town, and even then the purchasing of it would be avoided if possible, for, al-

though a waggon load of town dung may be had, for instance in Hamburg at 1s. 5d., the labour, and time spent in fetching it, and the expense of laying it in meats intermixed with heath or grass sods (as without this it would not spread enough) previous to its being brought on the land, occasions an outlay which ought to be saved, and interrupts the regular course of labor on the land. The Holstein system of keeping as many cows as can properly be fed, combines the means of producing a sufficient quantity of manure, and of making at the same time large quantities of butter for exportation. There are many large estates, either farmed out, or not, on which 200 to 300 cows are kept, which are fed in the stalls from November to the middle of May, and remain out in the pastures day and night from that to the end of October, so that in fact the farmer has only the manure made during the winter, yet this is sufficient, and sometimes more than sufficient for his wants, and his lands are constantly in the best possible order.

As to rents in general, it ought to be borne in mind, that the more they be made moderate for the farmer to bear, the more will the land-owner be benefitted by it; not in point of actual pecuniary profit, but by the certainty of his rent being paid him in full in due time, and also by being convinced that the farmer thrives, and thereby is enabled to keep his lands in good order, which is always a profit in the sequel.

As to the means of assisting the farmer in the first instance, and to bear him out of his present distresses, it matters not whether the medium of exchange for produce be gold, silver, or paper, or whether the duties on foreign corn be raised, lowered, or superseded altogether; such projects appear to us here, nothing but chimeras, and will tend to nothing, except to create some new artificial state of things, which, in the end, will also prove fallacious. First of all, the rents must be reduced in proportion to a certain standard value of corn, and the land-owners, instead of an income of, say 10,000l., must rest contented with 6,000l. or 7,000l. a-year. I dare say this will not meet their gusto, and there will hardly be found one who will go further than to make a *most generous* sacrifice of ten to fifteen per cent of the rents, but they may rest assured that their pertinacity will gain them nothing in the end, and the increasing distress of the country people, producing more and more pauperism, will at last bring that about, which might have been avoided.

What I have before said about the enormous national Debt of England, as being the primary cause of the distress of the cultivator of land, I find corroborated in the history of your country, where it may be seen, that not longer ago than 1766, when a failure of the crop took place, and some riots in consequence of the dearth of provisions, an embargo was laid on the exportation of corn (at that period England exported) and in a note by the author (Belsham) he asks,

"Whence is it that the poor's rates are so alarmingly increased, that the workhouses of the Kingdom are crowded?" &c.

And solves his questions by saying,

"Two causes obviously present themselves as jointly and powerfully co-operating to their production: 1st. the enormous increase of the national debt, which is in fact only taxation of the poor household, for the benefit of the rich stockholder, and 2ndly, the vast and prodigious fortunes amassed by individuals." &c. &c.

But there is another cause operating to augment the distress of the cultivators of the soil, and this must



be found in the contest of the English with foreign countries, to be the first in trade, manufactures, and agriculture; but they do not consider that where one of these branches prospers beyond the limits assigned to it by the nature of things, the other will suffer in proportion. Trade and manufactures go hand in hand together, and assist each other generally, but they will at all times be in opposition to agriculture, and I believe that to combine the one with the other, so that each should excel in an eminent degree, is a problem not as yet solved anywhere.

In concluding this letter, I have to beg you will excuse the grammatical errors I may have committed, having very little practice at present in your language,

I remain, Sir, your's very obediently,  
Scheneffeld. H. DE JOUGH.

In the Duchy of Holstein.

June, 1835.

### A BILL TO REGULATE THE IMPORTATION OF FOREIGN CORN INTO THE ISLE OF MAN.

Whereas an Act was passed in the ninth year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the Fourth, intituled, "An Act to amend the laws relating to the Importation of Corn," whereby certain Duties, as set forth in a Table annexed to the said Act, are made payable in the United Kingdom upon the importation of Corn, Grain, Meal, or Flour, but which duties are not payable in the Isle of Man: And whereas the surplus productions of the Isle of Man are nevertheless admissible, under the laws now in force, into the United Kingdom without payment of any Duties: And whereas the inhabitants of the Isle of Man do not stand in need of any supplies of Foreign Corn for their consumption, and therefore it is necessary for the better enforcement of the said Act, with regard to the importation of Corn into the United Kingdom, to make new provisions for regulating the importation of Corn into the Isle of Man: Be it therefore enacted, by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same. That from and after the passing of this Act, it shall not be lawful to import into the Isle of Man any foreign Corn, Grain, Meal, or Flour, except upon payment of the same duties as are by the said Act made payable on the importation into the United Kingdom of Corn, Grain, Meal, or Flour.

And whereas by the said Act it is provided, that a certain Certificate of the aggregate average prices of Corn shall be transmitted to the Collector or other Chief Officer of the Customs, at each of the several Ports of the United Kingdom: Be it further enacted, That the said Certificate shall in like manner be transmitted to the Collector or other Chief Officer of the Customs at the Port of Douglas, in the Isle of Man; and that the Duties payable as aforesaid in the Isle of Man shall be ascertained from time to time by the prices set forth in such Certificate, in like manner as the same are ascertained in the United Kingdom.

And be it further enacted, That the Duties imposed by this Act shall be raised, levied, collected and paid unto his Majesty in like manner as if the same had been imposed by an Act passed in the third and fourth years of his Majesty's reign, intituled, "An Act for regulating the Trade of the Isle of Man."

SOCIAL STATE OF LOWER CANADA.—The constituency is very widely diffused—among the half million of people there are at least 80,000 electors, of whom nine-tenths are proprietors of the soil: several counties have from 4 to 5,000 electors, all of whom are landed proprietors. The total num-

ber of proprietors of real property in 1831 was 57,891; and of persons holding property not otherwise than real, 25,208. Of families employed in agriculture, 50,824; and of families engaged in commerce, only 2,503. The number of farm servants employed was 7,602, which shows what a large proportion of the agriculturists are small farmers. The number of persons subsisting on alms, in a total population of upwards of half a million, was only 1,282; and which, I suppose, included a large proportion of 408 deaf and dumb, 334 blind, and 924 insane persons.—*Martin's British Colonies.*

### ON BRONCHITIS IN CATTLE.

BY MR. MEYER, SEN., V.S., NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LINE.

(From the Veterinarian.)

Messieurs Editeurs,—As many of your contributors will, no doubt, feel interested in having the ultimate results attendant upon the treatment of those cases of bronchitis noticed in a former number of your journal (vol. vii. p. 585), I have much pleasure in forwarding the particulars without further preface, except that I would apologize to Mr. Youatt for not having noticed, in my last paper, his article upon bronchitis in that valuable publication, *The Farmers' Series*; it did not meet my eye till some time afterwards: had I seen it, it would have superseded much that mine contained. Having thus made the *amende honorable*, I shall proceed:—

The little patient, upon which the operation of tracheotomy had been performed, recovered much of its condition, spirits, and appetite; but as the wound in the trachea gradually healed up, it pined away again, and ultimately sunk, although the Indian pink, conjoined with saline medicines and fumigations, were followed up to the last. On a post-mortem examination, I found not more than half the quantity of worms as in the first case, many of them having, no doubt, been expelled or crept out through the opening into the trachea. The anterior and middle portions of the lungs were of a bright vermilion hue, shading gradually off to their natural colour towards their posterior portion. The lining membrane of the bronchi and air-cells was much inflamed, but not so that of the trachea.

I consider the operation of tracheotomy, in extreme cases, as a most valuable aid; but it should be done low down, as it affords, in the first place, greater facility for the expulsion of worms; secondly, by admitting currents of cold air immediately upon their nidus, it renders their habitation less tenable. Thirdly, it allows you, as the wound closes up, the opportunity of operating again above. The operation is of the highest importance too in taking off the spasmodic effect produced upon the laryngeal muscles from the sympathetic irritation and effects of the worms, occasioning asphyxia to a great degree, but which is immediately removed by the operation; the animal breathing afterwards comparatively easy.

There were now five other calves left, nearly of the same age, and which had been running out along with the others ever since they were weaned: these were labouring under the same affection. Finding the medical treatment adopted in the last case did not succeed, I determined upon giving the turpentine a fair trial; for which purpose I combined some ol. terebinthine with oleum commune; but the farmer felt so prejudiced against using any strong medicines, that he would not give it, for

he had not only administered, before he applied to me, tar balls, but the strong remedies recommended by Clater, under the effects of which the calves were fast sinking. I therefore advised him to try a remedy my father used to employ with success, consisting of half-a-pint of lime-water every morning to each calf, and a table-spoonful of common salt; dissolved in half a-pint of water, every afternoon, keeping them out at grass, and varying their pasture from time to time. This plan of treatment was regularly pursued for some time and succeeded; the remaining calves were soon in perfect health, and suffered very little in their growth; in fact, a stranger not knowing the circumstance would not suppose they had laboured under any disease. Where lime-water cannot be procured conveniently, I would recommend half-a-drachm of aqua kali pur. in half-a-pint of linseed tea as a substitute. Common salt is a valuable medicine, either as a preventive to the development of worms, or as a specific against some of the species, as the fluke-worm, &c. : it is particularly obnoxious to them either in or out of the body.

There is little doubt that it must be transmitted along the absorbents, and pass through the discerning vessels with the proximate elements of which it is composed, in as intimate a union as when taken into the stomach; for it is a well-known fact, that bodies taken into that viscus will become absorbed into the circulation, and pass apparently unaltered through the discerning vessels of some of the glands of the body. If the secretions formed by the mucous membrane of the bronchi become impregnated with the muriate of soda, it would render the worms sickly, and occasion them to quit their hold, in consequence of which they would be easily expelled through the larynx and mouth. Some individuals are in the habit of giving a table-spoonful of powdered savin in half-a-pint of milk, daily, with tolerable success. Others dress the inside of the nostrils with oil of savin, and administer a small portion of the same daily, diluted with vinegar. An old cowleech told me he was always successful with the oil of savin. Some extol *asafoetida* rubbed down with vinegar. In consequence of the inflammation of the bronchial tubes and lungs, the administration of turpentine, or other strong anthelmintics, is of dubious policy; for, whilst you are striving to steer clear of Scylla you may fall into Charybdis: but it is the duty of the veterinary surgeon to watch narrowly the progress of the symptoms, and take his tack accordingly. It appears, upon inquiry into the history of this singular and fatal affection, that where calves are of strong and vigorous constitutions, so as to wrestle with the affection till cold weather sets in, they will spontaneously recover.

It occurs in all situations, and upon every description of soil; but it is most frequently met with upon low marshy districts, particularly where the water percolates through a peat stratum of soil. Farms situated upon marly strata are the least subject to it.

It prevails to a great extent during very dry years, when the pit water upon different farms becomes nearly dried up, and rendered putrid and full of animalculæ; as was the case upon that particular farm where the above cases occurred: on this account I should strongly recommend the flinging into the pits, from time to time, some quick lime. As cattle are much addicted to go into the water during warm weather, and, remaining there for some time, voiding their dung and urine, our worthy Professor at the Veterinary Col-

lege suggested the idea of the ova being furnished by this means, which, *a priori*, would appear very probable, as the worms belong to the species of intestinal worms, which are found deposited in all situations of the animal body. A friend of mine, however, furnished me with a fact which militates against this idea. He has two farms, one situated high and upon a calcareous marly stratum, where the disease is seldom or never known; the other lies low, and has a large piece of ground, into which he turns his young colts and sheep, but which possesses a peat bottom. On one occasion, although warned by a neighbour as to the consequences, he turned his young rearing calves into it, every one of which took the hoose, but by immediately sending them to their old quarters they soon recovered. He stated, moreover, that his upper farm had only pit water upon it, which, although in dry weather, the ponds were nearly dried up, and rendered foul by the cattle standing in them dunging and staling, yet the beasts remained free from the hoose.

From the little that is known of the history of these parasitical animals, it is impossible to say whether they are taken up in their state of ova from the fluids received into the intestines, or whether the ova are deposited within the nostrils, and there hatched to that point when their instinctive propensities develop themselves so as to guide them to that situation where they are found and brought to maturity. I myself consider that the vegetable matter and soil through which the water filters furnishes the ova, which, being taken into the stomach and intestines, and being smaller than the globules of which either the chyle or blood is composed, pass easily through the absorbents, and even the discerning vessels of the glands and of mucous or even serous surfaces. This appears to be the only way in which we can rationally account for their being found in the various parts of the body in which they are met. I can readily conceive it possible for the ova to be transmitted through every series of ramifying vessels in the body, and yet not become developed until accidental circumstances turn up, such as a diseased gland, so as to favour the unfolding of that vital and vivifying principle inherent in seed of every kind.

In my last paper these worms are stated to belong to the strongylus species; but upon examining them more minutely, I consider them belonging to the variety called *ununaria*, the characters of which are, body filiform, elastic, head with membranous angular lips; the tail of the female needle-shaped, and that of the male, armed with two hooks encased in a pellucid vesicle.

The characters of the strongylus species are, body round, long, the fore part globular and truncate, with a circular aperture, fringed at the margin; the hind part of the male hooded, that of the female pointed.

P.S. I forgot to state, that my son has met with these species of worms in the bronchial tubes and air-cells of an ass, whilst dissecting at college; and what was very singular, there were no urgent symptoms before the animal was killed, to lead to any suspicion of their existence.

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INCREASE OF COMMERCE.—In 1832 the official value of the importations into Great Britain was 43,237,000*l.*; and in 1834, 46,908,000*l.* showing an increase in the two years of 4,671,000*l.* The real value of British produce and manufactures in 1832 was 36,046,000*l.*, and in 1834, 41,286,000*l.* showing



an increase of 5,240,000*l*. This increase is the more remarkable when the fall that has taken place in farming produce is considered. The official value of cotton imported in 1832 was 9,470,000*l*, and in 1834, 10,890,000*l*; increase 1,420,000*l*. The real value of cotton manufactures exported in 1832 was 17,350,000*l*, and in 1834, 29,500,000*l*; increase 3,150,000*l*. The official value being calculated at prices fixed in the reign of William III. is of no other use than to denote quantity.

### AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

MR. EDITOR,—When it is known that the sum raised yearly in England for the support of the poor (near eight millions) is equal to the whole revenue of the vast kingdom of Spain, and that there still exists a frightful mass of poverty and immorality *evidently increasing*, it is time for the landowners to bestir themselves, and endeavour to apply some remedy to the evil. Having in a former letter endeavoured to show how little the occupiers of land can be benefited by Parliament, I now turn to the connection between the owner and occupier. It is a great advantage to a tenant that his landlord should himself be acquainted with the nature and value of landed property, and that he should employ as steward or agent a man of steady, regular habits and principles, well versed in rural affairs. In either of these cases the tenant will not be called upon to pay a rent which it is impossible for him to make by his skill and industry, if he is so fortunate as to have an honest and conscientious landlord.

Besides the rent, taxes, and poor rate, two very considerable sources of expense, indispensable, present themselves in the shape of labour: the labour of men and the labour of horses.

In this letter I shall confine my observations to human labour. Every individual born in a parish has a right to a maintenance in that parish; but it is of the highest importance that such persons should, as much as possible, live by their own labour, and also that that labour should be mutually advantageous to the labourer and the farmer: there are, however, times when the labourer must necessarily be in a state of idleness, unless he has some occupations of his own, on which he can not only employ every leisure hour, but also those of his wife and family; and it is by such arrangement alone that a proper feeling can exist betwixt the gentry, the farmers, and the labourers. In short, to allow the labourer to occupy a portion of land on his own account, with a condition that he be a member of a benefit society or sick club, and that neither he nor his family ever apply for parish relief.

Every labourer of good character and industrious habits should be allowed to rent from one to two acres of land on the same terms as the farmers, to enable him to keep a cow. So early as the year 1805, when agent myself to a liberal-minded gentleman (now no more), who had a large landed property in the county of Nottingham, upon an enclosure taking place I let forty acres of land to twenty labourers on the above conditions, from which the most beneficial and satisfactory results followed, in lowering the poor rate one half in a short time, and giving every degree of comfort to the families, the fruit of their own industry; and no rents could be better paid.

Farmers in general object to the labourers occupying land, upon the principle of its making them independent of their employer. This is a gross mistake. I know that such men as have a

little occupation, are the most careful and industrious, from habit anxious to employ every hour. Their wives and children also being early accustomed to the care of animals, poultry, &c., make the best and most careful servants. Besides the cow, which produces many comforts of itself, enables him, with the corn gleaned at harvest to kill a large pig, to keep poultry, a garden, bees, which are very profitable, &c.

I should say in round numbers, that a labourer with an industrious wife and four or five children, ought to make 30*l* or 40*l* a year by their joint labour. At present it does not appear that they can make half as much, yet they must and will find means to live. I ask the landowners if it is not better to give them land to occupy than suffer them, for the maintenance of a poor, half-starved, ragged family, to resort to poaching or thieving. A man occupying two acres of land will make from 10*l*. to 15*l*. in butter, cheese, milk, whey, for the family and the pig, in a year. Turn now to the poor landless, gardenless inhabitant of a row of cottages, built in some obscure situation, without anything to interest him or employ a leisure hour; the children of six or eight families running together in common, early initiated in vice and idleness, without respect for persons or property, cunning as foxes, from constantly hearing the tales of their unfortunate parents, who, having no occupation, resort to the beer-shops, where they meet others in the same state of destitution—the result is the poachings, robberies, and horrible burnings of farmers' property before named—and every Assize and Sessions gives you full proof of what I assert.

I read with much pleasure in your valuable Journal accounts of societies for letting small portions of land to the working classes, to be managed by the spade husbandry. To a certain extent such societies are useful, but they generally fall into disuse, the successors of those who project them having no taste for that sort of thing. I have lived long enough to have seen this happen. I am old enough to remember, in many instances, the comfort in which the cottagers lived before the commons were enclosed, when they had a cow, a pig, a few sheep, a flock of geese, a garden, bees, poultry, &c., grew their bit of flax, and spun every article they wore, both linen and woollen; and had the Commissioners laid out a portion of land to every cottage, it is more than probable that the present horrible state of misery and demoralization would never have been seen in once happy England.

I shall conclude by repeating it would be well both for themselves and society at large, that landowners should as much as possible render the situation of the working classes more respectable, by affording them the means of exercising their industry, and that of their wives and children, the whole of whose leisure time it employs profitably besides the moral effect at once so visible. The comforts where a cow is kept in any family are endless, particularly where there are children. The puddings, mashed potatoes, milk porridge, and numberless other advantages in butter, cheese, eggs, &c., which weekly produce their little groceries, clothing, schooling, &c., and lastly, but not the least, is the little and respectable pride engendered in the bosoms of the family in the possession of this self-created and clear profit, the fruits of their joint industry, without the aid of expensive horse labour, about which I have something to say in my next.—I remain, Sir, your obedient humble servant,

Lisbon, May 23.

F. C.

## WOOL AND WOOLLEN MANUFACTURES.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF MANUFACTURES—AN EXPOSITION OF THE FACTORY SYSTEM OF GREAT BRITAIN. By A. Ure, M.D. F.R.S. London: Knight.

The woollen manufacture, long regarded as the staple trade of England, first rose into importance in the reign of Edward III., who encouraged the Flemings to establish factories in various parts of the country. Previous to this, raw wool was the most important article of British export; for, in 1349, we find the parliament remonstrating that the king, by an illegal imposition of forty shillings on each sack of wool exported, had levied 60,000*l.* a-year, which would make the annual export of wool eleven millions of pounds *avoirdupois*. The medium price of wool at the time was about 5*l.* per sack; the whole annual value of export 150,000*l.* The native merchants looked upon the foreign traders with very jealous eyes, especially when Edward created a monopoly in their favour, by prohibiting the wearing of any cloth but of English fabric; and many petitions are preserved from the weavers of woollen stuffs, complaining of the heavy impositions laid upon them by the corporations, in which the corporation of Bristol is especially conspicuous. The manufacture, however, took root and flourished, though it received a severe check from the jealousy of parliament, which, by a very unwise law, prohibited the export of woollen goods, and permitted that of unwrought wool.

In the reign of Henry VI., not more than a century after its introduction, the woollen manufacture had thriven so well, that it was made to contribute to the revenue, and we were enabled to compete with the nations by whom we had been taught it, on equal terms: a reciprocity law, passed at this time, ordains, that "if our woollen goods were not received in Brabant, Holland, and Zealand, then the merchandize growing, or wrought, within the dominions of the Duke of Burgundy, shall be prohibited in England under pain of forfeiture." But there was already a growing jealousy between the landed and manufacturing interests, caused by the rise in the price of labour, resulting from increase of employment; for so early as the reign of Henry IV. an act was passed "that no one should bind his son or daughter to an apprenticeship, unless he was possessed of twenty shillings." This attempt to limit the supply of labour in manufacture would have wholly destroyed the woollen trade, had not the first monarch of the house of Tudor granted an exemption from the act to the city of Norwich, and subsequently to the whole county of Norfolk.

Henry VII. removed a still greater check to industry, by restraining the usurpations of corporations. A law was enacted, that corporations should not pass bye-laws without the consent of three of the chief officers of state: they were also prohibited from exacting tolls at their gates. The necessity of legislative interference was proved by the conduct of the corporations of Gloucester and Worcester, which had actually imposed transit tolls on the Severn—these, of course, were abolished. But the monarch was not superior to the prejudices of his age; he affixed prices to woollen cloths, caps, and hats, which, of course, led to a deterioration of the several articles. Yet this law was highly extolled as a master stroke of policy by the statesmen of the day.

The parliaments in the reign of Henry VIII. were

too busily engaged in enforcing the king's caprices, by inconsistent laws against heresy and treason, to pay much attention to trade and commerce. One circumstance, however, connected with the woollen trade, deserves to be noticed. So greatly had our woollen manufactures increased, that the Flemings, no longer able to compete with the English as producers, entered into the carrying trade, bought the English commodities, and distributed them into other parts of Europe. In 1528 hostilities commenced between England and the Low Countries; there was an immediate stagnation of trade; the merchants having no longer their usual Flemish customers, could not buy goods from the clothiers; the clothiers in consequence dismissed their workmen, and the starving operatives tumultuously demanded "bread or blood." Shakspeare, whose father was a woolstapler, and who therefore perhaps had heard, traditionally as well as historically, of the sufferings of the clothiers, makes it a ground of charge against Wolsey, though he assigns another cause—

The clothiers all, not able to maintain,  
The many to them 'longing, have put off,  
The spinners, carders, fullers, weavers, who,  
Unfit for other life, compelled by hunger,  
And lack of other means, in desperate manner  
Daring the worst to the teeth, are all in uproar,  
And danger serves among them.

*Henry VIII. Act I. Scene 2.*

Wolsey scarcely knew how to account for these riots; he tried force with the workmen, but hunger was stronger than the law; he threatened the clothiers unless they gave employment, but wages could not be paid from empty purses; at length he sent for the merchants, and commanded them to buy cloth as usual! The merchants replied that they could not sell it as usual; and notwithstanding his menaces, would give no other answer. At length the true remedy was discovered; an agreement was made that commerce should continue between the two states even during war.

In the reign of Edward VI. an act was passed, by which every one was prohibited from making cloth, unless he had served an apprenticeship of seven years; this law was repealed in the first year of Queen Mary, as the preamble of the act states, "because it had occasioned the decay of the woollen manufactory, and ruined several towns;" it was, however, subsequently restored by Elizabeth.

The persecution of the Protestants in France, but more especially in Flanders, drove many eminent manufacturers to seek refuge in England, where they were graciously received by Elizabeth. She passed an act relieving the counties of Somerset, Gloucester, and Wiltshire, from the old oppressive statutes, which confined the making of cloth to corporate towns; and trade, thus permitted to choose its own localities, began to flourish rapidly. In a remonstrance of the Hanse Towns to the diet of the empire, in 1582, it is asserted, that England exported annually about 200,000 pieces of cloth. In this reign also the English merchants, instead of selling their goods to the Hanseatic and Flemish traders, began to export themselves; and their success so exasperated the Hanse Towns, that a general assembly was held at Lubec to concert measures for distressing the English trade. But the jealousy of foreigners was far less injurious to British commerce than the monopolies, which Elizabeth created in countless abundance. An attempt, indeed, was made to remove one monopoly, but the experiment was not fairly tried, and its consequent ill success was used as an argument against any similar



efforts. By an old patent, the Company of Merchant Adventurers possessed the sole right of trading in woollen goods. This monstrous usurpation of the staple commodity of the kingdom was too bad even for that age of darkness, and Elizabeth opened the trade; but the Merchant Adventurers entered into a conspiracy not to make purchases of cloth, and the queen, alarmed by the temporary suspension of trade, restored the patent.

In the reign of James I. it was calculated that nine-tenths of the commerce of the kingdom consisted in woollen goods. Most of the cloth was exported raw, and was dyed and dressed by the Dutch, who gained, it was pretended, 700,000*l.* annually by this manufacture. The king, at the instigation of Cockayne and some other London merchants, issued a proclamation prohibiting the exportation of raw cloths; the Dutch and Germans met this piece of legislation by prohibiting the importation of English dyed cloths; the consequence was, that our export trade was diminished by two-thirds, and the price of wool fell from seventy to eighty per cent. The king was forced to recall his proclamation. In the year 1622 a board of trade was erected, as the commission states, "to remedy the low price of wool and the decay of the woollen manufactory." It is recommended to the commissioners to examine "whether a greater freedom of trade, and an exemption from the restraint of exclusive companies, would not be beneficial." A gratifying proof of the progress of intelligence, but unfortunately it led to no practical result.

English commerce increased greatly under the Commonwealth, because no regard was paid to the prerogative whence the charters of the exclusive companies were derived, and because the progress of democratical principles led the country gentlemen to bind their sons apprentices to merchants. But with the Restoration came the old rage for prohibitions and protections; two thousand manufacturers from Warwickshire, and a great number from Herefordshire, emigrated to the Palatinate; and, in 1662, the Company of Merchant Adventurers declared, in a public memorial, that the white-clothing trade had abated from 100,000 pieces to 11,000! In 1668, however, some Walloons were encouraged to introduce the manufacture of fine cloths, from Spanish wool only, without the admixture of any inferior wool; but the progress of this branch of trade was very slow, owing chiefly to our municipal laws, which pressed heavily on foreigners.

It could not be asserted that the slow progress of the woollen manufactory was owing to any want of legislative protection, the exportation of wool, facetiously called *owling* in our old laws, because it was principally carried on during the night, was prohibited by many severe statutes. One, passed in the reign of Elizabeth, makes the transportation of live sheep, "or embarking them on board any ship" "for the first offence, forfeiture of goods, and imprisonment for one year, and that at the end of the year the left hand shall be cut off in some public market, and shall there be nailed up in the openest place; and the second offence is felony." And this statute is the more remarkable when contrasted with one then in force, by which it was enacted that "no person shall keep or have more than two thousand sheep, on pain to forfeit for every sheep above the number, 3*s.* 4*d.*"

But severe as was Elizabeth's statute, it was exceeded by that of Charles II., which declared the exportation of wool a felony not to be set aside by royal licence! The extravagant severity of such a law defeated its purpose, and the penalty was subsequently

changed into fine and imprisonment, but "fuller's earth was at the same time included in the list of prohibited articles."

But the legislature was not satisfied with securing a monopoly of materials to the woollen manufacturers, it deigned to give them instructions in their trade. Acts were passed for regulating the length and breadth of cloths; for enforcing the introduction of improved processes of manufacture; for securing efficient dyeing and colouring; and even for determining the mode in which they should be stretched and dried. Somehow or other manufacturers were not one whit improved by the paternal care of the government; and parliament, in its wisdom, next proceeded to find customers for the manufacturers over whose production it had watched so tenderly. Foreign cloths were prohibited; it was ordained that every man should wear English cloth, and, lest the living should not afford a sufficiency of custom, the dead were forced to contribute, a penalty being affixed to the interment of a corpse in any but a woollen shroud!

All these privileges and protections, bad enough in themselves, were tenfold worse in their consequences. The wool-grower robbed of his foreign market, demanded and obtained protection in the market at home. The manufacturers, secured from competition, made no attempt to improve the processes of workmanship; English cloth had long lost its fame in Europe, and "the staple manufactory" would have probably died a natural death had not a market been secured in our increasing American and West India colonies. But then came the American war, the monopoly of market was lost, and wool became a drug in the market: the best quality was to be bought for less than four pence per pound. Two pieces of good fortune saved our "staple manufactory" from ruin; parliament did not interfere, and the example of the cotton manufacturers induced the wool traders to direct their attention to machinery. Since that period the manufacture has been gradually emancipated from legislative trammels, and, instead of being wholly ruined, as seemed all but certain in 1782, our exports of woollen cloth average now between 6 and 7,000,000*l.* in value. This, to be sure, is but a small increase compared to that of the cotton trade, which has advanced with a rapidity to which the annals of the world afford no parallel.

The statistics of the woollen trade at present, as far as they can be ascertained, give us the following results: Number of Manufactories, 1,315—Male operatives, 31,360—Female operatives, 22,526.

The rate of wages varies so much in different counties that it would be impossible to form anything like an accurate average; wages also depend very much on the parts of the manufacture in which the operatives are engaged. We shall now proceed to examine the processes, before enquiring into the effects of the manufacture on the health and morals of the operatives, taking for our guide Mr. Drinkwater's very valuable reports to the Factory Commissioners.

The processes of spinning worsted and lamb's wool—worsted yarn being spun from what is called long wool, which is produced exclusively in England; lamb's wool yarn is spun from short wool, and also from the refuse of the long wool after it has passed through the hands of the combers. Long wool is first washed and dried; the washing is performed by men, boys attend them to convey the wool to the drying room, where it is spread out upon the floor. This room is kept at a very high temperature, but the boys remain in it a very inconsiderable time. The wool is then removed to the *plucker*, an instrument by which

its fibres are straitened to prepare it for the card. For some descriptions of work it is combed instead of carded; combing is performed by manual labour, in close hot rooms, for stoves are necessary to keep the combs hot; it is a very laborious employment. Cards, however, are gaining ground upon the combs. The cards are worked by machinery; and are tended by children, who are either *feeders*, to supply the washed wool, or *doffers*, who receive the wool from the drawing head in the shape of a loose untwisted rope or sliver. This part of the work is that in which employment is generally found for the youngest children in the worsted factories. The wool is then removed to the *bobbin frame*, where it receives its first twist, and from this point the principle of the machinery remains the same, to the finest thread that can be drawn. The untwisted rope of wool, technically called *open drawing*, is introduced by its end between two pair of rollers, the second pair revolving faster than the first; the consequence of which is, that the thread is necessarily drawn out, and a greater or less degree of twist according to the stage of the manufacture. The business of the attendant on the bobbin-frame is to join the beginning of one open drawing to the end of the preceding, and to remove the spindles when full. After this process has been repeated four times, the drawings are called *rovings*, and from the roving frame the thread is removed to the *spinning frames*, which, though distinguished by a separate name, do not differ essentially from the drawing and roving frames. The spinning frames however require more care; they are attended by girls of between sixteen and twenty, who earn (in Leicester) from nine to ten shillings per week. The others are paid from six to seven shillings per week, according to their proficiency.

The process we have described belongs to long wool, where it is of importance to straighten the fibres; in short wool, on the contrary, it is necessary to break the fibres, and for this purpose the wool is exposed to the action of spikes revolving in a box with great rapidity. This machine, called the *Shakewilly*, appears very formidable to a stranger, and the workmen vulgarly term it the *Devil*. Wool is introduced into the *Shakewilly* whilst the machine is in motion, and several serious accidents have occurred from want of caution.

The wool is then placed on the *scribbler*, a machine by which it is oiled and carded; thence it passes to the *carding machine*, which is so contrived that the wool is finally doffed in disconnected layers. These layers pass under a fluted roller, which rolls each up into a cylindrical form, in which state they are called *cardings*.

The cardings, as they fall from the machine, are collected by children called *pieceners*, whose business it is to piece or join the cardings together for the purpose of being drawn into a continuous thread. The frame at which this is done is called a *slubbing billy*, and the man who performs it a *slubber*. There is nothing similar to the process of slubbing in the worsted and cotton manufactories; and it is necessary to bear this in mind, for it will presently appear that in this process children are more liable to be overworked and cruelly treated than in any other species of factory employment.

The billy is not worked by machinery; the speed and continuance of its labour is entirely at the option of the slubber. There are generally sixty spindles, one slubber, and four pieceners belonging to each billy. The little pieceners take the cardings and place them on a low, sloping board, called the billy-

board, joining the ends together by rolling them with the palms of their hands, each child bringing fifteen cardings at a time. The billy has an oscillating motion through a space called the *billygate*; it is set going by a fly-wheel, which the slubber turns with his right hand while he governs the frame with his left. If the work goes on regularly, the children have ample time to piece their fifteen ends; but if this be done incompletely, defects called *flies* are produced on the slubbing, and if any end be left unjoined, the ends are said to be *let up*, which of course, causes delay. The slubber is provided with a strap to punish the pieceners in case of neglect, but he not unfrequently uses the billy-roller, which is easily detached, and inflicts a very severe blow. If the slubber be disposed to leave his work, as many do for an hour together, the cardings accumulate with great rapidity, and are piled by the children in stacks. When the slubber returns he sets to work more violently than common, in order to overtake the card; the children have to continue piling the cardings, constantly thrown off by the machine, and at the same time, to piece their ends with double rapidity. On these occasions the labour of the children becomes very severe, and their unavoidable faults incur cruel punishment.\*

From the slubber the yarn goes to the *spinner*, who works at a frame called a *jenny*, by which the yarn is spun finer. The spinners are usually men.

The dressing and finishing of cloth is a business totally distinct from the manufacture of woollen yarn: the power loom is scarcely known in the cloth trade, and when used it is for the coarse description of goods. There is no uniformity in the employment of hand-weavers: in some factories they weave, dress, and finish cloth from all the yarn they spin; others sell their yarn, or give it out to the weavers; others manufacture nothing themselves, but purchase the cloth ready woven to dress and finish.

No female children are employed in finishing cloth, and very few little boys. The boys are principally employed in *carping*, that is, preparing teasles for the workmen, and pressing, that is, cleaning and drying the teasle rods and handles. The teasles are fixed to rods inserted in large cylinders, called *gigs*; these as they revolve, raise a nap on the cloth which is made to pass over them. A constant jet of water is kept on the cloth during this process, and the rooms in which it is carried on, are, consequently, wet and disagreeable. There is no need of describing processes so generally known as weaving, scouring, dyeing and cutting.

The only branches of cloth-finishing in which females are employed, are *brushing* and *burling*. Brushing needs no explanation. Burling is the removal, by hand, of any extraneous substance or roughness, either left by the weaver or introduced into the cloth during any subsequent operation. The brushers and burlers are generally young women from seventeen or eighteen upwards.

We shall now extract, or rather compile, from Thackrah on Longevity, (edit. 1832) the effects of the labour in these several processes on the health of the operatives; the authority of that work having been fully proved by the result of the inquiries of the Factory Commissioners,

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\* Dr. Ure informs us that a slubbing machine has been invented, by which the pieceners will be emancipated from the capricious tyranny of the slubbers. We hope it will succeed.



Wool Sorters—No sensible effect produced on health.

Pickers, } Are as a body healthy and long  
Willers, } lived, but they suffer greatly in the  
the respiratory organs.

Combers.... The lungs suffer so much, that many persons cannot pursue the employ. Those however, who do, are generally healthy.

Carders, } These men are remarkably strong,  
Scribblers, } robust, and healthy. The children,  
Pieceners, } called pieceners, notwithstanding  
Slubbers, } their blue and greasy skins, are  
Spinnners, } found to be generally free from dis-  
ease. Indeed they appear stronger  
Warpers, } and plumper than any other children  
Sizers, } in towns.

Weavers, } Notwithstanding the poverty and  
(including } general reduction of health among  
sacking } the weavers, longevity is by no  
and plaid) } means rare.

Scourers, } They are not sensible of any ill  
Dyers, } effect. A few of the latter are af-  
fected with feverish maladies.

Burlers.... Long employment, injurious to the eyes.

Fullers or } Generally robust ; constitutional  
Millers, } disease rare.  
Boilers, }

Giggers—Are exposed to wet and vapour, yet rheumatism almost unknown.

Dryers—We rarely find an old man in a dry-house ; the labour and heat exhaust the nervous energy rather than induce organic disease.

Croppers—Little injured by their employment.

Singers\* .. The digestive organs often suffer but urgent maladies are rare. There are few old men in the employ.

Glossers\* .. Some youths cannot bear the employ ; some who persist, die in their prime ; fortunately, not numerous.

Frizers, } Noise of machinery and confine-  
(who raise a } ment affect the head and impair  
nap on cloth) } the appetite. They are intemperate, unhealthy, and short-lived.

Wool Pressers—Life is not abbreviated in a marked degree. Contraction or inflexion of the fingers is not unusual among pressers.

Brushers, } Often suffer distress in breathing.  
Steamers, } Lads look sickly. Do not suffer  
more than others from rheumatism, cold or pneumonia.

There are no data for ascertaining, with tolerable accuracy, the amount of capital engaged in the various branches of the woollen manufacture, but, we regret to say, that the Minutes of Evidence before the Lords' Committee, lead us to fear that this, once the staple branch of British industry, is both positively and relatively on the decline. To protect the British

wool-grower, a duty is imposed on the importation of foreign wool. But foreign wool is absolutely essential to the manufacture of cloths, and British wool is mixed with it in various proportions according to the fineness of the cloth. Foreigners already rival us in many of the continental markets, where England was once supreme ; indeed, it may be questioned whether the imposition of the duty has not been positively injurious to the wool-growers, for, the less foreign wool is imported, the less British wool must necessarily be bought to mix with it, Mr. Gott says—"There was no foreign wool used in Yorkshire when I first knew the trade ; the foreigners had the advantage of supplying the continent with fine cloth before the machinery was introduced ; and the West of England manufactured foreign wool for the supply of this country. After capital became involved in machinery, I took up the manufacture of foreign wool, without lessening our consumption of English wool ; on the contrary, I maintain that the introduction of foreign wool has tended to increase the use of English wool, and to raise the price of it." Several other eminent manufacturers confirmed this testimony, and showed how a duty on foreign wool not only injured manufacturers, but rendered British wool a drug in the market.

#### DEATH OF THE COUNTESS FERRERS.

In our obituary we have noticed the untimely death of this amiable lady ; but it is perhaps not generally known to our readers that a singular tradition is current in this most ancient and noble family, which, if not sanctioned by the established principles of sound philosophy, still claims a kindred with those more memorable events, in connection with which, it has been handed down from by-gone ages. The Park of Chartley is a wild and romantic spot—in its primitive state—untouched by the hand of the agriculturist, and was formerly attached to the royal forest of Needwood, and the Honour of Tutbury, of the whole of which the ancient family of Ferrers were once the puissant lords. Their immense possessions now forming part of the Duchy of Lancaster, were forfeited by the attainer of Earl Ferrers after his defeat at Burton Bridge, where he led the rebellious Barons against Henry the Third. The Chartley estate being settled in dower, was alone reserved, and handed down to its present possessor.—In the Park is preserved, in its primitive purity, the indigenous Staffordshire cow, small in stature, of a sand-white colour, with black ears, muzzle, and tips at the hoofs. In the year of the battle of Burton Bridge, a black calf was born, and the downfall of the great house of Ferrers happening at the same period, gave rise to the tradition, which to this day has been held in veneration by the superstitious reverence of the common people, that the birth of a particoloured calf from the wild breed in Chartley Park is a sure omen of death within the same year to a member of the Lords's family, and by a most remarkable coincidence a calf of this description has been born whenever a death has happened in the family of late years. The decease of the last Earl and his Countess, of his son Lord Tamworth, of his daughter Mrs. William Jolliffe, as well as the deaths of the son-and-heir of the present nobleman, and his daughter Lady Francis Shirley, have each been forewarned by the ominous birth of a spotted calf. In the spring of the present year an animal perfectly black was calved by one of this weird tribe in the Park of Chartley, and it has been followed by the death of the Countess which it is now our melancholy duty to announce.

\* Men employed in singeing clothes are exposed to a high temperature, and to some dust, which arises from the scorched wool. A thermometer, held at the distance which men usually stand from the cylinders, indicates from 130 to 140 degrees of heat, while the temperature in other parts of the room declines to that of the general atmosphere. Glossers, who smooth cloth by carrying it over heavy and heated pieces of iron, are subjected to high temperature and great labour. Their work, too, is generally in the summer.

## THE HANTS ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL CATTLE SHOW

Took place in a field at St. Cross, near Winchester, on Tuesday, June 30. The show was thinly attended, although the stock exhibited was good. The following prizes were awarded:—

To the farmer who had let the greatest quantity to labourers during the year—to the Rev. C. E. Lefroy, a cup of 5 sovs.

To the labourers who had brought up the largest families without parochial relief—to William Croucher, the first prize of 5 sovereigns; the second of 3 sovereigns to Thomas Jackson: and the third of 2 sovereigns to William Horper.

To the shepherd, who had alive the greatest number of lambs, in proportion to the number bred during the year, from a flock of not less than 200 ewes—the first prize of 5 sovereigns to T. Rose, shepherd of Sir Thomas Baring, Bart.

To the best mare, a cup of 5 sovereigns to Mr. Tredgold.

To the best South Down ram—a cup of 5 sovereigns to Mr. Saunders.

To ditto, under 18 months old—to Mr. Gale, a cup of 3 sovereigns.

To the best of any other breed—Sir Thomas Baring a cup of 2 sovereigns.

To the best lot of South Down ewes—a cup of 5 sovereigns to Mr. Houghton.

To the best ditto, under 18 months old—a cup of 3 sovereigns to Mr. Pain.

To the best of any other breed—a cup of 2 sovereigns to Sir Thomas Baring, Bart.

To the best Bull—a cup of 5 sovereigns to William Abbot, Esq.

To the best cow—a cup of 5 sovereigns to D. Bayley.

To the best boar—a cup of 5 sovereigns to C. S. Leffevre, Esq., M. P.

In the afternoon the members of the association dined together, at the George Inn, Sir Thomas Baring, Bart. the President, in the chair, Sir S. R. Jarvis, the Vice-President; William Abbott, Esq.; the Hon. W. Gage, and about 30 gentlemen connected with agriculture in this county.

## THE PRINTING MACHINE, OR COMPANION TO THE LIBRARY AND REGISTER OF PROGRESSIVE KNOWLEDGE.

London:—Charles Knight, 22, Ludgate Street.

We have not room for a detail of the contents of the number before us, but purpose to give entire a very interesting notice of Mr. Brande's late lectures on vegetable Chemistry at the Royal Institution. It will be seen—startling though it may at first sight appear—that excellent bread may be made from *saw-dust*:—

"In his last two lectures Mr. Brande fully treated of the proximate principles (chemical) of vegetables, and performed a number of beautiful experimental illustrations of what we may call the transformations of chemistry, by means of which we are enabled to convert the most apparently useless materials into important objects of the arts, particularly as they bear upon our domestic economy. In truth these transformations are among the marvels of modern science and what is far better are the most useful of her gifts, or we should rather say contributions to the general well-being. Take the manufacture of paper from useless rags, or of sugar from the same commodity, or of porcelain and glass from stones and clays, and who can say where is the limit to our power of turning to use and productive agency, the most apparently worthless and sterile parts of nature? "Who," says Sir J. Herschell, "would have conceived that linen rags were capable of producing more than their own weight of sugar by the simple

agency of one of the cheapest and most abundant acids?—that dry bones could be a magazine of nutrient capable of preservation for years, and ready to yield up their sustenance in the form best adapted for the support of life—that *saw-dust* itself is susceptible of conversion into a substance bearing no remote analogy to bread, and though certainly less palatable than that of flour yet no way disagreeable, and both wholesome and digestible as well as highly nutritive?"

Now though some years have elapsed since Dr. Prant called the attention of the British public to this curious discovery, by means of which "famine is rendered next to impossible" to quote the words of Herschell, I never heard it alluded to in any lecture on chemistry till last Saturday, March 21st, by Mr. Brande. Mr. Brande exhibited a cake made from *saw-dust*, which fully bore out the high commendation of Dr. Prant and its discoverer, Professor Autenrieth of Tubingen (see the Philosophical transactions for 1827). Though I should be the last person to aid any project which might tend to lower the standard of the diet of the industrious classes, I think the *saw-dust* bread merits a higher degree of celebrity than it has yet attained. It is certainly far more nutritious and might easily be made more palatable than the sole food of the Irish peasant—the potatoe. At all events it is a curious instance of the wonderful transformations of chemistry. Our wonder indeed will abate a bit when we recollect that *sugar, starch, gum arabic, wheaten-flour, wood*—that is *saw-dust*—*mannna, arrow-root and vinegar*, are composed of precisely the same ingredients, combined in very nearly the same proportions, so that if we were permitted to view, behind the scenes of nature the manner in which they are combined, we might be able to transform the one into the other *ad libitum*. This will perhaps appear more evident from the following table:—

| The finest<br>Sugar Candy | Wheat<br>Starch | Arrow<br>Root | Gum<br>Arabic | Wood. |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-------|
| Carbon, .. 42.85          | 63.55           | 44.4          | 42.23         | 42.7  |
| Water, .. 57.15           | 45.45           | 55.6          | 57.77         | 57.3  |
| 100 0                     | 100 0           | 100 0         | 100 0         | 100 0 |

*Saw-dust* is thus seen to differ very little in its chemical characters from those highly nutritious substances—*sugar, arrow root, wheat and gumb arabic*. Professor Autenrieth's method of cooking it into bread consists simply in first removing every thing soluble from the wood by frequent macerations and boiling. The wood is then reduced into a minute state of division: by minute division is meant a fine powder, which after being repeatedly subjected to the heat of an oven is ground like corn, when it appears to be a yellowish-white flour, this flour requires, like corn-flour, to be fermented with leaven with which it forms a uniform and spongy bread, which Autenrieth also states that wood-flour boiled in water forms a jelly which is in like manner very nutritious. Connected with this subject, Mr. Brande stated a fact which if it did not come home to the bosom of his hearers, came, as Mr. Cobbett said of the Corn laws, very near their bosoms—to their bellies. Very few, even of our *Udes*, know how to prepare *carrot-soup*—the *modus operandi* is a mystery. Mr. Brande, by the aid of chemistry, has however been able to discover the secret, which consists simply in adding a little alkali—common pearl ash will answer—to the soup when boiling. The vegetable matter enters into a chemical compound with the alkali, which is soluble in water; hence the rich and nutritious character of well-prepared carrot soup. I trust my female readers will be thankful for this useful suggestion."



## HORSE WARRANTY.

GLOVER V. PROCTOR.

This was an action on the warranty of a horse, which the plaintiff, a tailor, purchased of the defendant, a butcher, for 14*l*. Shortly after the purchase the horse was discovered to be unsound, and the plaintiff sent him to a livery stable, and wrote a letter to the defendant stating that fact. The defendant in his plea denied the warranty, but the plaintiff established it by putting in a receipt in writing in the following terms, signed by the defendant:—Received of Mr. Glover the sum of 14*l* for a horse warranted sound and quiet." Counsel for the plaintiff then called on the defendant to produce the letter written by the plaintiff when the horse had been sent to the livery stables, but the defendant declined (not having notice to produce it).

Under these circumstances Mr. Baron ALDERSON said that the plaintiff could not recover the price of the horse; he was entitled only to the difference between the present value of the horse and the price given for him.

Evidence having been given to show that the horse was worth 8*l* only, the Jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff—Damages 6*l*.

## MIDDLESEX QUARTER SESSIONS.

NICE DISTINCTION.—This was an appeal brought by the parochial authorities of St. Edmund the King and Martyr, in the City, against that of St. Michael, and the question was in which—if in either—a pauper had gained a settlement.

Mr. Adolphus for the appellants, said the case was rather curious. The pauper, Simeon Clark, had been a waiter at the George and Vulture tavern, Cornhill, and that house happened to be in two parishes, and the bed room in which the pauper slept, small as it was—was, also, strangely—in two parishes. The head waiter had at first engaged the pauper, but there being some dispute as to who should pay the master for the damage, Mr. Warrenner, the then landlord, took Clark into his service at 30*l* a year. The yearly hiring was so far proved, and it would be for him (Mr. Adolphus) to prove the other parts of the case by satisfactory evidence.

Simeon Clark, the pauper, said he had been a waiter for 16 or 18 months at the George and Vulture; at first he slept a few weeks behind the plate closet; but during the remainder of the term in a room up stairs which he had been told was in two parishes. His bed was behind the door.

A surveyor here described by a plan that that part of the room was in the parish of St. Michael, and not in that of St. Edwards. He surveyed by the parish boundaries.

Mr. M<sup>r</sup>William (a magistrate), inquired whether the bedstead was always behind the door—or whether it might not be rolled at any time within the year in the same room into the adjoining parish. (*Laughter.*)

It was proved the bedstead was a fixture on the spot described.

After Mr. Payne had taken some objections, the Court granted the appeal.

RICHARDS V. HULBERT.—Mr. Boteler and Mr. Richards appeared for the plaintiff in support of a motion in this case. The matter in dispute in a tithe suit had been referred to Mr. Tinney, by whom an award had been made on all the points except one. The plaintiff claimed a tithe in respect of agistments upon meadow land. The tithe of hay had been paid upon the land; but as it had been used for the purpose of pasturing barren cattle between the period at which the hay had been cut and that at which the land had been closed up for the growth of the new crop of hay, it was

contended that an agistment tithe had become due. It had been agreed between the parties that the decision of the Court should be taken upon the point. It was now insisted upon on the part of the plaintiff, that although the meadow land, having paid the hay tithe, was exempt from agistment tithe for the remainder of the same year, yet, that, as the year ended on the last day of December, the agistment tithe accrued due for so much of the next year as intervened before the growth of the new crop of hay, it being admitted that the land had been used for the purposes of agistment during the latter period. Mr. Dampier argued on the other side; and insisted that the exemption extended to the whole year, however reckoned, and that it was not to be regulated by the calendar year or the historical year—by the old style or new. The Lords Commissioners were of opinion that the same land which had paid the tithe of hay was *not* to be charged with any tithe in respect of agistment in the period between the two crops.

THE TITHE OF AGISTMENT PAYABLE AFTER HAY CROPS.—A recent decision in the Court of Chancery by the Lords Commissioners in the following case, is of great importance to graziers and farmers in general; and more particularly as to the occupiers of land in the parish of Farlington, to which the parties in the suit belong—the plaintiff, who is the rector of Farlington, having hitherto claimed Tithe of Agistment from Michaelmas to Lady Day, although the same lands had previously paid tithe of hay, a demand to which the parishioners have heretofore submitted to avoid being driven into the ruinous expenses of a suit in Chancery, where the tithe owner has his opposition of proceeding in preference to bringing a case before a jury of the country in a court more generally accessible to the defending party.

THE LAND TAX.—The vast and opulent county of Lancaster, wherein little more than a century ago Liverpool was no more than a fishing village, continuing to pay upon its original assessments, produces to the revenue something short of 21,000*l*. per annum land tax, including the rich and populous towns of Liverpool, Manchester, and Preston. The city of Bath pays but 433*l*. per annum to the land tax. The parish of Marylebone, with a rental of 720,000*l*. per annum, contributes but 492*l*., while the town of Winchelsea, where there are no more than forty or fifty inhabited houses, pays 405*l*. And again, the parishes of St. Andrew, Holborn, and St. George the Martyr, of which the rental is about 116,000*l*., pay land tax to the amount of above 9,000*l*. a year, or nearly 1*s*. 7*d*. per pound, Marylebone giving less than one farthing, and that once in three years. Again, the city of Westminster pays 63,000*l*. a year, and the whole of Lancashire, as above, but 21,000*l*. Instances of inequality like these, and therefore of injustice which calls for a speedy and effectual cure, might be multiplied without difficulty. The question, we trust, will not be much longer neglected.

OVERSEERS' ACCOUNTS.—The *Westmore-Gazette* states that the overseers of Ambleside, near Kendal, having requested the Poor Law Commissioners to inform them whether, by the 47th clause of the Poor Law Amendment Act, it was imperative upon the overseers to pass their accounts each time on oath, an answer has been returned by Mr. Chadwick, informing them that the quarterly accounts must be passed in all respects as the yearly accounts would be; and that in future the legality of every item will be closely examined into, and the overseers made answerable for all deficiencies.

## AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

MR. EDITOR,—Having in my last letter attempted to show the only way by which the farmers can be relieved from the intolerable burden of poor rates and unprofitable hand labour—namely, by allowing every respectable and trustworthy labourer to occupy such a portion of land as will keep him a cow, and employ his leisure hours and those of his wife and children—I now presume to offer some remarks upon horse labour, by far the most expensive article upon a farm. In the present state of the kingdom, when such vast sums are drained from the pockets of the industrious portion of the community, every attention to economy is absolutely necessary, and also that every source of profit should be known, particularly that which arises from the occupation of land. I again repeat, that when the present most alarming state of depression in the price of agricultural produce is considered, it is not too much to expect that the landowners of every grade will lend all the aid in their power by lowering rents, and offering premiums for improvements of such kinds as may give to this industrious part of the community some remunerating profit, of which at present they are entirely deprived.

Breeding and rearing horses for agricultural labour is, I am convinced, from 30 years' experience and close attention, a matter of much more importance than is generally attached to it—a few (I hope not useless) hints only can be brought within the compass of a letter.

The nobility and gentry of England have made such astonishing improvement in breeding horses for the turf as to place them decidedly at the head of the whole world for size, beauty, and speed, which is proved by the extraordinary prices for which they are sold, not only in England but in foreign countries, by which large sums are brought into the pockets of the dealers. In every other line of business, with the single exception of agriculture, in which horse labour is necessary, *speed* is considered of the highest importance, but in none is it more necessary to be considered than in the business of the farmer. In a climate so variable as that of Great Britain, it is surely worth the consideration of the occupier of land, whether, with what is called a team, by which term I mean six horses, he shall be able to plough two acres of land or three acres—whether he shall lead 30 loads of manure or 40 in one day—and whether on the road they shall move at the rate of three miles an hour or two miles, that being the pace at which the old-fashioned heavy-heeled horses have travelled for ages past. I am desirous to show that horses of a superior kind may be bred and worked by farmers for a certain time, and then sold for large prices, making the team a source of profit, instead of being, as at present, a total loss, when worn out and sent to the dogs.

It is a well-known fact that a horse bred from a fine, active, well-shaped half-bred mare, of almost any breed, and a *superior through-bred horse*, may, by the time he is six years old, be made worth from one hundred to two hundred guineas and upwards, and that with care and good keeping he may be worked at the plough from the age of two years to five, without injury, thereby earning his keep, when what he sells for will be clear profit to the farmer. Many people imagine that when drawn young a horse is injured in his shape and gait, this, from long experience, I deny, *if kept in good condition*, without attention to which, every

plan connected with horse labour must prove abortive. I could name to many gentlemen in the counties of Leicester, Nottingham, and York, particular horses, and not a few, whose high qualities in the field as hunters will never be forgotten, which were purchased at prices from one hundred to two hundred and fifty guineas each, all of which had been bred and worked by farmers at the plough, up to the ages of four and five, and some of them very hard indeed from two years old. *A large half-bred colt of my own in one instance I had broke into plough at eighteen months old only*, and sold him at four years old to a London dealer for 80 guineas, which, as he had worked for his keep, I considered clear profit. Although the introduction of steam conveyance on railways will materially lessen the number of draught horses, still the demand for superior horses will always be great, for hunters, for private carriages, for the army, and for exportation. Stage coaches used formerly to finish the career of horses that had been used for every other purpose, and many still continue to do so; but for the mails and the more rich and spirited coach proprietors, horses of the description I am advocating are found to be the cheapest, although purchased at high prices. Only look to the profit made by dealers in matching horses for the carriages of the nobility and gentry—it is *immense*, and with some attention and encouragement on the part of landed proprietors might be brought into the pockets of their tenantry.

Every kind of land, with the exception of the strong clays, can be worked by two horses abreast, or double, as easily as with three single. In this case six horses will plough three acres per day instead of two. This plan is generally adopted in Scotland, where, *unquestionably, they are the best farmers in the world*. Some years ago a Noble Marquis, who has a large landed property near Burton-upon-Trent, sent a Scotch agent to instruct his tenantry, and *insist* on their ploughing with two horses double. At first they were a little refractory, and thought it an arbitrary act of interference. I was acquainted with several of them, and in a few months they acknowledged they were obliged to his Lordship, finding it a great saving in time and expense.

I shall conclude by suggesting to the nobility and gentry that it would be a most desirable object to give *handsome premiums* at their agricultural meetings, or perhaps institute more generally ploughing matches, where prizes adequate should be given for the best pairs of half-bred two, three, four, and five year old horses, that have been regularly worked—size, shape, condition, &c., to be considered; and also for those which should plough an acre of land in the shortest time without distressing them. Another and very desirable object would be gained by this plan. Gentlemen would always know where to purchase sound and well-broken horses for almost every purpose, and the still more desirable satisfaction to feel that they would be putting sums of money into the pockets of their industrious and respectable tenantry, instead of encouraging the cheats and quirks of a set of profligate horsedealers.

In my next I shall offer observations on the best and most economical method of feeding farm horses, which, I humbly conceive, admits of great improvement.—I am, Sir, &c.

May 30.

F. C.



## CURRENCY.

Mr. Editor,—It is often asserted by the Minister of the day, and the assertion is repeated with exultation by the advocates of things as they are, that taxes have been taken off to the extent of many millions since the conclusion of the late war. Let us examine, however, and we shall find that the net revenue paid into the Exchequer in the year ending the 10th of October, 1834, was 43,340,000*l.*, and that the net revenue paid in for the year ending the 10th of October, 1817, was 43,840,000*l.* The *nominal* amount, therefore, was nearly the same after 17 years of peace as it was in the year 1817, notwithstanding our boasted reduction of taxes; and if the income or means of the country had remained stationary, the pressure upon it would not be in the slightest degree diminished. All we could in that case say would be, the pressure is varied, but its weight remains the same, and an argument would thence, I think, be afforded in support of Mr. Robinson's proposition for reconsidering our whole scheme of taxation. The weight, however, of taxation must be considered with reference to *the means of sustaining it*, or we shall have a very imperfect and inadequate notion of the true position of the country either now or at any future period; and it is with the view of making this point clear that I now trouble you with a few observations intended to elucidate the following calculations, founded upon authentic documents, already in the hands of Members of both Houses of Parliament, I mean Mr. Porter's valuable compilation of important papers to the end of 1833, lately laid before Parliament. In this book I find the average price of wheat and the average amount of taxation for the periods mentioned to be as follow :—

|                                                                            |         | Millions.                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 10 yrs. ending 1799, the<br>av. price of wheat per<br>Winchester qr. was.. | 55s 11d | 23½                                                 |
| 20 yrs. ending 1819 do.                                                    | 35s 6d  |                                                     |
| 10 yrs. ending 1829 do.                                                    | 58s 5d  |                                                     |
|                                                                            |         | The av. amount of<br>taxation annually<br>was ..... |
|                                                                            |         | do. 55½                                             |
|                                                                            |         | do. 58½                                             |

Estimating the money income of the country for the first period (when wheat was 55s 11d) at 120 millions annually, the income for the next 20 years (when wheat was 35s 6d) would be within a small fraction of 200 millions annually, and the income for the 10 following years (wheat being 58s 5d) would be 136 millions, and consequently the pressure of taxation upon the means or income of the country during the periods specified would stand as follows :—

For the 10 years ending 1799 about 18 per Cent.  
For the 20 years ending 1819 .... 27½  
For the 10 years ending 1829 .... 41

If I have stated this case fairly, what becomes of the boasted relief afforded to the country during the last 18 years? This statement shows clearly, and I think unanswerably, that the weight of taxation during a most expensive and destructive war of 23 years' duration, was nearly 40 per cent. less than during the 19 years of profound peace which have followed; and that if we estimate the income or means of the country by the present prices of wheat, or by the average prices likely to exist during succeeding years, the pressure of taxation must be still more fearfully increased. *The rent of land must be annihilated, and the farmer will find himself reduced to the lowest grade of the labouring poor.*

To prevent any objection that may be urged

against the taking of wheat only as evidence of a declining income, I beg to observe that precisely the same results follow if we take *meat* as the basis of calculation. The prices of meat for the last century will be found in the book already referred to.

I need hardly say that the cause of this frightful decline in the money income of the country, and the consequent enormously increased weight of taxation, is solely to be found in Mr. Peel's Bill; and *until that Bill be repealed or modified, no human effort can effect any substantial relief to the country.* To talk of the prosperous state of trade, in contra distinction to the distressed state of agriculture, is absurd. No branch of industry can be prosperous in any country where the hand of taxation takes 40*l.* out of every 100*l.* of the country's income; and this, I venture to believe, is the actual state of England at the present moment.

If you should think this letter deserving insertion in your widely-circulated Paper, I propose at an early day addressing you again, suggesting the means of affording substantial relief to the country, without doing injustice to any branch of the community. Meantime, I remain, Sir, respectfully yours,  
OBSERVER.

AGRICULTURE.—John Ellman, Esq. of Sussex, was considered to be the best practical Agriculturist in England,—independent of his agricultural knowledge, he eminently distinguished himself as a breeder of stock, and gave to the South Down sheep that value which they at present possess. No man seemed better calculated to take a lead among Agriculturists in watching their interests and in conducting the improvements made in agriculture. Before he retired from his farm, after fifty years practice, he often expressed his opinion that Agriculturists would feel the pressure of the coming times, and the only means to be adopted to avert the blow, would be by increased talent and perseverance—by improving the plans of farming and increasing agricultural information. After he retired from business, he carried into practice his opinions, and generously employed his pen in detailing his own experience, and in calling upon the other eminent men of the kingdom to unite in the labour,—his request was not in vain. Together with this assistance, the valuable work entitled *Baxter's Library of Agricultural and Horticultural Knowledge* was published, and contains the best practices in farming, breeding, and all the other departments in agriculture, that has ever been produced for the benefit of the farmer. The highly esteemed yeomen live to see his labours appreciated by two editions of the work. In the third edition we see there is attached a Memoir of him, and is worthy the close attention of every farmer in the kingdom. No farmer will be doing justice to himself unless he consults this work, for we are satisfied that although the low prices of corn produce is disheartening in the extreme, yet by adopting the valuable suggestions in the work, much may be done to surmount the difficulties of the times. To every person connected with rural affairs it must prove a valuable guide, as every article is written by practical men only. The work not only possesses these rich stores of information on farming, but it also has extended itself to Gardening, Forest and Fruit Trees, Pruning, &c. and here we also see the master-hand of experience employed. In short, in all its departments it realizes the full design contemplated by Mr. Ellman.

## WOOL FAIRS.

**LEICESTERSHIRE WOOL FAIR** was very numerously attended. The quantity of wool brought in the bulk was about 10,000 fleeces, of which 6,500 were sold, besides which, samples of nearly 5,000 were brought to the fair, and 2,400 disposed of. In the whole, 69 lots were bought, 63 in the bulk, and six by sample, more than two-thirds of which were sold by six o'clock. Hogs were most in demand, ewes and wethers were dull sale. The President (H. W. Wilson, Esq.) sold his lot, the ewes and wethers at 15d per lb and the hogs 19d per lb; on the whole the average of the sales effected may be considered from 40s to 42s per tod. The greatest buyer on the occasion was Mr. Vinree, of Atherstone. The arrangements of the fair reflected the highest possible credit on the stewards, R. H. Bird Esq., T. Miles Esq. and Messrs Gamble and Rogers, as well as on the secretary, Mr. Hesketh. About three o'clock, the company adjourned to the Bell Hotel, where a sumptuous dinner was provided by Messrs. L'Hermite and Boyer. Upwards of 200 gentlemen sat down, among whom were—H. W. Wilson Esq. (Chairman); C. W. Packe, Esq.; J. G. D. B. Danvers, Esq.; C. Winstanley, Esq.; R. Cheslyn, Esq.; Sir W. Dixie, Bart.; Col. Burnaby; J. A. Arnold, Esq.; R. F. Wood, Esq.; — Butler Esq.; T. Godfrey Kemp, Esq.; A. Smith Esq.; E. W. Wilmot, Revs. Adnutt, Thorpe, Raworth and Blount, &c. &c. The meeting taking into consideration the quantity of wool remaining unsold, determined upon an adjourned Fair, which was to be fixed by the Committee.

**HEMEL HEMPSTEAD WOOL FAIR.**—There was an immense quantity of wool in bulk offered for competition at this fair. The Earl of Verulam sent 1213 fleeces; Countess of Bridgewater, 1397; Earl of Essex, 948; Marquis of Westminster, 780; Marquis of Bute, 500; Messrs. A. and H. Fraser, of Flamstead Bury, 1753; Mr. B. Weal, of Pinner, 1474; Robert Sutton, Esq. Rossway, 1153; Mr. Yardley, of Wingtree Grove, 1508; Mr. J. Weal, Pinner, 1059; Mr. John Reeve, Hutton Bridge, 700; Mr. Betts, Langley, 702; Mr. Proctor, Wingham, 680; Mr. Newman Hatley, Langley Lodge, 612; Mr. Somes, 628 fleeces. Wool in smaller quantities, was also sent by J. Woodman, Esq. of Rickmansworth; Mr. Peppercorn, Little Gaddesden; John Dickenson, Esq. Nash Mills; E. Rogers, Bushey Hall; Captain Sullivan, Langley Bury; Mr. Smith, Ward's Hurst; Peter Clutterbuck, Esq. New House; Mr. Bennett, of Lewsey Farm; Sir A. Cooper, Gadsbridge; J. Smith, Esq. Kingsbury; J. Muir, Esq. of Abbott's Langley, and John Hawkins, Esq. of Bye Lands.

The principal woolstaplers in the county were present, and many who had travelled from more distant parts purposely for the occasion. Notwithstanding the demand for wool they displayed great shyness in making purchases, and much tact in endeavouring to keep the farmers in the dark as to what prices they intended to give. The farmers stood firm, and but few, if any, gave way, the consequence was that the day's business may at least be said to have been dull. The following may be quoted as the prices on the average:

Long and Short Wool Ewes. . . . . 40s. per tod.  
Southdown Teg. . . . . 48s.  
Half-bred Ditto. . . . . 50s.

About 150 gentlemen afterwards sat down to dinner at the Rose and Crown, the Hon. Granville Ryder in the chair, and on the removal of the cloth the usual loyal and constitutional toasts were duly honoured. As regarded the immediate object of the meeting, the chairman, in proposing "Prosperity to the Hemel Hempstead Wool Fair," said, "Owing to the establishment of wool fairs in the county of Hertford, the wool grower was enabled to get a better price for his wool than he had prior to their establishment, been in the habit of doing; and the wool buyer was enabled to effect a considerable saving in his expenditure in not having to incur the expence of going once, twice, or thrice to the different farmers before he could agree

with the farmers as to the price at which the wool was to be furnished. He had now the opportunity afforded him, with little or no expence to himself, of making what purchases he pleased from the wool brought to the fair in bulk, or sample, at such prices as would afford the wool seller a fair remuneration, and the same as wool was in general known to realize elsewhere. He (the Chairman) had to add, that some gentlemen had entered into a subscription and purchased a silver cup, which was intended to be presented to the person purchasing the greatest number of fleeces by six o'clock in the evening. In conclusion, the Honourable Chairman proposed "Prosperity to the Hemel Hempstead Wool Fair," which was drank with considerable acclamation.

The Plough and the Fleece—the Hertfordshire Agricultural Association—Mr. Bennett and the Bedfordshire farmers—The Marquis of Chandos—The Wool-buyers that attended the fair that day—and other toasts having been successively drunk, and acknowledged with appropriate remarks,

Mr. G. Howard said he was instructed by the chairman to state that Mr. Waller was the largest wool-buyer that day, he having purchased 5653 fleeces. Last year he bought 7300 fleeces, and Mr. Osborn 7500. This year 43,000 fleeces were offered in the market, and Mr. Waller had, consequently only purchased an eighth of the whole bulk; last year he had purchased a quarter.

The Chairman, Mr Sutton, (the Hon. Granville Ryder having retired,) then presented the Cup, which was quite plain and much admired for its neatness, to Mr. Waller, who in acknowledging the present, said that the prices offered for wool that day, were higher than what had been given last year.

**HITCHIN WOOL FAIR.**—The show of Wool was equal, both in quantity and quality, to that offered for sale last year, the number of fleeces sent being 25,660. The woolstaplers were exceedingly backward in making purchases. The prices obtained varied from 35s to 39s for ewes, and from 45s to 49s for tegs. Most of the business was transacted after the dinner. The Marquis of Bute, Lord Dacre, and several landowners of distinction, encouraged the fair by sending their wool for sale. F. P. Delme Radcliffe, Esq. presided at the ordinary, at the Sun Inn, which was very respectfully attended.

**HERTFORD WOOL FAIR.**—In consequence of the very favourable state of the weather, both for grower and buyer, the Market-house was filled with Wool both in bulk and sample. The Marquis of Salisbury was the largest wool proprietor present, his Lordship having no less than 1226 fleeces for sale; A. Smith, Esq. M. P. Woodhall, had 1162 fleeces; Mr. J. Hill, of Whitwell, 1167; Mr. E. D. Rayment, of Bedwell Park, 1096; Mr. G. Newman, Hertford, 1050; Mr. Latimer, Bride Hall, 830; Sir Abraham Hume, 614; Earl Cowper, 552; Lord Dacre, 721; Mr. Webb, Hatfield, 574; Mr. Archer, Hatfield, 510; Mr. Kirkby, Epping Bury, 405; Lord Melbourne, 435; and Mr. Lythgoe, Ware Park, 520 fleeces. G. J. Bosanquet, Esq. Broxbourn, Sir C. E. Smith, Bedwell Park, Captain Hotham, S. Hanbury, Esq. G. C. Thornton, Esq. W. Blake, Esq. and several other gentlemen and farmers had also wool, in smaller quantities, at the fair. The total quantity did not quite equal that offered for sale last year. The trade was nearly as dull as at Hemel Hempstead and Hitchin Wool Fairs. What wool was sold fetched something like two shillings a tod better prices than were obtained at Hemel Hempstead, and may be quoted as under:

Long and short-wool Ewes. . . . . 40s per tod.  
South Devon Teg. . . . . 50s  
Half-bred Norfolk Teg. . . . . 52s

A numerous company afterwards dined together at the Salisbury Arms, the Noble Marquis of Salisbury in the Chair.

After the customary toasts, Sir Culling Smith proposed the health of Messrs. Elkington, woolstaplers,



of Hertford, and offered them 46s all round, or 51s for the first class, and 38s for the Second. Mr. Elkington, jun. would give 43s all round, which he considered the outside price.

Lord Salisbury said, he had come to the fair without any expectation of selling, as he was aware there was a combination among the woolstaplers not to purchase at the price given last year; but as there was a very considerable demand for wool, particularly from America, he would not suffer his wool to go at less than last year's prices; and if not so sold, he would send it to the London markets, where there would be no fear of any combination existing.

Mr. Elkington said wool, in his opinion, was worth 4s to 5s per tod less than last year.

After a few observations from R. G. Alston, Esq. and Captain Hotham, a woolstapler attending to buy wool for Mr. Weston, of Biggleswade, one of the largest buyers of last year, denied the existence of any combination to put down the Wool Fair, and he was prepared to buy largely that day, but not at last year's prices, as his employer had lost money by the wool he then purchased, and stood a good chance of losing more this year, if the prices asked were acceded to.

The Marquis of Salisbury then proposed the health of the "Woolstaplers attending the Fair," which being duly honoured, the Noble Lord said, he had been requested by the Committee for managing the Wool Fairs generally to state that next year they should be glad to meet the woolstaplers at the dinner. The company shortly afterwards separated.

In the evening Mr. Elkington, of Hertford purchased between four and five thousand fleeces of the Marquis of Salisbury, Sir Culling Smith, Bart. Sir A. Hume, and George Byng, Esq.; giving a price somewhat under that asked by the woolgrowers generally in the morning. A great quantity of wool was thus privately disposed of at prices very nearly equal to those quoted in the reports.

**AYLESBURY WOOL FAIR.**—Aylesbury Wool Fair was well supplied with Wool, there having been during the day about 25,000 fleeces, 7,000 more than last year, the value of which was estimated at 10,000*l*. The prices were rather dull in the morning, but they advanced towards the close of the day. The greatest buyer we heard of was a gentleman who purchased 1,000 fleeces on his own account. Among the company present at the dinner at the George, were the Marquis of Chandos (who was in the chair) and Mr. Rickford, M. P. Mr. Horwood announced that the Noble Marquis had presented a splendid silver cup to the Committee to be given to the largest buyer or grower of wool, as the Committee might think fit. Mr. Rickford proposed his lordship's health, which was drunk with three times three.

**IPSWICH WOOL FAIR** was held in the New Assembly Rooms, the Earl of Stradbroke presiding at a cold collation provided at the Great White Horse, and among the company were—Lord Rendlesham, Sir T. Gooch, Sir J. Rowley, a long list of agriculturists; and among the wool-buyers were—Messrs. Revans, Yoxford; Burch, Tuddenham; Buck, Beccles; Lamb, Loddon; Gardener, Thetford; Etheridge, Starston; Freeman, Ipswich; Alexander, Ipswich; Churchyard, Petistree; Capon, Dennington, &c. &c. After "The King" and other loyal toasts had been honoured, Lord Stradbroke gave "Prosperity to the Suffolk Wool Fair," and in so doing briefly adverted to the advantages derivable from the establishment of a wool fair in the county. He said, it frequently had occurred that the grower of wool sold his commodity in perfect ignorance of its value, from the mere hearsay of his neighbour; but at meetings of this description every one brought his stock of information, and considerable knowledge upon this subject was obtained. The Noble Lord offered his wool (all flock) at 42s to Mr. Revans, who considered it far too high-priced; he had in the last two months sold wool, for which he last year gave

40s and 42s for 33s; he must therefore decline his Lordship's offer.—Mr. J. Moseley then offered his wool to Mr. Revans at 56s the hogget, and 42s the flock. Mr. Revans again declined, and warned the wool grower against asking too high a price for his commodity; it would recoil upon themselves; he was satisfied the terms offered were such as the buyer could not meet.—Sir Thomas Gooch offered his wool to Mr. Revans at 52s and 40s. Mr. Revans said, although this was much below other offers, still he could not accept it.—Mr. Moseley asked why wool was so much lower this year than last? Mr. Revans said he would answer the question fairly. Last year he protested against the price given at this fair for wool, and it was only because the fair was in an infant state, and he wished to promote it as far as he could, that with the view of effecting some sales he was induced to give the price he had given. He gave up on that occasion his better judgment, with the view of furthering the fair. It was well known that not long after the fair a re-auction took place to the extent of full 10s a tod, and in few instances had he been able to make the price he gave at the last fair.—Mr. Lamb, of Loddon, said there was much over-speculation last year, and the wool buyers were not now disposed to commit the same error. It almost appeared to him that the Suffolk Wool Fair was established with but one object—the benefit of the wool grower; if such were the case, it must fall to the ground, for wool buyers would not attend. There had been a fall in the price of wool within the last two months; hoggets which were sold at 56s had fallen to 52s 53s or 54s and ewes from 35s to 30s or 34s.—Several offers were made, but the buyers declined purchasing on the terms proposed, generally estimating the prices at from 3s to 5s less than offered. The only sale effected was by Mr. Julian, who sold 300 half-bred Down Leicester hogget fleeces at 52s.

**PERTH NEW WOOL FAIR.**—This fair, which took place on Tuesday here, has opened auspiciously, a much greater number, both of buyers and sellers came forward than was anticipated by the most sanguine. Not a few of the principal wool-staplers, manufacturers, and commission agents from various districts in England, and from Bannockburn, Kilmarnock, and other places in Scotland, where the woollen manufacture is carried on to the greatest extent, arrived in course of Monday, and transactions to some amount was done that evening. The principal place appointed for business was the Council House, and early on Tuesday the streets in that neighbourhood exhibited a very stirring appearance—the number of sheep farmers from the Highlands being very great, and there being also a considerable influx of country gentlemen from various quarters, anxious to countenance and encourage the market. A good many samples were exhibited in the Council Room, and several farmers and country gentlemen who do not make the produce of wool their particular object, brought forward their stock in bulk; while, we understand, the southern dealers complained that not a few of the principal wool-growers presented no specimen at all, but merely described the kinds and quantities. Large quantities were offered for sale: one sheep-farmer from the Highlands of our own county, we are informed, had upwards of 6000 fleeces. Upon the whole the purchasers were rather shy as to closing positive bargains till the result of the Inverness market be ascertained; and there was not that quantity bought and sold, which from the congregation of dealers, might be supposed. So far as we could learn, prices were about 3s. per stone on Highland, and 6s. on fine wools, under the average rates of last year. The current prices may be quoted as follows:—

|                               |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Highland Laid and White Wool, | from 22s. to 24s.  |
| Leicester,                    | ..... 34s. to 36s. |
| Cheviot Ewe and Hog,          | ..... 32s. to 34s. |

Some finer qualities of the last as high as 38s.—all per stone of 24 imperial lbs. The principal purchases were made by Scottish manufacturers,

## PETERBOROUGH WOOL FAIR.

The first Wool Fair was held on Saturday the 11th of July, according to the resolutions agreed upon in March last, and we regret to say, that owing to the scarcity of buyers and the dullness of the trade, scarcely any business was done. At three o'clock, 139 gentlemen sat down to an excellent dinner, in the large room at the Greyhound Inn, Lord Fitzwilliam in the chair, and on his right was Sir Culling Smith. Mr. Thos. Fullard, vice-president. After dinner, the chairman gave the "King's health,"—"the Queen's"—"Princess Victoria, and the Royal Family." After which, his lordship rose and said, "Having done our duty to the race under which this country has enjoyed prosperity, that is, generally speaking, I have great pleasure in proposing the healths of a body of men to whom we feel obliged for their sanction on this occasion, viz., 'The gentlemen wool-buyers who have attended here to-day.'" Mr. Phillips returned thanks, and "was sorry the dullness of the trade prevented them meeting the present prices asked by the graziers for their wool, but hoped at a future time to be able to deal with them." Sir C. Smith proposed the health of "Earl Fitzwilliam," and hoped he would set the example of offering his wool at such a price as would lead to bargains being made," three times three. Lord Fitzwilliam, in returning thanks, said, "I cannot but feel exceedingly gratified at the manner in which Sir C. Smith's proposition has been received, and for which I beg to thank you sincerely; and as this is the first time we have met together upon the business before us, and as I have been one of those who have endeavoured to establish this fair for so important an article of produce, it may not be out of place if I state the grounds on which I have been anxious to place the commerce of wool in this neighbourhood, on the same footing as it is in many other places. I have not been led to make this arrangement with any view of giving one party any advantage over the other, but solely from a conviction, (and that conviction arising from the many opportunities I have had of making observations in commercial matters), that no plan has yet been adopted so much to the mutual benefit of both buyer and seller as that of *openmarket*, where the seller may meet with competition for the article he has for sale, and where the buyer may see variety in the article of his purchase. Now it will not be denied by any amongst you, that considerable convenience arises in conducting commerce by travelling from village to village, and from house to house at great expense and sacrifice of time, added to which, the no less disadvantage to the seller under that system, from the frequency of his being from home when the buyer may chance to call. Looking at these circumstances, you will, I think, agree with me upon the good results likely to arise from an open market; there is another advantage, that upon an occasion like the present a greater proportion of knowledge may be gained by farmers of the state of those classes of society which affects the value of agricultural produce, and, on the other hand, the dealers in wool have a like opportunity of becoming acquainted with the state of the growing class; for this day cannot pass off without every one here having gained some knowledge, which he could not have done had he been absent. These are the grounds which have induced me to take the steps I have, and at the same time, let me say, I have had the co-operation of individuals of weight in the neighbourhood to carry into effect this desirable mode of commerce. There has at present been much less business done than might have been expected, but from so many having met, I consider it a fair proof that there are many who coincide with me in opinion upon this subject. I cannot quite agree with those who say that the state of Yorkshire is not prosperous; for though I do not live immediately in the district of the wool manufacturers, yet I have so much connexion with it, that I am able to say that for several years back the manufacturers have enjoyed comparative prosperity. Wool has of late been the mainstay of Agriculturists, and one cause of the high price of it is the prosperity of the manufacturers, and the other is the

diminution in that article, which arose from the serious losses of sheep during 1831, 32, and 33; these are the two causes of wool having been so much higher in proportion to any other article of produce; but now the growth of wool exceeds that of three years ago, because the graziers have reared so many sheep to make up for the losses I have mentioned, and the market is restored to its former state as between demand and supply. I will venture to say, that if the fleeces of this year's clip could be counted, the amount would be more than that of three or four years ago. The manufacturer has his eyes open to all these circumstances which may effect his profits, he takes more means of inquiring into the state of society than the farmer does, and as a proof of this, there is not a manufacturer in Leeds who does not anticipate a reduction in the price of wool from the information they possess of the increased growth of wool to come into the market, and, therefore, it is that they bid lower prices. I, as a dealer, will state the price that I shall be happy to offer my wool at, viz. 39s, and as there is one present to whom I confide that part of my business, I beg to refer any buyer to him for the details, which I do not possess." His lordship then gave "Success to Agriculture."—W. Whitting, Esq. rose and said, "The noble lord has given me permission to propose a toast, and I take this opportunity to express my gratitude as an agriculturist to those noble individuals who have by their names and sanction given support to the wool fair. I fear that farmers have been, and are, sailing in a bad vessel, and they will be lucky who make a good escape from it, and looking at the depression under which those who get their living by agricultural pursuits are labouring, we ought to feel doubly bound to those, who in this time of need have come forward to promote our interests, and I will mention the names of the noble chairman, the Duke of Bedford, Marquis of Exeter, Lord Westmoreland, Earl Aboyne, Sir Culling Smith, and in the name of them all, have the pleasure to propose the health of the hon. baronet on the right of the chair, 'Sir C. Smith.'" Sir C. Smith returned thanks, and alluded to the mutual benefit that must arise from the meeting together of growers and manufacturers.—Earl Fitzwilliam, "Therefore, I cannot do better than give 'the Fleece and the Loom.'" The Vice President rose and said, "It gives me great pleasure to see Lord Fitzwilliam condescend to come amongst us, I should be very glad to see some business done; it only wants a beginning. Wool is lower in value, and if you lower your prices you will find purchasers; do as a large farmer (who I am glad to see here) did at Bedford, when I was there last week, he said, he was come to sell his wool, and set his price, saying, 'if that won't do, I will take less, for I am come to sell;' the result was, that a bargain was soon made. I have mentioned this to induce many present to do the same, and I will, with permission, give the health of the gentleman alluded to—'John Negus, Esq.'" Mr. Negus returned thanks and confirmed what Mr. Fullard had said. He then offered his wool to Mr. Mumford at 52s and 46s, which was declined. Mr. Whitting offered his clip of 1500 fleeces (700 wethers and 800 hogs) at 40s, for which Mr. Phillips bid 38s. Mr. M. Wells addressed the meeting, and in an appropriate speech pointed out the benefit to the country around, but more especially to the Fens, if a Spring Fair could be established in Peterborough, and proposed "that a fair be holden in this city annually in the Spring for the sale of cattle, wool, and other merchandise, and that a Committee be appointed to carry the same into effect, and that Earl Fitzwilliam be requested to take the chair." Lord Fitzwilliam read the proposition to the meeting, and said, "he was by no means adverse to Mr. Wells' motion, but thought the present meeting not competent to come to a *positive resolution* upon the subject, but as there were many points to be considered, suggested that a Committee be appointed to inquire into the propriety of holding a fair in the spring;" his lordship repeated his approval and a Committee was named. Mr. Wells thanked his lordship for the manner in which he had entertained the proposition, and had pleasure in giving "the health of



Lord Milton." Lord Fitzwilliam returned thanks, and regretted that business in town made it impossible for Lord Milton to be present. Mr. Whitting offered to meet Mr. Phillips' bid, and would take 39s for his wool, which was declined. Mr. Leighton offered his wool (which was fine) to Mr. Mumford, viz. 300 half-breds, at 52s; 200 South Down Hogs, at 48s; 120 half-bred Wethers at 38s, for which Mr. Mumford bid, 50s, 46s, and 35s. A discussion upon holding another Wool Fair arose, and it was finally agreed upon that for this year it should be held on the second Fair Day in October, and that it would be better to take a more deliberate opinion before the day should be fixed for future years.

### BUCKINGHAM WOOL FAIR.

This annual fair took place on Friday, July 11, and a large quantity of wool was pitched in the market-place. At two o'clock a large party (between 100 and 200 persons) dined in the Town-hall, George Morgan, Esq., in the Chair. Sir Harry Verney was also there, and a large body of the most respectable yeomen of the district. On the removal of the cloth the usual loyal toasts were given, after which Mr. John Brickwell read a letter from Lord Chandos, stating his regret that he could not be present at the fair, and announcing his intention to give a silver cup annually as a prize. Mr. Brickwell then proposed the health of Lord Chandos which was heartily cheered.—The Chairman said that he fully believed Lord Chandos to be the best friend the farmers ever had. (*Cheers.*) The Chairman then said there were gentlemen who stood between the clothiers and the wool growers: the latter only asked for a fair price, leaving to the buyer a remunerative profit, and he was confident that these gentlemen were prepared to offer a fair price, and he hoped that much business would be done.—Sir H. Verney then proposed the health of the Chairman. (*Cheers.*)—Mr. Morgan returned thanks, expressing his willingness at all times to serve the cause of agriculture. (*Cheers.*) For eighteen years he had acted as a magistrate, enforcing the Poor Laws, he hoped, with impartiality. Now that function he was no longer to fulfil, but he should always be ready and anxious as a magistrate or otherwise to assist the farmer by every means in his power. (*Cheering.*)—Mr. Box, the Secretary to the Committee, then offered various parcels of wools, reading the quantities and the prices asked.—The Chairman then proposed the health of Sir Harry Verney. (*Cheers.*)—Sir Harry Verney returned thanks, hoping that all meetings of this sort would increase, as they were very beneficial, and in every way calculated to be beneficial. He trusted that the farmer would soon have a visible improvement in his condition, and that agriculture would become once more flourishing. (*Cheers.*)—'Health of the Buyers.'—Mr. Bartlett returned thanks. He was sorry that the buyers could not this year give the prices the farmers asked. The trade was flat at present. Last year the staplers incurred a serious loss, which made them more cautious now.—Many other toasts were drank and some good songs sung. The meeting broke up about six o'clock. We find that the average of the wool sold was 40s 6d per tod. The bulk was considerably greater than last year, and more sold in bulk and in sample, but the number of fleeces could not be ascertained as the account was not taken as they came in, but as they were sold. Mr. Bartlett was a large buyer.

**SHREWSBURY WOOL FAIR.**—The quantity pitched was very considerable; prices were from 15d to 16½d per lb for strong Combing Fleeces; a few lots of a superior quality sold as high as 17½d per lb. Lamb's Wool sold from 14d to 15½d per lb. A good deal went back owing to the price not meeting the expectations of the growers.

**AT CHURCH-STRETTON FAIR** the sales of Wool were extensive, and prices fully 18d to 2s per stone of 15lbs, lower than last year.

**AT NORTHAMPTON WOOL FAIR**, a great number of samples of five fleeces of each sort of wool were exhibited on the Market Place. The purchasers seemed to think the prices asked higher than they could afford to give. Between 80 and 90 persons, growers and buyers of wool, dined together at the George Hotel—Mr. C. Hillyard in the chair. After dinner many lots were offered for sale, but six lots only were sold, and all those were bought by Mr. G. Peach, of this town. The following are the particulars:—

| Sellers.            | Fleeces. | Tegs. | Ewes. | Prices. |
|---------------------|----------|-------|-------|---------|
| Mr. N. Potterton.   | 399.     | 300.  | 99.   | 45s     |
| Mr. B. W. Potterton | 294.     | 253.  | 41.   | 46s     |
| Mr. Robt. Rogers    | 383.     | 193.  | 190.  | 42s     |
| Earl Spencer        | 720.     | 320.  | 400.  | 42s     |
| Mr. Redgrave        | 300.     | 140.  | 160.  | 44s     |
| Mr. S. Pell         | 320.     | 160.  | 160.  | 42s     |

### A WORD TO FARMERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE READING MERCURY.

Mr. Editor,—Allow me, through the medium of your excellent paper, to state, that in a conversation lately with an intelligent agriculturist, on the distressing complaints of the farmers, I was stung with a remark he uttered with considerable emotion, "that the farmers are a race of fools;" but, on reflection, I fear it is lamentably true.

Though we are suffering embarrassment that must speedily (if not relieved) involve us in ruin, yet we adopt no means to avert the impending calamity. Have we not, in time past, quietly looked on while the monopolists have glutted our markets with foreign corn, at a price that has enriched them at the cost of our capital and labour?

Have we not, in numberless cases, been careless in the exercise of the elective franchise, either not voting at all, or supporting candidates who have neither ability or willingness to advocate our cause? Have not questions vitally connected with our interests been discussed and settled in parliament to our disadvantage? Had we sent right men to the House of Commons, would the *Currency* have been tampered with—the *Malt Duties* retained—the *Tithe* question unsettled—and *Poor Laws* withheld from Ireland? Would *County Rates* and *Parochial* burdens have pressed so unequally, and the real benefit of the country been sacrificed in a cruel neglect of the agriculturists?

The Reform Bill has given us a mighty power, if we choose to employ it for our protection. FARMERS! let us no longer be trodden down like clods under the feet of our oxen. Let us *think* for ourselves and *act* for ourselves. Let every one of us take care for himself to be correctly REGISTERED. Let us seek out and support, with all our interest, "good men and true," to represent us in parliament. Let us *pledge* them to their duty: particularly to the obtaining of ample protecting fixed duties, to be paid immediately grain is imported, substituted for the present graduated scale and postponed payment of duty. Let us send a petition from every county, and from every town, village, and hamlet, in the kingdom, till the tables of parliament GROAN under the burden of our distresses. Let us, at the last hour, save ourselves and our families from the ruin that has overwhelmed so many of our friends, by "a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether."

Yours, &c.,

Swindon, July 8th, 1835.

AGRICOLA.

Mr. Haig of Seggie, near St. Andrews, in the course of two years, and on a moderate extent of surface, put in no fewer than 220,000 drain tiles into the ground. This made a drain of the enormous length of 47 miles. Mr. Langlands of Balkemback, near Dundee, put in 36 miles of stone drains in the course of ten years.

## NORFOLK AGRICULTURAL MEETING AND CATTLE SHOW.

The second annual meeting of the West Norfolk Agricultural Association, took place on Wednesday, July 8, at Swaffham, and was attended by very many of the gentry and most eminent agriculturists in that division of the county, amongst whom were T. W. Coke, Esq., President, Sir W. B. Folkes, Bart., M.P., Sir Roger Martin, Bart., Hon. G. J. Milnes, Anthony Hamond, Esq., W. L. W. Chute, Esq., Henry Blyth, Esq., T. R. Buckworth, Esq., Wyrley Birch, Esq., Captain Fitzroy, Henry Partridge, Esq., H. B. Caldwell, Esq., F. W. Keppel, Esq., Messrs. Edward Farrer, E. Seppings, Henry and Charles Overman, Garwood, Lexham; Margetson, Weasenham; Wright, Rougham; Hastings, Longham; G. Sayer, sen. and jun., Sculthorpe; Burgess, Docking; Hartt, Ashill; Boughen, Westacre; Hudson, Castleacre; Norman, Snoring; Robert Boughen, Pickenham; Abbott, Castleacre; Winearls, Marham; Negus, Crimplesham; Long, Marlingford; Milnes, Fordham; Paul, Pentney, &c.

The show of sheep and cattle was very superior and large, but for want of space, we must content ourselves with merely enumerating the most important among them.

### EXTRA STOCK.

Down ram, belonging to T. W. Coke, Esq., with two three-shear rams, were highly commended by the judges.

Three down rams, shown by Mr. Ellman, were also particularly recommended to public notice.

The constitution of Mr. Overman's rams cannot be too highly recommended,

Mr. Beck shewed three down wethers, which were much admired.

Mr. C. D. Leeder and Mr. J. Sharman shewed some very useful long-wool lambs.

Mr. Money Raven's pen of down shearlings were admired for their character.

Three Cotswold sheep from Lord Sherborne, purchased by Mr. Sayer, were much approved of.

Sixteen ewes and six wethers, (Leicester) the property of Mr. Milnes, of Fordham, were considered as good as any of the breed the judges had seen in the county.

A ram, belonging to Anthony Hamond, Esq., was greatly admired.

A pen of rams, exhibited by Mr. Brown, of Denver, shewed great inclination to fat.

Two heifers, belonging to Mr. Clark, of Swaffham, were highly commended, with many others, as extraordinary specimens of the Norfolk home-bred.

Besides the above, a great quantity of stock was shown, highly deserving notice, in competition for the prizes. They were shown in a small paddock at the back of the Crown Inn, and although 1s was paid by all but subscribers for admittance, several hundred persons were upon the ground. Judges of the sheep and cattle: Mr. John Sayer, sen., Mr. Burgess, of Docking, and Mr. John Hastings, of Longham. Judges of the cattle: Mr. J. Margetson, Weasenham; Mr. Edward Seppings, and Mr. W. Wright, Rougham.

About three o'clock a party of 110 sat down to dinner at the Crown Inn, T. W. Coke, Esq., in the chair, supported on the right by Sir Wm. Folkes, Bart., M.P., and on the left by Sir Roger Martin, Bart., F. W. Keppel, Esq., Vice-President. W. L. W. Chute, Esq., presided at the committee table; Vice, Mr. Edward Farrer. After dinner the secretary, Mr. Milne, read the premiums awarded, as follows:—

### SHEEP.

The best down ram of any age, a sweepstakes of 10s each, one subscriber, with 2l given by the society, and the best hogget ram, three subscribers, ditto—Mr. Henry Overman.

The best shearing ram, two subscribers, with 2l given by the society—General Fitzroy, of Kempstone.

The best long-wool ram, one subscriber, ditto, Mr. Milne.

The best pen of five down ewe hoggetts, four subscribers, ditto, Mr. James Kendle.

The best pen of five down wether hoggetts, two subscribers, ditto, Henry Blyth, Esq., of Sussex Farm.

### CATTLE.

The best bull, of any age or breed, *bonâ fide* in the possession of a member, and being his property six months previous to the exhibition, a sweepstakes of 10s each one subscriber, and 4l from the society, Mr. George Watson, of Wellingham.

The best two-year-old heifer, ditto, and 2l five subscribers, Mr. Moore, of Warham.

The best milch cow, in profit, three subscribers, ditto, Mr. John Hudson, of Castleacre.

The best cart stallion, a sweepstakes of 10s each, and 5l from the society, one subscriber, Mr. West, Breccles Hall. The horse taking this premium, to be used in the county the ensuing season.

The best cart mare, *bonâ fide* the property of a member, a sweepstakes of 10s each, and 2l from the society, three subscribers, Mr. Winearls.

The best stallion, for the improvement of the breed of nag horses, a sweepstakes of 20s, and 5l from the society, five subscribers, Mr. Kendle.

The best boar of any age, a sweepstakes of 10s, and 2l from the society, Mr. Beck.

A premium of 3l was offered for the best newly-invented implement for the purpose of agriculture, but none was shown.

The funds of the association are so much increased, that it is determined to offer many other premiums another year. The increase of subscribers is highly gratifying to the friends of the institution.

DR. JOHNSON AND THE CORN LAWS.—When the Corn Laws were in agitation in Ireland, by which that country has been enabled not only to feed itself, but to export corn to a large amount, Sir Thomas Robinson observed that those laws might be prejudicial to the corn trade of England. "Sir Thomas (said the Dr.), you talk the language of a savage: what, Sir, would you prevent any people from feeding themselves, if by any honest means they can do it?"

NEW METHOD OF BLANCHING CELERY.—In the March number of the *Irish Farmer's and Gardener's Magazine*, a Mr. Cogan recommends the following method of cultivating celery, by which he states he has been successful for many years in preserving this favourite vegetable from what is called "rust," occasioned by the attack of grubs. In the month of October he plants the ground designed for celery the ensuing year with early York cabbage, which will be cleared away by the first week in June, the most proper season for planting. Previous to forming the drills, he collects the stalks and remaining leaves of the cabbages, and places them in small heaps on the bed, which, after lying a day or two, will be found to have collected a great number of slugs and other vermin, which may be easily destroyed. The ground is then easily prepared and the plants put in; when ready for blanching,



the loose leaves of each plant are tied up, and strong wheat straw laid full length along the side of the drills, and staked down so much that it will completely exclude the light (excepting at the top, which is all that is requisite.)

### SHEEP.

The following table exhibits a view of the principal breeds of Sheep in Great Britain:—

1. Teeswater, long wool, no horns.
2. Lincoln, long wool, no horns.
3. Dishley, or New Leicester, long wool, fine, no horns.
4. Cotswold, long wool, fine, no horns.
5. Romney Marsh, long wool, fine, no horns.
6. Dartmoor, or Bampton, long wool, fine, no horns.
7. Exmoor, long wool, coarse horned.
8. Blackfaced, or Heath, long wool, coarse, horned.
9. Hereford, Ryeland, short wool, fine, no horns.
10. Morf, Shropshire, short wool, fine, horned.
11. Dorset, short wool, fine, horned.
12. Wilts, short wool, middling, horned.
13. Berks, long wool, no horns.
14. South Down, short wool, no horns.
15. Norfolk, short wool, horned.
16. Herdwick, short wool, horned.
17. Cheviot, short wool, no horns.
18. Dunfaced, short wool, no horns.
19. Shetland, fine Cottony wool, no horns.
20. Spanish, short wool, superfine, rams horned.
21. Spanish Cross, short wool, fine.

According to Mr. Luccock's Treatise on English Wool, he estimates the number of long-woolled sheep in England and Wales in 1800, to be . . . 4,153,508  
Of short-woolled Sheep . . . . . 14,854,299

|                                                       |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Total number shorn . . . . .                          | 19,007,607 |
| Slaughter of short-woolled sheep, per annum . . . . . | 4,221,748  |
| Carriion of ditto . . . . .                           | 211,087    |
| Slaughter of long-woolled sheep . . . . .             | 1,180,413  |
| Carriion of ditto . . . . .                           | 59,020     |
| Slaughter of Lambs . . . . .                          | 1,400,560  |
| Carriion of ditto . . . . .                           | 70,028     |

Total number of sheep and lambs . . 26,148,463

In the General Report of Scotland (vol. 3. appx. p. 6) the number of sheep is estimated at 2,850,000 and allowing for the increase that has taken place since 1814, we may, perhaps, estimate the total number of sheep in that part of the empire at this time at 3,500,000.

According to Mr. Wakefield there is not a single flock of breeding sheep in the whole province of Ulster. And though there be considerable flocks in Roscommon and other counties, it is believed, that if the whole number of sheep in Ireland be estimated at 2,000,000, it will be a good deal beyond the truth.

On the whole, therefore, if these estimates be right, the total number of sheep in Great Britain and Ireland may be taken at about 32,000,000.

THE ESSEX PRIZE WOOL CUP.—COLCHESTER, July 3.—The certificates having been sent into Mr. Gilson, the secretary, the silver cup value five guineas, has been awarded to Messrs. Johns, of Chelmsford, whose purchases amounted to 21,652 lbs. The total sum realised by wool, sold on the 16th June is estimated at £3,500. This is an excellent beginning; the result, indeed, will not fail to insure an increase of buyers and sellers on the next occasion.

### AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS—SILVER STANDARD.

MR. CAYLEY'S SPEECH IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, ON MONDAY, JUNE 1, 1835.

Mr. CAYLEY.—Before I proceed to direct the attention of the house to the subject of the motion with which I shall conclude, I will take the liberty of shortly stating the reasons which have induced me to persist in bringing it forward, against a prevailing wish in the house that the subject of corporate reform should have precedence. Sir, I know I stand on unpopular grounds with many members on account of what they may term my obstinate determination in this respect; and I feel I owe, and am ready to make, an apology to the house, for thus interfering between it and so important a measure as that of municipal reform. If I were actuated by any private or personal considerations, I should be ashamed to find myself standing where I am at such a juncture; but feeling that I am guided on this occasion by a sense of public duty, and by that alone, I confess I feel relieved in a great measure of the responsibility. It is not that I underrate the importance of corporate reform; but that such is the fallen state of British agriculture, that I can conceive no question of such pressing importance. I appeal to every member around me who knows the condition of the farmer—not by hearsay, merely, but who has seen his distress, as it were, bodily before his eyes—whether I am not justified in my resolution. I think, moreover, I ought not to be condemned for an obstinate perseverance in this motion, before the case is fully understood. I gave notice of it on the first day of the session, for the 19th of May; at that time the noble lord the Secretary for the Home Department was not in the house, and at the request of my right hon. friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer, I postponed it—very unwillingly, indeed, as he will testify—on the ground that it would be inconvenient to the ministry to have it brought forward in the noble lord's absence. At the same time, there was a distinct understanding between my right hon. friend and myself, that I should have every facility from the government in bringing the motion forward this day. Besides, this was the second occasion, in the present session, on which I had given way to the government on a question affecting the interests of agriculture.

I may also state that, last session, I gave notice of a motion similar to the present, which I was prevented from bringing forward by the unusual length of the Easter vacation, and subsequently to that I had no opportunity of doing so. I trust the house will be satisfied with this explanation. It must always be a matter of extreme regret to any one, to have to resist what appears to be the wish of the house. The subject of my motion is of a painful nature in itself, and it would be rendered still more painful to me, should I have to force it upon the attention of a reluctant audience. No person, sir, can be more fully aware than myself of the difficulties which attend the execution of the task I have undertaken, or of my own inability to cope with it. I have, however, directed my attention to the subject for some years; and I only wish that my powers of commanding the attention of the house were, in any degree, commensurate with the anxiety I feel to obtain some measure of relief. I trust, however, to its patient indulgence, for I am aware of the tedious nature of a discussion of this kind, since the statements which I shall

feel it my duty to make, must be borne out by reference to documents. Feeling, therefore, that this question admits of no delay—being convinced that things cannot remain as they are without extreme danger—not only to the agricultural interest, but to all other interests connected with it, and from the spirit of discontent and dissatisfaction which is generated by distress, even to the institutions of the country themselves,—I am induced to persevere, in the hope that I shall obtain the attention which is due, not to myself, but to the importance of my subject.

This is no party question, and I trust that it will not be treated in a party spirit, for if the subject of agricultural distress could be discussed, on either side of the house, in a party spirit, the situation and prospects of the agriculturists would be lamentable indeed—even more so than I, unfortunately, have reason to believe them to be. Some of the difficulties, however, with which I otherwise should have had to contend, in bringing this question forward, have been removed by the acknowledgment which three of the highest authorities in this house—namely, the right hon. baronet (the member for Tamworth), the noble lord (the Secretary for the Home Department), and the right hon. Chancellor of the Exchequer, made the other evening, when the noble member for Buckinghamshire brought forward his motion, “that the agricultural interest cannot hope to obtain substantial relief from any additional remission of local and general taxation.” But are not these the very modes of relief to which our attention has been always directed by our rulers? And now, at the eleventh hour, we are deliberately informed we have nothing to expect from these sources, or so little, as to afford no hope of perceptible improvement. Am I not justified, therefore, in inferring that this is an opportune occasion on which to propose another species of relief—a species of relief, too, which has never yet been tried without success; whilst that from remission of taxation has had no visible influence whatever? The right hon. Chancellor of the Exchequer boasted that within the last fifteen or twenty years, which have elapsed since the peace, the agricultural interest has been relieved from 8,000,000*l.* of taxation. I could not but regret the tone in which the right hon. gentleman made that statement, because it seemed to say, “we have done so much for agriculture, we cannot afford to do any more.” Now, what does all this remission of taxation (with agriculture getting worse and worse, in spite of it) prove, but that we have gone the wrong way to work, and that private incumbrances and engagements have pressed on the agriculturist as much, or more, than public ones. The right hon. gentleman also referred, with an air of triumph, to the fact, that the agricultural interest was not so heavily taxed, in comparison with other classes now, as in various reigns to which he alluded. What does this prove? Why, that the agricultural interest was better able to bear a greater amount of taxation at those periods than it is now; so that my right hon. friend has only furnished another lamentable illustration of the agricultural distress.

The Noble Secretary for the Home Department told the house, the other night, that, in 1833, the agricultural committee recommended that the Legislature should not interfere on the subject. This was very far from being an unanimous opinion on the part of the committee, besides the question of the currency was excluded from the

consideration of the committee, which was the only efficient way in which to interfere. The report went on to say that it was a perilous thing to try experiments on the farmer. This is also very true; but having brought him to death's door by one experiment, may not we bring him to life by another? and, at all events, he cannot be in a worse state than he is in now; for I ask whether the agricultural interest is not now in a worse state than it was in 1833? The price of wheat in 1833 was 54*s* a quarter, whilst now in some districts of the country it is not more than 34*s*. I hold in my hand the *Mark Lane Express*, by which it appears that on the 27th of April last the average price of wheat was 38*s* 10*d* per quarter.

Mark Lane, April 27th.

The weekly aggregate average price of wheat throughout the kingdom did not exceed last Thursday, 38*s* 10*d*, which, according to Winchester measure, is equivalent to 37*s* 8*d*, being lower than the average for the last fifty-five years, when in 1779 and 1780, the rates were 33*s* 8*d* and 35*s* 8*d*; and in analyzing the averages of the past week we find, that in Lincolnshire the quantity of wheat returned as sold is 5373 quarters, and the price 36*s* 10*d*; in Northumberland, 3701 quarters, and price 35*s* 5*d*; in Huntingdon, 582 quarters, at 35*s* 5*d*; Oxford, 233 quarters, at 36*s* 1*d*; Northampton, 477, quarters at 36*s* 9*d*; the higher averages being for small quantities in Wales and Cornwall.

In 1833, when wheat was 54*s*, it was 10*s* under the remunerating price, but since then there has been a fall of 20*s* more. This tremendous fall in the price of wheat began at the close of the scarce seasons 1828, 1829, 1830, 1831. It had, indeed, begun in 1827; but those wet years caused a scarcity price, and so concealed the effects of the preparation for and the final extinction of 1*l.* notes in 1829. Many gentlemen, and amongst others, the hon. member for the Tower Hamlets, near me, seem to think that the agricultural interest is not so badly off as is represented, because barley and oats and wool sell well at present. Any person, however, acquainted with agriculture, knows the cause of this, and that it is accidental.

During the two last years dry springs have prevailed, and it is an incontrovertible fact, (which I may state for the benefit of those who are in the habit of passing judgment on agriculture, although unacquainted with rural affairs), that a dry spring is invariably accompanied by the failure of the barley and oat crops. It was in this spirit the right hon. baronet, the member for Tamworth, spoke, when my noble friend (Lord Chandos) brought forward his motion for a repeal of the malt-tax. He argued as if the present was to continue to be the price of barley in any ordinary season; that this being the case, the barley lands did not want relief, and therefore the malt-tax ought not to be repealed. All this was in total ignorance of the fact, that both the last years, and especially the last, was not more in most districts than half a crop of barley, and of oats the same. Of course a rise in price must be the consequence: but to suppose that any advantage accrues to the agricultural interests generally, from scarce seasons, is not only untrue, but a thankless blasphemy: a partial deficiency of crop may be advantageous to such parties as escape it, because they reap, with a full crop, the benefit of a scarcity price. Then the hon. member for the Tower Hamlets goes on, —this inequality in the prices of wheat, barley, and wool, proves that the change of the currency has had nothing to do with the general fall in



prices: the hon. gentleman, it should be known, is one of those who tell us that the Bank of England issue more of their notes when they have to answer them in gold, than they did when they were a legal tender; and of course he must argue, to be consistent, that a larger or smaller quantity of currency makes no difference in prices. But what is the fact as to barley and wool? Before the wet seasons began in 1828, that is to say, in 1826-7, after the 17. notes were withdrawn in 1825, wool fell down to 8d per lb, and barley, also, so low, that it was matter of debate with many practical farmers, whether it was worth occupying a farm which only produced barley and wool. I remember this the better, because I occupy a farm myself of this description. At that time many of the old sheep walks, in consequence of the late introduction of bone-dust as manure, were ploughed up; and those light, poor soils, from being the least profitable, have, from the smaller comparative expense attending their cultivation, become lately the most safe to cultivate.

When the question of agricultural distress was brought forward last year, the noble lord who was then Chancellor of the Exchequer, (Lord Althorp) talked much in the same strain as the member for Tamworth; it is, I suppose, the usual official language; he said, it was true that wheat sold badly, but wool sold well. What was the reason of that? From 1828 to 1831 there was a succession of wet seasons, which created the rot amongst flocks on soils where it had not been known for 50 or 100 years before. It was calculated that one-fourth of the sheep flocks in the kingdom was swept away by this disease. The aggregate number of sheep is estimated at 32,000,000, and therefore a deficiency of 8,000,000 had to be supplied. And as far as my own knowledge and inquiries have gone, I do not think this, by any means, an exaggerated estimate. It was only the uplands that escaped this scourge, in the lowlands entire flocks were carried off. Of course mutton and wool rose to a scarcity price; and beef also, to supply the place of mutton. But wool rose highest, in proportion, because the sources of supply are more limited. England alone can furnish the long wool, whereas the carcase of the sheep could be fetched from the hills of Scotland; but the wool could not be supplied from that quarter. Thus mutton and beef were prevented from rising to the same extent as wool, and the immense importation of Irish pigs (which are always largest under low prices) conducted to the same result. And another reason why wool sustained so high a price was the necessity of our manufacturers preserving their place with woollen goods in the foreign market, at any cost, because the market once lost, would with difficulty be regained. There can be no greater proof of the inordinate scarcity of wool than that, in 1833, the importations of wool exceeded those of preceding years, by 10,000,000lbs, while the export of woollen goods has been stationary. Now no one will pretend to say that this additional 10,000,000lbs has been consumed by the home market, which is in so depressed a state from the adversity of the agricultural interest. On the contrary, it was a general complaint on the part of the witnesses summoned before the agricultural committee of 1833, that the clothes of agricultural labourers, which had formerly been woollen, had now become changed to cotton, an alteration arising out of necessity (cotton being cheaper) and much to be deplored; because in a variable climate like this, and especially in winter out-of-door employment, woollen was much more suitable, and much pre-

ferred. Are we, then, to be surprised at the extraordinary rise in the price of wool—when we know the cause—a rise from 8s or 10s a stone in 1827-8, before the rot commenced, to 24s and 30s in 1833-4? But we may rely upon it, that in proportion as the scarcity is filled up, the price will fall; it had already fallen at Christmas last 30 per cent; and the deficiency would much sooner have been made up, if it had not been that the capital of the farmers had been so exhausted before the loss of their sheep, that they had scarcely anything left to purchase new flocks with. To be sure they had the power of taking in the flocks of those capitalists who chose to speculate in sheep: and this has been done to a considerable extent. Then the fall in the price of meat also is very marked since last year. Stock has not paid for keeping the last winter. I hold in my hands a letter from a very intelligent farmer in my own district (near the wolds of Yorkshire), which is notorious for barley growing, stating the comparative prices of a great number of agricultural articles in February 1834, and February 1835. He gives the returns of two markets, Leeds, a manufacturing, and Malton, a purely agricultural one:—

| LEEDS, February 18th, 1834.  |   |    |                      |                 |   | February 17th, 1835.       |        |   |                      |    |                 |   |   |
|------------------------------|---|----|----------------------|-----------------|---|----------------------------|--------|---|----------------------|----|-----------------|---|---|
| Average price per quarter.   |   |    | Per stone of 14 lbs. |                 |   | Average price per quarter. |        |   | Per stone. of 14lbs. |    |                 |   |   |
| £                            | s | d  | £                    | s               | d | £                          | s      | d | £                    | s  | d               |   |   |
| Wheat                        | 2 | 8  | 3½                   | Beef            | 6 | 3                          | Wheat  | 2 | 0                    | 10 | Beef            | 5 | 9 |
| Barley                       | 1 | 9  | 5½                   | Mutton          | 8 | 9                          | Barley | 1 | 14                   | 2½ | Mutton          | 6 | 5 |
| Oats                         | 0 | 17 | 10½                  | Pork            | 5 | 6                          | Oats   | 1 | 2                    | 7½ | Pork            | 5 | 0 |
| Beans                        | 1 | 13 | 7½                   | Pig for salting | 5 | 0                          | Beans  | 1 | 16                   | 7½ | Pig for salting | 4 | 9 |
| MALTON, February 15th, 1834. |   |    |                      |                 |   | February 14th, 1835.       |        |   |                      |    |                 |   |   |
| Average price per quarter.   |   |    | Per stone.           |                 |   | Average price per quarter. |        |   | Per stone.           |    |                 |   |   |
| £                            | s | d  | £                    | s               | d | £                          | s      | d | £                    | s  | d               |   |   |
| Wheat                        | 2 | 1  | 3½                   | Beef            | 6 | 0                          | Wheat  | 1 | 15                   | 8½ | Beef            | 5 | 6 |
| Barley                       | 1 | 3  | 8½                   | Mutton          | 8 | 2                          | Barley | 1 | 9                    | 10 | Mutton          | 6 | 5 |
| Oats                         | 0 | 16 | 1½                   | Pork            | 5 | 0                          | Oats   | 1 | 0                    | 1½ | Pork            | 4 | 6 |
| Beans                        | 1 | 10 | 6                    | Pig for salting | 4 | 3                          | Beans  | 1 | 13                   | 2½ | Pig for salting | 3 | 9 |

He goes on to say,

You will perceive that wheat has again fallen in price this year more than the full amount of rent now paid, notwithstanding the reductions which have taken place the last ten or twelve years. The price of barley, oats, and beans may appear to the philosophers to contradict this; but from inquiry of many farmers in this district, and men occupying different soils, I find that the average of barley will not be two quarters per acre, oats four quarters, beans two quarters—produce of last year (1833) on an average—barley nearly four quarters, oats six quarters, and beans two quarters. Bean crops in 1831 and 1832 averaged four quarters at least. If you calculate the value this year, by the quantity of barley and oats per acre, you will find though prices are higher than last year, there is a serious loss to the growers from the falling off in quantity.

Such is the condition of the landed interest of this country at this moment. And I ask, and I ask boldly, is this state of things to continue. Land cannot be cultivated at the present prices; let Parliament declare once for all whether it will encourage a system which has brought this distress upon us. It is for Parliament to say how much land is to be thrown out of, or to remain in, cultivation. Let it go to work in a business-like manner; let it address his Majesty to send out a Commission to inquire, and to report, after minute investigation, how many acres of arable soil there are in Great Britain, that will pay a profit at 5s per bushel for wheat. My firm conviction is that the report, if faithfully made, would state that nineteen acres out of twenty, would not pay

a profit at such a price; and I am as confident that it would report that one-third or fourth of the arable soils could not pay a profit under 7s or 8s a bushel for wheat. If we had a report of this kind, we should know on what ground we stood; we should then see what sort of ministers those were, who, with these facts before them, dare perpetuate a system, that will lay waste the greater part of the cultivated soils of the kingdom. No, Sir, it could not be; I am convinced it is ignorance alone of the real state of the farming interests which causes such an apathy on the part of our rulers, with respect to proposals for relief. This ignorance is confirmed by a mistaken notion on the part of some members whose estates are in a great measure confined to the upland districts, that the results of the wet seasons, which have been so favourable to them for three or four years, are likely to continue. They probably come to the Minister and tell him that all this history of extreme distress, is exaggerated, that they know from their own experience that rents are very fairly paid, and so on. This is all very agreeable to the Minister to hear, for he is afraid of giving offence to other interests, and especially to the monied interest, by appearing to take too great an interest in the rise of agricultural produce. But what can be more shortsighted and contemptible than such a view, which not only betrays an ignorance of the cause of the uplands having a temporary, and that a very temporary, advantage; but also a cold-blooded indifference to the sufferings of those, from whose sufferings alone, those upland soils have been preserved from destruction.

Again, there are some who imagine all must be prosperous because they are. I know an instance of a gentleman who always wonders at hearing any complaints of distress:—"His rents are well paid, and he is as rich a man as ever;" and he appeals to his agent in testimony of the truth of this statement. On inquiry, I found that great parts of this estate had been actually brought into cultivation by means of bone dust, about ten years ago; that a large lime-quarry, which served almost the whole neighbourhood, had lately been opened on his estate; and that a rail-road had sprung up close to him: while the steward, notwithstanding the fall in prices, had never had his salary reduced. Here was cause enough for prosperity: had it not been for these adventitious circumstances, what would have been the condition of that estate? What could have prevented that gentleman and his tenants sharing the fate of their neighbours? I repeat, Sir, that if wheat is to remain at 36s or 38s a quarter, and there is no hope of a rise except from some action on the monetary system, at least half the arable land in the country will be unable to bear any rent at all. I mean arable land disconnected from pasture land, the latter of which has lately had advantages from the rise in wool and stock. We are come to a pretty pass indeed, if an acre under the plough cannot pay its own expenses. Arable land ought to pay a profit, *per se*, independent of all connection with grass; but I ask whether, during the last four years, three-fourths of the arable land could have paid rent, if the whole had been farmed without the intermixture of grass land? Every one knows, who knows anything of farming, that for those years the profits on wool and stock have only covered the loss on the plough. I would here call the attention of the house to some calculations as to the profits of farming, drawn up by a more practical agriculturist than myself (although I am one),—I

mean Lord Western. I see that the right honourable Chancellor of the Exchequer smiles, because, I suppose, he thinks that Lord Western entertains an opinion similar to mine upon a particular point,—the evils arising out of the change in the currency. The right honourable gentleman may smile; I can only say, that if Lord (then Mr.) Western's views on that subject had been acted upon, and his motion granted in 1822, thousands of broken hearts would have been spared, which have descended from comfort and competence to the workhouse and gaol, and have there quitted the scene.

My noble and right honourable friends now occupy the Treasury benches, and I rejoice that they do; but I never held an opinion more strongly in my life than that they would not have occupied those places but for the misery, destitution, and discontent arising out of the change of the monetary system in 1819. It was this which was the fruitful source of dissatisfaction with all established things, and it was natural that such should be the consequence: for what value can the productive classes have for any government, or system of government, which does not protect their property and promote their comfort? I do not mean to infer that reforms were unnecessary. I have been pretty constant in my support of most of the measures of reform introduced by his Majesty's government; but I cannot conceal from myself that the popular excitement in favour of these reforms has sprung from uncomform and distress; and although I may rejoice in this result, I cannot but deeply lament the cause; especially since, if it continue, the best of our institutions may be as insecure as those which have no foundation to stand on. In my opinion, therefore, he who was the most able opponent of the Reform Bill, being the author of the Act of 1819, was himself the foremost cause of the success of that bill. The following is Lord Western's calculation:—

I suppose a farm of one hundred acres, of fair, good, arable land, well cultivated upon the four course system, the produce of wheat, at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  qrs. per acre, barley, 5 qrs., beans and peas,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  qrs. Wheat, during near a quarter of a century (from 1797 to 1819) had averaged 80s the quarter; fifteen years preceding 1819, 85s; the rent founded upon these data I take at 35s per acre; the moment the Bill passed the markets fell 30 or 40 per cent., and in the fifteen years succeeding, the average price has been, as near as may be, 55s; it has subsequently fallen still lower, and is, I believe, now only 40s. I therefore consider the price of wheat to have fallen, on the average, 30s per qr.; barley, 20s; beans and peas, 20s. Upon these grounds I estimate the reduction of the money receipts of the farmer upon 100 acres to amount annually to 325*l*. The reduction of price upon clover, tares, and turnips, is loosely estimated, but moderate. I take no notice of the change of price of various minor articles, the produce of such a farm. This aggregate and enormous difference in his return, I think I clearly establish, upon the following calculation; I take the produce on the four course system to be as under:—

|                   | Acres.           | Qrs.           | Diminution.          | £ s.    |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------|---------|
| Wheat             | 25               | $3\frac{1}{2}$ | per acre—30s per qr. | 131 15  |
| Barley            | 25               | 5              | ditto —20s ditto     | 125 0   |
| Beans and Peas    | 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ | $3\frac{1}{2}$ | ditto —20s ditto     | 42 0    |
| Clover            | 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ | —              | —                    | 15 0    |
| Turnips and Tares | 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ | —              | —                    | 12 0    |
| And fallow        | 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ | —              | —                    | —       |
|                   | Acres 100.       | —              |                      | £325 15 |

If the landlord reduces 15s per acre, or, in other



words, reduces his rent from 175*l* to 100*l*, the tenant has 75*l* to set against 325*l*; if the landlord sinks his rent 20s the acre, and, instead of a rent of 175*l*, puts up with a rent of 75*l*, the tenant has 100*l* to set against 325*l*. I will not stop to comment upon the situation of the landlord under such circumstances—it must be too obvious to need any observations. I will go on to suppose the entire rent done away: the tenant will still be under the necessity, singular as it must appear, to reduce his expenditure in other ways to the extent of 150*l* to make up, with the rent of 175*l*, the loss of 325*l*, to put himself upon the footing on which he stood prior to the year 1819. I cannot discern where he can look to for means at all adequate to effect this reduction, even if I give him the malt-tax wholly repealed into the bargain.

Now, this calculation is in reference to land of a superior quality; bearing 3½ quarters of wheat per acre; (the average of the kingdom being certainly not more than 2½ quarters), and 5 quarters of barley, which is 1½ quarters more than the average crop. If such are to be the consequences, from the fall in prices, to soils of this superior description, what is to become of others inferior in quality to this? And not less than two-thirds of the whole are inferior. What is to become of the labourers—what of the tenantry? I cannot conceive how the Legislature can allow such a state of things as this to continue. Nothing can be more alarming in this respect, than a statement which I heard the other day, unparalleled, I believe, in the history of agriculture. I do not see the hon. member for Inverness in his place, otherwise, I am sure, he would bear me out in this statement, that in Scotland they are at this moment adulterating oatmeal with wheat flour. The straw on an acre of land, I am informed, has actually sold lately in London for a higher price than the wheat itself. The landlords, sir, have their necessities as well as others. I believe, if the rent paid for the last five years had been graduated according to the amount of profit arising from the produce, they would scarcely have received any rent at all for their land. I have even heard of cases this year, where the whole half-year's rent has been foregone; and other cases where the landlord has been compelled to cut down young trees of under fifty feet of wood, in order to make up some compensation for the loss of his rent.

Sir, the agricultural interests will be in a much worse condition, when the prices of wool and stock find their level. Before that visitation of providence, of which I have spoken, took place among the sheep, in 1828, and the following years, wool was down at 8s and 10s a stone, and mutton down at 3½d and 4d per pound. When these prices again arrive, which they will, as surely as winter follows summer—when the present scarcity is supplied—then, and not till then, will the full measure of the agricultural depression be perceived. Blind and infatuated are those who rest supine, awaiting this tremendous crisis, and who seem resolved not to lend an effort to avert the impending storm. When it is too late to rescue thousands of innocent men, who have been ruined by no act of their own, but by a deliberate act of the legislature, they will begin, perhaps, to repent of their selfish indifference. But my noble friend, the Secretary for the Home Department, gives us this consoling advice: he told the noble marquis (Chandos), the other night, that the only way to relieve the farmer is to reduce his rent. Before the agricultural committee of 1833 it was shown

that rents had been reduced, on an average, about 25 per cent. since the war, and that if wheat remained so low as 54s per quarter, another reduction of 25 per cent. must be submitted to. But now we are reduced to 35s per quarter for wheat, and the whole rent on half the soils in the kingdom, must be swept away altogether, if this price is allowed by the legislature to continue. I ask, why is the landlord to be called upon to sacrifice his rent, which is as fairly due to him, (being the interest on the capital he has invested in the land), as the interest of any other capital is to any other capitalists? Why is not this species of public property to be protected, as well as any other? The landlord made his investment in the land upon the calculation of realizing 3 per cent. for his money; and he consented to receive that low rate of interest on the principle, and on the pledge that land was absolute security;—and is he not to get 1 per cent. on it? or is he to be called upon to forego the whole? What plea has the fundholder more than he? The fundholder bought into the funds, speculating on a higher profit; he expected he had a great risk to run, but he was willing to run the risk for the immediate advantage of a higher rate of interest; he got 5 per cent., when the landlord was willing to receive 3:—the landholder bought his land, calculating on a less per centage, on the principle that he was to have the least possible risk to run. He was to have less immediate gain, but that gain was to be absolutely secured, and to be permanent; the fundholder was paid to run the risk; he received the price in exchange for less security, and now he receives all the price, and all the security likewise;—while the landlord who paid him to encounter this danger, has had all the danger to incur himself, and has lost his property in the bargain to that very party he had paid money too to protect it. We are coolly told we must come down to the level of 1792—the times before the war. Would to God we were allowed so to do! 1792, with its higher prices, and lower taxes! What was the situation of the landlord in 1792? I have now before me an abstract from the books of an experienced agriculturist, on which reliance may be placed, which has been continuously kept by his father and himself since 1792, on a farm of 600 acres. The following are the results:—

|                                   | 1813<br>Higher than<br>1834<br>Per Cent. | 1834<br>Higher than<br>1790<br>Per Cent. |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Agricultural Labour.....          | 44                                       | 46                                       |
| Carpenter's Work .....            | 66                                       | 77                                       |
| Smith's ditto.....                | 26                                       | 66                                       |
| Sadler's ditto .....              | 26                                       | 63                                       |
| Thatcher's ditto .....            | 28                                       | 58                                       |
| Mason's ditto .....               | 20                                       | 66                                       |
|                                   | 6)210                                    | 6)376                                    |
|                                   | 35                                       | 62                                       |
| Household:—                       | EXPENSES                                 |                                          |
| Tea, Sugar, Candles, Malt, &c.... | 67                                       | 30                                       |
| Shoemakers's Work.....            | 25                                       | 64                                       |
| Tailor's ditto.....               | 19                                       | 55                                       |
| Cooper's ditto.....               | 33                                       | 73                                       |
| Domestic Servants and Education.  | 29                                       | 66                                       |
|                                   | 5)173                                    | 5)288                                    |
|                                   | 34                                       | 57                                       |

|                    | LOCAL TAXES.                             |                                          |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
|                    | 1834<br>Higher than<br>1813<br>Per Cent. | 1834<br>Higher than<br>1790<br>Per Cent. |
| Poor-rates.....    | 33                                       | 116                                      |
| Highway-rates..... | 30                                       | 200                                      |
| County-rates.....  | 69                                       | 550                                      |
| Church-rates.....  | 66                                       | 700                                      |
|                    | 4)198                                    | 4)1566                                   |
|                    | 49                                       | 391                                      |

The prices of agricultural produce in 1813, were, on the average, 100 per cent. higher than 1834, (taking into the account an unnatural price in wool, stock, barley, oats, and hay from the rot three or four years ago, and the last two dry springs). Yet, with a diminished price in his produce of 100 per cent., the British agriculturist has experienced a fall of only 35 per cent. on the wages he has to pay! 34 per cent. in his household expenses; while he has to pay an increase of 49 per cent. local taxation, with 100 per cent. less price of produce.

Again, taking the same temporary causes into account for a rise in certain articles at the present time (as in the previous case,) and no one practically acquainted with agriculture will deny that such exception must be made to come to a fair conclusion; the prices of agricultural produce in 1790, testing them by wheat, were as 49 to 42, or 15 per cent. higher than 1834; yet the agriculturist in 1834 although receiving 15 per cent. less for his produce has to pay for his

|                         |     |             |
|-------------------------|-----|-------------|
| Labour.....             | 62  | } Per Cent. |
| Household expenses..... | 57  |             |
| Local taxes.....        | 391 |             |

more than the agriculturist of 1790.

Now, Sir, it appears that the rent of these 600 acres of land at each of these periods, if levied really according to the rate of prices and expenses of cultivation, would be:—

|        | 1790 | 1813  | 1834 |
|--------|------|-------|------|
| Rent.. | £851 | £1227 | £353 |

And this upon a farm more than commonly productive, and where the proportion of grass is unusually large; namely, nearly one half: thus reaping the benefit of an adventitious rise in the price of wool, at least 300 per cent. higher than it was four or five years ago, before the rot in the sheep flocks commenced. But for this circumstance of wool, sheep, and stock selling so high in consequence of scarcity, it is plain that the farm would, in latter years, have been worth scarcely, if any rent at all. Under these circumstances, is the landlord tamely to submit, not merely to the entire loss of his property, but to have the taunt thrown out on so many occasions that he is grasping at a monopoly and calling for higher prices, regardless of the general interests of the country? Instead of thus tamely submitting to be led like sheep to the slaughter, my advice to the landlords is to resist to the uttermost this barefaced and unjustifiable attack upon their properties; this handing over of their estates into the possession of Jews and stock-jobbers.

The state of distress, Sir, which I have feebly endeavoured to pourtray, has existed with very slight intervals ever since the peace; there have been, indeed, occasional gleams of prosperity since that period; however, they were but of short continuance. The best estimate perhaps of the long continuance of this dreadful pressure may be formed from the speeches which have been deli-

vered from the throne on the opening of the sessions of parliament which have intervened. In 1815, distress was stated generally; and the Prince Regent's speech, on the 28th of January, 1817, states,—

The distresses consequent upon the termination of a war of such universal extent and duration, have been felt with greater or less severity throughout all the nations of Europe, and have been considerably aggravated by the unfavourable state of the season.

From the end of 1817 to the beginning of 1819, however, there was a recurrence of prosperity; then from 1819 to 1822 a recurrence of adversity; and again from 1823 to 1825 a recurrence of prosperity; and lastly, from 1825 to the present time, another recurrence of adversity: these changes and alterations, therefore, could not have sprung from the mere transition from war to peace, because, at various periods subsequent to the termination of the war, prosperity had arisen; showing that prosperity could exist in time of peace.

There have been many causes assigned at different times for the prevalent agricultural distress; sometimes it has been over-production. The Prince Regent says, in 1817, it was under-production: first comes over-production, then under-production, then over-population,—as if over-population and over-production were not the two things exactly adapted to each other; and, besides these delusive theories, we are told it is in consequence of a great supply of corn from Ireland. This is not the first time in our history, when distress arising from a scarcity of money, has been attributed to the importation of Irish produce; to this, perhaps, I shall allude hereafter: but such reasons are vain and mischievous, and I verily believe they are only fostered and encouraged by designing men, who make a profit of our distress, and whose interest it is to deceive the suffering agriculturists into hopes that never can be realized.

As a corollary upon the speech of 1817, there was a deficiency in the revenue—considerable excitement and disturbance throughout the country—the Prince Regent was personally attacked—and petitions for relief from taxation and for reform were numerous. Sir, notwithstanding the smile of the right hon. gentleman, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, when I mentioned, a short time ago, that distress was the parent of reform, there does thus appear to be a close connexion and sympathy between the distress of the people and their desire for reform; and what I had conceived as a probable result, is thus confirmed by history.

In February, 1818, the speech announces a revival of trade and a removal of distress. It is well known that, upon the suggestion of the government, in 1817, the Bank of England put 3,000,000l or 4,000,000l more of its paper into circulation; and consequent upon that were the higher prices of agricultural produce, and the removal of distress. I know it will be advanced by some that the rise in corn in 1817-18 was from deficient harvests; I am aware that 1816 was a deficient harvest: but we never have prosperity among all classes in a time of famine: whereas, in these years, the speech from the throne lays particular stress on the well-doing of trade; besides, all other prices as well as corn rose in 1817-18, which shows that other causes were at work. We find it stated again, in January, 1819, that "trade, commerce, and manufactures were in a most flourishing condition;" but mark the contrast in a few short months. On November the 14th the house was called together on account of seditious



practices in the manufacturing districts, and a spirit manifested for the "subversion of the rights of property, and of all order in society." This was at the end of the year after Mr. Peel's bill had passed, although by the Prince Regent's speech, in January of the same year, it appeared that "trade, commerce, and manufactures had been in a flourishing condition." Here we see the consequence of restricting the circulating medium, by which both the manufacturing and commercial interests were thrown into a state of depression. Here we have, again, corroborated the principle that distress and discontent travel hand-in-hand.

In 1821, the speech from the throne declares "distress to be still pressing upon a large portion of the country; "the foreign trade also in a state of depression." Gentlemen who remember the low prices of 1821, and who are clamorous for a lower price of corn for the benefit of the foreign trade, should also bear in mind the effects of low prices upon the foreign trade in 1821. On the 5th of February, 1822, the speech states that the revenue was increased, the more important branches of commerce and manufactures in a flourishing condition; and the King proceeds to say, "I must, at the same time, deeply regret the depressed state of the agricultural interests." On the 4th of February, 1823, the King declares the "continued depression of the agricultural interests," and the "flourishing condition of commerce;" and "there is a surplus revenue."

On the 3rd of February, 1824, the tone of the King's speech was entirely changed. I had not the honour of a seat in this house at that time, but I doubt not there are some hon. members present who remember the "prosperity speeches" of his Majesty's then Chancellor of the Exchequer. His Majesty also states the "prosperous condition of the country, (wheat, remember had risen 20s a quarter);—trade and commerce were extending themselves at home and abroad;—and increasing activity pervading every branch of manufacture;—increasing revenue;—agriculture recovering from the depression under which it laboured;—and a cheerful spirit of order pervading all classes of the community." Here is another illustration of the fact,—that when the people are comfortable and prosperous, they do not trouble themselves much about reform. The prosperity of 1824, it is well known, proceeded from Lord Londonderry's One-Pound Note Act, and the pushing out of 3,000,000. or 4,000,000. of paper by the Bank of England; Lord Londonderry publicly declaring that he promoted these measures with a view of restoring prosperity.

The speech on the 3rd of February 1825, declares "A continued improvement in the state of the agricultural interest, the solid foundation of our natural prosperity" (a doctrine which, I am afraid, has been lost sight of during the last few years). "All the great interests of the nation in a thriving condition; and a feeling of content and satisfaction widely diffused throughout all classes of the British people"—"Ireland participating in the general prosperity." Ireland, too! It seems in these times they had discovered the secret of assuaging the discontent of that country also.

The speech from the throne, on the 2nd of February 1826, deplores the late pecuniary crisis; and proceeds—"Some of the causes to which this evil must be attributed, lie without the reach of parliamentary interposition; nor can security against the recurrence of them be found, unless in the experience of the sufferings which they have oc-

casioned." This is the sort of general mode in which we have always dealt with money and banking concerns; we slur them over, or lay the blame at the wrong door, and refuse all inquiry into the cause of any mischiefs arising from their operation. I may probably hereafter have occasion to speak of the causes of this panic, and shall be enabled to show, that it might have been prevented by parliamentary interposition, and that it arose not out of a larger quantity of paper circulating, but because parliament had neglected to provide a sufficient basis on which it could rest.

On the 21st of November, 1826, parliament again met. In the speech, depression and suffering in trade and manufactures are regretted—abating but slowly; and certain sorts of foreign grain, not then admissible by law, were admitted in September, under (I think) orders in council. An amendment was moved to the address, and rejected by 170 to 24,—"That the cause of the existing distress is 'an excessive taxation, disproportionate to the reduced value of property, and to the diminished return for the capital employed in the land, in manufactures, and in commerce.' " Parliament appears to have begun at last to think that the transition from war to peace had not been the cause of all the distress.

The speech on the 29th of January 1828, states, that "A considerable increase in the export of the principal articles of British manufacture had taken place, indicating the continued abatement of commercial difficulties." That was the time when the Duke of Wellington was at the head of affairs, and Lord Althorp sat on this side of the house. I remember his speech upon that occasion; he stated, that though the distress appeared to have met with some abatement, he feared it was only temporary. Now I do not mean to insinuate that a seat on the other side had any effect on the noble lord; but still, when he was sitting on the treasury benches, only a short time afterwards, his opinions seemed to change with respect to the character of the distress,—showing, that gentlemen in office either have not time to investigate into distress, or that they have one test to measure it by in office, and another out of office. Lord Stanley also declared, in 1828, that he believed the improvement to be superficial—the distress deep and lasting.

In February 1829, the speech speaks merely of the "improvement of the revenue." On the 4th of February 1830, it is declared—"That the exports, in the seven last years, of British produce and manufactures, exceeded those of any former year; his Majesty regrets that, notwithstanding this indication of active commerce, distress should prevail among the agricultural and manufacturing classes." The cause assigned is—"unfavourable seasons, and other causes, beyond the reach of legislative control." An increased export, therefore, seems to form no criterion of the prosperity, in this case, even of the manufacturing interest, but certainly not of the agricultural interests; for, in the year 1822, when the petitions of the agriculturists were so numerous for relief, Mr. Huskisson stated, that, notwithstanding these petitions, the exports for the last three years were increased. In 1830, also, when his Majesty deplored the continuance of agricultural distress, Mr. Huskisson made a speech to the same effect, namely,—that the exports for the last three years had considerably increased. To this day, it is the fashion with a certain party to boast of increased exports, to console the farmers for their distress; and I may remind my right hon. friend the President of

the Board of Trade, that his speeches, on other occasions, have been quite consistent with those of Mr. Huskisson; for, in 1833, when the agricultural interests complained that distress had been going on so long among them, he quoted long tables of the increase of exports, to show how flourishing they ought to be. Poor comfort! I trust we shall hear no more of the exports being a test whereby to measure the degree of agricultural distress or prosperity. On three separate occasions it has failed of success; which shows, however great the identity of interest may be (and I believe it to be entire) between the agricultural interest and the manufacturers for the home market, that the export trade is in a great measure independent of this connexion, and may exist distinct and apart from it.

Parliament met again November 1830. The speech remarks upon the "spirit of discontent and dissatisfaction among the people—breaking of machinery," &c.; so that Lord Althorp seems to have been right, out of office, when he stated the improvement to be temporary. This was about the time that the great cry for reform was so rife.

June 21, 1831, parliament re-assembled. The speech alluded to "local disturbances; the desire for reform remaining unabated.

January 1833. The speech laments the distress; and talks of peace affording the best and most effectual remedy. This was the meeting of the first reformed parliament. Many petitions were presented complaining of distress. My honourable friend, the member for Whitehaven, brought forward a motion for a select committee to inquire into the distress, and into its connection with the changes in the monetary system, which had taken place since the war. This was resisted by the government, and defeated by a tremendous majority. But two committees were granted, subsequently—one to inquire into the state of agriculture; the other into the state of manufactures, trade, and commerce. Great distress was proved on the first; nothing was done to relieve agriculture; no report was made from the other; prosperity was attempted to be proved, but it failed. The one body, whose distress was undoubted, had no relief granted; the other, which was said to be doubtful in its situation, received immediate relief in the shape of a remission of the house-tax; and this was consistent with the manner in which applications for relief have generally been received in this house.

On the meeting of Parliament on the 4th of February, 1834, the King "laments the continuance of distress amongst the proprietors and occupiers of land." In 1835, he repeats the same, and hopes a remission of local taxation will relieve them. Thus the distress of the agricultural interests has now existed almost without intermission for eighteen or twenty years. I cannot but think it, therefore, to be the most important duty of this House to apply itself without loss of time to the consideration of some really effectual means of relief. No one denies the distress, although some perhaps are not aware of the awful extent to which it has proceeded. Is the country to submit to it any longer? It is no longer to be put off by such delusive apologies as the transition from war to peace. Low prices are peculiar, under ordinary circumstances, to war rather than to peace. Peace, from generation to generation, has been typical only of comfort and blessings; now our philosophers would have it a by-word for ruin and desolation. What were the prices at the different periods of peace and war during the last century?

The following statement was made by the late Marquess of Titchfield in the debate on Mr. Western's motion in 1822:—

|                                             |         |
|---------------------------------------------|---------|
| The War of the Revolution from 1683 to 1697 | £2 10 8 |
| 1698 to 1701, Peace of Ryswick              | 2 12 6  |
| 1702 to 1712, War of Spanish Succession     | 2 4 11  |
| 1713 to 1739, Peace of Utrecht              | 2 0 4   |
| 1740 to 1748, War of Flanders               | 1 15 5  |
| 1749 to 1754, Peace of Aix la Chapelle      | 1 18 2  |
| 1755 to 1762, War of America                | 2 1 10  |
| 1763 to 1774, Peace of Paris                | 2 9 5   |
| 1775 to 1782, War of America                | 2 1 11  |
| 1783 to 1792, Second Peace of Paris         | 2 6 2   |

Making on the whole the price of wheat in peace higher than in war.

So that it is evident there is nothing in the nature of war to cause a rise of prices, unless some other peculiar circumstances are in operation to produce that rise. The peculiar circumstances in operation during the late war were the Bank Restriction Act of 1797, which empowered the Bank of England to issue its notes without being called upon to exchange them for gold. Of course they increased their issues, and just as the issues increased, prices of every description rose. In 1819, the Restriction Act was put an end to, and the Bank compelled to pay their notes in gold; so that they withdrew their issues, and prices fell in proportion; and this was done in defiance of all the engagements which had been entered into at a rate of prices double to those that must ensue; and notwithstanding the actual doubling, in consequence of the national debt. Here is the true secret of all our distress; and because we want a palliation of the mischief, it is said we want to go back to an inconvertible paper currency. We want no such thing, and the accusation is wilfully made to produce an invidious impression against us. We are convinced that the way to remedy an evil is to look to the cause of it; and, therefore, we seek and expect some mitigation of our distress only through some modification of our monetary system.

But what has been done since 1815, when the distress began? We passed a prohibitory corn-law that year, making 80s. the pivot price. Did that raise the price of wheat? No; it fell immediately after. We passed another corn-law in 1822, making 70s. the pivot; wheat immediately rose. We passed a third corn-law in 1828, making 64s. the pivot; wheat rose for two or three years after. It is evident, therefore, that corn-laws have not had the effect of raising the price of corn. What, then, has been effectual in raising the price and removing distress since the war? The facts are distinct and acknowledged. In 1817, the Bank of England, having withdrawn about 3,000,000*l.* of its notes, to prepare for cash payments, again, at the suggestion of government, let out 3,000,000*l.* or 4,000,000*l.* more of its issues, with the express object of relieving the distress. It did relieve it; and prosperity continued until the Bank of England notes were again withdrawn in 1819. From that time adversity continued until 1822, when Lord Londonderry, with the express purpose of relieving the distress, prolonged the existence of the 1*l.* notes. The Bank of England again increased their issues about 4,000,000*l.*, and we again had relief and prosperity. These issues were again withdrawn after 1825, and we have had adversity ever since. The higher prices of wheat of the three years succeeding 1828, were entirely owing to deficient crops. I may be taxed, from what I have said, with being an enemy to the corn-laws; I am no such thing.



As I understand it, Sir, at a certain given amount of currency in the country, you can only have a certain price for wheat. Now, supposing that to be 40s. per quarter, I maintain that no corn-law can raise it beyond that price. The effect of the corn-law, is to prevent foreign corn coming into the market at a cheaper rate, so as to depress it below the natural currency price of (say) 40s. If foreign corn can come in, duty-free, at 30s. per quarter, it will lower wheat in this country from 40s., its currency price, down to 30s., there or thereabouts; so that in the supposed case of 40s. being the remunerating price, the corn-law would be a protection of 10s. a quarter; but supposing we had a currency price of 60s. a quarter, the corn-laws might then be a protection of 30s. a quarter. Let us not hope, therefore, that corn-laws alone will raise prices, or expect any mitigation of our distress, until the causes of it are removed. Effects will only follow causes, and until the causes of it be removed, the effects will never cease.

What, however, has been done since the year 1815 for the relief of agriculture? An Agricultural Committee sat in 1820, 1821, 1822, and they made several Reports; the first of which was July, 1820, with respect to the rumours of smuggling from Guernsey and Jersey; and this was the programme of what is going on now. The farmers cannot be expected to go very deeply into the causes of their distress, especially when it arises from so difficult a source to be understood as the operations of the monetary system. They know that when a greater quantity of corn than ordinary comes into the market, that it depresses the price; they therefore look about them for such an occurrence. They are told that Guernsey and Jersey have the privilege of sending corn here, duty-free, and also of importing foreign corn, duty-free. So they, naturally enough, suppose that fraud may take place. But they will cease to dwell on this as the cause of their distress, when they know that the investigation now going on before a Committee of this House, proves that the whole of the wheat imported from the Channel Islands into this country does not exceed 3,000 or 4,000 quarters. In 1821, there was another Report made, dwelling chiefly upon the causes of the distress, which were in a great measure attributed to the change in the value of money. This Report was understood to have been drawn up by Mr. Huskisson; and it complained of the increased importation of Irish corn, and we are now repeating the same complaint; and we did so 150 years ago, under distress arising from a scarcity of money. The Right Honourable Baronet, the Member for Tamworth, on every occasion, takes great pains to attribute the fall in the price of corn to the importations from Ireland; and yet it is an extraordinary fact, that in the year 1834, wheat fell 10s., though there was much less both of wheat and flour imported from Ireland than in the year preceding, as the following account from Liverpool will shew:—

| From Ireland into Liverpool.                                                                                    | WHEAT.<br>Qrs.      | Oats.<br>Qrs.       | BARLEY.<br>Qrs.    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Total Import from 1st Oct., 1832, to 1st Oct., 1833.                                                            | 421,414             | 331,561             | 18,280             |
| Ditto from 1st Oct., 1833, to 1st Oct., 1834.                                                                   | 344,174             | 282,109             | 22,352             |
| Increase or decrease during the twelve months ending 1st Oct., 1834, compared with the preceding twelve months. | 77,240<br>Decrease. | 49,452<br>Decrease. | 4,102<br>Increase. |

| From Ireland into Liverpool.                                                                                    | BEANS.<br>Qrs.     | MALT.<br>Qrs.      | FLOUR.<br>Bags.     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Total Import from 1st Oct., 1832, to 1st Oct., 1833.                                                            | 13,629             | 5,042              | 293,665             |
| Ditto from 1st Oct., 1833, to 1st Oct., 1834.                                                                   | 15,283             | 1,506              | 270,357             |
| Increase or decrease during the twelve months ending 1st Oct., 1834, compared with the preceding twelve months. | 1,654<br>Increase. | 3,536<br>Decrease. | 23,308<br>Decrease. |

The supply of wheat last year, it thus appears, is deficient nearly 20 per cent. from Ireland into Liverpool; the port to which more than half the Irish corn is sent. And yet, in the face of this diminished supply from Ireland, wheat has fallen 10s. 8d. per quarter within the year.

How can it be said, then, that the fall of price is to be attributed to Irish importations—and where shall we go next for a subterfuge to conceal the true causes of the ruinous effects which are in operation? The third Report was in April, 1822, concerning the proposed change in the corn-laws. The fourth Report in May, 1822, related to warehousing corn under the King's lock. The next Committee which sat upon the state of the agricultural interests was in 1833. I had the honour to sit on that Committee, and I never heard more faithful evidence given than was given on that occasion; and this evidence was not exaggerated in the Report which was made to the House; it was drawn up by the Chairman, the Right Honourable Baronet, the Member for Cumberland, who was then in the Cabinet, and the picture of distress was any thing but overdrawn. I will not weary the House by going into the details of the evidence now; the general tenour of it proved that the land had become depreciated in point of produce, in consequence of the necessities of the farmer having induced him to overcrop and scourge it, whilst his poverty disabled him from enriching it with manure—that the tenants were, three-fourths of them, insolvent—that there was a scarcity of live stock, because the necessities of the farmers were so great that they were obliged to dispose of them at two years old instead of waiting the proper age—that agricultural labourers were thrown out of employment, and that a better price for produce would bring them back again into full employ—that even at the then price of 54s. per quarter the cold clays (the ancient wheat soils of the kingdom) must go out of cultivation; besides many other disastrous circumstances with which I will not now trouble the House. I feel bound to state, that instead of these evils having been relieved since that period, they have become tenfold aggravated. Sir, what are the real causes to which we are to attribute this distress? I have stated that the corn-laws have failed to remedy them. I am not prepared to say that I am ready to part with the corn-laws, because, as I have stated before, at a certain point, they are a protection, though they will never give the advanced price which our circumstances require. The true causes of the distress are to be traced, and traced alone, to the change in the currency in 1819.

In 1822, Lord Western told us, that the distress which prevailed was owing to the change which had taken place in the value of money, and he brought forward a motion on the subject, which was lost by a large majority; but on every succeeding occasion in which the currency has been introduced into the House, there have been increasing numbers in favour of that having been really at the bottom of the distress. I have

stated shortly, before, how the farmers were affected by the change in the currency. By a larger issue of paper than war prices arose,—by diminishing that paper, prices were reduced one-half,—and there is no other method of raising prices again, but by some modification of the present money laws, except from scarcity, which is good for neither grower nor consumer. The general principles of this question are so well known to the House, that I will not dwell further upon them, except to say that no one has traced more clearly the connexion between an increased issue of paper, and an increase in prices, than the Right Honourable Baronet, the Premier for Cumberland (Sir James Graham). I know not how he will vote upon this occasion; but I refer to a well known pamphlet of his, entitled "Corn and Currency," published some years ago, which demonstrates how prices have been affected by changes in the amount of the circulating medium. During the debate upon this question, brought forward by Mr. Western in 1822, there were sentiments delivered by gentlemen of high character in this house, which we should do well to call to mind. Among others, Mr., now Sir R. Peel, stated.

Strong as his objections were to the inquiry, he could conceive a state of distress such as would require it; and if he believed the change in the currency had already caused such disasters, and was about to cause still greater disasters, he would then, though reluctantly, acquiesce in the motion.

(To be continued.)

### TITHES! TITHES!

The following intelligent and firm petition, on the subject of tithes, has been numerously and respectably signed, at Hawkhurst, and forwarded to T. L. Hodges, Esq.

"To the Hon. the Members of the Commons House of Parliament.

"The Petition of the Parishoners of Hawkhurst, in Kent,

"Sheweth,

"That your Petitioners, who are chiefly Hop Planters, and otherwise subject to an expensive course of cultivating their soil, have laboured under the worst evils of the existing Tithe Laws, until the burthen of their peculiar grievances compels them again to lay their case before your Hon. House, and once more to implore a measure of general relief.

"That the Tithes of this Parish belong to the Dean and Chapter of Christ's Church, Oxford, who let them for a term of years at almost a nominal rent, subject to a periodical renewal, on payment of a heavy fine.

"Your Petitioners consider this mode of letting as one of the great sources of the evils of the present system and an unfair evasion of the spirit of the law; for the enabling and restricting Statutes require that the rent reserved on such Leases shall be the same or more in amount than has been reserved within the preceding twenty years; thereby meaning that a fair annual rent shall be taken without a fine.

"Your petitioners submit that merely repealing or restoring these Statutes to their true intention would be a considerable benefit to all parties, and take from the Church that painful situation of breaking the spirit whilst keeping the letter of the law.

"In 1812, a former Lease was suffered to expire, and after many fruitless attempts on the part of the Parish to make fair arrangement with the Dean and Chapter, and notwithstanding (as they have heard) the terms offered by them exceeded those ultimately accepted, they gave the preference, and granted a Lease to their own Attorney, through whom the negotiations had been made, and who was thus, in his professional character, acquainted with all the terms and confidential communications which had arisen during the treaty, and thereby enabled to turn them to his own advantage in breach of fair dealing between man and man, and in defiance of the principle established in equity, that an attorney shall not deal with his principal.

"In that year your Petitioners, induced by the expensive nature of their cultivation, submitted to a Composition for five years, according to a valuation of the Surveyor of the Dean and Chapter, and upon the expiration of that Agreement in 1818, when the price of agricultural produce was high, particularly of Hops, with a prospect of good crops, and a probability of prosperity, and when a considerable capital had been expended in bringing the land into its then high state of cultivation, your Petitioners, in order to avoid the ruinous consequences of Tithe in kind (which was their only alternative), entered into an agreement for twelve years, by which they were to pay fifty shillings per Acre for Hops, twenty shillings for Wheat, and twelve shillings and sixpence for Lent Corn, &c., as well as all the taxes upon the tithes.

Your Petitioners need scarcely remind your Hon. House, that shortly after this period the depression of Agriculture commenced and proceeded with ruinous rapidity beyond what any human foresight could have anticipated,—the change in hops was at least from thirty pounds to fifty shillings per cwt., in wheat from ninety to fifty shillings per quarter, and other produce in a similar proportion; yet, notwithstanding all this and in spite of the daily evidence of its ruinous effects, by numerous failures, and unmindful of the great reductions made by other landlords and Tithe owners, the Lessee with (we believe) a few exceptions, exacted the full amount of his claim; and in addition to this, chose a period of the greatest distress (1822) to harass your Petitioners with a vexatious lawsuit to defeat a modus on the grass land, which had before been fully investigated in law and equity and decided positively in favour of the Parish;—this suit cost your Petitioners above 1,100*l* beyond the taxed costs. The consequence was that many an honest and industrious man fell a sacrifice to these exactions and burthens. When the agreement ended the Lessee commenced a course of litigation against all those who were in arrear, or where any question of his rights had arisen, and after driving the parties to all the expenses of vexatious and protracted lawsuits up to the moment of trial, he consented to a compromise upon terms which had been offered at first to avoid litigation.

"The year following the termination of this Agreement (1831), there then being a prospect of bad crops, he received a composition upon the valuation of his own agent, and in the next year he agreed in the same manner for all produce except hops, with a pledge to agree for them also, as soon as the extent of the crops could be ascer-



tained, but no sooner was the corn tithe harvested, and his composition upon that secure, than he proposed such terms for the hop land, as he well knew it was impossible to accede to, and the consequence was, that with one or two exceptions, the hops were taken in kind. From that period he has continued to take the whole tithes in kind, and not only subjected your petitioners to all the annoyance, loss and vexation which inevitably attends a strict exaction of the legal rights of the tithe owner, but also involved them in a continued course of litigation; for he not only compels them to sue for the poor's rates, but absolutely refuses to pay the highway rates, without assigning any reason for so doing, and at this moment his arrears of highway rates only, exceed 300*l*, and there are four lawsuits pending against him, which he conducts with the utmost hostility, grounding his defence on technical objections and not on the merits, —the evil of heavy arrears in parochial taxes, are too evident to require being set forth, but if all adopted the same course, the poor must starve and the highways be neglected, until the law could vindicate their rights, and in this case, notwithstanding the most able counsel have been employed, the pleadings, after nearly two years litigation, stand for argument upon demurrers, and as there are many cases before them, they are not likely to be heard for another year:—he also neglects to keep the chancel of the church in proper repair, and refuses to pay for some work done to it by the order of his own agent. Before leaving this part of the subject, your petitioners beg to observe, that there is great difficulty under the present mass of the highway acts, so to levy and enforce payment of the rates as not to be open to the ingenuity of a special pleader, and that before those or any poor's rates can be recovered, it is necessary to make a demand of payment and serve summonses, which must be personal, or at the residence; and as the lessee lives more than one hundred miles from the parish, the expense of constant journeys by the parish officers, is a very great tax, and if only that portion of the law were amended and the highway acts consolidated and simplified, it would effect a considerable saving both of money and trouble.

"The following statement will assist in showing the pecuniary losses which your petitioners have suffered, when compared with the surrounding country, during the twelve years in which your petitioners were paying under their agreement, fifty shillings per acre for hops, twenty shillings for wheat, and twelve shillings and sixpence for Lent corn, the neighbouring parishes were paying upon an average fifteen shillings for hops, ten shillings for wheat, and four shillings and sixpence for Lent corn, making a difference as under:—

|                                                            | Average quantity of acres each year. | Difference per acre. | Annual difference upon total quantity. | Total difference during 12 years. |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Hops.....                                                  | about 420 acres                      | 35 shillings         | 735                                    | 8,820                             |
| Wheat....                                                  | about 560 acres                      | 10 shillings         | 250                                    | 3,000                             |
| Lent Corn, ..                                              | about 700 acres                      | 8 shillings          | 250                                    | 3,360                             |
| Law expenses, including the modus sent, not less than..... |                                      |                      |                                        | 2,000                             |
|                                                            |                                      |                      |                                        | £17,180                           |

Thus making a difference of above £17,000. And when to this is added the great loss of subsequently taking the tithe in kind, and the deterioration in the value of land in the parish, occasioned by these circumstances, the sacrifice is too great not to demand unceasing efforts for a remedy. One individual, not a large occupier, who kept an account of the produce of his land during the agreement, states, that he paid £500 more than the tenth of his produce realized.

"Your petitioners cannot refrain from observing, that notwithstanding the very large sum taken from the parish for the church, the curate (it being a perpetual cure) is allowed (with reference to his station in life) a bare subsistence, that it is impossible for any person to take the living, and keep up the house, without a private fortune of his own; and that this large and populous parish (for the country) is only treated as a stepping-stone to higher preferment. The consequences are, that the cure, upon a vacancy, goes begging to be supplied, until some person is found willing to give him time and property until something better offers for him. That the parish has frequently been left for months without an officiating minister, and the constant changes prevent that union of interests and good fellowship which ought to exist between the ministers and parishioners.

"Your petitioners have long since stated their grievances to the dean and chapter, urging them to intercede and mediate between them and the lessee, but its only effect was to elicit a perfect indifference to their situation.

"Your petitioners having before sent a separate petition, praying for a general settlement of the tithe question, and joined in others to the like effect, refrain from troubling your hon. house with a repetition of the various reasons upon which they were founded. And having now stated their pecuniary sufferings, they leave your hon. house to judge of the other evil effects which the circumstances detailed in this petition must create, and their tendency to generate ill-will and dissatisfaction with the source from which they spring, and with all parties who do not hasten to provide a remedy, assuring your hon. house that they anxiously desire to support the church, and as the best means of doing so, to take from it only such matters as by length of time, and alteration of circumstances have become dangerous to its existence if suffered to continue unnoticed.

"Your petitioners therefore pray your hon. house will be pleased to take the whole question into its immediate consideration, bearing in mind that tithes were granted when the present mode of artificial and expensive cultivation was not known or contemplated,—when the pauper population did not rest so heavily upon the land, and when the other outgoings of the farmer bore no proportion to the present demands upon him. And that such remedy may be applied as will at least stop the ruinous and vexatious power at present vested in the tithe owner, particularly over a hop district. And that such other relief may be granted as the circumstances detailed in this and the numerous other petitions presented to your hon. house may seem to require.

"And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c."

## AGRICULTURAL REPORTS.

## SUFFOLK.

Since our last report, we have upon the whole, had an exceeding fine time for the in-gathering of the clover and hay, and which we have pleasure to state is more than an average bulk. On the 24th and 25th ult., we had unusually high winds accompanied by heavy rain, which lodged the greater part of the crops, and, during which time, the wind shifted to nearly every point. The wheats are very much broken down, particularly those rather light in bulk, which will cause an uneven sample; barleys are twisted in all directions, the quality of which will be decidedly injured by being lodged so early. The young turnips are looking healthy, and should they escape the attack of the fly for another week, will be out of danger. The price of wool has receded since our last; the wool fair at Ipswich nearly proved a failure, we mean for the transaction of business, and we fear the small quantity of business done (only one parcel of wool sold), and the decline instead of increase of prices realised at the fair, will do any thing but establish a wool fair for Suffolk. Indeed, we know many wool growers anticipated making 60s per tod of the best hogget wool. Harvest will not be so early in this county this year as it was last; should favourable weather ensue it will be generally commenced about the first week in August. As we anticipated, the value of trifolium incarnatum seed is barely one-third the price of last year, and at present hardly saleable at that reduction, as it is not yet known what demand there will be for it, and the produce of the seed is so abundant (from three to four sacks per acre) that a small breadth will supply a great many fresh growers, even should its culture become general.—July 16.

## NORFOLK.

The period has arrived which enables us to judge with some degree of accuracy as regards the condition of the crops, to which we are looking for the supplies of another year, and which are now fast approaching towards the season of harvesting. It will be recollected that at the time of wheat sowing there was, and had been for some time previous, a great want of moisture, in consequence of which many of the wheats did not plant well; this circumstance operated to a given extent on all soils not previously pulverized by summer tillage, and with regard to such lands we have ever since expressed an opinion that the plant was meagre and unpromising, nor is this opinion at all modified at the present moment, or do we hesitate to assert that the crop of wheat is exceedingly variable in its character; one portion, perhaps nearly a moiety, promises a productive harvest, whereas the other exhibits a manifest deficiency; and, taken as a whole, we believe it to be the opinion of farmers in general, (we allude to Norfolk only), that it is somewhat under an average crop. Barley and oats have improved of late, that is to say, those upon rich soils which had been injured by the wire-worm, and although there is some falling off in particular districts, the general appearance of the crop is satisfactory. Beans, peas, and all other leguminous crops are universally more promising than we have noticed them to be for some years past, and the low state of the thermometer, which even on the night of the 28th indicated the presence of frost, is a sufficient guarantee for the non-appearance of the *green aphid* or plant louse. The two successive wet days of the 24th and 25th came rather inopportunistically for the hay, a large

portion being then upon the swathe—the crop is heavier than was anticipated previous to its being cut, but even two wet days succeeded by others dull and uncongenial have in some measure deteriorated the quality. Turnip sowing is almost completed, the first are nearly fit for the hoe; no mention is made of the turnip fly, nor is there any reason to anticipate at the present moment any thing less than a full and thrifty plant. Grass is rather plentiful than otherwise, consequently the price of lean is proportionably high; lambs meet with a ready sale, and the grazier has more reason to be satisfied with the price of meat than he had during the early part of the season. Wool perhaps is a trifle lower than it has been, at least the buyers exhibit less inclination to purchase.—June 30.

## EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

The variation of the weather which we noticed in May, has continued through the month, which has just now closed upon us. That luxuriance of vegetation which was encouraged by the refreshing showers that fell pretty generally about the third day, was promoted by the heat of the atmosphere which succeeded; and again we have had a full supply of rain during the last week, to moisten the soil for turnips. The only drawback, therefore, relative to the weather, has arisen from the occasionally severe frosty nights which have been interspersed through the month. We ought, however, to be grateful to that merciful Providence, which has blessed us with a season favourable on the whole to the success of farming operations, though sufficiently indicative of our uncertain climate.

Wheat, upon strong soils, fully maintains its promise, and affords reasonable expectation of a full crop; upon lighter lands, it has not recovered the effects of the injury, which it sustained in March and April—it is thin and weak in the straw, and will be deficient in produce. Beans are more than usually promising; and this observation extends generally to their sister tribe, peas and tares. Barley is likely to be a productive crop; but the Oats seem again generally to be somewhat below mediocrity. We are often deceived in early prognostics relative to crops; in none more so than in clover and young grasses. The season for sowing these was apparently very favourable; they vegetated quickly, and rose thick upon the ground in April; but if we are not mistaken, they suffered greatly from the severe frosts which occurred during the latter part of that month, and early in May. In many fields, the plants entirely disappeared before they attained the clover leaf; and generally, upon examination, among the growing crops of corn, they appear to be thin and irregular. In such instances, perhaps even yet, a half seed would be well bestowed in an attempt to increase the number of the plants; the growing corn would afford shelter; and where the soil is not very strong, the earth is sufficiently moist to promote their vegetation, whilst lying on the surface of the soil.

The fly has been very busy with the Swedish and other early sown turnips, and where a full quantity of seed has not been allowed, the injury is serious. The sowing of turnips is now going forward, and we would therefore earnestly recommend an increase in the quantity of seed, and the universal use of the *drill*, with early and frequent hoeing by horse and by hand.

Potatoes are a variable crop, and many growers of them have again suffered from that new disease, which is now becoming too well known, under the term of the "dry rot." Further inquiry into the causes of this devastation, and the means of avoid-



ing it, is a useful object of research for all agricultural associations.

The scythes are now in requisition, and the weather for hay making is highly favourable. The crop will be rather light, but it is in vain to hope for increase by delay. Salt, in the proportion of 14lb. sprinkled among a ton of hay, in the stacking of it, gives it a peculiar relish for all stock, and has a tendency greatly to improve the health of sheep. Its application in this mode occasions little trouble, is a small expense, and highly beneficial.

The markets have not varied very materially during the month, either for cattle or for grain. Beans are in the most request, and of equal value per bushel with wheat: inferior samples of the latter are now, perhaps, the cheapest grain that can be given to cattle.—July 1.

#### WOODBRIDGE.

The weather has been very hot and dry during the week, and the corn is maturing rapidly. Wheat reaping will commence on Monday week, and be general in fourteen days. This crop is variously spoken of; from all accounts it appears the quality is likely to prove light and uneven, and the quantity not so large as the last two seasons. Barley promises most abundantly, and quality fine. Beans are a partial crop—on the whole an average produce is expected. Peas a great crop, and large in breadth. Oats are also good. Red suckling, trifolium, and trefoil, are all harvested in a very fine condition: the two former fine quality, and yield largely; the latter is of good colour, but the seed small—the crop an average, but the breadth left short. Turnip-seeds are a deficient crop.—July 18.

#### WILTSHIRE.

The unnaturally gross appearance of the Wheat crop in the month of May was succeeded by a more healthy hue as it came into ear, and the prospect before the rain of the 24th of June was as good as ever known. So much of the Wheat crop laid at so early a period has seldom been remembered, and it is difficult to judge of the consequence, but we must expect a larger proportion of lean and ill-ripened grain, and a continuance of wet will have a bad effect on it.

The spring crops are promising, but more particularly the beans, and from the failing crop of last year, and the supposed less quantity planted in the present year, it is probable that the price will still keep proportionably high. The quantity in the farmer's hands has not been so small for many years, and this observation may apply to spring corn generally.

The quantity of Wheat in hand is supposed to be an average. The few large holders in the country may make up for the very many farmers who have little or none, and so bring the proportion to be about equal to that of other years.

Early turnips and Swedish turnips are promising. The cold rain of the 24th and 25th of June was very serviceable to them. The result of the crop of other winter turnips will not be known for some weeks to come.

The crop of hay is good, and nearly all secured in excellent order.

The prospect of the renting farmer is not improved. The income and expenditure (particularly for labour and tradesmen's bills) are quite out of order.

Thanks to the Poor Law Amendment bill, and in some degree to the low price of the necessaries of life, the expenditure on account of the poor rate is declining, so that some little relief may be looked for in the next year on this score.

The number of farm labourers out of employ is

much less than in the corresponding month of the last year. And those who have had constant work are better off than they usually are.—July 10.

#### NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

The reporters for most counties say that the crops of wheat are very abundant, but in the writer's opinion, if wheat makes 5l per quarter the next season, it will not make more per acre than it has in the present year, which has been most ruinous to the farmer, as has been proved, and still will be proved by the country newspapers, of advertisements of farms to let, and will be likewise ruinous to the proprietors, as in some places farms of 200 acres, for which the tenant's rent was to be 50l per annum, but not being paid, the landlord asked him on the Market-hill for the rent, when the tenant replied "if you do not give me 50l per annum, I will not continue in the farm;" but the landlord, being a man of business from childhood, and knowing that little incomes would not support great outgoings, thought it would be better to make a compensation to give his tenant 50l a-year to occupy his farm in an husbandman-like manner, rather than be plagued and teased to lose 100l a-year besides the interest of his money employed upon the same farm to stock it, and to pay other expenses.—July 6.

#### DURHAM.

For the last three weeks or a month, the weather has been very dry and parching, and during that time we have been visited with most awful thunder storms accompanied with strong winds and hail storms, which have done considerable damage to the growing crops, windows, and many lives have been lost by the electric fluid.

The wheat crop in many situations has suffered seriously, partly by being cut and shattered by the hail, and partly by the strong wind which broke it down, loosened the root &c., the consequences of which cannot at present be estimated or calculated upon with any degree of precision; but it is obvious there must be an imperfect maturing to a great degree, but such a calamity would not have been so seriously felt when corn was sold at 7s or 8s per bushel. A little failure in one crop could have been got over, but now, when it is little more than half that price, it is feared such a failure in the staple crop will be more serious in its consequences; such a calamity, added to what was previously considered a light, and considerably under an average crop, will, it is to be feared, fall heavy upon many a poor and industrious farmer, who had struggled hard to keep his head above water for a series of years past, in hopes of some change of fortune, but will now be broken down in spirit, as well as his purse. As before alluded, the wheat crop is much below an average, as far as can at present be judged upon, being then on the ground with a pale withered blade; this applies to the great bulk of wheat lands. Then, on the other hand, upon loamy alluvial soils some fine looking crops, which have in many instances been much beaten down with the storms of hail. Oats are also, upon the great bulk of arable land, looking short and thin on the ground. The early-sown turnips are looking healthy, and promise, so far, to be a crop; but they are yet in their infancy. The hay harvest is now pretty general, and the crops of seeds, owing to the failure of the clover, will be light, and there being little stock of old hay the prices have advanced of late.

Fat cattle are in good demand, and good fat beasts, of not too large weights, are from 6s to 6s 6d per stone of 14lbs. Mutton, of light weights, are 6d per lb. sinking offal.

## AGRICULTURAL INTELLIGENCE, FAIRS, &c.

**INVERNESS SHEEP AND WOOL FAIR,** July 15.—Thursday, Friday, and Saturday last were the days of our annual market for the sale of sheep and wool. The market begun very unpromisingly. Thursday was totally a blank day, and Friday was nearly over before any of the principal lots were sold. When the ice was once broken, however, sales were rapidly made, and we believe we may safely state that the market has been a good one, with fair prices, and fully an average amount of business transacted. Last year prices were too high for the purchasers both of wool and sheep, and this year there has been a reduction of about 4s per stone on Cheviot wool, 6s on the double stone of black-faced, and 3s on Cheviot wethers per head. Ewes were greatly in demand, and the unfavourable spring having operated very injuriously in some of the districts, lambs were scarce, and fetched good prices. The highest price of Cheviot wethers was 27s 6d, and ewes 20s 6d. One fine lot of black-faced wethers brought 18s 9d each; another, 18s 6d. Cheviot lambs were within 6d of last year's prices, being sold as high as 11s. A fine lot sold at 11l the clad score, delivered at the fanks. One dealer from the south bought several lots of half-bred lambs at from 8s 6d to 10s 6d, and black-faced 7s. The highest price of Cheviot wool was 20s 6d per stone; another clip brought 20s 3d, and several 20s. One small lot of white hog wool washed (of which there was hardly any in the market, and which is applicable for combing in the manufacture) sold at 32s per stone. The following is a statement of the prices that were obtained:—

|                                   | SHEEP. | s. | s. | d. |
|-----------------------------------|--------|----|----|----|
| Wethers—Cheviot.....              | 22     | to | 27 | 6  |
| Do. black-faced.....              | 15     | to | 18 | 9  |
| Ewes—Cheviot.....                 | 18     | to | 20 | 6  |
| Do. black-faced.....              | 10     | to | 13 | 0  |
| Lambs—Cheviot.....                | 8      | to | 11 | 0  |
| Do. black-faced.....              | 7      | to | 8  | 0  |
| WOOL.                             |        |    |    |    |
| Cheviot, washed, per st. of 24 lb | 10     | to | 20 | 6  |
| Do. unwashed, do.....             | 15     | to | 16 | 0  |
| Black-faced, per double stone..   | 19     | to | 20 | 6  |
| Cross, unwashed.....              | 12     | to | 14 | 0  |
| Do. washed.....                   | 14     | to | 15 | 0  |

We understand that wool was sold, a few days previous, by Mr. Brown, of Linkwood, at 1s above the highest price at Inverness market, namely, the Morayshire clip at 21s 6d, the Rosshire clip at 20s, and first cross at 17s. The English wool market is in a healthy progressive state. This year a greater proportion of Highland wool was laid, or smeared, than usual, to preserve the sheep on the high grounds.

**SHERBORNE FAIR** displayed a larger supply of stock of all descriptions than has been seen for many years, particularly of poor Devon oxen. Buyers were also plentiful; and the sale was consequently brisk at somewhat better prices than have been recently quoted. Prime beef sold at 9s 6d a score. Sheep were not in much request, but lambs sold well.

**THE FAIR AT PROBUS**, was abundantly supplied with stock of every description, and both sellers and buyers appeared satisfied with the business transacted during the day. No material variation in prices.

**At PENRYN FAIR**, the supply of cattle was small, and but few sales were effected, at prices rather on the advance.

**GLASGOW HORSE MARKET.**—The town was on Wednesday thronged with people from the country; and the cattle market with a respectable supply of horses, although the exhibition could scarcely be said to equal that on Whitsun-Monday. Between 700 and 800 were brought forward. The attendance of purchasers was not great. The highest prices of draught horses were from 30l to 35l, with the exception of a few very superior animals, for which as high as 40l were refused. Other descriptions of horses were from 28l downwards, according to quality.

**At STOBBS FAIR**, the show of cattle was rather limited—scarcely so extensive as last year. Fat sold for about 7s per Dutch stone. There were few sheep offered for sale. Everything, comparatively speaking, went off quietly.

**At JOHNSTON FAIR**, the supply of all kinds of cattle was considered plentiful, and the prices high. Before the close of the market the price both of milch and small Highland cows were rather on the advance; the former sold at from 8l to 12l according to their condition; and the latter, which were principally two year olds, sold at from 3l to 5l.

**At OVERTON SHEEP FAIR** the supply was short—about 10,000 less than last year, which caused an advance of from 2s to 3s per head. It is said that 50,000 were sold within an hour.

**At KENNINGHALL FAIR**, in Norfolk, on the 18th instant, there was an unusually large supply of lambs, which met with an exceedingly dull sale at 1s or 2s per head below the late prices, varying from 12s to 22s each; full a third of the lambs penned remained unsold. We cannot be surprised at this depression when we consider that hogget wool is now about 10s per tod lower than last year; mutton since Christmas has been 1d per lb lower, and wheat, during the same period, 5s or 6s per coomb below last year's prices.

**COLCHESTER NEW FAIR.**—This fair was held on Thursday last, but the show of stock was not very large, and the horses chiefly of an inferior description; there was a fair supply of sheep. But little business was done, and that at reduced prices.

**ST. BOSWELL'S FAIR.**—There was a very good show of bred and half-bred lambs, but rather a poor show of Cheviot lambs. The market was brisk at the commencement, but became rather flat afterwards; however, very few lambs were left unsold. Best bred lambs may be quoted at from 20s to 23s 6d; half-bred, from 15s to 18s; Cheviot lambs, best, from 9s to 11s; and inferior lower in proportion; half-bred hogs, clipped, brought from 22s to 26s. There was a middling supply of grazing cattle, and a tolerably good demand. Two-year-olds sold from 3l to 10l 10s, and year-olds from 5l to 6l. There were few fat cattle in the market, which brought 6s per stone. There was a very great show of horses, though principally of an inferior description; superior horses were sought after at good prices. There was not a great deal of business done in the wool trade, the purchasers insisting upon a still farther reduction of price; what sales were effected were at prices something below those of previous markets. The linen market was pretty well supplied both with Scotch and Irish; each kind sold at about last year's prices.

**THE WEATHER AND CROPS.**—The weather having at length assumed an appearance of settledness, suitable to the advanced period of the season, the extent of the injury done to the crops may be now pretty correctly estimated. The effects of the high winds some weeks ago are now visible upon the



wheat—these having taken place when the plant was long and weakly, a great deal of the crop was broken over near the ground, and is indicated by the whitened and empty head. In the Carse of Gowrie the damage from this cause is estimated at about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  bolls on the acre; but in some more exposed situations the loss will vary from one-fifth to one-fourth of the entire crop. To the other kinds of grain the winds have done little injury, the stage of their growth having fortunately caused their escape. Green crops have improved much by the late rains, and the third sowing of turnips has been established where two former had failed. Potatoes have also improved greatly, and the blanks are not so visible as some weeks ago. New hay is selling at  $5\frac{1}{2}$ d to 6d in the tramp cole.—*Perth Courier*.

**ARUNDEL.**—The harvest is progressing in full force in this neighbourhood.

We understand that the wheats now growing on the fine light soils near the coast of the English Channel, are, in consequence of the present warm and genial weather, ripening rapidly, and that should no untoward rains intervene, the reaping-hook will be in active requisition on Monday next. The crops, we are happy to state, exhibit an appearance of the most abundant kind, such as ‘to cheer the heart of man,’ and to call forth the praise and gratitude of all classes to the ever bountiful Giver of all Good. It is highly probable, from present appearances, that on Saturday the 1st of August, new wheat will be exhibited in Dorchester market. The cutting of wheat commenced yesterday (Wednesday) in the vicinity of this town. The harvest has also commenced in the neighbourhood of Salisbury.—*Dorset County Chronicle* July 25.

**THE HARVEST.**—We have within the last fortnight had an opportunity of passing through a large tract of Norfolk, principally, however, on the South and Western sides. Nothing can look more promisingly than the general crops both of wheat and barley, though with some partial exceptions. It would be a great national benefit could the farmers of England inspect the crops now growing in Holkham Park, and the lands of Mr. Coke's tenants—that identical land which was refused at five shillings an acre, tithe-free, when he came to his estate. Upon this noble domain there are upwards of 400 acres of wheat, computed to yield at least eight coombs per acre—barley from 15 to 17, and upon one piece in the occupation of Mr. Wiseman, it is not doubted there are 20 coombs per acre. We never saw corn stand so thick or so heavy in the ear. The mangel wurzel is fine and flourishing, and the turnips made as certain a crop as any grown by the ridge system of cultivation. And all this in spite of the head of game and rabbits reared by the proprietor, who still enjoys field sports with the ardour of youth. If it be inquired how all this is achieved upon a soil naturally far from the most fertile, we must answer, it is the triumph of skill and capital. When Mr. Coke came into possession, 800 indifferent Norfolk sheep walked where 4,000 of the most perfect breed in England are now depastured—notwithstanding from 1,000 to 1,500 acres of land have been since planted. About 200 Devon oxen are sent to Smithfield yearly from the same fields—and, instead of horses, Mr. Coke now employs only the store stock for all his ploughing. More than forty cows feed daily upon his lawns. The cattle enrich the soil, and the soil in its turn gives sustenance to the cattle and the abundance of its crops. So long as the Holkham sheep-shearing continued, these facts were continually subjected to a wide and beneficial observation, and we feel that we do a little towards extending the ad-

vantages by recalling recollection to those noble by-gone scenes of science and hospitality, and by making known the successful continuation of the supremely excellent system of cultivation still pursued under the same liberal and energetic management.—*Norwich Mercury*.

Notwithstanding of a fortnight of cold and rainy weather, the crops appear to be splendid, more particularly on mossy soils. The wheats, which have been in ear for some time, appear to be remarkably well-headed, and the oats, we are glad to say, are ragging at last. Still the harvest will be from a fortnight to three weeks later than last year, and we need not remind our agricultural readers, that lateness is always accompanied with risk. The hay harvest has been sadly interrupted, and at this moment, we suppose we may say, that about a third of the crop is in rick, a third in the swathe, and a third uncut. From the low state of the temperature, we are inclined to believe that but little harm has been done as yet. A day or two ago a friend forwarded to us, from the estate of Cavens, a few ears of barley and bigg, perfectly ripe, with specimens of a particular kind of clover, the exact character of which we could not make out. The said barley and bigg, which formed part of a field of some extent, must have been sown either very early, or under circumstances so peculiar, that they deserve to be made known.—*Dumfries Courier*.

We have had an opportunity this week of observing the condition of the crops in a great many counties adjoining our own district, and are enabled to pronounce it to be generally, most promising; while in some particular places, and those not a few, it almost exceeds, in healthful luxuriance, anything of the kind we ever saw before. Our remarks particularly apply to wheat, barley, beans, and turnips, of which we have seen some of the finest crops that ever rewarded the labour of the husbandman. Almost every where wheat and barley are good crops—and more especially wheat; but oats in many places are somewhat scanty. The crops of all sorts must be considered backward—in many situations harvest will not be general before the latter end of August for wheat, and the beginning of September for oats. The state of the weather, which has this week been settled and fine, will under these circumstances be a subject of great anxiety.—*Carlisle Patriot*.

Nearly six hundred head of cattle have been imported into Worthington within the last ten days.

A jackdaw belonging to Mr. John Eaglesfield, of Maryport, died on Friday last, which was known to be nineteen years of age.

Seven hundred and eighty-two head of cattle have been landed at Maryport since the 4th instant, from Ireland.

**THE CHOLERA.**—It seems now pretty well ascertained that this disease, as experienced in England, originates in a disordered state of the stomach and bowels, brought on very commonly by the unlimited use of fruit, or from that which is almost unavoidable in this extremely hot weather, the indulgence in fermented or acid liquors. The most wholesome and efficacious remedy hitherto discovered for preserving or renewing the tone of the stomach is beyond all question, “Woodhouse's essence of Ginger.” In addition to the recommendation of the highest members of the Medical Profession, his Majesty has, within these few days been pleased to extend his Patronage to Mr. Woodhouse, and we are fully persuaded that it will speedily become an article of general use.

## RETROSPECT OF THE WOOLLEN TRADE.

The German Wool Fairs are now all ended. This annual foregathering of growers with dealers and consumers, not of one district or country, but of all districts and countries, at the season when the produce of the year is to be brought out for disposal amidst competition so general, and under circumstances so favourable for acquiring general information, and acting upon comprehensive views, is an occurrence which may well be regarded with much anxiety by all parties interested in the woollen trade. Different anticipations had been formed as to the probable result of these fairs; yet the general impression was that the previous moderate prices would again be accepted, if even some reduction upon them were not submitted to. Persons whose views or wishes led them to countenance the contrary expectation did not fail, however, to labour in their vocation:—the knowing look, the important shake of the head, the mysterious shrug of the shoulders, were not wanting to produce the desired effect, and they had already so far operated that the clothiers began to threaten an advance upon their *next* goods, only they took care not to refuse a saving price for those they had on hand.

We need not, therefore, be surprised if the same parties who then made it their object to encourage such a feeling, should now find ample scope for the exercise of their ingenuity in explaining, in modifying, and, perhaps, in mystifying a little, such actual results as do not square with their prognostications, and yet may not be more openly impugned. Accordingly, we may still be assured that there did exist the fairest imaginable prospect of advance, and that but for certain little contingencies, which no human foresight could have calculated upon, such prospect must inevitably have been realized. It is really mortifying to think "what dire mishap from trifling causes spring;"—how the brightest hopes may be defeated through the casual neglect of some minute point of very inferior importance in itself. At one of the earliest Wool Fairs, where growers and buyers were assembled, with hopes thus elated on the one hand, and a corresponding eagerness to purchase on the other, it was found that the wool was in such a state from imperfect washing, that no one but a first-rate judge could distinguish its quality. Of course the discriminating few had it all their own way; they held the unhappy grower between their finger and thumb, whilst their hesitating competitors were all at fault. Can it be matter of astonishment that under such circumstances the promised advance should not be realized? We are delighted, however, to find that means have been discovered to avoid such a catastrophe for the future. It is proposed that a number of MICROSCOPES be provided, of adequate power, and as high, we believe as 20 $\times$  each in value. Each buyer will be armed with one of these formidable instruments, and it will then be no longer in the power the keen-sighted catiff to take advantage of the less perfect visual capacity of his neighbourhood.

Another cause which has contributed to disappoint the rational hope of advance has been the difficulty of transporting the buyers with sufficient celerity from fair to fair, so that their force might be brought to bear in compact union upon the required point. This, too, will be remedied. The Germans, with all their good qualities, have hitherto been but a slow-travelling people. On their common roads, we grieve to say, their rate of progression has hardly exceeded

two miles and a half an hour, and a friend who has just returned from his tour to the fairs, assures us, almost with tears in his eyes, that even on the best Macadamized roads the *Schwager* is not to be induced, for love or money, to urge his steeds beyond the rate of five miles an hour. But railways are now the all-engrossing topic in Germany. In the coffee-house, at the table d'hôte, in public places, and in domestic retirement, nothing is spoken of but railways. The newspapers all teem with projects of lines from North to South, from West to East; from Hamburg to Vienna, and so on to Constantinople; from Rotterdam to Berlin and St. Petersburg, and so on to the frozen regions of Siberia. Let it not be apprehended that projects of this magnitude are all too slow of development to warrant us in looking to them for immediate relief. German enterprise is not easily awakened, but once in motion it knows no limit; like the famed wooden-leg of Meinherr von Wodenblock, the spring once touched nothing can stop its progress. It will not brook the tedious process of levelling and forming—the railways will be purchased ready-made, and fit for immediate use.

We have been insensibly led thus far astray by the contemplation of prospects so animating; but '*revenons à nos Moutons*,' let us come back to our Wool Fairs.

We have reports from a great number of places, at some of which fairs have been held for the first time; for so greatly has this branch of German industry become extended that we may say

"Fairs are now held where none were held before,  
And those who always held now hold the more."

We select a few of the principal fairs for the purpose of exhibiting the quantity brought to each, and, as far as we possess the means, a comparison of the present with the two preceding years:—

| Quantities in Cwts. |        |        |                                                                                                |
|---------------------|--------|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Breslau—            | 1835.  | 1834.  |                                                                                                |
| From Silesia        | 34,797 | 32,748 | In 1833, Silesia, 28,196 cwt.; the total quantity in that year would hardly exceed 36,600 cwt. |
| .. other parts      | 15,305 | 11,588 | In 1833 about 21,000 cwt.                                                                      |
| Total               | 51,102 | 44,336 | Left unsold 3,317 cwt.                                                                         |
| Berlin, about       | 40,000 | 35,000 | } Quantity greater, and prices lower than in former years.                                     |
| Stettin.....        | 20,656 | 24,000 |                                                                                                |
| Warsaw .....        | 15,000 | .....  | } Buyers from England, Berlin, Stettin, and Breslau.                                           |
| Leipzig .....       | 6,627  | .....  |                                                                                                |
| Weimar, about       | 4,000  | 2,500  | } Prices from 60 to 110 dollars; about 10 dollars lower than last year.                        |
| Gotha .....         | 1,600  | 315    |                                                                                                |
|                     |        |        | Quantities actually sold.                                                                      |

It is evident from this statement that, notwithstanding the increase in the number of fairs, there is no lack of supply for them all in abundance. It would, of course, be wrong to take this increase of quantity as a measure for the increase of produce, because we do not know how the private transactions stand, relatively, in the different years, but there is no question that the produce itself has increased amazingly.

A quotation of prices for an article which varies so much in quality as wool is in most cases of little value. It hardly conveys a more definite idea than did the intelligent witness in a trial for assault, who described the stone thrown as about as big as a lump of chalk. Such, generally, is the merit of our price current quotations of wool. But for the purpose of comparison between different periods of time, if we only know that the same quality is always designated by the same name, a quotation will an-



swer just as well as actual inspection. We give the prices as quoted for the Berlin fair for the same three years :—

|                                                                                | Rix dollars per cwt. |     |       |      |       |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----|-------|------|-------|-----|
|                                                                                | 1833.                |     | 1834. |      | 1835. |     |
| Ordinary .....                                                                 | 45                   | 50  | 42½   | 47   | 40    | 50  |
| Good ordinary.....                                                             | 62                   | 72½ | 62    | 72½  | 60    | 75  |
| Middle.....                                                                    | 80                   | 90  | 85    | 92½  | 82½   | 95  |
| Fine middle.....                                                               | 90                   | 100 | 92½   | 95   | 92    | 96  |
| Fine.....                                                                      | 110                  | 125 | 105   | 112½ | 100   | 105 |
| Extra Fine.....                                                                | 140                  | 150 | 130   | 140  | 115   | 125 |
| Some parcels of extraordinarily<br>fine and well managed wools<br>fetched..... | 150                  |     | 160   |      | 150   |     |
|                                                                                |                      |     |       |      | 150   |     |

For rough calculation it is usual to consider three dollars per cwt. equivalent to 1d per lb.

No person who has observed the course of the wool trade during these three years can fail to be struck with the remarkable approach to uniformity in price which this statement exhibits. The variations upon the most useful sorts will scarcely exceed 1d per lb., whilst in the interval of a year, between one clip and another, we have actually had the same sorts fluctuating as much as 1s. per lb., or from 30 to 50 per cent., and this, too, without any thing in the demand for goods, or the state of the trade generally, sufficient to account for the variation. If such person, however, will but cast his eyes around him, and remark the sort of hands into which the wool trade has fallen of late years, he need not be at a loss to assign an adequate cause for this pernicious state of things. At the Breslau fair, we observe, there were no less than 166 Jew dealers present from the neighbouring states, in addition to the Anglo-German migratory tribe. Our own portion of this latter detachment is yet on the increase. We have to report numerous accessions to it in the course of the past year, and we know but of one secession from its ranks. The light of one countenance, we find, has been permanently withdrawn from us. We believe the trade "could have better spared a better man;" but they cannot be allowed to pick.

The cessation of the war left a chasm in the employment of capital for speculative purposes which the wool trade has filled up. Loan-jobbing and stock-jobbing have given place to wool-jobbing. Goods-jobbing was tried at first, but with less brilliant results, and Manchester yields the *pas* to Leeds. The older occupants of the wool sack are no longer the fountain of precedent. They may not do violence to their consciences by the practice of all they learn, nor may they stultify themselves by the belief of all they hear; but yet they must keep up the appearance of humbly following in the wake of the new authorities, who thus find their views and opinions sought after and listened to with as much reverence as if they were expounding the mysteries of the Talmud.

The wool trade has acquired the character, good or bad, of being particularly easy to manage. The article, certainly requires no preparation, but may pass from hand to hand without change of condition. Hence the prodigious increase of second-hand wool dealers which the trade has experienced of late years; and hence, too, the facility which buyers of doubtful character or pursuits enjoy of providing themselves. Such buyers would not be trusted by the importer, or first holder, but will, as a matter of course, apply to dealers who cannot be so scrupulous in their choice of customers. A brilliant trade may be carried on in this way, so long as the capital of the second-hand wool dealer lasts. His customers are spared much trouble and inconvenience. Instead of having their supply to seek out by patient examina-

tion of stocks from warehouse to warehouse, they have but to wait the solicitation of the second-hand dealer who attends them with his bag of samples, and over the tap-room table of the nearest pot-house they may choose what they like, and order what they list. A manufacturer thus liberally supplied, has his hands free. He needs not depend upon buyers of his goods. He may make consignments of them to New York, to Rio Janeiro, to Barataria; or whether the consignment *Drummer* may point. Some ten or twelve months ago, when the last revulsion took place, it was found that parties had been engaged in preparing for the China trade whom the world would never have suspected of views so extensive. Poor Lord Napier, the "Barbarian Eye," confessed that he knew little of China, except what he had learnt from books; our China traders were wholly innocent, even of book-knowledge—all they knew of China was that it lay somewhere through Hunslet. But the project was ably conceived: Yorkshire cunning and London assurance combined to form the leading establishment which, under the countenance of the promissory note making Bentley, their counsellor, sage, and friend, promised itself the most splendid results. The London buyers were outdone, even upon their own ground. A six months' acceptance, after six months' credit, was held out as most liberal payment. The bubble burst, as all such bubbles will burst. So long as the mercantile community remain passive spectators of such proceedings, and do not set their faces against them, so long may we expect to witness disastrous fluctuations and revulsions.

There is much doing for the China market now, but the business is in very different hands, and has a very different claim to confidence. The general trade of this district, too, continues in a sound state. Our manufacturers have no reason to complain. Recently made goods, which have been got up for service, find ready sale. It is only the old stocks which remain a fixture: goods which were made to suit the purposes of the London buyers, who no longer find imitators or dupes, but are obliged, even themselves, to deviate into honest practices. We have only to take the past as a lesson, and the future is full of promise.—*Leeds*.

**DRILLING.**—The greatest proof of the excellence of Gower's drill, will be found in the patronage which the maker has met with from some of the most eminent Agriculturists. The following is a list of gentlemen in the County of Berkshire who have it in constant use:—Benyon de Beauvoir, Esq. and Smith Englefield; R. Jenkins, Esq. Lucky Park, Oakingham; W. Stone, Esq. Reading; Cap. Scott, Beech-hill; L. Gower, Esq. Bill-hill; Bernard Body, Esq. Shinfield; Love, Bloomfield Hatch Simmons, Abbrorfield; Terry, Spencer's Farm, Maidenhead; Martin and Co., White Waltham; Green, Wargrove, and Co., Clifton; Watling, Warfield; Lovegrove, Maidenhead; Reves, Woobourne; Sparkman, Uffington; Winder, Oakley; Davis, Park Farm, Waltham St. Lawrence; Digby, Dedworth, Glasspool, Bill-hill; Hope, Drill-man Wallingford; Wardley, Drill-man, Wantage; Harvey Drill-man, Lambourn; Nichols, Drill-man, Higworth; Clayton, Drill-man, Hungerford; Petit, Drill-man, Oakley Green-bray; Mr. Druce, Winkfield; Mr. Bartholomew, Chelsey; Mr. Creasy Mortimer, Great Park; Mr. Mathews, Knitbury; Mr. Cooper of Burghfield; Mr. Thompson, Burghfield.

## REVIEW OF THE CORN TRADE IN MARK LANE DURING THE MONTH OF JULY.

At the termination of June and commencement of July, the weather suddenly changed, and cold, heavy rains was experienced throughout England, which in many instances beat down the wheat and barley, and being at the critical period of blooming, would, had they continued, have diminished and injured the crops to a serious extent. The reports regarding the damage committed by the inclemency of the weather, vary materially in their purport, many being the accounts of parties whose opinions are biassed according to their interests, and others from the locality of the ground have had their crops more exposed to the storm, and as is always the case an unprejudiced or impartial statement is very difficult to be obtained. No doubt the weight of the ear of wheat in forward situations, and from the damage the straw has received, that both the quantity and quality of the grain will be deteriorated, and some statements go so far as to compute the loss at from 8 to 10 bushels per acre. It appears however that much of the corn has rallied from its prostrate condition, and with the continuance of fine weather, much of the damage committed will be rectified; from other causes however, the reports of the crops are beginning to wear a less favourable character, the warm sunny days having made the defects of the grain more apparent; the fields to the casual observer present a luxuriant appearance, but on closer inspection the ears generally fail in their triple rows of corn; many have turned off and become a light yellow and are only chaff while some are infected with maggot, red rust and smut, so that the produce, under any circumstances, will be materially affected in comparison to the apparent quantity of straw, and will yield less than last season, though from the superabundance of the growth, we may have nearly an average in quantity, though not in quality. It is on strong lands that the state of the crops has been mostly endangered, as on the lighter soils, the rain was rather beneficial than prejudicial to the corn; while spring corn and pulse have been much improved by the timely supply of moisture, and presents, as far as regards barley and oats, a most bountiful return; though the barley now requires rain, to render the quality kindly.

The faint hopes which existed for either holders or speculators deriving any advantage from their stocks on hand, or by their sustaining much enhancement in value, have on the least appearance of unfavourable circumstances attending the crops of wheat, brought into being numerous conjectures as to the fate of the harvest; indeed these surmises are the peculiar property of the present period of the season, more especially as the depreciation in the currency of the article has rendered it highly unsuceptable of any casualty, which might tend to its improvement. Thus the rains operated powerfully on the minds of some eager speculators, and on the

strength of a predisposition for evil to arise to the grain, transmitted instanter orders abroad which had the effect of raising the prices at most of the leading markets in the Baltic.

The advance at most of country markets in the beginning of the month from 2s to 6s, and an improvement in the currencies in Mark Lane of 3s, and in some instances 5s per qr, created a brisk demand on the part of the millers; speculators also were much more anxious to get into stock. The continuance however of fine weather, and an increase in the supplies from our own coast, particularly towards the close of the month, has thrown a heaviness over the trade, and prices have retrograded in many instances to their previous range with a disinclination on the part of the purchasers to accede to these depressed occurrences. Some sales of low priced bonded wheat have been made for shipment to Maderia, as well as the United States, where the quotations of wheat have rapidly advanced, and remained steady at the improvement, the currencies being noted from 44s to 51s 4d, as the failure in the wheat crops in parts, particularly in Virginia, is to a serious extent,

The supply of Flour the beginning of June having been limited, added to the depressed rates of the article, rendered it equally susceptible of advance with that of wheat, more particularly as the stocks both in the hands of the bakers as well as on the wharfs, were short, Town made qualities advanced 2s per sack, making best descriptions worth 38s to 40s; parcels ex-ship advanced 3s per sack; the decline however which wheat sustained towards the close of the month, and the arrivals increasing, depressed ship qualities again 1s per sack. Bonded American Flour has been much in request, but as the import of the article during later years has been very limited, there is hardly a cask of good sweet quality to be obtained; a few hundred barrels of sour description have found purchasers at 18s to 20s. The re-export however of the article will be to a very moderate extent, as unless the flour can be forwarded to the United States with the Consul's certificate, that it is American produce, and thus rendered free of the Customs Dues of 4s 6d per barrel, the duty will prevent any chance at the present currencies of the shipment turning out advantageously: at Liverpool sour descriptions have obtained 20s and sweet ditto 26s 6d per barrel.

The alterations in the duties consist of a decline of 1s per qr on wheat, making the duty at the close of the month 46s 8d; on barley the duties have advanced 3s per qr, but on beans have receded to the same amount; and on peas the duty has given way 4s 6d, occasioned by the sudden and unexpected enhancement in the Warwickshire averages, which amounted towards the close of July, to 50s 7d on a quantity sold of 300 qrs.

The receipts of barley have continued very moderate, and without the assistance of a few free Foreign parcels, would not have been equivalent to



the demand, which however has been confined to grinding descriptions at an improvement of 1s per qr on the rates at the beginning of the month. The few samples of new barley which have appeared at market have proved *steely* in quality, owing to the want of rain on its coming to maturity, to render it *kindly*; a sample or two of Chevalier has been shown of remarkably fine quality. In Suffolk as well as Norfolk complaints are made of the warmth and dryness of the weather, which are represented as disadvantageous to the barley.

Malt has remained with little variation in value, the principal buyers having been well stocked with the article, the business has been on a limited scale and confined to the finer qualities.

The supply of oats in the beginning of the month, was extremely moderate both from England and Scotland as well as Ireland, and prices advanced fully 1s per qr; but from the 13th to the 18th the Scotch arrivals having unexpectedly increased, with several fresh imports from Ireland, and dealers and consumers limiting the demand to their immediate wants, prices receded fully to the amount of the improvement previously noted, and prices at the close were nearly on a par with those at the commencement of the month. The trade are now becoming fearful of holding stock, under the apprehension that the duty will be lowered sufficiently to admit foreign qualities; indeed there is a decided falling off in the supplies from Ireland and the shipments on their voyage are also very trifling; the advices likewise are confirmatory as to the exhaustion of the stocks in all the principal ports; Scotland is very bare of the article, and importing from Ireland, and our own resources it is well known are too limited to form an item of any importance in meeting the wants of the metropolis and adjacent parts; and basing a calculation on the quantity sold weekly in Mark Lane during the current year, we shall require fully 100,000 qrs of foreign corn to meet the demand of London, before the new crop can be rendered available for the consumption. The amount in bond in London was on the 5th of July 172,000, since which the foreign importations have been weekly increasing. The amount in bond has remained firm in value; good feed being still noted at 13s to 14s, and brew qualities at 16s to 18s. In Ireland prices are very steady and few free on board sales are now offering. At Glasgow Irish oats are realising rather better terms than on our market.

The duty on foreign Beans having declined to 9s 6d, the lowest range it is likely to attain at present, some thousand quarters have been entered and brought upon the market which has forced down the quotations from 3s to 4s per qr, with a heavy sale for the article.

The new white and grey peas which have appeared at market have been of fine quality, and realised at first 40s per qr; the duties however on foreign qualities having declined to 11s towards the close of the month, the trade was rendered extremely heavy at a decline of fully 2s to 3s per qr.

During the month of July, the following quantity of grain and flour has arrived in the port of London.

|              | Wheat. | Barley. | Oats,  |
|--------------|--------|---------|--------|
|              | Qrs.   | Qrs.    | Qrs.   |
| English .... | 35,146 | 891     | 3,506  |
| Scotch ....  | 279    | 367     | 15,580 |
| Irish .....  | 94     | 40      | 49,151 |
| Foreign .... | 560    | 1623    | 19,697 |
|              | Beans. | Peas.   | Flour. |
|              | Qrs.   | Qrs.    | Sacks. |
| English .... | 1,791  | 389     | 24,526 |
| Scotch ....  | 70     | 16      | 6      |
| Irish .....  | —      | —       | 96     |
| Foreign .... | 5,441  | 110     | 1,205  |

In France the harvest has generally commenced, and much of the rye already secured, which is reported of fine quality. Wheat is an abundant crop, but owing to the heavy rains, has been much lodged, and the samples are likely to afford a considerable disparity of quality. Oats will yield, in all probability, a plentiful return. The rapeseed crop is also fine in quality, and the yield satisfactory. On the Rhine the season has been favourable for the blooming of the wheat and rye, both of which promise abundance, but barley, in places where the drought has prevailed, will prove a short crop. The last average price of wheat throughout France, was about 33s 9d per qr. At Paris, the stock of flour being very limited, and the mills, from the want of water, only working two-thirds of their power, prices remained firm; such was also the case at most of the leading country markets, the article bearing a higher relative value than that of wheat. Oats were scarce, and maintaining advanced prices. At Marseille business had been suspended in consequence of the re-appearance of the cholera.

The Italian markets were generally dull; at Naples, the quantity and quality of the new wheat is stated to be good, and prices ruling low; old Barletta is noted as low as 18s, and new deliverable at 21s 7d to 22s. At Genoa, the trade was likewise languid. At Leghorn, though the supply of foreign wheat, from various quarters, had been large, yet the demands of the interior having been extensive, had prevented their increase to any amount. Tuscan white wheat was noted at 42s 6d, and red ditto 31s 2d to 36s 10d. At Trieste prices remained dull, Italian soft wheat being held at 28s. The crops in Sicily were abundant, and wheat likely to recede to 24s 6d per qr.

At Odessa, the produce of the late crop had been received from the interior, and the supplies being considerable, prices had materially receded, and it was expected the best parcels of soft wheat would be bought at 18s 4d; the current rates, however, were 19s 8d to 22s 11d, for soft descriptions, and 22s 4d to 24s 11d, for hard ditto. Rye had also declined much in value.

The demand which had been experienced for rye and meal in the interior of Russia had caused the prices of both articles to advance in the St. Petersburg market, the former article being quoted as high as 26s 8d. Kubanka wheat was nominal at 30s 1d; barley at 20s to 21s. At Riga, rye had given

way in price, and was selling at 25s; best Courland wheat, 27s 7d; linseed was generally firm at the previous currencies. At Danzig, the finer qualities of wheat were much sought after, and prices 1s 6d to 2s per qr higher, owing to the limited supplies; and some demand having arisen for English account, the fine high mixed qualities were held at 32s 6d. The water in the Vistula was so exceedingly low that the transport of grain was much retarded; and in the rivers Bug and Wieprez it was found necessary to have recourse to the expedient of placing the grain in bags on rafts of timber. The weather was showery, but not sufficiently wet to be unfavourable to the crops, except in low marshy situations. In Mecklenburg, the prices of wheat had rather improved, owing to a demand at the beginning of the month on the part of native speculators in consequence of the weather being cold and unsettled, and afterwards in consequence of some purchases for English account, at 23s 6d to 24s. Barley being very short in supply was steady in price, as well as oats. The rapeseed crop had been partially injured by the worm, but the quality was fine, and sales had been made on delivery at 26l to 27l per last. In Holstein and also Denmark wheat has rather improved in value, and quality from the former duchy, weighing 63lbs, was held at 23s 6d to 24s. Oats and barley have both remained steady. The cutting of rapeseed had generally commenced, and the crop was expected to yield better both in quantity and quality than at first anticipated; prices, which had opened at 29l to 30l per last, had become nominal, owing to the falling off in the demand, the principal purchasers from Holland having refrained from giving orders at present, as the crop in their own country was large and prices ruling as low as 28l. At Hamburg, fine wheats were scarce and dearer, and it has been suggested the re-export of wheat from our port to the Elbe, as likely to pay. Fine Silesian, Bohemian, and Danzig white was noted at 32s; Marks, Anhalt, and Magdeburg, as well as Mecklenburg, 26s to 28s. Beans have been in request, and the markets nearly cleared at 23s to 24s. Oats firm.

In Holland no complaints had been heard of the rye or wheat crop. The few samples of new barley which had been received, were, however, thin and light. Rapeseed was a fine crop, and to be purchased at Rotterdam as low as 28l to 29l.

The markets in the United States remain firm for both flour and wheat at improving rates. At New York, Pennsylvanian wheat had obtained 51s 4d; Rye was held at 34s 10d. Jersey and North River Indian corn, sold at 33s to 34s. Flour had advanced 7d per barrel; Western Canal, common brands, obtaining 29s 3d, and fancy ditto, 29s 10d; Howard-street, 30s 4d. At Philadelphia, southern wheat on board the craft, had been bought at 47s 8d to 48s, and on shore, at 48s to 48s 6d; Pennsylvanian was worth 48s 6d to 48s 10d. Rye sold, ex-store, at 95s 6d. Flat Indian corn, 30s 6d to 32s; round, 32s to 33s 4d. About 17,000 bushels of oats had been sold at 18s 4d. Flour had sustained an advance of 1s 2d per barrel; with a brisk demand, prices varying for

scrapped and other qualities from 25s 3d to 27s per barrel, extra, 28s 2d. At Richmond, flour was quoted at 28s 2d per barrel, and at Boston, owing to further speculative movements in the market, and considerable sales for export, the currencies had been enhanced 7d to 1s 2d per barrel; Howard-street obtained from 29s 3d to 30s 4d per barrel; Genesee ditto, 29s 3d. Oats had further improved in value, and were selling at 21s 8d to 22s for prime northern; southern, ditto, 19s 6d to 20s 2d. Indian corn, flat yellow, 32s 4d to 33s; white, 31s 10d; northern round ditto, scarce, at 34s 10d. In the reports from Virginia, it is stated that the farmers hardly ever experienced so gloomy a prospect for the harvest. From the commencement of spring they had hoped that some favourable change in the weather might revive the perishing remains of their crops; but the question is now settled; fields, which in ordinary seasons would bring 20 bushels to the acre, are ploughed up and sown with Indian corn or oats, and many of the most skilful and hitherto successful farmers, are willing to compromise for their seed. A few, a very few, who are peculiarly favoured, may succeed better, but there is now little doubt that a very large portion of the grain growing part of Virginia, will not, upon an average, produce the seed which has been sown. In the most productive portion of the country, 9s a bushel has been offered and refused for seed wheat. The accounts, however, from Pennsylvania are more favourable, and it is thought the grain will turn out about an average crop.

The latest advices also from South America, give a very unfavourable account of wheat crop, which, it was represented, would not yield more than half an average produce.

## CURRENCY PER IMPERIAL MEASURE.

|                                         | BRITISH.         |           | JULY 1.          |        | AUGUST 1. |    |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------|-----------|------------------|--------|-----------|----|
|                                         | s.               | s.        | s.               | s.     | s.        | s. |
| Wheat, red, Essex, Kent, Suffolk.....   | 34               | 42        | 36               | 40     | 44        |    |
| White.....                              | 40               | 48        | 40               | 48     | 50        |    |
| Norfolk, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire.... | 33               | 36        | 33               | 38     |           |    |
| White, do. do.....                      | 36               | 40        | 36               | 42     |           |    |
| West Country Red.....                   | 33               | 36        | 33               | 38     |           |    |
| White, ditto.....                       | 36               | 40        | 36               | 42     |           |    |
| Northumberland and Berwickshire Red     | 33               | 35        | 33               | 37     |           |    |
| White, ditto.....                       | 34               | 38        | 34               | 40     |           |    |
| Irish Red.....                          | 30               | 32        | 30               | 34     |           |    |
| Ditto White.....                        | 31               | 33        | 31               | 35     |           |    |
| Barley, Malting, new.....               | 30               | 33        | 30               | 32     |           |    |
| Chevalier, new.....                     | 32               | 35        | 32               | 34     |           |    |
| Distilling.....                         | 28               | 30        | 28               | 32     |           |    |
| Grinding.....                           | 27               | 28        | 27               | 29     |           |    |
| Irish.....                              | 24s 6d           | 26s 6d    | 24s 0d           | 26s 0d |           |    |
| Malt, Brown.....                        | 35               | 40        | 35               | 40     |           |    |
| Ditto, Chevalier.....                   | 60               | 61        | 60               | 62     |           |    |
| Ditto, Norfolk and Suffolk Pale.....    | 46               | 54        | 46               | 54     |           |    |
| Ditto Ware.....                         | 60               | 65        | 60               | 64     |           |    |
| Peas, Hog and Grey.....                 | 33               | 37        | 33               | 36     |           |    |
| Maple.....                              | 39               | 40        | 38               | 39     |           |    |
| White Boilers.....                      | 33               | 38        | 33               | 37     |           |    |
| Beans, small.....                       | 39               | 43        | 36               | 40     |           |    |
| Harrow.....                             | 39               | 41        | 36               | 38     |           |    |
| Ticks.....                              | 37               | 39        | 35               | 37     |           |    |
| Mazagan.....                            | 35               | 38        | 34               | 37     |           |    |
| Oats, English feed.....                 | 23               | 25        | 23               | 25     |           |    |
| Short small.....                        | 23               | 25        | 24               | 25     |           |    |
| Poland.....                             | 23               | 26        | 24               | 27     |           |    |
| Scotch, Common.....                     | 25s 6d           | 26s 6d    | 26               | 28     |           |    |
| Perwick, &c.....                        | 24               | 27        | 24               | 27     |           |    |
| Bowate, &c.....                         | 27               | 29        | 27               | 29     |           |    |
| Irish Feed.....                         | 19s 0d to 22s 0d |           | 20s 0d to 22s 0d |        |           |    |
| Ditto Potatoes.....                     | 22s 0d           | 24s 6d    | 22s 0d           | 24s 6d |           |    |
| Ditto Black.....                        | 22s 0d           | 23s 6d    | 22s 0d           | 23s 6d |           |    |
| Bras.....                               | 11s 0d           | to 12s 6d | per bushel.      |        |           |    |



## PRICES OF FLOUR,

| Per Sack of 280 lbs.                        | JULY 1.  | AUGUST 1. |
|---------------------------------------------|----------|-----------|
|                                             | s. s.    | s. s.     |
| Town-made .....                             | 33 to 38 | 35 to 40  |
| Norfolk, Suffolk, Kent, and Essex .....     | 27 30    | 27 32     |
| Sussex and Hampshire .....                  | 27 30    | 27 32     |
| Superfine .....                             | 32 —     | 32 34     |
| Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and Stockton ..... | 27 29    | 27 32     |
| Northumberland, Berwick, and Scotch .....   | 27 29    | 27 32     |
| Irish .....                                 | 27 29    | 27 32     |
| Extra .....                                 | 30 —     | 30 33     |

Stock of Grain and Flour in Bond in the Port of London on the 5th July.

| Wheat.  | Barley. | Oats.   | Rye. | Beans. | Peas. | Flour. |
|---------|---------|---------|------|--------|-------|--------|
| qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs. | qrs.   | qrs.  | cwt.   |
| 271,071 | 26,200  | 172,193 | 791  | 7,048  | 5,742 | 81,742 |

## IMPERIAL AVERAGES

|                                                                                                                                        | Wheat. | Barley | Oats  | Rye  | Beans | Peas  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|------|-------|-------|
| Weekending                                                                                                                             |        |        |       |      |       |       |
| 12th June                                                                                                                              | 40 1   | 29 6   | 24 2  | 30 0 | 39 9  | 36 7  |
| 19th "                                                                                                                                 | 40 4   | 29 7   | 24 4  | 31 6 | 40 2  | 38 4  |
| 26th "                                                                                                                                 | 40 0   | 28 8   | 23 6  | 31 5 | 40 0  | 37 7  |
| 3d July                                                                                                                                | 40 5   | 29 0   | 23 6  | 30 1 | 40 4  | 38 3  |
| 10th "                                                                                                                                 | 41 6   | 27 11  | 23 8  | 35 0 | 40 7  | 38 10 |
| 17th "                                                                                                                                 | 42 1   | 28 10  | 23 11 | 29 7 | 40 1  | 45 6  |
| Aggregate Average of the six weeks which regulates the duty .....                                                                      | 40 9   | 28 11  | 23 10 | 31 3 | 40 2  | 39 2  |
| Duties payable in London till Wednesday next inclusive, and at the Outports till the arrival of the Mail of that day from London ..... | 46 8   | 19 10  | 12 3  | 22 9 | 6 11  | 0 0   |
| Do. on grain from British possessions out of Europe .....                                                                              | 5 0    | 2 6    | 2 6   | 3 0  | 3 0   | 3 0   |

An Account of the Quantity of Grain and Flour imported into the United Kingdom during the month ending the 5th July 1835; the Quantity on which the Duty has been paid for Home Consumption, and the quantity remaining in Warehouse.

|                                        | Wheat.  | Barley. | Oats.   | Rye.    | Flour. |
|----------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
|                                        | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | cwts.  |
| Quantity imported ....                 | 1,446   | 4,773   | 20,001  | ..      | ..     |
| Do. entered for home consumption ..... | 1,995   | 4,148   | 455     | ..      | ..     |
| Do. remaining in warehouse .....       | 626,895 | 93,260  | 372,352 | 4,242   | ..     |
|                                        | Peas.   | Beans.  | Maize   | Flour   |        |
|                                        | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | cwts.   |        |
| Quantity imported ....                 | 1,787   | 5,709   | ..      | 7,773   | ..     |
| Do. entered for consumption .....      | 360     | 3,618   | ..      | 1,101   | ..     |
| Do. remaining in warehouse .....       | 11,904  | 40,597  | ..      | 329,534 | ..     |

## BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS MARKETS.

AUGUST 1.

In both these markets, new Potatoes, which are in good supply, experience a ready sale, though at somewhat reduced prices. Ware Potatoes, from 3s to 5s; middling do, 2s to 2s 6d; and Chat do, 1s to 1s 6d per cwt.

## PRICES OF HOPS IN THE BOROUGH.

|                             | JULY 1.     | AUGUST 1.  |
|-----------------------------|-------------|------------|
|                             | £ s. £ s.   | £ s. £ s.  |
| East Kent Pockets .....     | 5 12 to 8 4 | 5 5 to 7 0 |
| Mid-Kent Pockets .....      | 5 8 7 7     | 4 15 6 10  |
| Weald of Kent Pockets ..... | 4 15 5 12   | 4 8 5 5    |
| Sussex Pockets .....        | 4 10 5 8    | 4 4 4 18   |
| Yearlings, Bags .....       | 3 10 4 2    | 3 3 4 10   |
| Old Hops .....              | 1 1 3 3     | 1 1 2 10   |

## SMITHFIELD MARKET.

Per stone of 8lbs. to sink the offals.

|                     | JULY 1.     | AUGUST 1.   |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                     | s. d. s. d. | s. d. s. d. |
| Inferior Beef ..... | 2 0 to 2 2  | 2 0 to 2 2  |
| Do. Mutton .....    | 2 4 2 6     | 2 2 2 4     |
| Middling Beef ..... | 2 6 2 10    | 2 8 3 4     |
| Do. Mutton .....    | 2 6 3 4     | 2 6 2 10    |
| Prime Beef .....    | 3 8 4 0     | 3 6 4 0     |
| Do. Mutton .....    | 3 6 4 6     | 3 4 4 0     |
| Veal .....          | 3 4 4 0     | 3 0 4 0     |
| Pork .....          | 3 0 4 2     | 3 0 3 10    |
| Lamb .....          | 5 0 6 0     | 4 4 5 0     |

## WOOL MARKETS.

## BRITISH.

|                        | JULY 1.             | AUGUST 1.   |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
|                        | Per lb. s. d. s. d. | s. d. s. d. |
| Down Teds .....        | 1 5 to 1 8½         | 1 7½ to 1 8 |
| Half-bred do .....     | 1 9 1 9½            | 1 8½ 1 9½   |
| Ewes and Wethers ..... | 1 3½ 1 4            | 0 0 0 0     |
| Leicester Hogs .....   | 1 8 1 8½            | 1 7½ 1 8    |
| Do. Wethers .....      | 1 3½ 0 0            | 1 3½ 1 3½   |
| Blanket Wool .....     | 0 10 1 2            | 0 10 1 2    |
| Flannel .....          | 1 0 1 5             | 1 0 1 5     |
| Skin Combing .....     | 1 2 1 3             | 1 2 1 3     |

## SCOTCH.

Per Stone of 24 lbs.

|                                       | JULY 1.      | AUGUST 1.    |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                                       | s. d. s. d.  | s. d. s. d.  |
| Laid Highland Wool, from 10 0 to 10 6 | 10 0 to 10 6 | 10 3 to 10 9 |
| White Do. Do. ....                    | 13 0 13 6    | 13 0 13 6    |
| Laid Crossed Do. ....                 | 12 6 13 6    | 13 0 14 0    |
| Washed Do. Do. ....                   | 14 0 16 0    | 14 0 16 0    |
| Laid Cheviots .....                   | 13 6 15 6    | 14 0 16 0    |
| Washed Do. ....                       | 17 6 19 0    | 18 6 20 0    |
| White Do. ....                        | 24 0 26 0    | 24 0 26 0    |

## FOREIGN.

LONDON, July 23.—The public sales of Colonial and other Wools were continued on Friday and Saturday, and were fully attended; that of Friday consisted of 1232 bales, and was under the management of Messrs. Simes and Co. The demand continued very active up to the conclusion of the sales. Australian Wools at 2s to 2s 8d per lb for the good wools, and some samples marked N. S. L. produced the highest rates during the whole sale, viz. :—from 3s to 3s 5d per lb. The wools in the grease sold at 1s to 1s 3d per lb. The sales of Saturday were small, in all amounting to 440 bales, and the prices obtained were nearly similar to those given at the previous sales. Some Cape Wools sold at 1s 1d to 1s 6d per lb. The correct averages of the whole of the recent sales are as follow :—

NEW SOUTH WALES WOOLS.—Choice flocks 2s 2d to 3s 5d per lb; Average ditto, 1s 10½d to 3s 3d per lb; Good ditto, 1s 8d to 2s 2d per lb; Low and in the grease, 1s 1d to 1s 9d per lb.

VAN DIEMEN'S LAND WOOLS.—Choice flocks, 1s 6d to 2s 6½d per lb; Average ditto, 1s 5d to 2s 2d per lb; Low and in the grease, 10½d to 1s 5d per lb.

A few bales of Cape Wools sold at 11d to 1s 11d per lb.

# THE POLITICAL COMPANION

TO

## THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

### ON FREE TRADE IN CORN.

(From the Leeds Intelligencer.)

The speculations of the advocates for a free trade in corn usually hinge upon two main considerations: the saving to the community by a reduction in the price of food, and the advantage which our trade would experience by an extended demand for our manufactures in corn-growing countries. The first of these two pleas possesses the advantage of bearing two very different modes of application, and most cunningly do the political economists avail themselves of the ambiguity in urging its importance in this manner or that, as may best suit their views upon the particular class addressed. The labourer is persuaded that the reduction would all be to his own benefit; that the difference in price would remain in his own pocket, or might be laid out in the purchase of a more plentiful supply of food, or of anything else, for the improvement of his condition. To the manufacturer, however, very different language is held. He is taught that any reduction which can be made in the price of food, will cause a corresponding reduction in wages; that by the free admission of foreign produce the cost of food, and consequently of labour, in England, may be brought down as low as it is on the Continent, and that we may then, but not till then, hope to compete with foreign manufacturers in the markets of the world. It is manifest that both these representations cannot be correct; one of them must be false: and it is probable that they are both false.

Our attention has been called to the subject by the following article which we find in a recent German paper; we need only premise that the "circular" spoken of is intended to show that our consumption of all kinds of grain, which costs us now 75,000,000*l*, might be supplied in Amsterdam for 43,000,000*l*, and in Hamburg for 39,000,000*l*, consequently that the London price is higher by 75 per cent. than in the former, and by 90 per cent. than in the latter place.

"Several of the German papers gave insertion some time since to a commercial circular from Liverpool, attacking the present English Corn laws and showing their prejudicial effect upon England by reference to the present prices of corn on the continent. The "*Organ für Handel und Gewerbe*," which had also published the circular, furnishes the following reply to it:—

"The writer of the report endeavours to show the injustice and impolicy of the existing British Corn Laws even towards England itself, and we will not say that, in this respect, he is altogether wrong, although the subject must be regarded in many different points of view, and much will be found to be said on both sides of the question. But he supports his argument by statements which are altogether superficial, and, in part, utterly fallacious. The writer of the circular calculates twelve million

quarters of wheat at 42*s* 9*d* and forty million quarters of other grain at 25*s* 6*d* as the consumption of Great Britain and Ireland, but he takes as his basis the London average prices only, which are known to be generally the highest of the whole kingdom. The average price of wheat in England was, however, on the 4th March last, not 42*s* 9*d* but only 39*s* 10*d*. The markets of Scotland and Ireland, it is known, are not included in the computation of the average; if they were so, particularly the latter, the average of prices would be placed much lower. It is the same with the other sorts of grain. The comparison made, therefore, is applicable to London only, and that in this, the most populous of all the cities of Europe, the seat of government too, the prices of bread and grain should always be much higher than in other parts of the country, is a thing which explains itself. Abiding, however, even by this most unfavourable element of calculation, how must we regard the bread tax in question, when we find that in England bread itself, or rather meal for baking bread, pays no tax, whilst in Germany more or less of a heavy meal tax is levied throughout. In the Prussian Baltic provinces, where grain is always much lower than in Hamburg or Holland, the average price since the commencement of the present year is about

|                                              | s.        | d. |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------|----|
| 38 six dollars per wispel, which is equal to | 24        | 9  |
| Add the meal tax of 18 dollars per wispel    | 11        | 9  |
| And we get.....                              | 36        | 6  |
|                                              | per Quar. |    |

Which, deducted from the London price of 42*s* 9*d* leaves a difference of 6*s* 3*d* per quarter only. The London consumer, accordingly, would eat bread, not seventy-five and ninety per cent, but only about 14 and two-thirds per cent. dearer than the German consumer on the Prussian coast of the Baltic. Of the relative state of the provincial markets in England, or of those of Scotland, and Ireland, we will say nothing, as these would, for the most part, only tend to show that the consumer in Great Britain and Ireland actually eats cheaper bread than the German consumer! That the English consumer, however generally uses wheat bread, and not the cheaper Rye bread, is a fact which proves the existence of a greater state of prosperity in England, where, through the superiority of that country in trade and industry, over the whole continent, wheat bread is much easier of attainment to the English labourer than even Rye bread is to the German one.

"Let us not deceive ourselves with the belief that a further appeal to the favour of England would open to us her ports for the free introduction of our grain. England considers herself no longer in need of it for the support of her superiority in other respects, and in reality she does not need it except in the event of certain possible contingencies which can always be provided for when they occur, as she pays honestly, that is in sterling, for what she requires. Any concession which she might possibly, but not pro-



bably, be induced to make on this point, would be only as crumbs thrown to the hungry.

Let us now consider the matter in another point of view. As aforesaid the present price of wheat in the neighbourhood of the Baltic is about 24s 9d. per qr, and with expenses free on board about 25s 9d. If, then, England were immediately to open the corn trade, subject to a fixed duty of 10s per quarter, the consequence would be that whilst the price in England would fall at least 10 per cent, it would rise as much on the Continent. The calculation would then stand thus :—

|                                                 |       |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 25s 9d free on board, with 10 per cent. advance | s. d. |
| amounts to .....                                | 28 4  |
| Freight and charges to England at least .....   | 7 3   |
| Making together .....                           | 35 7  |

At which price the English could purchase our wheat ; but if, in the meantime, the price in England were to fall 10 per cent., or from 39s 10d to 35s 10d the transaction would not repay the English buyer or the German speculator, still less would our farmers receive any encouragement to follow up the experiment of providing for the English market. Any reduction below the present prices on the Baltic, through a series of good crops, would hardly produce a better result, and would always tend to impoverish trade and agriculture. The trade of the Baltic might be somewhat quickened, but the Continent in general would derive little real benefit from it. If England were to open the corn trade entirely, without any duty, which, however, is not to be thought of for a moment, and were to adopt equally liberal principles in reference to the timber trade and other matters, then only might the effect appear somewhat more favourable, but still it would have little real influence in advancing the present progress of industry in Germany.

The writer of the circular is probably a holder of grain 'in bond,' or is, at least, influenced by some such holder, and his wishes are pardonable, only he should have built upon another foundation than the one he has chosen to make his representation pass with the public. It is furthermore certain that every German who feels an interest in the true development of the trade and industry of his country, will cherish other views and wishes than those. England forces us to renounce our former dependence upon her. Why, then, delay any longer to confess the fact and to act upon it ?”

The concluding question is very pretty. Whatever grain the circular-writer may have in bond, we risk little in surmising that his German antagonist has some pet interest also in his eye ; and the amiable tone of feeling which he exhibits towards this country may serve our free-trade advocates as some indication how far their liberal example is likely to be followed by our continental neighbours.

As far as concerns the principle involved, it matters little, we imagine, in what shape a tax upon food may be imposed. The question is, does the foreign workman buy his food, sort for sort, and quality for quality, cheaper than the English workman ? On this point, we apprehend, there is much popular delusion, and the above article throws some light upon it. We noticed a few days ago that the price of the 4lb loaf in Paris was quoted at 11½ sous, about 5½d., and the price of the best bread in the bakers' shops here is only about the same. The relative cost of living in the two countries is an entirely different matter, and the statement of the German writer on this point is strictly correct. The German workman does not

fare so well as the English workman, and he must necessarily live cheaper. But their modes of living do not differ more than their characters and capacities—the German has none of the energy, the intelligence, the persevering industry, the unceasing, systematic application which are all so conspicuous in the English labouring classes ; and if he were to acquire these qualities, he would at the same time acquire an elevated sense of his own importance, together with that desire for improving his condition which would speedily put him on a level with the English workman in point of comfort and enjoyment.

Until such a result be produced, however, it is in vain to look for anything like equality in the cost of living in the two countries. There is at all events but one alternative :—if the German will not live as well as the English workman, the latter must lower himself to the habits of the former. The doctrines of the “coarser sort of food” and the “herring soup” philanthropists would in that case be of eminent practical utility, according to *their* notions in such matters.

## POOR LAWS—IRELAND.

(From the Herald.)

The absolute necessity for the adoption of a system of poor laws for Ireland is so obvious that we should be astonished at the fact that the Legislature is so slow to approach the subject were it not equally obvious that in this instance the interests of the Irish Legislators and of the Irish people are wholly at variance. It is to be expected that the Irish Aristocracy should seek to keep their properties untouched, even though they should by so doing send thousands and tens of thousands to the grave—victims to absolute famine in the midst of plenty. Any other course would be inconsistent with the “even tenor of their way,” but is it wise on their part to allow those who are in their own conduct, and in the management of their estates, the most conspicuous illustrators of all the miseries to which the peasantry of that country are subjected, to appear in the van as advocates against a system of poor law—the only bar which can now be flung between the ruthless oppression of the landed Aristocracy and the absolute starvation of the people of Ireland ! Is it wise that the Earl of Limerick should be the man to oppose such a measure ? Has the noble earl no sense of the lesson which he is by such a course reading to the people ? Is it wise to instruct the people that they must starve because their preservation from famine would lessen the revenues of the Earl of Limerick and of the other landed proprietors, who, being Legislators, will legislate for themselves ? Is it right or proper to hold up such a conspicuous proof that the interests of property and of labour are at variance. These are questions which it would be well if the Earl of Limerick would think on before he again opposes himself to the last refuge of a starving people. The noble earl talked of poor laws being mischievous, because calculated to dry up the sources of private charity, which he described as being great in that country, and he spoke too from an avowed knowledge of it from many years' residence. Without stopping to inquire whether that residence was not prior to 1800, we will ask what the noble earl himself has done in aid of the charity of those who vainly seek to mitigate the terrible lot of suffering humanity in Ireland. We have still fresh in our recollection the statements transmitted to us by our correspondent, who, during the autumn of last year,

took singular pains to ascertain the state of the poor of Ireland, and from those statements we can affirm that the Earl of Limerick has an advantage beyond that of any or all of his compeers in the British Senate. In the whole British empire there is not a man who has upon his own estate so wide a field for the exercise of the best attributes of our nature—so inexhaustible a supply of the worst and most appalling scenes of human misery upon which to exercise the benevolence of his own. Will it be credited by those who see the Earl of Limerick thus opposing himself to the adoption of poor laws for Ireland, that in the city from which he takes his title—nay, that in one parish of that city, in and around which the great bulk of his property is situated, there are between 6,000 and 7,000 people in a state of starvation! We are wrong, perhaps, in saying there are those numbers, for doubtless, long ere this, the system has done its worst for them, and they have passed away to swell the list of victims to the heartless landed Aristocracy of Ireland. We may, however, take it for granted, that their places have been supplied, and that there may still be seen upon the property of the noble earl the same scenes our correspondent witnessed last autumn. Wretches starving and naked—positively naked, in empty and falling houses (for which they nevertheless paid rents out of the profits of their beggary—some 2d others 3d, and some 4d per week, without fire or food, lying upon rotten straw—the only furniture of the rooms, except in one instance, in which he perceived a large stone that appeared to serve for a seat. There he beheld people dying around him, whether from cold or hunger, it was difficult to say, so appalling was the want of food and raiment. Unable to move, aged people lay upon little heaps of mouldering straw, their only hope of supporting existence for another day being the success of some beggar who might be fortunate enough to get a potatoe more than he could himself devour. But worse even than this—the wretches who are thus famished must lie where their horrible death has overtaken them, until their half-putrid corpses send forth pestilence to the survivors. There is no public or parish fund to bury them, or if there be the matter is neglected, and a most benevolent gentleman, who exerted himself deeply to mitigate the sufferings of the people, finding no other remedy for this evil, has been obliged to tell the unfortunate wretches to expose the bodies of the dead, at nights to lay them in the public streets because then somebody must see to their burial. It is very true for the Earl of LIMERICK that charity prevails to a great extent in Ireland, and it is equally true that the feelings of kindred goes far to lessen the number who must otherwise swell the catalogue of misery; but what does this argument amount to? Does the Noble Earl himself subscribe liberally to the relief of the poor? Does he, in fact, subscribe a single 10l in the year to the aid of any or all of the charitable institutions of Limerick?—we would ask the Noble Earl, if by taking advantage of the competition for land in Ireland, the landlords let their estates at a rental which the whole produce will scarcely pay, and then sell the produce to England to pay that rental, leaving nothing to the peasant for his labour; we would ask him if, by such a course they starve the peasantry, by what right do they fling the support of that peasantry upon those who have, it appears more charity than themselves? If the landlords should have supported those people out of the produce of the soil, and, instead of doing so have driven them to beg for charity it is my Lord the Earl of LIMERICK, *et hoc genus omne*, who are really the receivers of the charity thus given.

They are the beggars, and not the wretches to whom it is in the first instance given. When we find such persons standing up in the Legislature to oppose a relief to the poor, as it is called, but, in reality, a measure to save them from famine, and their oppressors from further crime, we think it our duty to show that, whether actuated by self-interest, or not, at all events self interest is there to actuate. It might be as well for those who are opposed to the introduction of poor laws to select for their advocates gentlemen whose estates present a less harrowing spectacle than is afforded by the Limerick and Bruff estates of the Earl of LIMERICK; and to the House of Peers we would only say, "Instead of listening to the Noble Earl, look to his estates: and if one glance does not convince you of the necessity of poor laws for Ireland, nothing that can be said in Parliament will ever bring you to that conclusion."

### THE PEERS AND THE DISSENTERS.

(From the *Courier*.)

The division on the Earl of Radnor's motion the evening before last seems to demonstrate that three-fourths of the peers are hostile to the dissenters. We are grieved at the decision on account of the peers, who, by such votes, give rise to the suspicion that they pay more regard to their own feeling as members of a particular church or sect, than to the public welfare; and on account of the Universities, which are thus nakedly and ostentatiously proclaimed to the world as institutions exclusively intended for one sect and one party, and as not national institutions. If, like the cotton manufacture or the trade of Russia, they arose and existed independently of the legislature, we could not make one objection to their benefits being confined to those among whom they originated. But, with the exception of the reputation of their members, and with the exception of the revenues derived from teaching, the Universities wholly exist by favour of the legislature, which represents the whole people. It is beyond the power of this body to destroy the cotton trade, but it might, by taking from the Universities the tithes of Kirkham, of Havering-atte-Bower, &c., and by a mere different regulation as to church patronage, put an end to the Universities to-morrow. Just, however, as these bodies are exclusive and confined to one sect, just in that proportion does there arise in the legislature, which represents all the people, strong motives of hostility to the exclusive body. As their basis is narrowed their wealth makes them top-heavy, and may bring about their fall. By allowing them to extend their roots among all sects and all classes they would soon become entwined with every part of the community, all would have an interest in upholding them, and the general attachment would give, if anything could to a work of man, a permanent duration to institutions which now seem tottering to their fall.

The present fate of the municipal corporations, it occurs to us, ought to be a warning to the defenders of the exclusive system. In the number of the *Quarterly Review* just published, an elaborate eulogy is passed on our old corporations. "They were the chief agents," it is said, "and subsequently the safest depositories of the private rights and public liberties of Englishmen. They had for ages presented an elastic but effectual resistance to the encroachments of the populace on the one hand, or the Crown on the other." Yet these invaluable qualities—these endearing recollections—these much superior claims to any which



the ecclesiastical corporations can boast of—to the gratitude and affection of the people, has not saved them from being “swept away almost without opposition and complaint.” And what has swept them away? Has the hostility of the excluded dissenters had no influence over their fate? We beg to call the attention of the Archbishop of Canterbury and his brethren to the remarks of the reviewer. There is much wisdom in them, though he has not drawn from them the instruction with which they teem. The reviewer shows that most of the commissioners for inquiring into the corporations were Dissenters, and it was their hostility caused by the test laws, which, down to 1828, excluded them from all the corporations of the kingdom—it was their re-active prejudices, “to be traced in every page of the report,” which have led to the “sweeping away of those ancient corporations.” What an important fact is this for the contemplation of those who persist in pursuing, as to the Universities, the very same conduct which, as to the corporations, has exasperated the Dissenters, and caused, according to the reviewer, the destruction of those time-honoured institutions. Undoubtedly the Dissenters of all kinds are increasing in number, wealth, and power; and undoubtedly nothing can be so dangerous to the Universities as to excite against them the hostility of a powerful body, instead of winning its support.

#### DISTRESS IN IRELAND.

(From the Courier of July 8.)

Mr. Crawford is to-night to make a motion relative to the distress, or rather, we should say, famine, that now unhappily prevails in the county of Mayo and other parts of the west of Ireland. The gentry of the province ought themselves to have come forward to meet the urgency of the crisis; but if they will not interfere, we apprehend government will be obliged to devise some temporary remedy.

But whatever may be done in the meantime, we trust that no long period will be allowed to elapse till measures be taken for protecting the poor from the like extremities in future, and for compelling the landlords to attend to something else in the management of their estates, besides enforcing the payment of exorbitant rents. For some time past an opinion has been gaining ground in certain quarters in England, that the condition of the people of Ireland has begun materially to improve; and that consequently it would be wrong to interfere, by introducing a compulsory provision, or otherwise, with this natural progress to a better order of things. This notion is founded chiefly on the increasing amount of the exports of corn and other raw products from Ireland, which affords, it is said, a clear proof of the increasing industry of the inhabitants and of the prosperity of the country. But the facts do not bear out any such inferences. There is no doubt as to the wonderful increase in the exports of corn; but the question is, how has this increase been brought about? Has it been accomplished by the improvement of agriculture and the consolidation of small occupancies, or is it a consequence of the breaking up of old pasture land, and of the extension of that small farming system that is the bane and curse of Ireland? In some districts it may be owing to the operation of the former class of circumstances, but, generally speaking, this is not the case. The principal increase in the exports of produce of late years has been from Connaught—from the very seat of the present distress; and there is the most unquestionable evidence to show, that the process of

splitting land and multiplying beggars, has been going on more rapidly of late years in that province, than at any former period. The *con-acre* system prevails at this moment in every part of Connaught. This is the name given to a practice followed by the landlords and larger class of farmers of letting small slips of land at the exorbitant rent of from 7*l* to 12*l*, and even 14*l* an acre, for one or more seasons, to the adjoining cottiers, giving them liberty to take from it crops of corn, potatoes, flax, &c. It is usual when *con-acre* land is broken up from grass, to allow it to be *pared and burned*; and so rapidly is this most pernicious of all practices extending, that a very intelligent witness, Thomas S. Linsay, Esq., informed the agricultural committee of 1833, that when he left Mayo the *entire county seemed as if it were on fire*; and he was sure he did not exaggerate when he stated that a *fifth part of the surface was actually in a flame*! The savages described by Montesquieu cut down the tree to get at the fruit; but the landlords of Ireland go a step further, and to obtain more rent burn the very soil! The Legislature has attempted in vain to restrain their cupidity, by prohibiting this villainous practice under a heavy penalty; but the act is a dead letter, and its existence is not, in fact, known to almost any one. Surely, however, none will pretend to say that the increasing exports of corn from Galway, Sligo, &c., resulting, as they undoubtedly do, from the extension of such a system as this, are any evidence of increasing prosperity! The cottiers sell everything they can contrive to raise by these *con-acres* and otherwise, except potatoes; and when these happen to fail, as in the present instance, they have nothing for it but to die in the ditch, or to seize (should they be lucky enough to fall in with such a thing) on the property of others! It is a good deal worse than absurd to talk about the improvement or the tranquillity of any country where such practices are permitted to strike their roots and scatter their seeds on all sides. There is, however, but one way of arresting their progress, and that is by making the landlords responsible for the subsistence of every individual they allow to settle on or to occupy any part of their estates. Nothing short of this will be of the least use. The landlords of Ireland are, perhaps, not worse than those of other countries; but, however this may be, they have proved that they are insensible to all considerations save those of the pocket. *Quocunque modo rem* is a maxim they religiously observe. They have not scrupled, for the sake of additional rents, to allow some of the finest estates in the world to be split down into mere potato gardens, occupied only by beggars; and when it suits their views, they have as little hesitation in retracing their steps, and ejecting the wretches, they have, in a manner, called into existence. It is in vain telling them that this system is destructive alike of their own real interests and of those of the country. The vast majority look only to immediate consequences, to the immense rents that are promised them, and to nothing further. It is, therefore, indispensable that the legislature should interfere and enforce a compulsory provision for the support of the poor and the destitute. Let this be done and the splitting of farms and burning of land will no more be heard of—neither will poor wretches be turned out of their huts with no alternative save robbery or death. The landlords will then be obliged to treat them as men, and not as noxious vermin; and when they wish to get rid of their cottiers will have to carry them to Canada or elsewhere. We look upon some measure of this sort as the one thing needful in the case of Ireland. With it other measures may be of use—without it they can be of none whatever.—Members of the House of Commons may amuse them-

selves in declaiming by the hour on the evils of tithe, Popery, agitation, and so forth; but the real evil of Ireland is the *destitution of the poor*, and till that be set to rights honourable gentlemen would be quite as profitably employed in whistling jigs to milestones as in devising schemes for the cultivation of the bogs, or in recommending the practice of forbearance, industry, frugality, and the other virtues.

### IMMIGRATION OF LABOURERS.

(*From the Manchester Guardian.*)

In the month of March last, we gave some particulars of the removal into this neighbourhood of several poor families from the parish of Great Bledlow, in Buckinghamshire, where severe distress had prevailed amongst the agricultural labourers, and of the great improvement in their condition. About a month afterwards, we inserted a letter from the Rev. James Beard, rector of Cranfield, in Bedfordshire, who stated that the labourers in his parish were in great distress from the want of employment and the low rate of wages; and he expressed a wish to make an arrangement with some manufacturer in this neighbourhood for receiving and giving employment to a few families from Cranfield. We have this week had the pleasure of an interview with Mr. Beard, and are glad to find that his benevolent intentions have been to some extent carried into effect, with a success quite equal to that which attended the removals from Great Bledlow. The parties that left Cranfield were twelve married men and their families, who were sent to Mellor, in Derbyshire, and have been for several weeks past employed at Mr. Clayton's factory there. Mr. Beard, being desirous of ascertaining how the change had operated upon his late parishioners, has just paid them a visit, and has had an opportunity of learning from their own lips, and from an inspection of their dwellings, to what extent their condition has been improved. We are happy to be able to state, that, in every case, the removal has been attended with the most satisfactory results. They all continue in the service of Mr. Clayton—are all (with their families) earning wages to an amount about three times as large as they could have obtained at Cranfield—and are all extremely well satisfied with the change in their condition, as, we believe, their employer is with them. We are glad to learn, too, that they have been treated with great kindness by the people of the neighbourhood in which they have come to reside, who have shown no symptoms of that sort of jealousy of the new comers which designing men have endeavoured to excite in the minds of the working population of this neighbourhood—a result to which the mild and bland manners by which the peasantry of the south of England are distinguished has no doubt materially contributed. Mr. Beard informs us that the population of his parish is about 1,200, and that amongst these there are a number of other families of most industrious habits and irreproachable character, for whom also he is desirous of obtaining employment in this neighbourhood. They have long been, owing, as we have said, to the depression of wages in agricultural employments, in a state of great distress; but they have borne their sufferings with the utmost fortitude and resignation, a circumstance which has greatly stimulated his anxiety to serve them, and which cannot be better illustrated than by the fact, of which he assures us, that not one of his parishioners has been convicted of a

criminal offence for the last three years. We look to the wide field for labour which these manufacturing districts afford as a most valuable auxiliary with the new poor laws in improving the condition, and thereby re-elevating the character of the agricultural population of the central and southern counties; and we hope the migration of a considerable body of the labouring classes from thence will have considerable effect in softening the manners and refining the habits and feelings of our own operatives. It will be thought extraordinary that any system-mongers (for we will not attribute the thing to a worse class of persons) should have carried their opposition to the voluntary change of residence, on the part of individuals, with a view of improving their condition, to such a length as to have placarded the agricultural districts with bills representing those labourers, who consent to come into this neighbourhood, as being transported to slavery. Such, however, Mr. Beard informs us has been the case, and he showed us a letter from one of Mr. Clayton's men to his friend at home, which adverts to the fact. Speaking of some acquaintances, "Tell them," says the writer to his correspondent, "that we are not transported, and that we are not slaves;" and he added something to the effect, if we recollect aright, that those who would not believe him might stay and be slaves (for 't'ey were no better) at home. It gives us pleasure to record the success in this way of another effort to improve the condition of a laborious and deserving class; and we trust that what we have now written may pave the way to further successful experiments of the same kind.

### POOR LAWS—IRELAND.

(*From the Herald.*)

In another column will be found an abstract of the bill introduced into the House of Commons by Mr. G. Poulett Scrope for the relief of the poor of Ireland. The question of the second reading is fixed for Wednesday next. It would be difficult to select a more thankless office than that of legislating for the poor in Ireland in the present state of opinion with regard to poor laws in those quarters which are most likely to be influential with the Legislature, and even with the people themselves. The Irish landlords are, generally speaking, against a compulsory provision. Mr. O'Connell is against it and for it. He is against it in his speeches, and for it in his votes, but his speeches are of much more importance than his votes, for the former produce an influence upon thousands of his countrymen, while the latter is a mere isolated individual act, deprived of all influence, except its weight in the division, by the counter-acting force of the observations which more than neutralize its efficacy. Under such circumstances it is, we repeat, a thankless office to legislate for the poor of Ireland, and perhaps some portion of the reluctance manifested by government itself may be ascribed to the same apprehension. But all this only adds to the merit of such men as Mr. Scrope, who persist under such circumstances in using their humane endeavours to prevent famine from continuing to be the epidemic disease of that country. Mr. Scrope's bill aims at introducing into Ireland the principles of the poor law of Elizabeth, through the machinery of the Poor Law Amendment Act of last session. But the bastardy clauses are omitted, and the workhouse system is omitted, and in lieu of that system is substituted employment upon public works and home coloniza-



tion, with the ultimate resource of emigration, in cases which may call for such a remedy. It is evident, therefore, that an attempt has been made in this bill to avoid the most objectionable parts of the poor law machinery, a machinery to which we feel such strong objections ourselves, that we will own we were startled at the first view to see it extended under any modification to Ireland. To the adoption of the principles of the poor law of Elizabeth we apprehend there will be but little objection amongst those who admit the necessity of a compulsory provision. It is a delusion to expect that anything short of that can be permanently beneficial, or even for the time effective to any considerable extent. Talk as they will of the danger to property under such a law, it is nothing to the danger, coupled with disgrace, of allowing multitudes to perish, or pretend to save them by the mockery of temporising expedients. Ireland has tried the "voluntary principle" of relief long enough, and it has failed. Compulsion, however disagreeable, however unsentimental it may sound, must be resorted to, for this plain reason, that there is no other way of apportioning the relief to the wants of the people, or of equalising the burden upon those who ought to contribute, but by compelling all such to do so. It may be natural enough for the Irish landlords, who have never paid a single sixpence in poor rates, to think that they will be so much the worse off for every sixpence they are called upon to pay—to think that every successive demand will be so much out of their pockets without the prospect of any return. But however natural it may be, we cannot help considering this a very short-sighted view of the question. Tranquillity alone would be tantamount to capital in Ireland. It would act as a stimulus to improvement by removing the great pressure which has long kept it down. Public works and home colonization would do much as parts of the new system, but little or nothing of themselves. The landlords must be roused to activity. They must be shown and forced to see that it is their interest to provide employment for the labouring classes, that they have duties to perform as well as rights to exercise, and rents to squeeze out of indigence and suffering. We cannot, however, expect, after what has already passed on this subject in parliament, during the present session, that anything will be done in the way of direct legislation. The excuse of the commission of inquiry is still as strong, and will be as strong on Wednesday next, as it was a week or two ago. But it is one good symptom for the cause, that such motions, instead of being scouted, follow fast upon each others' heels, and that the necessity of taking some step, is now so far admitted, that the opponents of poor laws are driven to act upon the defensive. We trust that, as they cannot long find excuses for delay, they will yield with a good grace to the growing opinion of the country, and the frightful evidence of distress upon which that opinion is founded.

#### THE IRISH CHURCH.

(From the *Morning Herald*.)

We are happy to observe, from the notice given by Lord Stanley, last night, with reference to the Irish Church Bill, that his lordship is not to be driven from his purpose of resisting the meditated plunder of ecclesiastical property, under the gentle name of appropriation. In the notice to which we allude Lord Stanley has pledged himself

to bring forward a direct proposition, asserting the right of the Church to its own funds—that is, to the funds which have always confessedly belonged to the Church until now that, for the first time, the State puts in its claim, just as a pickpocket puts in his claim to a pocket handkerchief, by an act of appropriation. It is upon this clause that the grand struggle will take place, for it requires no great sagacity to foretell that if the principle of seizing, upon any pretext, however plausible, the revenues of the Church be once established, the hand of aggression will not stop there. Those who take out of one pocket will take out of another; those who relieve the Church of its superfluity will not abandon individuals to the serious responsibility of possessing more than their wants require. If Lord Stanley should fail in his endeavour to remove what has been justly called the spoliation clause, the institution of property will be shaken to its base, the great purpose of all civilized government will be subverted, and, though the process may not be instantaneous, it will come at last to the breaking up of social order, as a necessary consequence of the dissolution of property. It well becomes Lord Stanley, who has proved himself a bold reformer by supporting the Reform Bill throughout the whole of its difficult progress, to stand firm in his resistance to such a clause as is now attempted to be carried, under the pretence of improving the condition of the Irish Church. That his popularity may—nay, that it must suffer for the moment, we need not be told. In fact, he has already experienced it. The tone of the ministerial journals, and the conduct of the ministerial and Radical members in the house have apprised him long since that real patriotism is capable of being misrepresented. But the time will come when his country will do justice to his motives. The very rancour with which he is followed at present is a proof of the importance which his political enemies attach to the part he is acting. If, happily for the country, he should succeed in the attempt he is now making, the gratitude of the nation will at no distant period reward him for the obloquy he has encountered for the sake of principle. Even if he should fail he will have the testimony of his own approving conscience, and the concurrent applause of all those who distinguish between the change of improvement and that of revolution and destruction. Professing ourselves of that number, we tender him our thanks for the attempt in which he is engaged, and heartily wish him success.

#### POOR LAWS—IRELAND.

(From the *Globe*.)

There is gratifying evidence of decided progress in rational views on the subject of the measures to be taken for the relief and the employment of the poor in Ireland. It is fortunate that this question had not come to a head before a vigorous essay at reformation was made in the English poor laws. The ignorant superstition which suggests the delusion, that the way to get rid of a loathsome disease is to give it to another, would have inclined those who are writhing themselves under the plague of pauperism to imagine they should lighten their own by imposing similar burthens on others. The beginning, however, which has been made in the work of poor law reform in England affords at least security that whatever measures are taken in Ireland will be taken in conformity with the improved views adopted at home.

We are not, however, satisfied with this partial security against the application of measures unsuited to the condition of Ireland. It must not be forgotten in how many of its provisions the amended English poor law, at best, merely repairs and corrects the deep-rooted abuses of an old system. The fundamental difference, besides, in the state of the two countries, with reference to the operation of the poor laws, is, that in England cases requiring relief, at worst, are the exception; in Ireland they are too often the rule. Two-thirds of the population of England are engaged in those branches of skilled industry which extort subsistence, for those who follow them, from the acquired and artificial wants of their customers at home and abroad. Whereas the mass of the Irish people have no resource but the rudest husbandry. They can dig—that is all—and to beg they are not ashamed. Almost the whole population, therefore, may be reckoned as redundant, except those actually required to cultivate the soil; and in calling a population redundant, we beg to be understood to mean that they neither can feed themselves, nor make it worth any one's while to feed them.

This state of things, in a lively and quick population like the Irish, can have no other origin than misgovernment. It is idle and silly to lay the whole blame on the absentee landlords. Landlords, doubtless, can do a good deal; but they think too much of their own importance if they fancy that their presence or absence makes all the mighty difference of condition betwixt England and Ireland. It is quite possible for resident landlords to do greatly more harm than good; their game-keeping crusades, their unpaid justice, their importation of London lackies and levities into the rural districts—these are little set-offs, in too many cases, to the local circulation of wealth occasioned by their presence. Some of the most contented and best cultivated districts, both in England and Scotland, seldom see the face of their landlords. It is quite ridiculous, also, to talk of the absence of landlords, and want of poor laws, as if these had been the active causes of Irish misery from the beginning. Ireland was systematically gagged and handcuffed for centuries; her tongue silenced from speaking her wants, her hands tied from exercising those branches of industry for which her situation gave her every advantage. English religion proscribed Irish—English commerce prohibited Irish—and, after ages of this discipline, English poor laws are to redeem the whole degradation and barbarism caused by it. Pshaw!

#### THE IRISH CHURCH.—APPROPRIATION CLAUSE.

(From the Times, June 24, 1833.)

"The vote of the House of Commons on Friday evening, whereby the 147th clause of the Irish (Church) Temporalities Bill was expunged, we consider a lamentable circumstance. It must be recollected, and indeed was recalled to mind by more than one Member in the course of the discussion, that Ministers had, on first introducing the Coercion Bill, declared their determination to resign if they could not carry the Church Reform Bills, as well as the Bill of Coercion. This was a pledge, and a pledge the more sacred, because it held out to adverse parties a condition, which in reliance on the good faith of Government, those adverse parties have fulfilled. The Coercion Bill, we repeat, was supported

by many of those who would otherwise have opposed it, in full confidence that the Bills of conciliation in relation to Church affairs would have been carried also, and neither sold nor compromised. For some time previous to Friday's vote, rumours had been in circulation, and the matter of them was announced in this journal, that the Tories in the House of Lords, impatient at their exclusion from office, had decided on the immediate overthrow of Ministers, which was to be effected by that of the Irish Church Bill. A hostile vote of the Peers was therefore ordained, and a consequent resignation of Lord Grey's Ministry was reckoned on.

The question therefore for his Majesty's Government was, whether they should maintain their Church Reform Bill intact in the House of Commons, where they were powerful, leaving upon the Tory Peers the responsibility of rejecting it elsewhere, and so disgusting the country; or whether they should submit to be beaten without fighting on that field where they had the victory already in their own hands, and under the name of a 'compromise for the sake of peace,' yield to their enemies what they would take care to represent as a signal triumph.

"The latter branch of the alternative was that which the Ministers, we think unfortunately, believed themselves justified in accepting. They made what they deemed was a compromise, but what the Conservatives loudly boast of as a complete surrender of the whole point in dispute—viz. the 'inalienable nature of Church property.'

"The 147th clause of the Bill contained a provision that any surplus, arising from the conversion by purchase of Bishop's twenty-one-year leases into perpetuities, should, after securing certain ecclesiastical objects formerly provided for by the vestry-cess, be 'applied to such purposes as Parliament shall hereafter appoint and direct.'

"Apart from the special pleading on the subject, Mr. Stanley, by giving up the clause, has given up, in fact, the assertion of the original and fundamental principal of all Church Reform; namely, the power of dealing, according to the supreme will of Parliament, with any and every portion of that property which the state had itself originally appropriated to the temporal uses of its religious establishment. The recognition of this principle was essential to the legitimacy of any measure of temporal Church Reform. It is that without which not even a commutation of tithes, or a charge for poor-rates, or a property tax on the the tithe owner, can be rendered valid. If there was not an Irish Protestant layman from north to south of the island to-morrow, the temporalities of the superfluous Church could not be touched by Parliament without a declaration of the one great datum, that 'Church property is disposable by the State.' And this is the ground which Ministers have abandoned; and, upon their own showing, what does their inducement amount to?

"Says Mr. Stanley, 'There may be no surplus whatever; why, therefore, prematurely regulate its application?'

"To this we answer, that although the proposal for a tax on existing incumbents has been withdrawn with the general assent of the House, there still remains, besides the income of the suppressed bishopricks, the whole fund to accrue from the conversion of terminable bishops' leases into perpetuities. Such conversion is authorised by the Bill, the manner of it is prescribed, and its results are minutely calculated and provided for by several successive clauses. Is it not, therefore, mere trifling with the country to tell us that because there is no fund in hand at the present moment, save only what proceeds from a reduction in one bishop's income, and from the



suppression of another, yet that the fund, prospective and eventually certain, which must, in the nature of things, arise from an extensive, if not universal, buying up of the bishops' leases in perpetuity, is no way worthy of being taken into account by Parliament, but is to be treated as a pure abstraction, and left to the chances of future, or merely possible legislation?

"Mr. Stanley avows, however, that Ministers have given way on this occasion as a peace offering to the Tory Lords, to avoid a 'collision of which all must deplore the consequences.' But why that collision? If Mr. Stanley's statement of the case be true he has sacrificed nothing whatever to the Tory Lords—literally nothing—because in his opinion the assertion of a naked principle is not worth contending for. Then let us ask the Right Honourable Gentleman whence could arise a collision with the other House of Parliament? What materials are there for a contest? If the thing be not worth a single straw, why should the Lords insist on it in such case? or, if the principle be just in itself, why is it the government in the House of Commons that should give way, and the enemy that should have cause to sing *Te Deum* for a victory?

"The truth is, that the Conservative Party do not so undervalue the immense importance of that night's proceeding. Their organs of the press, and of society, boast and exult in the degradation thus inflicted upon Ministers. Describing them as men whom their adversaries need not fear, and whom their friends are unable to confide in. Look over the division of this unlucky evening, and you will see the Government opposed by its friends and pushed forward only by its enemies. Mr. Grote, in his manly impressive, and upright speech, condensed into few words the merits and bearings of the question. According to the Member for London, the Bill even in its original frame, had been scarcely efficient for the purpose of bringing within just dimensions the Church of Ireland—"that great ecclesiastical enormity of Europe." But, robbed of its most significant clauses, instead of voting silently against it, he would give the Bill his most decided opposition. He added, that the whole professed principle of the Bill was negated by the erasure of that single clause; that the House of Commons would be no worse by sending up the Bill to the House of Lords, and letting their Lordships have the merit of rejecting it; that, for aught Ministers knew, the Lords might beat them on other clauses, and that, if he might advise Ministers, it would be to adapt their measures to the wants of the people, and leave the other House of Parliament to act as they thought fit.' This was high and honourable counsel, too bold and straightforward, we fear, to be implicitly followed.

"In grief, not in anger, and certainly not in enmity, we repeat, that the surrender of Friday night was a loss of character, that is, of substantial power. The Tories conciliated by it? why, they laughed at it publicly. They are stimulated by it to the imposition of fresh burdens and humiliations upon their weakened foes. Besides, the sacrifices of the Government cannot end here; they are but beginning, and thankless as well as disreputable will be each step in the descent. Between the Conservatives and the English nation, where can Ministers make a stand, after the demonstration of a spirit so irresolute? Without gaining over a single friend from the Tories, the whole body of sound Reformers are affronted at this desertion of the common cause. The principle thus abandoned was worth all the rest of the measure. It was one, the steady adherence to which would have inspired the people almost uni-

versally with confidence in the firmness and wisdom of the King's Ministers, and would have filled the Tories with corresponding consternation. Ministers, with King and People at their back, might smile with scorn at an isolated and odious faction; but alienate the people from them, and let his Majesty once distrust their manhood, and what have the Tories to fear?"

#### FAGGOT VOTES.

(From the Courier.)

The Opposition Journals, especially the *Standard*, *Age*, *John Bull*, and *Northampton Herald*, have recently made repeated attacks on the Duke of Bedford, for resorting to manœuvres in order to manufacture votes for his dependents, and especially for having created forty votes out of a forty acre field at Hartford, in the vicinity of Huntingdon, with a view by such means to reinstate Lord John Russell in the representation of Huntingdonshire. We have, therefore, made inquiry in proper quarters, incapable of deceiving us, and we are enabled decidedly to state that there is not the slightest foundation for the charges. We give them the most positive contradiction.

The Duke of Bedford has no property whatever in the parish of Hartford, in the county of Huntingdon, and has never divided any field in that or in any other county, for the purpose of splitting votes.

Several years before the Reform Bill was proposed, at a time when Lord John Russell was a candidate for Huntingdonshire, some of his friends in Bedfordshire, including several of the Duke of Bedford's tenants, purchased a farm in Huntingdonshire, with the intention of supporting Lord John Russell; but this was their own spontaneous act, altogether unknown at the time to the Duke of Bedford.

Instances of similar proceedings occurred all over the country, and there is obviously no reason why Lord John Russell's friends, anxious for his election, should not have availed themselves of the means allowed by law, to support Lord John—they having the same means to which his opponents resorted to oppose him. The practice was general all over the country.

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GROUSE SHOOTING.—The 12th of August is at hand, and the Sportsman who contemplates a trip to the moors, must already have commenced preparations. After having exercised his skill and judgment upon the more essential points, his dog and gun, the next matter which invites his attention is personal comfort. To promote this there is nothing more important than dress of proper materials. Formerly the fatigue of mounting hill and crossing moor, was in no small degree increased by the weight of a thick heavy velvet jacket, but here too the "march of intellect" has stepped in, and a Gambroon Jacket is now substituted for the antique velvet one. Were it in our power to indulge in an excursion to the North, there is no sporting dress we have ever met with, which, whether as regards lightness and imperviousness to rain, without confining perspiration, at all equals that which we have seen at Messrs. DOUDNEY and SONS, Lombard-street. Equipped in one of Doudney's Gambroon Jackets, his shooting, waistcoat, and long tanned-leather gaiters, the Sportsman may defy the effect of sun, fog, or rain and that, too, at a most moderate charge.

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# THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

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[VOL. III.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "FARMER'S MAGAZINE."

SIR,—Since I wrote my last letter the harvest has so far advanced that a much better opportunity has been afforded to judge of the crops than at that time. The report I then gave of the prospect of the different crops in this county, will, I believe, on the whole, prove to be pretty correct, although there are many persons who still think that the wheat crop will not exceed an average growth. The weather here for the harvest has been most favorable: not a single hour has been lost from wet, and a few more fine days will see the whole of the corn secured, and when this is accomplished the great necessity which exists for rain will be more fully apparent. At this season of the year (the middle of August) I have never known the provision of food so deplorably short as at the present time, and how the sheep are to be kept through the winter is to me a perfect mystery, for it is now morally impossible that the turnip can afford any thing like a fair proportion of feed. In many places the young plants are thick enough, but from the long continuance of dry weather they are going off from want of moisture, and from the attack of the grub-worm, and a sort of caterpillar, vulgarly called the "nigger." In other situations, where the plants just manage to keep alive, they are becoming set and stunted, and even under the most favorable circumstances for the future, they can never sufficiently rally so as to produce an average quantity of keep. This deficiency of food naturally enough now begins to have an obvious effect on the price of lean stock. Two considerable sheep fairs have been held in this county within the last month—Horsham and Lyndfield—Horsham on the 18th of July, and Lyndfield on the 5th inst. At Horsham fair, although the number of sheep and lambs penned very far exceeded the number of last year, still the trade was very brisk, and by four o'clock in the afternoon almost every lot of sheep was disposed of. Lambs sold from 14s to 22s; ewes from 28s to 30s; and lean wethers, of different ages, in a fair proportion to the above prices; all was bustle, and on the part of the sellers all was satisfactory and right, with the exception of the wool trade, which on this day seemed to be at a standstill.

The trade, however, at Lyndfield, on the 5th inst., presented a scene exactly the reverse of Horsham fair. The continuance of dry weather since that day had a sensible effect, and where sales were accomplished it was at a decline in price of from 2s to 3s a-head; and, as if to render occurrences of this day diametrically opposite to those of Horsham fair, the wool trade appeared to have revived, and a considerable demand for this commodity existed throughout the day, at from 44s to 46s the tod of 32lbs. The price of wool, when compared with other agricultural produce,

will seldom present any thing like a fair proportion of value; it may be lower in its proportion, or it may be higher, just according to the demand in Foreign Markets for wool, and English manufactured woollen goods; and as neither English wheat, barley, or oats are eligible for exportation, either in the raw or manufactured state, so will grain remain in price totally unbiassed by various causes which may operate either injuriously or beneficially to the trade in wool. Whilst on the subject of wool, I trust you will pardon me mentioning a matter of local interest only, but as I know your Magazine is read by several gentlemen to whom I wish especially to address myself on the policy of establishing a wool fair at Chichester, I will, with your permission, make it the vehicle of my observations to them.

Along the range of hills from Postdown, in Hampshire, about 16 miles to the north-west of Chichester to Arundel, and the surrounding downs about the same distance to the north-east of Chichester, numerous flocks are kept of from 400 to 1000 sheep on each farm; and in the section of country below, and to the south-east of Chichester, encompassing about the same distance as above, being a very fertile tract, many thousand sheep are fed by the graziers, including a few low country flocks; and immediately to the north towards Aldhurst, and then back to the farms round Petworth, being a continuous turnip soil of many miles in extent, the keeping of sheep is also a first object with the farmers of this district; consequently it is obvious that Chichester forms the pivot to a circle of a wool producing country. Now how is the vast quantity of wool which is produced here disposed of? Why, by a monopoly enjoyed by two or three wool staplers, who have the riding of the country entirely to themselves. Each takes his own custom, as he chooses to call it, and with this knot of dealers it would be considered a complete breach of faith if one should endeavour to supplant the other by a higher bidding for any lot of wool, although circumstances might occur to render it more valuable for a certain season to one agent than to another. But under the present system the farmer is quite shut out from deriving any benefit from such a state of things; the buyers manage these matters entirely within themselves, and the grower is seldom aware of the fact. Is it possible, I should ask then, but that the result of an open competition, such as a fair would afford, could fail of giving a decided advantage to the growers of wool; and, I think I may add, with one or two exceptions, to the buyers also; and when it is remembered that there is no wool fair within a distance of 30 miles from Chichester, and that the patronage of the Duke of Richmond and his tenantry would ensure the success of an attempt to establish so desirable an object in this city, it is ardently to be hoped that his Grace, who is always



ready to promote the interest of agriculture, may be induced to lend his powerful aid towards the bringing about an event, the result of which would undoubtedly afford a decided advantage to the neighbourhood. I am aware many growers of wool, if they do not object entirely to the plan of establishing a fair, think that the trouble and expense attending it would not be compensated for by any advantage it would be likely to secure, and that the present method of having *a dealer to come to the wool* is far more convenient *than taking the wool to the dealer*. There may be some truth in this, but let it be remembered that the most *convenient* way of transacting business is not always the most *profitable*, and that the maxim of "a clear stage and no favour" is far more admissible as a principle on matters of buying and selling, than the old adage of "between you and I and the gate post." For my present purpose I cannot help wishing that a *wool pack* had been originally substituted for a *gate post*.

As I have so far infringed on your space by allusion to a subject so very confined in its interest, I cannot refrain, if you will so far extend your courtesy towards me, from mentioning another matter also connected with the country round Chichester. I allude to the long standing and much to be regretted feeling of rivalry which exists between the supporters of the Old Pitch Market and the advocates and friends of the New Pitch Market. In the following observations, I trust, I shall be acquitted of any intention to advocate the cause of either party, or, in fact, of forming any opinion whatever on the original dispute (of which, in truth, I do not even know the outline) which occasioned this separation of the very men who only a few years since, in the strictest unanimity of opinion and action, succeeded in establishing, in spite of a strong opposition, a Pitch Market in lieu of the Old Sample Market, which had become a monopoly almost equal in its exclusiveness to the system of the wool trade, which I have mentioned above. My only object is to call the attention of those persons, who have the power to remedy the evil, to the serious inconvenience which occurs under present circumstances, to almost every farmer who is in the habit of attending this market, and to view an arrangement, having for its object the uniting of the two corn stores, as a matter of *expediency* only, without the slightest reference to the merits of the dispute. In the first place the division of the market has the effect of preventing a great deal of corn from being pitched at all, because there are persons who, from a disinclination to offend either party, refrain from availing themselves of the Pitch Market, and continue to sell by sample. And this is not the only motive which operates on the minds of many persons, to deter them pitching corn. The division of the dealers, which two markets occasion, militates against the interest of the farmer, and gives a decided advantage to the buyer, inasmuch as it destroys that complete independence on the part of the former, which it is always necessary should exist in order to ensure equal terms to either party in buying and selling. The dealer derives this advantage from the constant apprehension the supporters of each market labour under, that the dealers may cease to patronise the store they have heretofore attended, and think it more to their advantage in future to quarter in the camp of the adversary; the consequence is, there is at all times a bias on the part of the warmest and most interested supporters of both markets to treat the buyers, who

individually support their cause, in such a manner that they may continue their preference; and one sale so made to *fickle a dealer*, does not fail to have its due effect throughout the market. I have been present in both markets, when such a dialogue, in substance, as the following has transpired.—Dealer (putting his hand into the sample sack)—"Well, Sir, what do you ask for this wheat to day?" Farmer—"Nine pounds." Dealer—"I do not know how it is, but this market is always higher than the other, which I am just come from, and where I was offered better wheat than yours for 5s a load less money, and if you are not inclined to take 10s a load less than you are all at present asking here, I *must go back to the other store, and lay out my money there*." Now does not this at once establish the fact, that the tendency of the spirit of rivalry is injurious to the seller and favorable to the buyer; and if this be admitted, is it not somewhat of a reflection on the partisans of both establishments, that some steps are not taken in order to bring the matter at issue to some *equitable* arrangement. Surely it is quite unnecessary for farmers themselves to be the means of adding one difficulty more to those by which the landed interest is beset, better rather hang together like a *bundle of sticks*, and so secure *at least* those advantages which unanimity will always afford.

The present very forward harvest offers another capital opportunity for sowing the trifolium clover in the wheat and barley stubbles; and the fact of being enabled to sow it during the present month, is certainly half way towards the assurance of a crop; but, on the contrary, if the sowing of it be protracted till the middle or end of September, there is great danger of frost following before the seed has well hold of the ground, and then the great probability is that it would never arrive at maturity.

I took some trouble last spring to examine several fields of this new clover; and I am satisfied there are two distinct sorts of this genus, and which may not, I think, be inaptly named, the Dwarf and the Giant. It appears to me the difference is quite as distinct, both in appearance and productiveness, as in the English and Foreign spring tares. The best piece I saw last year was grown in the manhood of this county, and in order to convey some idea of the immense bulk of produce, it is only necessary to state that the cart horses on the farm were kept in the yard on the trifolium only, and that half a rod only was found sufficient for each horse. This field was sown out of a wheat stubble, having been once ploughed, and two gallons of seed allowed on an acre. The notion of sowing it on the *whole ground*, and merely harrowing it in, without ploughing at all, is a decided error. I saw a signal failure of this sort last season, on a field excellently calculated, under a proper system of management, to produce a good crop. There can be no doubt but that the trifolium will be very generally sown this autumn on account of the dying off of the seeds sown in the Lent corn, occasioned by the unusual dry weather, and as it makes a capital substitute for red clover for hay, it seems to have established itself as a valuable acquaintance at a peculiarly happy time. Great care should, I think, be taken not to deposit the seed *too deep*, and consequently the harrowing and rolling should be *nearly* completed before the seed is sown; and if it be a very light season, the more the ground is trod with stock the better, because a firm rooting for the plant will be thus secured. Two or three years ago, when this species of clover had not emanci-

pated beyond the purlieus of the experimentalists, I asked a friend of mine, who is a famous botanist, what he thought of its qualifications, he having tried a patch in his garden. His reply was, "Oh, it is a capital plant to yield, only there is one little difficulty relating to it, namely, *nothing will eat it.*" My friend drew his conclusions too hastily, and I suppose he had offered it to his stock when they were at full keep at grass or winter tares, and then I have no doubt that they would refuse to eat it, as undoubtedly they would have refused to eat lucerne under like circumstances.

When horses are fed on lucerne it is unusual to give them any other green food; so should it be with the trifolium, and then not only will both cattle and sheep eat it, but will also do well on it.—I am, Sir, your obedient and very humble servant,  
 AGRICULTURER.

*Sussex, August 17, 1835.*

### SUSSEX.

FROM KENNEDY AND GRAINGER'S PRACTICE OF TENANCY IN THE GRAZING DISTRICTS OF GREAT BRITAIN; PUBLISHED IN 1829.

To several particulars connected with this county, having already noticed them in our former work, it is unnecessary again to advert. The natural herbage of Sussex is generally good, though chiefly adapted for summer, but on the dry uplands, it is nutritious for sheep and cattle during great part of the winter.

There is no custom here binding the landlords to take the stock upon sheep farms, at the expiration of the lease; neither is the in-coming tenant under any obligation to take either live or dead stock; it would, however, be advisable for the stock to be taken at a valuation. All the sheep farms in Sussex have a considerable proportion of arable land attached to them; a farm, for instance carrying 1,000 ewes, would consist of 600 acres of arable and 600 acres of down. The arable land comprised in these farms, is held under the same restrictions that are applied to the other cultivated parts of the county.

The flocks on the South Downs in Sussex, are all South Down ewes or wethers. The weathers are flocked by themselves, as are also the two-tooth ewes, but the three and four-tooth ewes are put together. A great number of Dorset and South Down ewes are kept in the Weald for the purpose of fattening the lambs, likewise wethers for the same purpose; none but South Down ewes are kept for stock. The average weight of a Down fleece is 2½ pounds, and of a Dorset 4 pounds. The ewes have their first lamb at two years old.

With regard to the smearing of sheep, no experiment has been tried here with what is called Taylor's salve; but if an application of grease was resorted to, and properly administered, there is no doubt it would produce a beneficial result.

The South Down sheep are considered to be more profitable, and to produce better wool than any other kind of sheep, which can exist upon the herbage of the county, or under the mode of treatment that is found necessary. It is by crossing some of the formerly coarsest short woolled sheep, such as those of Wiltshire, Berkshire, and parts of Hampshire, with the South Downs, Merinos, and Rylands, that a far superior and finer fleece has been produced than that which they originally possessed; and there is no doubt that the fleeces are very generally improved throughout Great Britain; but the error into which many

persons unacquainted with the various changes and crosses that have taken place in the different counties are led, is, that they are induced to consider a great part of the wool which is sent into the markets from various districts, as South Down, when, probably, the original stock from which it has been produced, was of the commonest and coarsest short woolled breed, but having a cross of South Down, or Merino, it thence takes the best selling name; and thus, perhaps, arises the idea amongst the staplers and manufacturers, that the fine wools of Britain have deteriorated, whereas the direct contrary is known to be the fact.

On the South Downs, sheep and wool are greatly depended upon for profit. The land in this county varies so much in price and goodness, and the sheep farms being differently situated, some having more Down land than others, that it would be difficult to average the rent of land, per head. The sheep districts in England are differently circumstanced to those in Scotland; the sheep in the former being supported by a great quantity of artificial food, which is provided for them, the expense of which ought to be repaid by the grain they contribute to produce; whilst, in the latter, they subsist on the natural herbage, which renders easy the estimate of rent per head.

The South Down farmers, with respect to the sheep they are enabled to dispose of at different ages, calculate by the score; they consider that the amount of a remunerating price varies according to the nature of the land, from £15. to £25. per score; that of wool, is estimated at from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 9d. per pound.

The shepherds are paid by the week, or the year, at the rate of from 12s. to 15s. per week.

The sheep on the Downs are washed with a preparation of arsenic and water, at an expence of 1d. per head.

It is estimated, that wool on the South Downs ought to pay one fifth of the rent. The sheep farms, however, owing to the low price of their produce, have decreased in value full one third; and if the present depression continues, the situation of the farmers must gradually, or even rapidly, become worse and worse.

The South Down farmers send out to keep, their ewe lambs which they intend for stock, from Michaelmas to Lady-day, at a charge of 5s per head.

The current price of South Down wool, in Sussex, has been for the last ten years, from £3. to £1. 8s. per 32 pounds; that of wethers for the same period, from £1. 14s. to £1. 6s.; of ewes, from £1. 9s. to 19s.; and of lambs, from £1. 9s. to 9s. On the South Downs, the flocks that are kept are ewe flocks.

The produce of 1,000 ewes would be, according to present prices, £750, leaving but a trifling remuneration to the grower, after paying rent, taxes, and other necessary charges.

No doubt is entertained here that the wool partakes of the colour of the soil. Herbage grown on chalky soils, is believed to produce the finest wool, but it is not considered that the chalk renders it so, or that it absorbs the yolk, and thereby depriving the wool of its requisite nourishment. Sheep that have to travel most for their food, it is observed, produce the shortest and finest wool. The heat of the sun, it is believed, encourages, to a certain extent, the growth of wool, which is also promoted by unguents, properly applied. It is also thought, that slightly greasing the sheep soon after clipping, as well as on the approach of winter, would improve the fleece, and that the expence would be repaid by the additional quantity of



wool. The quantity of yolk is believed to be very materially increased by particular modes of feeding.

An application of grease to the sheep, used immediately after shearing, has a tendency to prevent cutaneous diseases, and the effects arising from fly, &c.; greased sheep, also, throw off snow and rain much sooner than those that are not greased. It is thought, that, for this purpose, wax might be substituted instead of tar, by which any discolouration of the fleece might be avoided.

The sheep, in Sussex, are usually washed in ponds, the water of which cleanses the wool much better than a running stream, it being softer.

The housing or coting of sheep in inclement weather, would, it is considered, repay the expense; but this is not to be understood to mean close confinement, which would cause the sheep to lose the wool upon their bellies before the time of clipping, through their lying upon dung.

There is a great difference, in point of time, with regard to the effect produced upon different breeds of sheep as to the fleece, by a change of pasture; the Merino, or Spanish, are supposed to resist longer than any other breed, any alteration in the fleece arising from this cause: those sheep which fatten the quickest, are believed to feel the effect the soonest.

It has been found here, that, by overstocking rich pastures, the fleece is not improved in fineness, but, on the contrary, it is deteriorated, and becomes jointed; the same effect is not produced upon poor pastures, which is to be accounted for from the quality of the herbage. It has also been ascertained, that the wool, after a mild winter, is stronger than after a severe season, but not coarser, the animal not obtaining a sufficiency of food in the latter, renders the wool weaker. The wool, however, which is grown during the winter, is of very trifling amount; for which reason the application of an unguent after shearing, would be very beneficial, as it would not only tend to increase the growth of wool, but also to prevent the sheep being disturbed by the fly. Whatever, indeed, tends to increase the growth of the wool after clipping, would be strictly in unison with the order of nature, it being well known that birds and beasts are all furnished with their winter clothing previous to the approach of winter.

#### WOOD GROUSE.—PLATE.

The wood grouse, called also capercali and cock of the wood, it is said, was once well known in Scotland: but, in the memory of the present generation it has not been seen in the United Kingdom, except what has reached this country from more northern regions consigned to the poulterers of the metropolis. Like the ptarmigan, the cock of the wood is found in northern latitudes, and never met with in warm climates: to protect it against the severity of the weather during the winter, when its native forests are covered with snow, it is feathered to the toes, and indeed the animal economy of the bird is calculated for the situation which it inhabits.

The cock of the woods we are told by Goldsmith and others who have written on the subject, will sometimes weigh fourteen or fifteen pounds, but such accounts, like "Lectures on Field Sports," which appear monthly in the *Sporting Magazine*, are not to be relied on. The cases are somewhat similar,—Goldsmith published a *Natural History*, without possessing a particle of practical knowledge of the subject, but was, nevertheless, a well-read theorist;

while the editor of the periodical before mentioned, though utterly unacquainted with practical development, and too soporific to acquire a theoretical index, contrives, nevertheless, to issue his lucid illustrations of the chase with the impervious self-satisfaction of unblushing ignorance! In regard to the weight of the cock of the wood, from the specimens which have fallen under my observation, I should think it considerably over-rated. The colour of the male of this splendid variety of the grouse tribe is principally black: the feathers of the female are of a lighter colour than those of the male, and she is not nearly so large. This bird is found in Prussia and the north of Germany, but for the best account of it we are indebted to Mr. Lloyd, from whom I have borrowed much of the following description:—

The capercali is to be found in most parts of the Scandinavian peninsula, indeed, as far to the north as the pine tree is seen to flourish, which is very near to the North Cape itself. These birds are however, very scarce in the more southern of the Swedish provinces. The favourite haunts of the capercali are extensive fir woods. In coppices or small covers he is seldom if ever to be found. Professor Nilsson observes, that those which breed in the larger forests remain there all the year round, but those which on the contrary, breed on the fjall\* sides, or in a more open part of the country, in the event of deep snow, usually come down to the flower grounds.

The principal food of the capercali, when in a state of nature, consists of juniperberries, cranberries, and other berries common to the forests of the north, as well as insects, and in winter the tender buds of the pine, birch, &c.

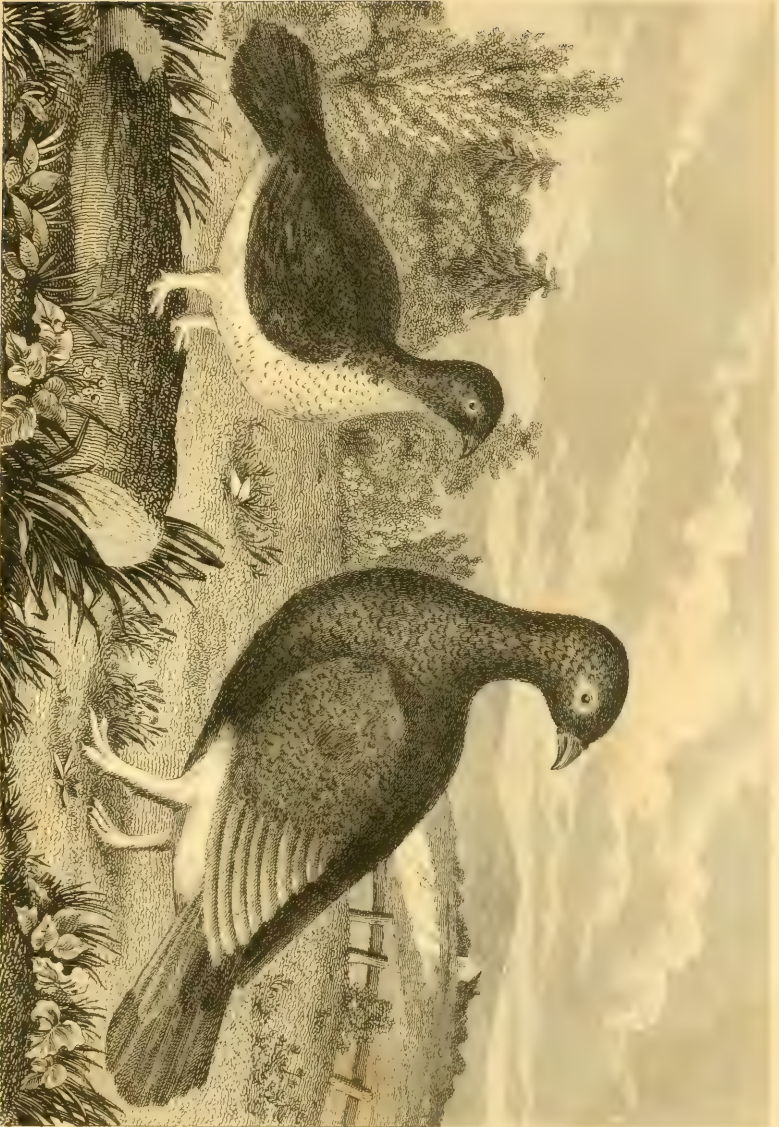
The female forms her nest on the ground, after the manner of all the gallinaceous tribe, and lays from six to twelve eggs, which, like those of the peahen, are hatched at the end of the month. The family keep together till the approach of winter, and the cocks separate from the mother before the hens.

During the day the capercali keep much on the ground, except it be deeply covered with snow; very commonly, however, the cock sits on the pine tree. These birds roost in the trees. The capercali flies heavily, with much noise and labour, and neither rises high in the air, nor flies to any great distance.

The cocks do not attain their full growth till the third year, and therefore it is fair to infer that they live for a considerable length of time. Mr. Lloyd is of opinion that the size of these birds depends in a great degree on the latitude where they are found. In Lapland, for instance, the cocks seldom exceed nine or ten pounds, while in the southern provinces of Sweden they are said to be much larger. With the capercali, as with other birds, occasional varieties in plumage are to be found; and some few years back a hen was shot in Russia nearly white.

Our Swedish traveller already mentioned, observes, "The capercali occasionally breed with the black game, the produce of which are called *Racklehanen*; these partake of the leading characteristics of both species, but their size and colour greatly depend whether the connection was between the capercali cock and the grey hen, or vice versa. Out of *Racklehanen*, which is the male, two, according to Mr. Falk, are not alike, and the difference of colour observable among the *Racklehanen*, which is the female, but which is very rare, is still greater. *Racklehanen* are seldom to be met with. During my stay in Wermeland, however, Mr. Falk had two of these birds in his possession, and I myself shot a third."

\* High mountains, the summits of which are above the limits of arboreal vegetation.



WOOD COCKS. CAPERCAILL.





The capercali is often domesticated in Sweden, and will become so perfectly tame as to feed out of the hand. In a domestic state they are principally fed with oats, and the berries already mentioned. It has been asserted that capercali will not breed in a domesticated state, but the contrary has been repeatedly proved. "A few years ago I procured a brace of these birds, consisting of cock and hen, for a friend of mine, Mr. Thomas Fowler Buxton, then resident at Cromer Hall, Norfolk. After the lapse of a few months, the hen laid six eggs, from which in due process six capercali were produced. The chicks lived until they had attained a very considerable size, when, owing to the effects, as it was supposed, of a burning sun, to which they had been incautiously exposed, the whole of them together with the mother, died. On this mishap, the old cock, the only survivor, was turned loose into the game preserves, where he continued in a thriving condition for about a year and a half. At last however, he also met his doom, though this was supposed to be owing rather to accidental than natural causes."

On the subject of domesticating the capercali, Mr. Nilsson speaking of some of these birds which were kept at a forge in Delecarlia, observes, "they were kept together during the winter season in a large loft over a barn, and were fed with corn, and occasionally a change of fresh spruce, fir, pine, and juniper sprigs. Early in spring they were let into an inclosure near the house, protected by a high and close fence, in which were several firs and pines, the common trees of the place. In this inclosure they were never disturbed, and during the season of incubation no one approached except the person who laid in the food, which at that time consisted of barley, besides fresh sprigs of the kind before mentioned. It is an indispensable rule that they shall have full liberty and remain entirely undisturbed, if the hens are to sit and hatch their young. As soon as this had occurred, and the brood were out, they were removed to the yard, which was also roomy, and so closely fenced that the young ones could not escape through, and within this fence were hedges and a number of bushes planted. Of the old ones, one of the wings was always clipped to prevent their flying. I have seen several times such broods, both of black game and capercali, eight to twelve young ones belonging to each hen. They were so tame, that, like our common hen, they would run forward when corn was thrown to them. They should always have a good supply of sand and fresh water."

On rearing the young of the capercali, Mr. Greiff makes the following remarks:—"They are to be supplied with ant eggs in conjunction with the materials of which the hills of those insects are composed; hard boiled eggs are to be chopped and mixed among fine moistened barley meal; also pea-hum and trefoil grass. They must have plenty of water, which must be placed so that they cannot overturn the picher for they suffer very much if they get wet when they are young. Dry sand and mould they should never be without; when they get larger, and cabbage leaves, strawberries, cranberries, and blueberries are to be had, they are fond of such food; and when they are full grown they eat barley and wheat; in winter they should get young shoots of pine and birch buds. I have seen many people who thought they treated young birds well by giving them juniper berries: but they never resort to this kind of food but in case of necessity."

It has been asserted that the capercali, in a state of unlimited freedom, has been known to forget his inherent shyness, and to attack persons when approaching his place of resort. During a number of

years, an old capercali cock had been in the habit of frequenting the estate of Villenge, at Wermdo, who, as often as he heard the voice of people in the adjoining wood, had the boldness to station himself on the ground, and during a continual flapping of his wings, pecked at the legs and feet of those who disturbed his domain." Further, a capercali cock frequented a wood a mile distant from Renthendorf, in which was a path or roadway. This bird, as soon as it perceived any person approach, would fly towards him, peck his legs, rap him with his wings, and was with difficulty driven away. A sportsman succeeded in taking the bird, and carried it to a place fourteen miles distant: however, on the following day it was found that the capercali had returned to its accustomed abode. Another person afterwards succeeded in taking him with the intention of carrying him to Ofwer-Jagmastare. At first the bird was quiet, but he soon began to peck and tear at the man so effectually that the latter was compelled to restore him to his liberty. However, after the lapse of a few months, he totally disappeared, having probably fallen into the hands of a less timid or less merciful bird-catcher.

In speaking of dogs proper for capercali shooting, Mr. Greiff observes, "they ought to be small; not to bark violently, but only now and then; to hunt at a short distance from the sportsman; to have a good and sure scent, and to be easily called in. When the frosty nights commence the capercali sits better to the cocker than at other times."

In the forest, the capercali does not always present an easy mark when he takes wing from a tree: for dipping down from the pines nearly to the ground as is frequently the case, they are often almost out of distance before a person can take aim: of course, large shot is indispensable.

In the early part of autumn, cocks and hens sit equally well to a dog; but, as the season advances, the cocks become so excessively wild as usually to take flight the instant the dog begins to challenge. This is not always the case with the hens, for these will often remain in the trees during all periods of the year, until a person approaches immediately near them. Something similar is observable with black game in this country, and a similarity will be recognised in the following characteristic: on the approach of winter, the capercali congregate and are found in packs during the winter; an association however, in which the hens are seldom seen. These packs which frequently contain from fifty to a hundred birds, usually keep to the sides of the numerous lakes and morasses with which the northern forests abound, and to pursue these noble birds under such circumstances with a good rifle, forms an amusement worthy of a genuine sportsman—at least among the frozen snows and dark forests of the north, where superior diversion is unattainable.

Amongst other expedients to which the Swedes resort for the capture of the capercali is the following:—During the autumnal months, after raising and dispersing the brood, persons place themselves in ambush, and imitate the cry of the old hen, or young birds, as circumstances may require. By thus alluring them to the spot, the whole brood are sometimes shot in succession. Upon this subject Mr. Greiff observes:—"After the brood has been dispersed, and you see the growth they have acquired, the dogs are to be taken up, and a hut formed precisely on the spot from whence they were driven, in which you place yourself to call, and you adapt your calling to the greater or less size of the young birds. When they are as large as the hen, you ought not to begin to



call until an hour after they have been flushed : should you wish to take them alive, a net is placed round him who calls. Towards the quarter where the hen flies, there are seldom to be found any of the young birds, for she tries by her cackling to draw the dogs after her, and from her young ones. So long as you wish to continue your sport, you must not go out of your hut to collect the birds you have shot. When the hen answers the call, or lows like a cow, she has either got a young one with her, or the calling is incorrect ; or else she has been frightened, and will not then quit her place. A young hen answers more readily to the call than an old one. Most of the forest birds (continues the writer) are caught in autumn by bird lime, or the usual snares, and also by nets. In all these methods it is necessary to lead the bird by low rows of brush-wood into small pathways. With snares of fine brass wire suspended over these he is easily caught. One of my methods, by which I have amused myself and taken many birds alive, is a simple knotted square silk net of thirty inches width in the square, and the meshes so large that the capercali can easily put his head through : this is to be hung over the pathway, and fastened slightly to small branches by weak woollen yarn, just sufficient to support the net in a square form, with some small twigs and leaves of the fir spread over it ; round the net a silk line is passed through the extreme meshes, and fastened to a stout bush. When the capercali has got his head into a mesh of the net, and finds that something opposes him, he always runs directly forward, when the silk line is drawn close, and the bird lies as if in a reticule, with his wings pressed to his body, unable to move himself, or to tear the net, however weak it may be, although it should always be made of twisted silk. In autumn, when the cranberry is plentiful in the forest, by strewing these berries on each side of the net, you entice the birds to advance eagerly. This sport produces much amusement. Of the supply this bird furnishes to the larder, and the delicious dish it forms when brought to table, every one knows the value."

Capercali are also shot in the night by torch-light. But the plan, which is said to be very destructive, is confined to the southern provinces of Sweden. In Swaland and Ostergothland this is said to be effected in the following manner : towards nightfall, people watch the last flight of the capercali, before they go to roost. The direction they have taken into the forest is then carefully marked, by means of a prostrate tree, or by one which is felled especially for the purpose. After dark, two men start in pursuit of the birds : one of them is provided with a gun, the other with a long pole, to either end of which a flambeau is attached. The man with the flambeau goes in advance, the other remaining at the prostrate tree, to keep it and the two lights in an exact line with each other : by this curious contrivance, they cannot well go astray in the forest. Thus they proceed, occasionally halting and taking a fresh mark, until they come near to the spot where they may have reason to suppose the birds are roosting. They now carefully examine the trees ; and when they discover the object of pursuit, which are said to remain stupidly gaping at the fire blazing beneath, they shoot them at their leisure. However, should there be several capercali in the same tree, it becomes necessary to shoot them on the lower branches in the first instance : for, unless one of these birds fall on its companions, it is said the rest will never move, and, in consequence the whole of them may be easily killed.

Even the period of courtship does not protect the capercali from these northern sportsmen. Like the black cock, the cock of the wood, on the approach of spring, singles himself out and commences his amorous call : he stations himself on a pine at the first dawn of day, and, with his neck stretched out, his tail spread like a fan, his wings drooping, his feathers ruffled, he begins his *play* with a call the sound of which is difficult to describe, but supposed to resemble *peller, peller, peller* ; which at first he repeats at some little intervals, but as he proceeds they increase in rapidity until at last, and after perhaps the lapse of a minute or two, he makes a sort of gulp in his throat, and finishes with sucking in, as it were his breath. During this latter progress, which only continues a few seconds, the head of the capercali is thrown up, his eyes are partially closed, and his whole appearance would denote that he is worked up into an agony of passion. At this time, his faculties are so much absorbed that it is not difficult to approach him.

The play of the capercali is not loud ; and, should there be wind stirring in the trees at the time, it cannot be heard at any great distance. On hearing the call of the cock, the hens, whose cry in some degree resembles the croak of a raven, or rather perhaps the sound *gock-gock-gock*, assemble from all parts of the surrounding forest. The male now descends to the ground, where he and his female friends join company.

The capercali does not *play* indiscriminately all over the forest ; he has his certain stations or playing grounds, where, if unmolested, he may be heard in the spring for years together. On these *lek* or playing stations several capercali may occasionally be heard at the same time. But, so long as the old male birds are alive, they will not, it is said, permit the young ones, or those of the preceding season to play. Should the old birds, however, be killed, the young ones in the course of a day or two, usually open their pipes. Combats as it may be supposed, not unfrequently take place.

On these occasions, havock is made amongst the capercali : it being first ascertained where the *lek* is situated, the *sportsman* (if the term be not vilely prostituted) proceeds in profound silence, and listens until he hears the call of the cock. So long, however, as the bird only repeats his commencing sound, he must, if he be at all near him, remain stationary ; but the instant the cock of the wood comes to the wind-up, the gulp, &c., his faculties of perceiving the approach of his insidious enemy appear suspended, and the latter advances. Yet this finishing note lasts for so short a period, that the pot hunter is not able to advance more than three or four paces before it ceases ; and the instant that is the case, he must again halt, and if in an exposed situation, remain motionless as a statue. This is absolutely necessary ; for, notwithstanding what may have been said to the contrary, it is only during the finishing note just mentioned that the bird is off his guard. If all remain quiet the bird usually goes on again immediately with his first strain, and when he comes again to the finish, the fowler advances as before ; and so the business proceeds till the poor capercali is within gun shot, and receives his death at the moment he is wooing his mates.

At the *lek* the cocks are generally the sufferers, since the hens, as well from their colour more resembling the foliage of the trees, as from the shooter having much larger game in view, usually escape. Were it otherwise, were a proportionate slaughter to

take place among the latter as the former, the breed would soon be exterminated.

Although this plan of shooting the capercali during the spring, is common enough throughout most parts of Scandinavia, in Norrland Wasterbotton, whence Stockholm is furnished with its principal supplies of game, that destructive practice is not tolerated.

Though so many of these splendid birds are killed by the unsportsman-like methods already enumerated, it rarely happens that more than one of them is killed at a shot; indeed, (says Lloyd) "I never heard of but one solitary instance where as many as three were killed at one discharge. This, I am aware, is a little at variance with the statement of other Scandinavian travellers, one among whom says—'In that season (the spring) the peasant, at an early hour of the morning, sallies forth into the forest, armed with his fowling-piece, and listens attentively for the voice of the cock, who, perched on a lofty pine, brings the hens together from all parts: the cocks likewise repair to the spot, and, instigated by love and jealousy, a furious battle commences, during which they are so deeply engaged, and so inattentive to their own safety, that the gunner will frequently kill no less than a dozen of these large birds at a shot. Of course it is not for me to contradict this statement, though independently of its not being usual for capercali to engage in such battles royal as are here described, it would seem to require a gun of no ordinary calibre to slaughter, at a single discharge, a dozen birds, each of which is as large as a turkey-cock.'"

In the early part of this article it was remarked, that, according to report, the cock of the wood was, some centuries ago, to be found in the Highlands of Scotland: that such might have been the case is probable enough, though, if at this period, we are to reason upon the state of things at the anterior distance just mentioned, we may conclude that inasmuch as there were few extensive woods or plantations, and the Highlands were thickly or numerous peopled (by comparison) the noble capercali could not have been general, though it might be found in particular places: in fact, the tradition points out the neighbourhood of Inverness as the locality which, whatever might have been the case in former times, is, at the present day, well calculated for the birds in question. The situation of Inverness (the capital of the Highlands) is the most beautiful of any town I met with in Scotland; the scenery is highly interesting, yet it presents a very different character to an English landscape, but is not on that account less interesting to an Englishman. In the direction of Barnsley, the scenery is not only beautiful, but luxuriant; it presents not the dreary wildness which so frequently occurs in the Highlands, and which gives a chilling sameness to many of the views. In the direction of Loch Broom, Loch Ewe, Loch Carron, and Loch Duich, the views partake very much of this character; while towards Beaulie or Beaulie, the road from Inverness to which runs along the border of Loch Deaulie, the appearance is highly romantic and beautiful. Towards the west, the mountains of Rossshire are seen in almost fantastic variety; while in the valleys are numerous and extensive plantations of fir, amidst which the capercali might find food and protection. At a period not very remote, very little timber was to be seen in the Highlands of Scotland; nor indeed was it till after the visit of Dr. Johnson to these regions that planting became general. In Caithness, the most northern point of Scotland, few trees are to be met with; but after the Ord is passed in the southerly direction, the country assumes a different appearance. In

Sutherlandshire (which joins Caithness) the plantations of fir are numerous and extensive: in fact, the country, from the picturesque mountains and valleys of Berrydale all the way to Clashmore is well calculated for the abode of the capercali. There is a good inn at Berrydale, situated in one of the most romantic glens I ever beheld; the sides of the adjoining mountains are beautifully fringed with trees and shrubs. Rossshire, from the town of Tain to the neighbourhood of Inverness, may be said to be covered with woods and plantations; whence proceeding down Loch Ness till we reach Glengary's county on the right, and Mr. Frazer's (once Lord Lovat's) on the left, we shall perceive that the well-wooded wilds of these mountainous regions are admirably calculated for sheltering the splendid variety of the grouse tribe under consideration. Then again, passing up Glencoe and crossing the Moor of Rannoch, we come to the property of Lord Breadalbane in the piney district of Glenorchy and its neighbourhood, to say nothing of the great extent of country from this district to the bottom of Loch Lomond, the greater part is well calculated for the purpose in question.

Also let it not be forgotten that as the Highlands, owing to the union, alteration of manners and character, and the spirit of emigration, these mountainous, and, in many parts, sterile regions, which at no period could be numerously peopled, do not at present contain half the number of inhabitants, which contrived to exist in those days when *clanism* was in its vigor. In consequence the birds would be less liable to annoyance from human intrusion, while from the very numerous plantations which have been formed within the last century, abundance of shelter would be found; what, therefore, could be more easy or more eligible than the introduction of these fine birds in the Highlands of Scotland. Indeed, the same observation may be extended to the Lowlands, many parts of which, particularly the neighbourhood of Nithsdale, are equally well calculated for the purpose. Scotland at present produces abundance of white and red grouse, as well as black game—the capercali would form a splendid addition.

Of the capercali, male and female, an admirable delineation accompanies the present number; and in closing this article, I will place before the reader a short notice of two other varieties of the grouse tribe, which have never been seen in this country in a state of unlimited freedom. The *Hazel Hen* is of a brown colour, about the size of a partridge, and thought to be the most beautiful bird of the grouse kind. In Sweden they are reckoned a great delicacy, and their flesh considered the most wholesome of the grouse kind. This bird is found in abundance in all the northern parts of Scandinavia, but it is not generally to be found farther to the southward, in that peninsula, than the sixty-ninth degree of latitude, owing, perhaps, to the quality of the soil, as they are to be met with both in Germany and France.

Like the red grouse, these birds pair. The female forms her nest on the ground, into which she deposits from eight to fourteen eggs, in this respect also resembling the red grouse.

During the summer months, the hazel hen feeds upon worms, insects, and berries, but in winter, it is constrained to supply the cravings of its appetite upon the buds of the alder, birch, and other trees. It frequents the thickest brakes of the forest, and is generally to be met with on the ground. When raised, it uniformly takes to the trees. Its flight, which is quick and attended with much noise, is usually very slow.



So stupid is this bird, that it will often allow a person to fire at it more than once without taking wing. When the Swedish sportsmen go out for the pursuit of this bird, they are provided with a small pipe, by means of which they are enabled so exactly to imitate its call, that it will immediately answer, and the shooter has no great difficulty in discovering it, even when perched among the foliage of the most luxuriant trees.

The *Ripa*, a bird found in the dark forests of the north of Europe, presents the characteristics of the grouse genus, and of which it appears there are two varieties, namely, the fjäll ripa and the dal ripa. Of the former, it may be observed that, during the summer season the predominant colours are speckled black, brown, or grey, the shades varying very much according as the season is more or less advanced; there is, however, a very great disparity in the plumage of the male and the female, the former being of a much darker colour than the latter. But in the winter time, its plumage, with the exception of the tail feathers, which are always black, tipped with white, is entirely white. The length of the male is from thirteen to fourteen inches, and the breadth across the wings about twenty-four inches.

The fjäll ripa is to be found in all the more northern parts of Scandinavia, as well on the continent as on the adjacent islands. Their usual resort are the lofty mountains, whose summits are destitute of trees; but during heavy snows they may be frequently observed in the lower grounds.

Like the preceding variety, these birds pair. The hen forms her nest among stones, and lays from eight to twelve eggs. Whilst she is sitting, the male is constantly in the vicinity of the nest; but as soon as the chicks are out of the shell, it is said he deserts both the mother and brood, and repairing to the higher parts of the mountains, he associates with other males similarly circumstanced to himself. Thus thirty or forty cocks may be sometimes seen in company, upon which occasions, however, they are very difficult of approach. But in the month of August, when the young have become tolerably well-fledged, the old hen leads them likewise to the more elevated regions, when the sire associates himself with the family.

On the approach of winter, these birds pack, and become very wild. In summer they feed for the most part on leaves, flowers, the seeds of plants which grow on the elevated places where they principally haunt, and insects; the young for some weeks subsist entirely upon the latter.

The fjäll or mountain ripa, like the red grouse, flies with uncommon celerity; it often happens that a strong hawk, by which these birds are much pursued, is distanced in the chase. On such occasions, the ripa endeavours to keep above his fierce pursuer, aware that he is thus safe; and in consequence he sometimes soars so high, that both the pursued and the pursuer become lost to the eye of the spectator.

The dal ripa is somewhat larger than the bird just described, and differs also in its plumage, as well as in several other respects. During summer, the neck and breast of the male is of a reddish brown; the back dark brown; the belly, the outer part of the wings and legs, white. The female is beautifully speckled nearly all over the body, the predominant colours being black, brown, and grey; the coverts of the wings and legs, whitish; but, as in the preceding instance, the colours vary according to the season. In winter both male and female become completely

white, with the exception of the tail feathers, which are at all times black, tipped with white. The length of the male is about fifteen inches; the breadth across the wings from twenty-five to twenty-six inches. The female is smaller than the male.

As the usual resort of the fjäll ripa is the lofty mountains, the dal ripa on the contrary, is only to be seen within the range of arboreous vegetation, which frequently, however, happens to be at a very considerable elevation on the sides of the hills. This bird is generally on the ground both night and day. In the summer season the dal ripa seeds upon the leaves of various plants, such as the grass willow and several other kinds of willow, the blue-berry bush, and especially the seeds and the seed-vessels of the knot grass or bread-wort: like all other varieties of the tribe, they devour vast quantities of insects. In winter they are forced to feed upon buds and seeds, particularly those of the dwarf and common birch.

The flesh of these birds is supposed to be superior to that of the fjäll ripa, but inferior to that of the hazel hen. They pair. The nest is formed amongst heather, or under the shelter of a bush, into which ten or twelve eggs are deposited. During incubation, the female is attended by the male, who defends her in the most courageous manner from danger. He manifests great regard for the young brood in the same manner as the red grouse.

Were I the owner of Dunrobin Castle or of Inverary, were I Lord Glenorchy or any other extensive Highland proprietor, I would soon animate the hills with the birds of which I have been speaking. We should then possess an extensive and a very interesting variety, the whole of which might be pursued—not like the Swedish sportsmen, with torches, nets, &c.—but in the genuine style of our own superior taste, with the pointer and percussion, as I have not the least doubt these beautiful northern grouse are approachable precisely in the same manner as the black cock, the red grouse, or the ptarmigan of Great Britain.

The Lincoln and Lindsey Joint-Stock Banking Company held their annual meeting on the 6th inst. On the accounts being audited, there appeared a dividend of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent from the profits:  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent was reserved, and 6 per cent divided. The company's nominal capital is 200,000*l*, their paid up capital 20,000*l*, which is now to be advanced to 30,000*l*. Their notes, it was stated, have a very healthy circulation, and it is not unlikely that their dividend of profits will be considerably larger next year.

A farmer at Trowbridge has tried on an acre of land, the effect of planting wheat about a foot apart. He last year had 18 sacks from an acre and a quarter; and from one acre of land which he has this year planted in the same way he expects 20 sacks of wheat. He has tried in this manner the red straw Lammis and the Taunton white wheat, and has found them both doubly productive; on this principle two pecks of seed are sufficient for an acre. In the winter there was scarcely the appearance of a blade, but when the spring advanced the crop began to look luxuriantly healthy and strong. The farmer thinks that if planted 18 inches apart he would have a still better crop; he means to try this next year, and we will then state the result.

The mean temperature of the external air in July was one degree and three-quarters higher than the mean of July for a series of years.

## SEED-WHEAT.

Three years ago Colonel Le Couteur, one of the Deputies from the island of Jersey, became acquainted with Professor La Gasca, one of the most celebrated botanists in Europe, who had been Curator of the Royal Gardens at Madrid, and obliged to leave Spain, where he is again restored to his friends, and to his former situation.

The Professor was then growing about 80 sorts of wheat in the garden of Mr. Saunders, nurseryman in Jersey. Their variety, classification, and beauty, struck Mr. Le Couteur, who sought to acquire all the information he could from Professor La Gasca. The latter told him that for the last twenty-five years he had been employed in studying the properties and character of wheat, and had collected in the Royal Gardens upwards of nine hundred varieties and sub-varieties.

He came to Col. Le Couteur's farm, and picked out more than twenty sorts out of three fields, then (in August) growing; and gave daily all the instruction and information wanted by Mr. Le Couteur, who resolved on profiting by such an opportunity, and began seriously to cultivate the important plant of wheat, so as to procure the several sorts distinct from each other, and keep notes of the experiments made on the culture, produce, weight of the grain, and qualities of the corn, flour, and straw.

Colonel Le Couteur has kept a most minute account of his experiments, and taken the greatest care to preserve the best sorts and in their purity. He has in London nineteen varieties of the greatest beauty, and such as the frequenters of Mark-lane say could not be matched in England for purity. They consist in,

No.

1. White Compact. Tremois, or Spring Wheat
2. Red Tremois, or ditto.
3. Long eared ditto.
4. Dantzic.—Winter Wheats. Triticum Hybernium.
5. Small round ditto.
6. White Seedling. Coturianum Hybernium.
7. Kœleri Loturianum.
8. Kœleri Red.
9. Kœleri White.
10. Long-eared Liver-coloured.
11. Red compact.
12. Golden.
13. Kœleri Compactum Belvuensis.
14. Cesariensis.
15. (No. 6. c.)
16. Red ear (white Grain or Sark Wheat.)
17. Red compact. (No. 9.)
18. Kœleri (sub-yellow).
19. (No. 11.)

The Colonel, after three year's experience, has arrived at this conclusion, that the proper cultivation of wheat is yet unknown or unpractised.

That it is of consequence to keep the several sorts to grow apart, because they all ripen at different periods; and that bread made of ripe and unripe corn could neither be so wholesome or nutritious as when made of ripe corn, without the mixture of that which had not well ripened.

That each sort requires, or will thrive best in, a particular soil and situation adapted to each.

That one ear of a superior variety, sowed grain by grain and suffered to tiller apart, produced four pounds nine ounces of wheat.

Whereas, another ear of an inferior sort, treated in the same manner, produced only one pound thirteen ounces.

Hence it is of importance to select the sorts that are the most farinaceous and productive.

That by sowing each sort apart they might be easier saved and harvested in rotation, some sorts ripening a fortnight before the others.

The same quantity of wheat of a farinaceous kind may maintain a family of fifteen persons twelve months; where the same quantity of another kind, though

apparently fine corn, will maintain them only nine months.

From the superior soil and climate of the Channel Islands, Col. Le Couteur thinks that, by growing none but the best kinds and keeping them perfectly true and pure, the Islands might be made to produce the most approved seed-corn for Great Britain.

The Islands might thus become of the greatest benefit to the United Kingdom, and can never be objects of jealousy, as to the fear of large importations from them, since the extent of all the land susceptible of cultivation in all the Channel Islands together does not much exceed 25,000 acres, and that the greater part must necessarily be occupied by the meadows, orchards, and vegetable gardens of all sorts, absolutely necessary for a population of more than sixty thousand inhabitants.

## FLAX TRADE.

In consequence of extreme scarcity and high price of this article, an unusual quantity of flax dressers are thrown out of employment, and flax has been sent from hence not only to the English, but also to the Irish markets from whence it came, to meet a better price. The prospects of the new growth in the above countries are flattering, but we must wait for supplies until the farmers have gathered their harvest, and get their seed into the ground. The prospects from Russia, we regret to say, are very poor indeed; the following is an extract of a letter from a most respectable house in St. Petersburg:—

"St. Petersburg, 5-17 July, 1835.

"The Flax brack has now been going on for a fortnight, and we are sorry to say that the quality is, on the whole, about the worst we have ever seen, it being generally short, weak, towy, foul, and not entirely free of black speck, though not much of the latter; the greater part must go into 6-head, though the Russians say there should be half of each, 9 and 6-head.

"The above defects are particularly applicable to the 6-head, the quality of which varies so much that we have seen a difference of £3 to £5 per ton, in some parcels of 6-head, as compared to others. Of 9-heads we have seen some very fair parcels of fine colour, indeed we should estimate the difference in value between the best 9-head and the lowest 6-head fully £10 per ton, instead of £3, which was usually made. The colour of the 6-head is likewise much against it, being very dark.

"The prospects of this year's growing crop are very bad, owing to a long continuance of hot weather, without a drop of rain for upwards of six weeks."

SALE OF MR. DOWKER'S STOCK OF RAMS.—The unrivalled stock of rams, late the property of G. W. Dowker, Esq., bred on the far-famed Salton estate, (advertised for sale,) were brought to the hammer, by Mr. Chapman, on Monday, August 3rd, and realized the following prices:—

|                        |      |   |   |
|------------------------|------|---|---|
| 39 Shearlings . . .    | £408 | 0 | 0 |
| 20 Two-shear . . . .   | 199  | 4 | 0 |
| 32 Three-shear . . . . | 236  | 3 | 0 |
|                        | £843 | 7 | 0 |

There was cut last winter, from one acre of land in the Taunton and Rainham tract, state of Maine, 227,000 feet of timber. The tract was sold within three years at the rate of two dollars per acre!



## TURNIPS ON STUBBLE.

[It is in seasons like the present when the main crop of turnips has suffered from the drought, that an extensive breadth of stubble turnips becomes invaluable. The favourable advent of rain with the earth in its now heated state, would ensure a good crop. We therefore invite the attention of our readers to the following article upon the subject, from the Irish Farmer's Magazine.—Ed. F. M.]

There has been a practice prevailing for many years in some of the best farming districts in England, of sowing turnips on wheat stubble when the land is sufficiently dry to allow the crops to be eaten off by the sheep, and in many instances I have seen excellent ones produced, even sown as late as the end of August. The white Stone is cultivated for this purpose generally, as it stands the frost better than the red or white Norfolk, and is altogether more suited to late sowing than any other sort. One deep ploughing is sufficient for this purpose, which, with the assistance of the scarifier and the rooler, the surface can be brought into fine tilth for harrowing in the seed. I see no reason why this system could not be introduced into Irish agriculture; for although our wheat harvest is usually a fortnight or three weeks later than it is in parts of the sister country, yet, the mildness of our autumn and winter would generally insure a continuation of growth in the turnip crop until Christmas, although the seed might not be deposited as early as could be wished. But this inconvenience even could be remedied by having some ashes, bone-dust, or other stimulating manure, ready to be harrowed in at the time of sowing the seed, which would materially promote the vegetation of the plants.

The expense of obtaining this crop is very trifling, for the land in any case, should be ploughed for winter's fallow, especially if intended either for barley or potatoes; therefore, the only extra expense would be the seed and preparing the land for it, which would not cost altogether more than ten shillings an acre; and should the crop succeed it would prove worth five or ten pounds an acre, all matters taken into consideration. Turnips after stubble (commonly called brush turnips) should always be fed on the land; and if this is managed judiciously in the months of February and March, when green food is scarce, the crop will turn to most valuable account. Ewes and lambs can be supplied with nutritious feeding from the tops, and by turning in dry cattle to eat the refuse bulbs, so as to clear the field ready for ploughing, it will forward them much in condition, by which they will become early beef. There is no danger to be apprehended from the cattle eating the turnips on the land, if attended to the first few days, the herd being in possession of the *proper* instrument for passing any piece that may stick in the passage. Many accidents happen, however, from a stick being used for this purpose; for if the gullet is injured in the operation, inflammation will take place, which will probably cause the death of the animal. If the piece has stuck near to the swallow, it is better first to endeavour to get it *up*, which sometimes may be effected by rubbing the hand gently *up* the windpipe, or by a person with a small hand and arm laying hold of the piece, and bringing it away. An accident however of this sort is not likely to happen where cattle get accustomed to feeding on turnips, and seldom proves fatal when properly attended to.

It is of little use to sow turnips on stubble, unless the land is in good condition and clear, for on poor land the crop would be but indifferent; and if foul, the opportunity would be lost of cleaning it until the following spring; and under such circumstances, it would be preferable to throw it up, in furrows to sweeten in the winter, and to get rid of the weeds as early the following year as possible. On light soils, however, if free from weeds, rape may be sown at the rate of three pounds to the acre, which would afford wholesome keep for ewes and lambs in a scarce season; and the land will give better turnips or potatoes the following year than had it remained in winter fallow; for independent of the manure deposited in feeding the crop, the roots of the rape plants when ploughed up can be converted into active manure, either by burning or ploughing them deep into the land, for the benefit of the succeeding crop.

Turnips sown so late in the season are seldom attacked by the fly, but a small proportion of rape seed being sown with the seed, will be a great means of preventing any material injury by this insect to the general crop. Some farmers do not hoe brush turnips; but I have always found great advantage in doing so, the crop afterwards proving more productive and the land in better condition the following year. Indeed my opinion is, either not to sow this crop, or to manage it in every respect in the best manner, for at so late a season, every stimulus will be necessary to bring it into active vegetation. Turnips will also succeed well after vetches, either on sandy, gravelly or loamy soil, and may be put in after one ploughing; and as this latter crop is usually soiled off by the end of July, it is the best season for growing the red or white Norfolk. These will likewise succeed well after grey or white peas, but the land should first be well worked and manured, otherwise a remunerating crop could not be expected; and this would be a better system than that usually practised in many parts of Ireland, of sowing wheat after peas, and would pay better even the first year. In fact, he is a bad farmer who does not take every opportunity of introducing a green crop in his rotations; for it is by such management he will keep his land in a fertile state at the least possible expense.

Although turnip seed is not usually drilled on stubble land, yet if pulverized manure, such as ashes, bone dust, or rape cake can be obtained, it is better the seed should be deposited with a machine made for this purpose, which gives out the manure at the same time, exactly in the drills where the seed is sown. If such machines cannot be procured, narrow drills may be opened at fourteen\* inches distance with the horse hoe, the pulverized manure then sown by hand on them; after this the turnip seed, and the land may then be levelled with the light seeding sowing harrow. This will cover the seed effectually in the very body of the manure. When the plants are in the rough leaf, the superfluous ones should be cut out, and the remainder left at four or five in-

\* This narrow distance is only to be observed when the roots are not expected to grow large, which will be the case when the seed is either sown too late, or the land is not in good condition. Crops sown early on a well prepared fallow, it will be necessary to keep the intervals of from twenty-four to thirty inches distance, and the plants not allowed to stand closer than ten or twelve in the drills. Swedes especially require ample space, and as much cultivation during their growth as possible.

ches distance in the drills ; and if the intervals are worked with the horse hoe or scarifier in two or three weeks afterwards, the growth of the plants will be materially promoted. The hand hoe should likewise be used to get rid of such weeds as the horse hoe cannot eradicate. I have often seen a crop of turnips after peas or vetches, full as productive as if grown on a regular fallow ; and even if a crop of brush turnips after wheat was to return half such a crop, the farmer would be amply recompensed for his labour. AGRICOLA.

### ABSTRACTION OF A PORTION OF OMENTUM FROM A COW.

BY MR. R. THOMPSON, BEITH, N. B.

(From the Veterinarian.)

A cow having got a push from another upon the side of the belly, so as to divide the muscles but not the skin, suppuration commenced some time afterwards, and the integument gave way. I received orders to attend the animal, as "her puddings," they said, "were coming out." I examined the protruded portion, which really seemed like intestine, and being dead, and decomposed, I pulled it away. It was a portion of omentum, about fifteen inches in diameter.

By introducing my fingers I could feel the intestines perfectly distinct. The injured portion had been divided by suppuration and sloughing. The cow perfectly recovered.

METHOD OF GROWING AND MANAGING STRAW-BERRIES AS PRACTISED IN AMERICA.—The plants are placed in rows on beds, as usual, but during the fruiting season the surface of the ground between the plants is covered with tanner's bark to the depth of three or four inches. This coat of bark defends the roots from being hurt by the sun's heat, and prevents the runners striking into the soil ; the bark also reflects the heat of the sun very powerfully upon the ripening fruit, and thereby expedites their swelling off. The bark should not be used for this purpose until it has been at least one winter out of the tan pit, as recent bark contains too much astringency to be suitable.—*Paxton's Horticultural Register.*

SINGULAR FEAT IN MOWING.—In the year 1779, eight brothers of the name of Wright, who resided in the neighbourhood of Flaxton, near Lobster House, cut twelve acres of good grass, in one day, at the former place, for which they received a premium from the agricultural society. One of them, at that time, was only 15 years of age, and he is now living at Warthill, and though in his 72nd year, he has this season walked a distance of six miles to the field, and in one day cut an acre and a half of good grass, which weighed a ton and a half, walking six miles home again at night.

Papera from the Mauritius to the 3d of April have been received. The cattle throughout the island had been afflicted with a new and singular disease, which carried them off so rapidly, that the Governor had issued a proclamation, desiring all persons whose cattle were attacked in this manner to make immediately a minute statement to the authorities of the appearance and progress of the disease, that measures might be taken to arrest the mischief which the colonists were likely to sustain. All cattle dying in this manner were ordered to be instantly burnt.

### TIMBER WOODS EXONERATED FROM THE POOR-RATES.

It is fit every one who enjoys his share of protection, should pay out of his estate, his proportion towards the relief and maintenance of the Pauper Poor: nothing can be more reasonable, than that a revenue which owes its existence to the good government of the state, should be taxed peculiarly something more than the greater part of other landed property, towards the support of this oppressive burthen. By the 14th Elizabeth, cap. 5, power was given to the Justices to lay a general assessment, and that authority has continued ever since, with the exception of Timber Woods, which have been always exonerated.

And from no attention having been paid by the Legislature to annul that exemption, the evil is become of great magnitude, and every day renders the cure more desirable ; and if made effectual, it would tend much to allay the popular clamour and discontent. The right of taxation of this wealthy property, with regard to the support of the Pauper Poor, is a point which none but the Woodland Proprietors dare to dispute ; for this reason—since the Poor-Rates were first established, the constancy of the valuation of Timber, with its annual growth, has been of a considerable advantage to the landlords, hurtful to the tenants, unjust to the rate-payers, and injurious to all Woodland Parishes. It is a great negligence, which all administrators have shown, towards any legislative means of repealing this parochial privilege—the complaint is not more publicly known than universally lamented ; in common justice, growing Timber, that yields an annual increase, no matter in which way the increase is produced, whether in the growth of the timber, or in price, it signifies not a straw, as it is tantamount nearly to the same end—at any rate, it is an annual gain ; therefore it can make no difference to the grower, whether he cuts down his Timber this year, or in five years hence—it still yields an annual and visible gain during all that time.

It is worthy of note, that this wealthy property is rated towards the repairs of the Highways, and exonerated from contributing to the relief of the Poor—the difference between the two is inconsistent and absurd.

And besides, Timber Wood creates no expence to the landowner, in its growth or preservation ; and though a small part of the Woodland revenue is necessary to be taken, in order to participate towards this national burthen, no discouragement will thereby be given to any sort of industry, or lessen its consumption.

It is admitted, and too notorious, that those who pay the far greater part of the Poor Rates, and labouring under great privations, and great injustice is felt by them ; therefore it is nothing but reasonable and just, that this privilege of exemption should be annulled altogether ; there, I apprehend, can be no second opinion as to the first remark, and consequently the second follows as a matter of course.

Landlords who are occupiers of Woodlands, are paid for the preservation of this property. Is it fair, is it just, that I, the Farmer, who pay more Poor Rates than them, should pay this tax, for the protection of their, my neighbour's property ? but this is the fact—the Farmers do pay for the protection of this description of property ; it is an assessment, which, in effect, is nothing more than the Tenants paying for the protection of their Landlord's income. If an equal assessment was applied, the Farmers and other Rate-payers would not pay for the Woodland,



nor would the Woodland Owners pay for the Farmers ; the growers of Timber would only pay for their own protection ; and where is the evil of this ? who can object to pay for the protection of his own property ? and who so capable of bearing taxation as those who possess large domains of landed property ? But who are the promoters of this exemption ? why, the Woodland Proprietors ; these are the very men who support the measure. They reason thus—" We have hitherto had our property protected by the State, let us continue to enjoy this privilege."

It would be needless in representing the grievance of this unrated property to any honourable Member of Parliament who is a Woodland Proprietor, for no one would be disposed to legislate against his own interest ; and notwithstanding this objection, without the assistance and means of some competent and unbiassed Legislator, the existing evil will never be cured. Nothing would be more just, nothing more popular, than to impose a proportionable, or an equitable Poor Rate upon all description of Timber Woods.

In conclusion, from what I have here stated, should any good arise to the agricultural interest, and consequently to all Woodland Parishes, which must in a great degree be benefited, I shall feel particularly grateful, by my humble endeavours having answered some good purpose, in aiding and extending the views of every Woodland Parish, and promoting a general benefit, which, I flatter myself, may be derived by the public in general.

A FARMER.

## HARVEST SONG.

BY JOHN LUKE CLENNELL, ESQ.

(From the New Monthly Belle Assemblée.)

Rise, lads, rise !

Salute the first approach of breezy morn ;—  
Prepare your sickles, and with songs of mirth,  
Go forth, and strew the sheaves upon the earth ;—

'Tis time that we should cut the rich ripe corn !

Come, lads, come !

And follow me across the dewy grass ;  
Come from your dwellings by the mountain side,  
Come from the valley where the streamlets glide ;—  
We must not let another sun-rise pass.

Work, lads, work !

The sturdy reaper shall be well repaid,  
And never shall his strength or spirits fail,  
For lack of foaming draughts of sparkling ale,—  
That pleasant drink which is from barley made !

Sing, lads, sing !

The toil and labour of the day are o'er ;  
Come and recline beneath the spreading tree,  
And let the universal chorus be,  
" The bounteous goodness of the Lord adore !"

The month of July was one of the most dry and scorching months experienced for some time. On the 30th the thermometer reach 93 degrees Fahrenheit, being the highest point this summer; the whole variance during the month in the extreme heat of the day in the shade was between 69 degrees and 93, and the lowest point during the month in the night was 52 degrees. Last Thursday night the thermometer did not sink below 64 degrees.

[The following Petition was presented to the House of Commons on the 3rd of August, by Mr. Collier, Member for Plymouth].

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The petition of the undersigned merchants and importers of foreign wheat and flour at Plymouth and London, and others interested in the trade and shipping, respectfully

SHEWETH,

That your petitioners have, in the regular course of their business, imported into this country, principally in the years 1832 and 1833, considerable quantities of wheat and flour, in the full expectation that they might be wanted to supply that deficiency in the growth of this country, which, on an average of years, had been always found to exist.

That owing to the increase of the growth of wheat in the United Kingdom, in consequence of more land having been cultivated, and our having had four productive crops of wheat in succession, the two last uncommonly so, it has been found, contrary to all former experience, that the produce, aided as it has been by increased importations from our own colonies, allowed to be imported at a low duty, has been equal, or more than equal to the consumption.

That the last time the price of wheat was sufficiently high to allow of the duty being paid on it to any extent, was in 1831, since which the stock has been accumulating, and the quantity of foreign wheat and flour in bond (exclusive of the produce of the British Colonies), in the United Kingdom on the 5th of June, 1835, was

|                                            |            |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|
| Wheat, 586,685 qrs, which at the value of  |            |
| 35s per qr, amounts to .....               | £1,026,698 |
| Flour, 207,177 cwt. or 118,380 barrels, at |            |
| 26s .....                                  | 153,902    |
|                                            | £1,180,600 |

That in consequence of this almost unprecedented state of the trade, a large amount of capital is locked up in an unproductive state, not only to the great loss of your petitioners in interest of money, warehouse rent, expense of turning, and deterioration in value by keeping, amounting in some cases to nearly, if not full the present value of the same, but, as your petitioners conceive, to the disadvantage of the public generally, including the agricultural interests, for the protection of which the corn laws were enacted—for it is evident, that as the holders of bonded wheat and flour are chiefly corn merchants and millers, whose capital, now locked up, would be invested, were it liberated, in British wheat, to which its present low price offers a great inducement, the value of English wheat would be increased by the exportation of flour made from foreign wheat.

Your petitioners respectfully represent that an unlooked for opportunity now offers for relieving them from the pressure under which they are labouring, and that, not only without injuring the agricultural interests, but would materially benefit them.

Advices have been received in this country, that the wheat crop in the United States has been materially injured by the uncommonly severe winter, in consequence of which the prices of wheat and flour have advanced in the markets of that country so much above the prices of foreign wheat in England, that we could supply the demand on much lower terms. They export from thence, annually, about 1,000,000 barrels of flour, (in the year 1831, it was upwards of 1,800,000 barrels,) chiefly to the West Indies and South America ; and it is evident, that not only in the event of any considerable falling off in the means of continuing that supply from America, but under any circumstances, the merchants and millers in this country have it in their power successfully to compete with those of the United States.

This then offers at once a market for a portion, if not the whole of the wheat in bond ; and your petitioners

conceive that they have a fair claim on the legislature to allow the said wheat to be ground into flour for the purpose of being so exported.

Under somewhat similar, though less pressing, circumstances than the present, on the 17th June, 1824, an Act was passed (5th Geo. 4th Cap. 70) to permit wheat to be taken out of bond, ground into flour, and returned into bond for the purpose of being exported, which was then found to be a great relief to the holders of foreign wheat, and your petitioners trust, that an enlightened and increasingly liberal legislature, will not hesitate to act on a precedent, at once just and humane: for it is evident with the present prospect of another abundant crop, in addition to an unusually large surplus on hand, if the wheat and flour now in warehouse be not permitted to go into consumption, not only will the loss be greatly increased by the charges already enumerated, but the quality will be more rapidly deteriorated, and the quantity lessened, by being kept longer in warehouse.

Your petitioners also submit, that the holders of flour in bond may be relieved by a mode similar to that proposed for wheat, viz: by allowing the usual quantity of biscuit to be returned into bond in lieu of flour, for the purpose of being exported, which, from the age of the flour, is unfit for loaf bread purposes, and for biscuit, would require a portion of fresh English meal to be mixed with it, thus rendering it equal in quality to the biscuit supplied for the use of the British navy, a comparison with which might constitute the test. The produce of biscuit is at the rate of 176lbs. for 196lbs. of Flour.

Your petitioners therefore respectfully, but earnestly petition the legislature, with all possible dispatch, to pass a short Act, allowing the foreign wheat now in bond to be ground into flour, under similar provisions to those of the 5th George IV. herein before referred to; and also in like manner to permit the flour now in bond to be made into biscuit, for the purpose of exportation only.

#### The Answer of the Right Honourable, the President of the Board of Trade, to the above memorial.

"That the advanced stage of the present Session, when many Members of Parliament had gone into the country, not expecting any new measure would be brought forward, it would not be considered as acting fairly, were Ministers now to agitate any question relating, however remotely, to an alteration of the existing Corn Laws.

That the act before alluded to by the memorialists had not been found a perfect security against fraud, and that the landed interest looked with much jealousy and suspicion upon insulated enactments of this nature.

Though the Right Hon. President did not offer any arguments against the principle of the measure submitted to his consideration in the memorial, yet he intimated that he should not feel it his duty to recommend his Majesty's Government to agitate this question during the present session.

The Deputation stated in reply, that there had been but one case of fraud discovered during the operation of the Act referred to, and proposed the appointment of a select Committee of the House of Commons, to investigate the subject, which the Hon. President also declined to support."

The following letter, referring to the answer of the President of the Board of Trade to the Memorial of the merchants, and importers of foreign wheat, given above, appeared in the Public Ledger.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE PUBLIC LEDGER."

SIR,—The above answer is not given in the unknown tongues. It is plain English, and an honest confession,

which being interpreted, means "That having the fears of the landed interest before our eyes, we dare not do you that justice which we think your case merits." So much for the British administration in the year 1835. The only real objection to the prayer of the petition is the jealousy with which the landed interest views any change in the state of corn laws.

Now, Sir, there is no change demanded, and under the circumstances of the case, I do think that no government is justified in refusing to grant the request—not as a favour but as a matter of right.

The facts of the case are, that upwards of 600,000 quarters of foreign wheat are now in granary, under fearful expenses, without prospect of release save by the granting the prayer of the petition, or by the help and assistance of the *weevil*, which insect is now doing its duty on it, silently but quickly, so that absolute and total loss stares the holders in the face—and this to the extent of upwards of one million of pounds sterling.

Now it so happens that a failure in the crops of the United States of America has occurred, and that the West India and South American markets are forced to resort to Europe for the supply usually received from thence. The exports from America annually exceed one million, and have reached one million eight hundred thousand barrels of flour.

The Continent of Europe can furnish this supply much cheaper than this country can do with produce the growth of Britain.

But Great Britain could furnish as good an article from the produce of wheat in bond, at ten per cent. cheaper than the Continent of Europe can do and upwards.

The prayer of the petition from Plymouth goes no farther than this, "That permission be granted to have the wheat in bond converted into flour, and that flour partially converted into biscuit, under security that the whole produce shall be again placed in the stores of government and then be exported."

The owners of wheat have the right of exporting it as wheat; but this will not answer the purpose—it is flour and bread that is wanted.

I must beg of you to bear in mind, that the relative value of wheat, the growth of Britain as compared with that of the European Continent, is a *prohibition* to the supply needful being furnished from this country's produce; and taking this as a foundation I would argue, that with as much justice might government prevent exertions being made to preserve bonded wheat from the effects of accidental fire, as they can now do away with the only resource by which upwards of one million of capital may be preserved to the subjects of this country. The cases are very nearly parallel, for in point of fact, to fire or to water the wheat must in reality come. In a year or two more the *weevil* will render the grain worthless, and the choice remains of throwing it into the sea or to consume it by fire, so as to cancel the bonds passed by the unfortunate holders to his Majesty's government for the amount of duty.

Now, Sir, this statement of facts must appear to you monstrous, nay, absolutely ridiculous. Plain facts they are, however, and by no means exaggerated; and we must glory in living under the paternal affection that any government must have for its subjects, where it casts the tide of commerce from its own shores to those of a stranger, and at the same time forces our own colonies to purchase the necessities of life at a rate much higher from foreigners than our own merchants could supply their wants at home, and when the doing so would be to save to them the entire value of the article furnished, where no possible interference with the protection afforded to the landed interest by the corn laws can take place, but on the contrary, an immense capital be released, of which they would have the benefit. I will say nothing of the advantages which those countries derive from whence the supply of flour is drawn, by the consequent export of other stores necessary both for colonies and shipping, but I do say that unless the assertions made can be controverted, the refusal to grant the prayer of the petition appears to me as passing strange.



I address myself to no party; I would appeal to the common sense and equity of Parliament; it is the cause of justice, and to render justice in the house is equally the prerogative of all. *But the relief, if granted, must be promptly granted, or the opportunity will be lost.* Why permit jealousy to interfere with justice? British produce cannot be appropriated, then why should the landed interest stand still like the dog in the manger facing their brother subject saying, "If we cannot have the benefit, neither shall you."

Mark-lane, August 12, 1835.

### MONOMANIA IN HORSES.

The following curious facts are extracted from a paper by Professor Rodet, in 'The Veterinarian,'

"In 1806, during the campaign of Austerlitz, a Piedmontese officer possessed a beautiful, and, in other respects, a most serviceable mare, but which one peculiarity rendered at times exceedingly dangerous for the saddle. She had a decided aversion to paper, which she immediately recognized the moment she saw it, and even in the dark if one or two leaves were rubbed together. The effect produced by the sight or sound of it was so prompt and so violent, that in many cases she unhorsed her rider; and in one case, his foot being entangled in the stirrup, she dragged him a considerable way over a stony road. In other respects, this mare had not the slightest fear of objects that would terrify most horses. She regarded not the music of the band, the whistling of the balls, the roaring of the cannon, the fire of the bivouacs, or the glittering of arms. The confusion and noise of an engagement made no impression upon her; the sight of no other white object affected her; no other sound was regarded; the view or the rustling of paper alone roused her to madness. All possible means were employed to cure her of this extraordinary and dangerous aberration, but without success; and her master was at length compelled to sell her, for his life was in continual danger.

"A mare belonged to the Guard-Royal from 1816 to 1821. She was perfectly manageable, and betrayed no antipathy to the human being, nor to other animals, nor to horses, except they were of a light grey colour: but the moment she saw a grey horse she rushed upon it, and attacked it with the greatest fury. It was the same at all times and every where. She was all that could be wished on the parade, on the route, in the ranks, in action, and in the stable; but such was her hatred towards grey or white horses, that it was dangerous to place them in the same stable with her, at whatever distance. If she once caught a glimpse of one, whether horse or mare, she rested not until she had thrown her rider, or broken her halter, and then she rushed on it with the greatest fury, and bit it in a thousand places. She generally, however, seized the animal by the head or by the throat, and held it so fast that she would suffocate it if it were not promptly released from her bite.

"As she grew old (for she was eighteen years old in 1821), this mania was not quite removed, but it was somewhat weakened. No other body of a white colour appeared to make the least impression on her.

"A mare, belonging to the fifth squadron of hussars, feared, on the contrary, all white inanimate objects—such as white mantles or coats, even the sleeves of shirts and chemises too much displayed, and particularly white plumes. When any of these white bodies, and especially in motion, were suddenly perceived, if they were of any magnitude, and their motion was rapid, she was in a dreadful fright, and strove to escape; but if they were of no great size, and moved more gently, she rushed furiously upon them, struck at them with her fore-feet, and endeavoured to tear them with her teeth. No other colours produced the slightest effect upon her, nor did the appearance, however sudden, of white horses or dogs of the same colour; but if a white plume waived, or a white sheet of

paper floated by her, her fear or rage was ungovernable.

"These three cases of singular and particular aversion, possess, in my mind, all the characters of true monomania."

### LINES,

SUGGESTED BY AN OLD WRETCHED-LOOKING HORSE,  
SEEN IN THE VICINITY OF TOWN.

*From the New Monthly Belle Assemblée.*

Alas! poor Horse, and can it be  
That thou art left to die?  
That he whom faithfully thou hast serv'd,  
Heeds not thine agony?  
To have given thee an easy death  
Had been an act humane;  
But thou art doom'd to linger on  
In misery and pain!

Oft-times and willingly thou hast toil'd  
Thy master to obey;  
Unmindful of the scorching sun,  
Thou hast borne him on his way,  
And if impatient of thy pace,  
He used or spur or whip,  
Subservient to his mighty will,  
Meekly thou did'st submit.

And *this* the fruit of service past!  
Now thou art left alone,  
Half-starved thy mien, and tired thy feet,  
How piteous is thy moan?  
Oh! fallen man's estate indeed,  
If he relentless sees  
The beast to whom he owes so much  
Perish by slow degrees!

Sure he forgets how much he needs  
That mercy he denies;  
Or he would quickly haste to free  
The sufferer ere he dies!  
For fearful is the wrath of God,  
Whose eye his deeds will scan;  
Since he ordain'd beasts for the use,  
And not abuse of man.

HUMANITAS.

SUPPLY OF WATER.—In consequence of the continued drought, most of the wells at East Bourne have long been dry, and eleven paupers daily employed in fetching water from a spring, a mile and a half distant; this led to the vestry digging a tank to receive rain water, which is to be ten feet in diameter, and 20 feet deep, cased with a flint wall, nine inches thick, laid in grey lime mortar, to rest solid against the sides, in consequence of being rather less at the bottom than higher up, like a decanter, and is to be domed over, as several tanks already made in the parish on the Egyptian plan of projecting each row of materials horizontally one third of their length over those under them, till they meet at the top; the stones are kept firm in their places by being wedged in by earth at the back of this contracting masonry, which is executed at 10s per hundred, as is charged for building field walls, only requires after it is finished a coat or two of plaster. A tank of 12ft by 7ft is made of four and half inch brick, which is invaluable to the possessor now that his home well is exhausted, (July, 1835) and that the only stream in the parish of East Bourne has not reached the sea for ten months. As two feet of water fall on an average annually in England, no family need want good soft water, who make a tank to retain the rain falling on their houses, and if such tanks are under the yard, they take up no room, and need no repair like the water casks now commonly used; and cattle may also be easily

supplied with water, wherever good strong mortar is to be had, or Parker's or Roman cement, as the pond on the summit of the hill above the church at East Bourne shews, where on the 20th July, although there is no spring, and from its situation no water could run into it, except what falls on the surface, good water was found, which, by pacing, measured upwards of 90 feet round, that is 30 in diameter. The pond itself was dug four feet and a half below the surface, and what was excavated was added to the sides, making a diameter of 150 feet, of which only about seventy feet in the centre was made like a basin to retain water, by flints and grey lime water, thick enough for cattle not to break through, which was understood to be like a road one foot thick.—Had such ponds been found this year in Romney Marsh, the famished sheep need not have been, as it is said, literally given away.—July 29, 1835.

## TICKS, FLEAS, AND LICE IN DOGS.

(AN EASY AND EFFICACIOUS MODE OF DESTROYING THEM.)

(From the Sportsman.)

It frequently happens that very important remedies are neglected because of their simplicity; they are cheap, easily available, and therefore no confidence is placed in their efficacy. We have often experienced difficulty in prevailing upon a gamekeeper to use common, raw, linseed oil for the destruction of ticks. In the year 1832, Billington, gamekeeper to Charles Blundell, Esq., of Ince, Lancashire, was sent to us by his master for the purpose of ascertaining the most effectual method of destroying the vermin in question; and when we informed the block-head of our simple remedy, he appeared so incredulous that we were in doubt whether he would resort to it, although one of his master's pointers had absolutely been "eaten to death by ticks." The fact is, that linseed oil, so simple an element (or compound?) operates as the most deadly poison upon ticks, fleas, lice, and, we are inclined to think, upon all the insect and vermicular tribes. The common fly, so tenacious of life, cannot withstand the application of linseed oil: if the head of a pin be dipped in the fluid just mentioned, and applied to the head of a fly, it will struggle hard for some seconds, perhaps a minute or two, and then expire.

At this period of the year dogs are subjected to those vermin which we have mentioned above; and, as far as relates to ticks, it is astonishing in how short a period they will destroy life. Ticks adhere so tenaciously to the skin of the dog, that they cannot be removed with a currycomb or any kind of comb; and therefore when the oil is applied for their destruction, the hair should be turned the reverse way, and the oil well rubbed, or rather *scratched*, in with the hand; in which case, the ticks will be extirpated in twelve hours.

For the destruction of fleas, linseed oil is equally effectual. The remedy should be administered repeatedly during the summer—as often, in fact, as the animal is troubled with fleas: none will be found while the moisture of the oil is perceptible on the dog's coat; but in hot weather they will frequently re-appear.

**A LIQUEUR MADE OF FOUR RED FRUITS.**—Take scarlet strawberries, raspberries, currants, and morella cherries, as they ripen in succession. Extract the juice from them separately, and add to it a small proportion of white sugar candy, so as to make it sweet and rich, but not a thick syrup: strain it off as clear as possible. When you have the juices of the four fruits ready, mix them together, observing to put in a smaller proportion of currant and raspberry juice, than of the cherry and strawberry. To a pint of juice add a gill of brandy, and then bottle it. The addition of some cherry and apricot kernels will be found a great improvement. The fruit ought to be picked in very dry weather.—*Magazine of Domestic Economy.*

## BONAPARTE AND MR. SINCLAIR.

The following anecdote alike creditable to both the parties concerned, is related in a work entitled, "Journal of a Nobleman at the Congress of Vienna."

The writer being asked, "But what has become of the young Englishman, Mr. Sinclair, whose adventure with Bonaparte excited so much interest in Vienna?"\* replied, "I have not seen him since we parted here; but Lady Davy, whom I met last year at the palace of the Archbishop of Tarentum, in Naples, informed me that he is now a Member of the English House of Commons, and a distinguished speaker on the opposition side."

\* Shortly before the battle of Jena, Mr. George Sinclair, on his way to Vienna, was arrested by some French scouts, and conveyed to the head-quarters of the French army. "Whence do you come? and where are you going?" inquired Bonaparte, in that tone of voice, which usually preceded a sentence of death. "I have come from the university of Jena," was the reply, "and am proceeding to Vienna, where I shall find letters and orders from my father." "And who is your father?" "Sir John Sinclair." "Sir John Sinclair?—He who writes on Agriculture?" "The same, Sire," Napoleon said something to General Duroc, and then continued his interrogatory in a somewhat milder tone. Mr. Sinclair, who was at this time scarcely eighteen years of age, joined to a prepossessing person a vast fund of information on geography and history, and was well acquainted with the genealogy of all the sovereign houses of Germany. His acquirements astonished Bonaparte; who after conversing with him for two hours, told Duroc to let him be escorted to the advanced posts, and allowed to continue his journey. This unexpected favour was the more flattering to Mr. Sinclair, inasmuch as he was indebted for it entirely to his own merit.

## HOPS.

**FARNHAM.**—A hop grower has remarked that if this crop was not a speculative one, it would not be worth the culture, thus mankind are fond of games of chance. That it is an uncertain crop, has indeed been proved this year, by the failure of even very good grounds in this place, the half of the plantations will not grow half the quantity of last year, the outsides and many detached pieces will scarce have 1 cwt per acre; it is only where there is a great depth of loamy soil that they put on any shining appearance; the chalk bottom, or subsoil, of the upper part, and the clay subsoil of the lower part of the town are this year uncongenial to the growth, the bine not being able to grow away, or overcome the vigorous attacks of the fly and lice, which together with the honey dew, has left the leaves and bine perfectly black. Of the environs of Farnham, there are partial spots, where the middle of the grounds will have a sprinkling, a half average crop, and this, in many instances, arises from the super-culture of the planters, at Hale, the intelligent cultivators fully appreciate the benefit of culture, and the encouragement to the other half of nature's works in the male plants so strenuously advocated by Mr. Lance in his works; and more may be seen on the north-east side of every such plant, its effects, from the south-western winds having wafted the pollen to that side. At Froyle, the advantage of culture are most surpassing, in the practice of Mr. Wm. Messenger, who not only cultivates his alleys during the winter, but has the horse hoe continually at work during the summer, even until the comple-



tion of the hop, thus making some, other ways uncongenial soil, successful for hops. In every instance where the horse hoe husbandry is energetically pursued, it succeeds, and nowhere around Farnham is it so emblazoned as at Frensham.

As a wheat soil, the Malm land of *Binstead* may be called the pride of Farnham market; and there may be seen some hop gardens, not to be despised, but cruelly injured by the growth of timber trees around them; the soil, (like some of the western counties), being so congenial to the growth of wheat and clever, is apt to make the wealthy yeoman careless of some other crops. As a character of this soil, it may be remarked, that the millers allow the wheat from it, to make the best flour; and as seed corn, farmers say thus it will produce a sack per acre more on a changed soil, than other corn. But of the hops, from which we have digressed, it should yet be borne in mind, that even now they that shew themselves, are not altogether safe, other casualties may arise. The Bob, (*Fly Haltica*), may yet play its part amongst the petals of the hop, and in hot weather they are very apt to do so; and should moist weather occur, the mould would blast the hopes of the hop grower, but as these, either of them, have not yet made their appearance, we shall not dwell on them, but should they occur, will refer to them and their physical history another day. The neighbourhood of Farnham is now in great trouble from the attacks of a black caterpillar on the common turnip, and in some instances they have attacked the Swedish bulb, in a very few days they convert a luxurious field of turnips into a bare piece of ground eating away all the fleshy parts of the leaves, and making them like a piece of lace work. Are they the larva of *Pontix Brasicae* or *Rapæ*? the second brood from the effects of this hot summer, they have not been observed at this season before for twenty years past; or are they the larva of *Papilio Plebeii* of Linnaeus? Some of your entomological readers will perhaps throw some light on this appalling visitation to our farmers. L.

Farnham, Aug. 13th.

## A CASE OF SUPERFETATION IN THE COW.

BY MR. W. COWELL, HATFIELD PEVERILL.

(From the Veterinarian.)

On Saturday, June 20th, 1835, about 6 P. M., a cow, belonging to Mr. B—, Woodhamwaller, calved a very fine living calf. The placenta following almost immediately after the fetus, and the cow was left until 9 o'clock, when, much to their surprise, a second calf was discovered, somewhat smaller than a hare. The cow did well. Not having seen any similar case reported either in your valuable periodical, or in any other work, I have been induced to send you this short history.

ENGLISH AND FRENCH FRUIT DESSERTS.—The more general use of dessert fruit among the middling classes is another requisite wanting for the improvement of horticulture in Scotland and Ireland. If fruit, physiologically considered, is less wholesome after dinner than before it (which is questionable), it is at least more so than where drinking is substituted in its place. To prolong the period of eating, and the conversation of female society, are not only objects which afford immediate satisfaction; but, by moderating the use of stimula-

ting liquors, tend to insure future health. Even in England, where a dessert is universal among the independent classes, there is a great want of nicety of taste: fruit is valued by many only as a symptom of the presence of wine: others contentedly use pears and plums that would be rejected at the most common French *déjeuné*; and many rest satisfied with melons and grapes, who, at scarcely any additional expense, might have pine-apples. Wherever the litter of four horses is at command, pine-apples may be grown in pits with very little trouble to the gardener, and, indeed, at much less trouble than very early cucumbers or melons. But why speak of pines, when not one family in a hundred is properly supplied with mushrooms, which ought to be on the table, in some form, every day in the year? On a small scale, the grand secret is to employ a gardener who knows his business: and to direct his attention less to raising ordinary productions at extraordinary seasons, than to raising first-rate crops of every thing in due season. On a larger scale, all ordinary and extraordinary things should be attempted that art and wealth can accomplish.—*Loudon's Encyclopedia of Gardening.*

## THE MALT TRADE.

Pontefract Brewery, Aug. 6, 1835.

SIR,—It appears to me that the importance of the malt trade in the Leeds district is completely overlooked. I send you the amount of the five highest collections in the kingdom, by which you will see Leeds stands the first; you have also three of the lowest. Your's, faithfully,

JOHN WADDINGTON.

### RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED APRIL, 1834.

|                 | NO. BARRELS.   | DUTY.         |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Leeds.....      | 1,543,035..... | £199,308 13 9 |
| Suffolk.....    | 1,534,966..... | 198,626 14 0  |
| Bedford.....    | 1,455,984..... | 185,064 12 0  |
| Cambridge.....  | 1,290,437..... | 166,681 9 11  |
| Hertford.....   | 1,156,255..... | 149,349 13 1  |
| LOWEST.         |                |               |
| Manchester..... | 9,340.....     | 1,206 8 4     |
| Tralee.....     | 14,393.....    | 1,850 1 11    |
| Liverpool.....  | 38,547.....    | 4,977 13 11   |

IRRIGATION.—Irrigation is to be seen in its greatest perfection in Wiltshire; and it is worth any one's while, who takes an interest in agricultural pursuits, to travel many miles for the purpose of duly appreciating the unquestionable advantages and value attached to a water-meadow, and which many thousands of acres in other quarters capable of being irrigated, from not being in the situation of upland meadow-ground, are entirely deprived of, merely from the circumstance of their proprietors, or occupiers, or both, not being sufficiently aware of the vast benefits that may be derived from such a practice. In the month of April, the water-meadows will carry grass mid-leg high, which is folded off by the sheep and lambs as naked as possible; and the water being turned over again, they will, in the course of six or eight weeks, produce two tons of hay per acre. Not only this,—but between haying time and Michaelmas they will put beasts in good condition for stall feeding, and frequently entirely prepare them for the butcher. It may be fairly stated that one acre of water-meadow is more than equal to two of upland meadows.

From the deficiency of rain this year, and in fact the three preceding years, many of the wells to the depth of 16ft. have been dry for some weeks past; consequently much inconvenience has been occasioned in watering the cattle, for the want of pond and well water: and vegetation has in numerous instances, perished under the scorching rays of the sun.

SMALL ALLOTMENT SYSTEM IN  
RUTLAND.

On Wednesday the 22d July, Mr. Baker, of Cottesmore, entertained a select party of friends interested in the small allotment system. After assembling, as usual, at Cottesmore about eleven o'clock, they proceeded to examine the allotments, and then went forward to the Barrow allotments, the Earl of Lonsdale's and Mr. Baker's farms; and the Exton allotments, recently taken out of the Park for that purpose by that excellent patron of the system, Sir G. N. Noel, Bart., M.P.; returning to dinner at three o'clock. The several awards of the Judges were read over, which had been made on the three preceding days; much useful and animated discussion followed, and all were unanimous in opinion of the great importance of the allotment scheme, which has been acted upon in Rutland for some years, perhaps with a care and an attention unequalled, and the beneficial results of which have become apparent to every observer. Each succeeding year brings forth additional proofs of its utility, and ample testimony was adduced that the labouring class, generally speaking, were not only benefited by the good crops they had obtained, but their thankfulness, contentment, and improved moral habits surpassed the expectation of the most sanguine supporter of the measure; whilst in every field cultivated under this system, the land had improved in its productive powers.

The silver cup, value 10 sovs., given by Sir Gilbert Heathcote, Bart., M.P., to the tenant occupier of the best cultivated farm, &c., was awarded to Mr. John Christian, of Barrow, and will be presented to him at the meeting in September next, filled by his good landlord (the Rev. Henry Neville) with crown pieces; of which it is supposed it will hold from thirty to forty pounds' worth.—The following is the award of premiums:—

Premiums adjudged on Monday the 20th, Tuesday the 21st, and Wednesday the 22d of July, by Daniel Larratt, Esq. of Thurlby, Lincolnshire, and Samuel Cheetham, Esq. of Hambleton, Rutland.

## COTTESMORE.

1st prize.....to John Tyler..... 10s.  
2d ditto.....to Edward Young..... 7s.  
3d ditto.....to Michael Berridge..... 5s.

Given by the Rev. Henry Neville, for good cultivation.  
John Cramp (nearly equal to Berridge).—4s., by Sir G. Noel, Bart.

John Turner Widow Turner } commended by  
Widow Edwards Edw. Osborn } the Judges.—2s.  
John Plowright Widow Rawlins } each by Sir G. Noel,  
George Allett Thomas Stimson } for good cultivation.

*Under the 11th Rule*—"It is expected that every occupier shall attend some place of worship," &c.

William Chamberlain } 2s. each.....by Sir G. Noel.  
James Sneath }  
George Allett }

In 1834, Widow Turner produced on one rood, 14½ bushels of wheat, white chaffed variety.

## BARROW. By the

Rev. H. Neville. J. Himan. W. Tomkins.

1st prize..Francis Simons ..10s.....5s.  
2d ditto...William Huffill .. 7s.....3s.  
3d ditto...Ann Munton, } .. 5s.....2s.....5s.  
widow, aged 67 }

for good cultivation.

Henry Stubbs Wm. Letherland } Merit.—2s. each.  
John Letherland Thomas Sesson } by Sir G. Noel, Bart.

*Under the 11th Rule.*

John Letherland } 2s. each.....by Sir G. Noel, Bart.  
John Leeson }  
Widow Munton }

In 1834, Simons produced on ½ rood, 7 bushels 1 peck of wheat, white chaffed variety; Stevens 7 bushels of bearded or rivets wheat.

## WHITWELL.

1st prize.....Daniel Smith..... 10s.  
2d ditto.....Robert Allen..... 7s.  
3d ditto.....Robert Smith..... 5s.

By Mrs. Ellicott, sen., for good cultivation.  
— Bollands.—Merit.—3s., by Sir G. Noel for good cultivation.

*Under the 11th Rule, and for general good conduct.*

The ten occupiers recommended to Sir G. Noel's notice, 2s. each.

## EXTON.

1st prize.....James Speede..... 10s.  
2d ditto.....Thomas Bullimore..... 7s.  
3d ditto.....John Collin..... 5s.  
Matthew Weldon (nearly equal to the 3d)..... 4s.

By Sir G. Noel, for good cultivation.

Edward Cole John Scotney }  
Thomas Dawson Robert Hibbit } Commended by the  
Wm. Preston Thomas Wilson } Judges,—  
Wm. Shuter Geo. Woodward } 2s. each..by Sir G. Noel.  
Joseph Fant }

Great merit to all the occupiers.

## PICKWELL.

By Sir E. W. G. Noel, Wilmot, Esq.

1st prize..William Lane, aged 82 years,  
(Clerk of the Parish 5/1)—great merit..10s.....10s.  
2d ditto...William Allett..... 7s..... 7s.  
3d ditto...Edward Pears (Wm. Hayes  
being disqualified)..... 5s..... 5s.

for good cultivation.

Also to Wm. Lane, for good character.—5s., by Sir G. Noel.

The Allotments much improved.

## RIDLINGTON.

1st prize.....John Haines..... 10s.  
2d ditto.....John Barfield..... 7s.  
3d ditto.....John Dunmore..... 5s.  
Another competitor (nearly equal to Dunmore)..... 4s.

By the Rev. C. Swann, for good cultivation.

Russell, Edw. jun. } Merit.  
Wright, Wm. } 2s. each.....by Sir G. Noel.  
Manton, Wm. } for good cultivation.  
Pennystone, Fras. }

## NEW ALLOTMENTS.

1st prize.....George Webb..... 10s.  
2d ditto.....John Dunmore..... 7s.  
3d ditto.....Joseph Woodcock..... 5s.

By Sir G. Noel, for good cultivation.

Three other competitors, commended, 3s. each, by Sir G. Noel.  
*Under the 11th Rule, in both Fields, and for general good conduct.*

Win. Wright George Webb }  
Joseph Harris John Dunmore } 2s. each..by Sir G. Noel.  
Wm. Manton Jos. Woodcock }  
Jos. Barfield Robert Manton }  
Thos. Manton Joseph Bryan }

In 1834, Barfield produced 6 bushels 1 peck of wheat upon ½ rood, 50 bushels of potatoes upon ditto, and 4 bushels 2 pecks of peas upon ditto; Hames 6 bushels of wheat upon ½ rood.

## UPPINGHAM.—Rev. J. G. Dimock's Land.

1st prize.....Robert Stretton..... 10s.  
2d ditto.....Michael Cant..... 7s.  
3d ditto.....Geo. Nutt..... 5s.

By Sir G. Noel, for good cultivation.

## Sir G. Noel's Land.

1st prize.....A. Stretton..... 10s.  
2d ditto.....Thomas Nutt..... 7s.  
3d ditto.....John Page..... 5s.

By Sir G. Noel, for good cultivation.

Robt. Foster Thos. Chapman } Merit.  
Edw. Baines Thos. Trigg } 2s. each..by Sir G. Noel.

*Under the 11th Rule, and for good conduct generally.*

John Page John Mould } 2s. each..by Sir G. Noel.  
Wm. Baines Wm. Mould }

In 1834, Robert Stretton's ½ rood of wheat produced 5½ bushels, ½ rood of peas 4 bushels, ½ rood of potatoes 6½ quarters; Robert Foster 6 bushels of wheat, 62 pecks of potatoes, 70 pecks of green peas, and 3 pecks of ripe peas; Thomas Chapman 6 bushels and 1 peck of wheat, and 7½ qrs. of potatoes.

PARISH v. PARISH.—Comparative merits, quality of the land, situation, clean and useful husbandry,



general management, and the number of years under the system—awarded to Whitwell, it being the second year of tenancy, 2s. each to all the occupiers, by Sir Gerard Noel, Bart.

The Ransome prize of one sovereign to the occupier of the best cultivated allotment in any of the parishes,—awarded to John Tyler, of Cottemore.

## ON WEEDING LAND.

(EXTRACT FROM SINCLAIR.)

Among the perennial weeds affecting arable land, wild oats, thistles, docks, and coltsfoot, or tussilago, require particular attention.

The wild oat or oat-grass (*holcus avenaceus*) is a most troublesome weed to a farmer, and difficult to be eradicated. It formerly abounded so much in some districts, as to constitute almost one half of the crop. A farmer cleared a field of this weed by a most singular experiment. He dressed and manured it thoroughly, and sowed no crop, trusting to the oats. They grew up most abundantly. He cut them for hay, before the seed was ripe, and the field was never afterwards infested with that weed. Wild oats have likewise been extirpated by irrigation.

The common thistle (*cniscus lanceolatus*), and the field thistle (*cniscus arvensis*) are extremely injurious to all crops. They are for a time repressed, rather than destroyed, by a well-conducted summer fallow; but that is only a local remedy; for their numerous seeds, which are feathered, will often come from a considerable distance, and replenish the field that has been cleared. They are frequently cut close above the ground, by means of a very simple instrument, called a weed-hook; but it is done much more effectually, either by the hand, or by means of a pair of forceps or nippers with two long handles, by which the whole, or part of the roots are pulled up, and the plants either much weakened, or totally destroyed. In Derbyshire, they make use of a species of tongs, or pincers, with fluted jaws, which must be peculiarly effectual.

The dock, (*rumex crispus* and *obtusifolius*), is a hardy perennial, very tenacious of growth by its roots and producing a great increase of seeds. In arable land, the roots should be carefully picked off during the tillage season, otherwise they will produce vigorous luxuriant plants, drawing much moisture and nourishment from the soil, to the injury of the intended crop. Docks ought to be pulled up by the hand after heavy rains, when the soil is soft enough to allow their long tap-roots to be extracted without breaking, and long before the seed approaches to ripeness, or even before they blossom. If the season be too dry for that operation, they ought at any rate to be cut and carried off.

Coltsfoot, (*tussilago farfara*), was long accounted almost unconquerable, even by a fallow, the seeds ripening so early in the spring, that they were usually shaken before the ground had got the second furrow. It is now, however, ascertained, that there is little difficulty in subduing this noxious weed. For that purpose, the plant must be destroyed in August, September, or October, after the crops of corn are cut, at which time they are at their full growth, and easily discovered. They ought then to be pulled up, and every stock or root that can be laid hold of, carried off. This should be done most carefully, for about an inch below the surface, the roots have a number of buds about the size of a pea, which if allowed to remain till next spring, will flower, and

shed their seeds in spite of every precaution. This plan should be persevered in for a few years to give the experiment a fair trial.\*

By these means, more especially if accompanied by drilling, cultivated fields may be cleared from the dominion of weeds and though these several processes are troublesome and expensive, yet they cannot be dispensed with, as they are the only sure methods known of eradicating weeds, for the plan of ploughing them in, (which at any rate, can only answer in very deep soils), cannot be depended on.

It may not be improper here to notice, the great attention paid by the Flemish farmers to the weeding of their land; and as they know nothing of the drill husbandry in the culture of grain, the whole process is effected by manual labour. In the best cultivated districts, their exertions are incessant; and frequently from 20 to 30 women, may be seen employed in one field, kneeling for the purpose of greater facility in seeing and extracting the weeds. In the Pays de Waes, where the soil is light, the trident, or fourche a trois dents, is made use of, after the several crops are harvested, to tear up the root-weeds; and the same tool is successfully employed, in breaking the clods in strong land, when they become dry, for enabling the root weeds to be gathered, and facilitating the pulverization of the soil.

The clearing of arable lands, from weeds, may in general be accomplished by, 1. Complete and well managed fallows, whenever that operation is required; 2. By taking care that the manure used, is free from the seeds of weeds, or any roots that can vegetate; for which purpose, fermenting dunghills are advisable; 3. By a careful choice of clean seed corn; 4. By short tillage, or not taking too many crops in a rotation; 5. By drilling crops, in soils applicable to that culture; 6. By attentive hand weeding, and a spirited use of the hoe; 7. By the strictest attention to the choice of seeds, particularly those of grass, that no weeds are intermingled with them; 8. By weeding the land while in grass, so as not to suffer the seeds of any injurious plants to spread themselves; and 9. By breaking up the land, by pursuing such a system of cropping, as will not increase or encourage weeds, and in particular, by adopting rotations in which green crops shall predominate.

On the subject of weeds in arable land, it is highly material to observe, that their seeds are often mixed with the grain, and when ground with it, render the bread unpalatable, and unwholesome. Such weeds are universal enemies, from whose mischievous attacks no individual is exempted, and whose destruction, it is every one's interest, as well as duty to promote.†

\* The public owes these valuable hints to Mr. Rennie of Phantassie. The process is described at greater length in the General Report of Scotland, vol. ii. p. 554. It is much the custom with those who fallow land in Ireland to permit the weeds to shed their seeds, under the idea, that when the land is afterwards ploughed, they will be destroyed. This is one of the reasons, why the lands in that country, under this system, become progressively more foul and less fertile.—Remark by Edward Burrows, Esq.

† Communication from Edward Burroughs, Esq. Mr. Burroughs tethered seven sheep per acre in spring; and finding that there was better grass in the field in the middle of May, than when they were first turned on it, he was obliged to put two sheep more per acre to keep down the grass, in a state fit for that species of stock. In the Highlands of Scotland, they contend, that sheep when tethered, fatten more rapidly than in any other manner.

2. Grass Lands.—It is difficult, in some cases, to discriminate, in meadows and pastures, between the useful plants and those that are injurious; but amidst the great variety which nature produces in such lands, there are several, which are not calculated to feed domesticated animals, and ought therefore to be removed, for the introduction of others better adapted for that purpose. No person of common understanding, would ever think of allowing the live stock of his neighbours to feed upon his pastures, as the diminution of food to his own stock, by that circumstance, would be sufficiently obvious. A little consideration, however, may convince every individual, that a multitude of weeds, interspersed among his grasses, produce effects not less mischievous, than those that would ensue from such depredations of live stock. Yet from the Cheshire Report it appears that in some of the best conditioned pastures in that county, ragwort, docks, thistles, and knapweed, occupy at least half the land, to the exclusion of an equal number of useful plants.

Above twenty different kinds of weeds infest grass lands, besides about thirty more of less importance, whose characters are doubtful, or whose uses are not ascertained. Some of the most worthless, as the rush (*juncus*), and the sedge tribe (*carex*), may be got the better of by draining; others, like the mosses, (*musci*), either by cultivation or manure; but there are a few which require individual attention, before they can be eradicated, in particular the dock, the thistle, and the rag weed.

The dock has been already mentioned as a weed in arable lands. It is equally injurious to grass, both on account of its seeds and its roots. Its seeds are exceedingly numerous and heavy, but the stem is flexible, and the recoil from a blast, with a high wind, spreads them to some distance. Docks are found to vegetate equally on turf, and on naked mould. Every bit of root forms a new plant, even after the heart has been consumed by a species of caterpillar. To eradicate this plant in grass lands, the root must be completely taken out by the dock-iron, at or before the time of flowering, and thoroughly destroyed: this can generally be effected, after much rain. They are refused by cattle; but are eaten by fallow deer, which prevents their flourishing in parks.

## THE POOR LAW AMENDMENT ACT.

The following letter has been received on the subject of the refusal of a man at Basildon, to support his mother:—

“Poor-Law Commission Office, Somerset House,  
July 14.

“Sir,—The Poor Law Commissioners for England and Wales have to acknowledge the receipt of your communication, enclosing a statement in regard to a case which had occurred in the Bradfield Union, and upon which you desire the opinion of the Board. The Commissioners observe that a widow woman of the name of Lovegrove, living with her son, had been in the receipt of 1s 10d per week from the parish, and that the Guardians of the Bradfield Union considering that her son, who is a single man in constant employment, and earning 12s per week, was both liable and competent to support his mother, had reduced her allowance to one gallon of bread per week; that in consequence of this reduction, her son had turned her out of doors, and that she was therefore under the necessity of applying to the guardians for additional relief; that the guardians upon granting the required relief, had determined to apply for an order on her son for her maintenance, and that, upon their application, an order had actually been made by two Magistrates upon him

to pay is 9d per week towards the support of his mother. Upon the case as thus stated, the Commissioners have to express their satisfaction that the Board of Guardians have availed themselves of the enactments in the Statute of Elizabeth, which render natural relations liable to be compelled to maintain those who are reduced to a state of destitution. The Commissioners hope that those enactments, with the modification made by the 78th section of the Poor Law Amendment Act, will be found sufficient in the case in question. They consider it to be an instance of the effect of an abusive system of the administration of relief, which has led the labouring classes to believe that they were by law absolved from the performance of natural and filial duties, and which has thus led to the necessity of resorting to compulsory measures for enforcing the discharge of those duties; and this, too, as against an individual who appears to be of good general character and industrious habits. He admits, however, that he has the means of making a reservation from his wages, and the amount of those wages as compared with the wages on which other single men not only subsist, but make savings, renders such an admission unnecessary, and proves that he might provide for the support of his mother, without exposing himself to the evils of want. The Commissioners have further to observe, that the peremptory refusal of the son to obey the order of the Magistrates, his attempt to justify his proceedings by asking, “What is the parish for but to maintain old people?” and, above all, his inexcusable conduct in turning his mother out of doors, render the case in the opinion of the Commissioners one in which it is especially desirable that the law should be firmly enforced for the sake of example. Signed by order of the Board.

“E. CHADWICK, Secretary.

“To Edward Gulston, Esq., Assistant Poor Law Commissioner.”

The bakers in Paris have placed at the disposal of their society, for their protection and encouragement of the trade, 2,400 francs, or about 96*l*, as a premium to any individual who can discover a simple and ready method of ascertaining the adulteration of wheaten flour with the farina of potatoes, and at the same time determining the proportions of the admixture. One of the Parisian bakers, who has applied considerable attention to the subject, has forwarded statements to the society, in which he gives an account of a test, the result of which appears successful. At the same time a M. Boiteux has addressed the prefect of police, as the author of a process of ascertaining the presence of potatoe meal in flour; different samples have been forwarded him, and he has been successful in every instance in finding out the mixture or non mixture of potatoes with flour, or flour with potatoes, but has failed in every case in assigning with any degree of exactitude the different proportions. Though the public are indebted to M. Boiteux for the means of discovering the adulteration of the articles, yet the premium is still open to the application of the ingenious. We, however, believe, that there are not any ready and effectual means of determining the adulteration of wheaten flour with potatoe; the great difficulty arises from there not being any fixed *minimum* of the quantity of *gluten* in wheat, which is composed of starch and gluten; whereas, potatoe contains starch alone, and there is not therefore any chemical analysis to discover the admixture. By the assistance however of the *microscope*, this could be effected, as the particles of wheaten and potatoe farina differ in their construction; but in ascertaining the quantity of the component parts in the adulteration, we should think it impracticable, having no *minimum* of the gluten in wheat as before stated to regulate the process.



## AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS—SILVER STANDARD.

MR. CAYLEY'S SPEECH IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, ON MONDAY, JUNE 1, 1835.

(Concluded from Page 137.)

Now, Sir, what have been the disasters to which the landed interest has been exposed since that time? Have they not been such as to call for strong measures—such as to warrant inquiry? And yet the right honourable baronet has always refused it. The noble lord, the Secretary of State for the Home Department, said, the other night, that the committee of 1833 recommended the house not to interfere, quoting the words of Mr. Burke, that it was a “perilous thing to try experiments on the farmer;” but I say, Sir, that experiments have been made, and have been the source of mischief incalculable, and, I ask, are experiments only to be made one way—to produce ruin? Is Parliament to be omnipotent for evil, and impotent only for good? What were the opinions of Lord, then Mr., Brougham, at that time? What were his reasons for supporting the motion of Lord, then Mr. Western, for an inquiry into this subject of the currency? He spoke thus:—

“His reasons for supporting the proposition for inquiry were these,—Parliament had done that which gave the country a right to inquire: Parliament had been the great actor in that portentous plot, the unravelment of which formed the subject of the present discussion; in that plot, the full effects of which the country had not yet lived to see, but which was the cause of the evils, under which, at present, it was labouring.”

These were the opinions of Lord Brougham on the distress of the agriculturists, in 1822: he goes on to say, complimenting a speech which had been made by the hon. member for Whitehaven (Mr. M. Attwood), how absurd it was now talking of an immutable standard after the violation of it for twenty-five years; and after every one must have concluded that government never intended to return to cash payments; adding, that if inquiry was not granted then, it would be forced eventually. In the same debate, Mr. Ricardo stated, “that if in 1819, the currency had been depreciated to 14s from 20s, he would have coined 14s into a sovereign; but now, (after immediately before confessing that, the appreciation was owing to the operations of the Bank of England, which brought down the price of bullion) he would, as the depreciation was only 5 per cent in 1819, adhere to the present standard.” Now, Mr. Ricardo was the great oracle followed upon this occasion; and on very good authority he is reported to have been subsequently convinced that he had been mistaken in his opinion, that the depreciation had been only 5 per cent; on the contrary he was satisfied that the depreciation had been 25 per cent.; then 15s according to Mr. Ricardo’s own principles, ought to have been coined into a sovereign; in other words, all debts and engagements ought to have been paid with 15s instead of 20s. Debtors have thus been defrauded to this extent; but in fact, instead of 25 per cent., the depreciation had been 50 per cent. at least, measured in the prices of commodities, which were the true test; and all the misery consequent on the change of the currency, has been owing to the complete ignorance of the legislature on the subject; and we have been allowed to do nothing in any shape to rectify or modify the mistake, although the whole landed

interest was sinking under it. I ask any candid man, if parliament in 1819 did not legislate under error? I ask any of the right hon. gentlemen now before me, if that bill of 1819 had again to be brought before parliament, whether they would vote in the same way now as they did then? I am morally confident they would not. I ask whether they would return to cash payments, at the price of 3*l* 17*s* 10½*d*, for gold? thereby doubling all public and private debts; and lowering prices one half. I ask if they would not have coined the sovereign out of 14s, instead of 20s? I think I know one noble lord of great authority in this house, the last time the subject was discussed here, and who then occupied the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer (I mean Lord Althorp) who would have done so. I think I have heard that he has stated precisely what Mr. Ricardo stated, that if he had known in 1819, what he knew now, he would have coined the sovereign out of 14s. Now, Sir, I am no friend to an inconvertible paper, I merely want a palliative for the existing mischiefs—I want no more. When a mistake has been acknowledged by the perpetrators of that mistake, are they to go up blindly and cruelly acting upon that mistake, because they have fallen into it? or, because some are too proud to acknowledge their error, is the country to be exposed to ruthless misery in consequence? One of the witnesses before the agricultural committee of 1833, said, referring to the ruin of half the farmers, that “half the forest had been felled, and that we must patiently await the felling of the other half.” But are we to take this advice, and tamely submit to be filched of our properties? God grant that there be spirit enough left among a British public, to resist such an outrage on their rights, and their common sense. As Sir Francis Burdett said in the above debate in 1822, “It is not to be permitted that the people should die under it, because the King’s ministers did not choose to incur the responsibility of a remedy.” Another motion was brought forward in 1830, on the same subject, but without success. In the debate upon that occasion, Mr. Poulett Thomson is reported to have said, that he “greatly preferred a silver, to a gold standard (but not a double one); and he thought depriving us of a paper currency by the Act of 1826 (this was for extinguishing 1*l*. notes), was driving us back into a state of barbarism. But he thought we had paid the price of these changes, and so he should vote against reverting back.” Paid the price indeed! Had we paid the price in 1830, when no one denied the general distress? Had we paid it in 1833? Have we paid it now, with wheat fallen from 80s to 35s per quarter?

Sir, there are some who appear to think that because they are never tired of receiving this price, we are never to tire of paying it. If by the term “paying the price,” Mr. Poulett Thomson meant that the ruin consequent on the bill of 1819 was at an end, no mistake was ever more glaring and mischievous. There is still a last price to pay; half the farmers in the country, in spite of all who have been previously swept away, at this moment are living on their farms by sufferance—a modification of Mr. Peel’s bill would give them the means of going on: to refuse all alteration, is to drive them from their homesteads—to break up the kindly associations of generations—to bring them to the parish, or to expel them their country. Is this no additional price to pay—is not this a catastrophe worth the consideration of a beneficent government to avert? Lord Howick (and I mention the last two names, because they are members of

the present cabinet) said, on June 8th, 1830, I think on Mr. Attwood's motion for a silver standard and 1*l*. notes, that "he would have gone into an inquiry upon a silver standard and 1*l*. notes, but not vote for the specific measures." I ought to state that one cause assigned by Lord Londonderry, why he would not consent to Mr. Western's motion, in 1822, was that the change had so lately taken place,—so that it appears it was too soon in 1822, and it was too late in 1828, 1830, and 1833; and we shall hear the same doctrine repeated, I doubt not, to-night, in 1835.

If this were the only period in history when distress had followed upon raising the value of money, and increasing the pressure of fixed engagements, we might be the more doubtful of the cause of our present difficulties; but reference to our own history, even, will show this not to be an isolated case; and also that the country, ignorant of the cause of its distress, attributed it to a hundred delusive causes, rather than the right one.

In 1670 (says Mr. Taylor, in his history of the money-system of England) such continued to be the scarcity of money, that when the subsidy bill for granting one-twentieth part of all estates was read a second time in the House of Lords, his Majesty being present, Lord Lucas spoke to the following effect. He began by stating that all those hopes had been disappointed, under the impression of which his Majesty had been recalled to the exercise of the regal power: that the burdens of his subjects, instead of being lightened, had been increased, whilst their strength to support them had been diminished; that in the times of the late usurping powers, though the taxes were great, yet there was plenty of money throughout the nation to pay them with; but now (continued his lordship) there is nothing of this; brick is required of us, and no straw is allowed to make it with. For that our lands are thrown up, and corn and cattle are of little value, is notorious to all the world, and it is as evident that there is a scarcity of money.

Now, only let us change the words "since the restoration of Charles II." for "since the restoration of peace in 1814," and for the "late usurping powers," insert the words "the late war," and we shall have an accurate description of all that has been happening for the last twenty years. Sir William Petty, also, speaking of the extreme scarcity of money in Ireland, about this time, says—

"It would have been easier for the Irish labourer to have contributed forty-nine days' labour for the use of the state, if taken at seasonable times in the course of the year, than to raise 2*s* for his hearth-tax at one period, and just when the collector called for it. This extremity of hardship appears to have been produced by the narrow policy of the British government. The agricultural interest in England suffering greatly from the scarcity of money, was carried away with the impression that the introduction of Irish cattle into the English market was the cause of the farmer's distress; and parliament was accordingly induced to prohibit the importation of Irish cattle into England."

Here was the same story—a change in the value of money the cause of the fall in prices—the farmers not understanding that there could be any other cause of a fall in the price of their cattle, except more cattle coming into the market, very naturally attributed the fall to the importation of Irish cattle; they had to learn, as many of them have at this day, that prices depend quite as much on the quantity of money in the market, as on

the quantity of cattle or produce. The quantity of money and produce remaining the same, prices will remain the same. Increase the quantity of the produce, the money remaining the same, prices will fall; decrease the quantity of produce, the money remaining the same, prices will rise. Increase the quantity of money, the produce remaining the same, prices will rise; decrease the quantity of money, the produce remaining the same, prices will fall. If the farmers will keep this invariable rule in mind, they will never allow the sort of adversity to come which they have so long experienced; and if it should come, they will know the cause and the remedy. But it is not modern history alone to which we may refer for the mischiefs done to a country by a rise in the value of money, and fall in prices, that justly celebrated and profound German historian of Rome, Niebuhr, speaking of the calamities arising in Rome from an appreciation of its standard of value, goes on to say—

"There are but too many countries where a like state of things is to be found; where most of the landholders, though nominally they continue to be so, were they to discharge their debts, would have nothing over; and, till that time comes, are farming their estates for their creditors, as the Roman debtor farmed them for the usurer."

In speaking of the depreciation made in the Roman money, Niebuhr says:—

"The deterioration of the coinage, in the manner usual among barbarous nations, and in ages of ignorance, is mostly to serve very stupid, nay, profligate ends; nevertheless there may also be a state of things in which it is wise, and even necessary, to adopt a lower standard. Through a nation's own fault its own smaller currency, or through circumstances that could not be forestalled, lighter money from abroad may have become predominant, and have driven the heavier out of circulation; the wish to restore it were to swim against the stream, and can breed only mischief and disgrace. If a state have fallen into the unhappy system of paper money, if this sink in comparison with silver, then should a juncture of fortunate circumstances furnish the means of re-establishing a metallic currency, in a case of this kind it is altogether absurd, nay absolutely disastrous to do so, in such a manner, that the metal shall resume its place with the standard unchanged, and yet, that the sums in all contracts shall abide by their nominal amount; while it is impossible to keep up prices at the same height at which they stood in the time of the paper circulation. Nay, if even without paper money, all prices have been forced up for a course of years by extraordinary circumstances, far above the means of those which prevailed during the preceding generations, if the expenses and burdens of the country have increased at the same rate, and then the feverish condition should subside, and everything drop down for a continuance to the lowest average price; in such a case there is no hope of safety, except in a proportionate reduction of the standard, and to this result common sense has, in former times, led men; whereas theory and delusion now raise their voices against it.

At Rome the exigency was still more pressing. As in the middle ages, from the constant and unreplaced efflux of money towards the East, silver became scarcer and scarcer on this side of the Alps, and all prices kept progressively falling; so at Rome, as we have seen, copper gradually grew dearer in comparison with silver, and consequently with all other commodities; and this, although



Rome had no national debt, and her citizens no hereditary mortgages, must still have produced extreme hardship and distress in a number of instances. The pay to the horsemen and footmen stood fixed at a stated number of As's; though the countryman received a fewer number of As's for his crop, his tribute, notwithstanding, came to the same sum as if money were not worth more than formerly.

Can anything be more applicable to our own case than these observations of Niebuhr, a historian, than whom no one stands in higher repute at the present day?

Would to God we had followed the example of America; during her struggle for independence with this country she found it necessary to depreciate her money to carry on the war. Owing to some cause or other, England, during that struggle, depreciated her currency; and this was the main cause of our ill success in that contest. During the late war, however, we depreciated our money; which, and which alone, I believe enabled us to resist successfully the gigantic power of Napoleon. But what was the respective conduct of England and America under the circumstances of their depreciations? America paid off the debts she incurred in depreciated money,—in money of the same value,—that is, in depreciated money: in other words, she paid as much as she borrowed, and no more. England, on the contrary, acted on entirely opposite principles. Instead of paying her depreciated debts in depreciated money, she is paying them in appreciated money. In other words, she is paying two bushels of wheat where she borrowed one; 600,000,000*l* of public depreciated debt instead of 300,000,000*l*; and she is paying in the same ratio, and to a far greater extent I believe, her private debts. And what is the condition of England now, and what that of America! Is America accused of a breach of public faith because she paid only what she borrowed? In other days, Sir, England did not conduct herself so foolishly. In the reign of William III. the currency had become so depreciated that the sovereign went for 30*s*. They appreciated the currency, it is true; but the old debts and taxes they allowed to be paid in depreciated money. It was Mr. Pitt, Sir, who was the author of the restriction on cash payments in 1797; he was aware of its full effects: would that he had lived to the year 1819! for I have it from a member of this house, who heard it from a private and confidential friend of Mr. Pitt (I would repeat the name, but I do not feel justified in so doing), and in office with him, that Mr. Pitt had declared to him his intention of ascertaining the degree of depreciation on the return of peace, and adapting the standard of value to that state of depreciation. Had this been done 12*s* or 14*s* would have been coined into a sovereign; we should have had to pay very little more than we borrowed, but we should have paid as much; no creditor could have suffered; while all debtors and tax payers, which in fact are the millions, would have known the blessings of peace when peace came. Instead of which we have been bound, hand and foot, to the stern, implacable standard of 3*l* 17*s* 10½*d* per oz. for gold, which has pulled down prices, and brought on ruin. I seek, Sir, for a palliation of these tremendous evils. In my opinion we have seen enough of the effects of the gold standard. Surely, Prince Hal must have had it in his contemplation, in his speech to his dying father, when he said—

Therefore, thou best of gold art worst of gold;

Other, less fine in carat, is more precious;  
But thou, most pure, most honour'd, most re-  
nown'd!  
Hast eat thy bearer up.

I know I shall be told that it is too late to go back. Sir, I am not asking to go back; and they who accuse me of it, know it; but they know, also, that when they cannot answer a fair argument, they can injure a cause by throwing invidious aspersions upon it. What I am seeking for is, a palliation of the evils which took place in consequence of Mr. Peel's bill. I wish to go into a select committee to try if we cannot secure some substantial relief to the agriculturists of the United Kingdom. All the other plans have failed except such as have conducted to a larger circulation; and I wish a committee to decide the question whether parliament still has the power to afford relief. I contend that it has: it may say that it does not choose to adopt the remedy. But let the people know whether their representatives have the power to relieve them or not. If they cannot in any way relieve them, then they will cease to hope, and at least cease to be disappointed. If they can, yet hesitate to adopt the remedy, it is for the people, and the people alone, to decide whether the remedy shall be adopted. What some persons are afraid of is, that the people would get possessed of the knowledge that parliament has the power to relieve, because they are convinced that they will never rest satisfied until relief be granted. I ask, as an experiment, and by way of palliation, for a silver standard; because I know, and no one can deny, that more Bank of England notes would be issued, and much more safely issued, than at present: and prices would rise as a necessary consequence. I am only asking for the ancient standard of the country,—that which was in existence up to the year 1816, and which Lord Liverpool abolished; and for what? merely to satisfy an abstract theory, which he and his father held in common, that gold as the richer metal ought to be the standard of a rich country. The fallacy of this argument is obvious. Why is a country rich? Because of the number of its commercial transactions. Now, can any one imagine that a scarce metal can carry on a great number of transactions as well and as easily as a metal which is fifty times more plentiful? But Lord Liverpool took his ground very much on the fact of this country having, during the last century, voluntarily adopted gold as the medium of payment. The fact is true enough; but why did this country adopt that course? Only because, from accidental circumstances, silver was comparatively scarcer during the greater part of last century than gold; and having the option of paying in either metal, debtors, of course, paid in the cheaper metal—which was gold. But the same reason for adopting gold then, ought to lead us to adopt silver now, because silver is the cheaper metal; and the debtors of this country have been robbed (in addition to the confiscation arising out of the bill of 1819,) from 5 to 10 per cent., by the mere change in the standard from silver to gold.

Nothing will show more clearly the comparative value of silver, during the last century, than the following statement. At George III.'s succession to the throne, 1760, the coins, especially silver, were in a very imperfect state. The crowns and half-crowns had disappeared, although nearly 1,000,000*l* of them had been coined since the general recoinage of William III. Now, this fact of the crowns having been abstracted from the

circulation is an evidence of their value, for if there had not been an advantage in the withdrawing them, it would not have been done. The Mint sending silver out at a low price, when the market price is higher, will always make it a profitable concern for individuals to melt the coin, and sell it at the market price as bullion. At this time shillings and sixpences were principally current (in silver): 4,000,000*l.* of these, also, had been coined within the same period: every stamp and impression had worn away; there was probably one-sixth deficiency of weight in the shillings, and one-fourth in the sixpences. But what shows the preference of the people for gold during the last century is the fact, that from 1717, (when Sir Isaac Newton made his report on the relative value of gold and silver at the Mint, and in the market,) up to 1760, silver had been brought to the Mint to be coined, only to the amount of 584,575*l.* 14*s.* 11½*d.*—a period of forty-three years, which plainly shows the dearness (in comparison) of silver; for if the market-price had been beneath the Mint price there would have been a gain in taking silver to the Mint to have received back the higher price paid by the Mint. I have said that silver was the ancient standard of the country, the standard price being, from the time of Elizabeth, 5*s.* 2*d.* per ounce. I should, however, have qualified this statement, by saying, that in consequence of the wearing away and debasement of the coin in the last century, as a temporary measure passed from year to year, from 1774 silver was a legal tender in tale only to the amount of 2*s.* 1*d.*; but in weight at the rate of 5*s.* 2*d.* per ounce, to any extent whatever. The real standard practically, therefore, in the last century was, in consequence of the debasement of the silver coins, equivalent to about 5*s.* 6*d.* per ounce of our present money; that is to say, supposing the present market-price of silver to be 5*s.* per ounce, the standard of the last century was easier for the debtor by 10 per cent. than the existing standard; and supposing the price of silver in the market to be 4*s.* 9*d.*, which it has been within the last three or four years, the disadvantage to the debtor now compared with the time previous to the war is 15 per cent.—I mean in consequence of the change from silver to gold. But at 5*s.* 2*d.*—the old standard price—we should gain great advantage indirectly, as well as directly. We have the first authorities on our side in favour of silver as a standard. Mr. Locke stated that silver was the only fit commercial measure of value, and that gold ought to be allowed to find its own *agio*, or premium, in the market. He did admit, it is true, that gold might be suffered to be coined; but it was merely an admission, not an opinion, in its favour. Before the Bank Charter committee of 1832, many of the witnesses were favourable to a silver standard. Among these Mr. Horsley Palmer, then governor of the Bank, is asked,—

What is the par of Exchange between two countries, one of which has a gold, and the other a silver currency?—In this country it is the price of the gold currency in the foreign market at the moment.

Then anything like a permanent par of exchange between countries, one having gold and the other a silver currency, cannot be!—It cannot exist.

Now this is of great importance as bearing upon the exchanges, for I shall endeavour hereafter to show how seriously industry suffers in this country frequently through the operation of the exchanges. Again, Mr. Rothschild is asked,—

Would silver regulate the exchanges precisely

as gold?—Certainly; and in France and on the Continent, rather more.

You have said, that when any of the Continental powers wish to supply their military chests, they always made a demand for gold?—Certainly.

Does not that produce considerable fluctuation in the price of gold?—Not very much, because gold in general is not so much wanted on the Continent as silver: silver is the regular coinage of those countries.

Do you think that the value of silver is as little subject to variation as the value of gold?—Silver has no variation, because there is a coinage of silver; so that there can be no difference in silver, except at some times when it is wanted by any European government for particular purposes.

Has there been a great export of gold from France, at different times, for the purposes of foreign war?—Certainly: in general the gold is bought up in France before it goes from this country; and if there is a scarcity in France, then it is fetched from here.

Does the demand for gold from France produce a scarcity of money in France?—No.

Why is that?—Because the gold is in general in private hands; it is merchandise there.

If there was a demand for silver from France, would not that produce a scarcity of money in France?—Certainly, because it is the coinage of the country.

Then whenever there is a demand upon a country for a metal which is the standard of value, it will produce a scarcity of money?—Certainly.

This evidence is of great value at the present moment: gold is the standard and currency of this country, but of no other country under the sun, unless Portugal have lately adopted it. Now, gold is the most convenient for export, and therefore the metal most in demand for export, when any balance of trade has to be rectified, or when it is wanted for army chests in case of war, or other purposes. Silver not being required so much for these purposes, retains its place as currency in a country where silver is the standard; and this is of incalculable benefit to trade, as a means of sustaining an equilibrium of prices; because every time the standard money is withdrawn, the paper also is withdrawn which depends on the presence of that standard-money for its convertibility,—and then prices fall. But where gold is the standard, it is perpetually exposed to fluctuations. The Bank of England is bound by law to pay all its notes in gold. It is alarmed, therefore, whenever gold is leaving the country. This was the cause of the panic in 1825. That panic has been mischievously attributed to one-pound notes. It is true that one-pound notes had an influence on raising prices, and that had a tendency to drive gold abroad; but if silver had been the standard, at the old standard price, no panic would have ensued. It was the gold standard that caused the panic. The farmers want one-pound notes; but they ought first to have a silver standard, as a safe foundation for them.

There was a rule laid down by the Bank of England in 1832, that they should keep as much gold in their coffers as corresponded with one-third of their liabilities; that is, if their liabilities were 30,000,000*l.* they would have 10,000,000*l.* of gold in the Bank ready to answer their notes and other engagements; and they declared they should not be safe without this proportion. But what is the situation of the Bank at this moment? Their liabilities are near 30,000,000*l.*, while their bullion is only 6,000,000*l.* There has been a drain of gold



from this country in consequence of changes taking place in the currency of Portugal and the United States, for the last year; the Bank of England are drawing in their notes, and refusing accommodation,—all of which is most injurious to agriculture and trade,—because they are alarmed for their own safety. But ought this to be the footing on which our monetary system should be based? I ask for a change from a system so perilous and destructive as this, especially under the circumstances of the supply of the precious metals from the mines for the last twenty years, being only in the proportion of one-half of the supply of the twenty years preceding, which is of itself sufficient ground for requiring greater facilities in obtaining the measure of exchange. We have no means of knowing the actual price of gold, because we coin it here at an arbitrary fixed price of 3*l*. 17*s* 10½*d* per ounce: it is always to be had here at that price. When foreigners want it, therefore, they would be great fools to give more than 3*l*. 17*s* 10½*d* for it, when they can get it here for that sum. The market price of gold is therefore always kept below the English Mint price, except under circumstances the most extraordinary. We know not, therefore, whether, in consequence of the change, from silver and gold, to gold alone, we have not a standard at this moment 20 per cent. more appreciated than we had last century—in addition to all the far greater pressure occasioned by the change from paper to gold in 1819. In favour of silver as a standard, there is another authority I shall quote, whose opinion has always had great weight with the house on subjects of this nature—and deservedly so—because no one has been more extensively engaged in trade, or has prospered more in it, or studied its principles more deeply: I mean Mr. Alexander Baring, now Lord Ashburton. It may not be generally known to the house, that a committee on coins was appointed in 1797, which continued to sit at various times, and is supposed still to be in existence. They sat in 1797, and had various meetings, the minutes of which have been preserved, but not printed, except those of 1828, when they sat again. The right honourable member for Cambridge (Mr. Goulburn), was then Chancellor of the Exchequer, and at the suggestion of my honourable friend, the member for Norfolk (Mr. Wodehouse), these were allowed to be printed for the use of members. It appears from the minutes of the evidence, that the subject of silver as a standard was the main object of their sitting; and I will just mention the names of the committee in order to show that others, besides those who complain of Mr. Peel's Bill, can entertain the question of a silver standard without being taunted as friends of inconvertible paper. The committee which sat in 1828 was composed of the Duke of Wellington, the Earl of Dudley, Mr. Huskisson, Mr. Peel, Earl Bathurst, Lord Ellenborough, Mr. Arbuthnot, Mr. Herries, Lord Bexley, Lord Maryborough, Mr. Grant, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Goulburn, the Earl of Aberdeen, Viscount Goderich, Lord Farnborough, Mr. V. Fitzgerald, Mr. Wilmot Horton. Mr. Alexander Baring was summoned before this committee, and I will take the liberty of reading part of his evidence, and if I do it largely, it is because I attach, and I am sure the house will attach, so much importance to evidence from such a source on such a subject.

Is it your impression that it is possible and desirable to maintain in this country a silver currency as a legal tender, founded on the proportion

of silver to gold, established in the currency of France; or something very near it, at the same time that we maintain our present silver currency, which is obviously not in that proportion, and that there would be an advantage in that system? —I have always thought so, and certainly think so still. I have no doubt about it.

Mr. Baring goes on to say:—

A sudden change from peace to war, a bad harvest, or a panic year arising from overtrading and other causes, immediately impose upon the Bank of England, which is the heart of all our circulation, for the purpose of protecting itself, to stop the egress of specie, sometimes even to bring in large quantities into the country. These indispensable remedies are always applied with more or less restriction of the circulation, and consequent distress to those who have been for some time trading under expectations of the ordinary facilities of circulation and banking. No care or prudence can enable the great Bank, on which all smaller ones rest in the day of trial, to avoid occasional resort to those measures of self-defence; and that system of currency is the best, which admits of their being made the least frequently and with the least possible effort and derangement. Now it is evident that the Bank, wishing to reinforce its supply of specie, can do so with infinitely increased facility, with the power of either drawing in gold or silver, than if it were confined to only one of the metals. The choice is already much, but the circumstance that silver is the practical standard of Europe, more than doubles the certainty and facility of procuring a supply. Bills on Paris, Amsterdam, Hamburg, &c., once taken, secure silver, in which they must be paid; but if gold alone will answer the purpose of the Bank, gold is a merchandise which you must go into the market and buy. It may be forestalled by others speculating upon the Bank's known necessities, it will always be enhanced in price by them, and the real increased difficulty acting in an increased ratio upon the apprehensions of a body of directors, whose characters are at stake, will lead to extravagant precautions, the tendency of which will always necessarily be to cramp and reduce the circulation, and to increase the existing distress. \* \* \* \*

That the efforts of the Bank for self-preservation in 1825 made great havoc among its dependents through the country, is well known; and I believe it is equally so, that while it was rummaging every corner of Europe for gold, which could alone answer its purpose, it was sending large sums of silver from its coffers, which were perfectly useless. The wants of the Bank, when they occur, interest speculators and jobbers of every description, and, independently of operations to derive a profit from the price of the gold wanted, there will be persons interested in thwarting the Bank and preventing its supply. A large capitalist might do this with effect, a combination of three or four might do it almost with certainty; and it should be here stated that the banks of France and of Amsterdam both make advances at a very low rate of interest on the deposit of gold; I believe they advance the value less 10 per cent. By this means an advance of 100,000*l*. would lock up 1,000,000*l*., and 1,000,000*l*. would lock up 10,000,000*l*. It will easily be seen what advantage this circumstance affords for the combinations I have mentioned. All this is avoided by adopting the same medium of circulation with the rest of the world; by that alone you can go to the common stock for that occasional aid which

no precaution can prevent your sometimes wanting, for it would be uselessly extravagant for any country to hold permanently that supply of the metals which occasional accidents may render necessary. To be safe, you should make yourselves one of the general community of the world, for this purpose; any attempt at peculiarity deprives you of the benefit to be derived in the hour of need from the uniformity of the thing needed and the consequent facility with which it can be procured. The greatest facility would be attained by being able to use the two metals. That they can be so used, the example of France abundantly proves. But if it be desired that only one should be taken, I should certainly prefer silver for the purpose of conformity with other countries, and thereby opening to ourselves a more certain supply when needed. It has been somewhere said, that the more precious metals suited the richest countries. I cannot understand the meaning of this. If this country has a more than ordinary artificial existence, an enormous debt, an artificial price of food, a very extensive internal and external trade, while the precious metals, which are to be the basis which is to carry and secure the circulation necessary for such a bloated mass, are not materially increased; if, above all, a large portion of this circulation must of necessity be paper; we should surely be the last people to narrow the base of all this, by refining upon a question more suited to philosophers than practical men, as to the mathematical precision of a metallic standard, and content ourselves with that which satisfies and answers the purpose of the rest of the world. The difficulties we make about the possible variations between gold and silver, of an almost imperceptible fraction, leads us to overlook the really important variations which occur in the value of money as composed of its two elements, paper and metal, every time the fetters of these restrictions lead the Bank to the forced operations which I have described. These operations in 1825, made probably a real fluctuation in the value of the pound sterling of 15 or 20 per cent., in many cases perhaps much more, a large portion of which may be fairly ascribed to our pedantic attachment to the supposed perfection of the standard of a single metal.

It is further to be recollected, that the larger portion of the silver of the new world passes through our hands, which would give us a great facility for that constant supply which, under the system I recommend, would enable us to maintain most effectually an equable value of the pound sterling; for as I have already said, the value of this compound of paper and specie is more affected as compared with commodities, by the sudden changes in the amount of paper abroad, than by any other circumstance.

Justice between debtors and creditors throughout the country is best done by keeping the value of money, as compared not to one single article, but to all, as nearly equal as possible. Now it is well known that any extent of paper we can find the means of keeping in circulation, must be still inferior to what has existed before our return to cash payments; further, we have enhanced the value of money in Europe by our demand of gold for that purpose. Every consideration, therefore, of justice, of policy, and of economy, recommend the encouragement of as much paper as can be suffered with entire safety, and consistently with the avoiding those shocks and convulsions which are the inevitable consequences of any material excess. I believe this to be the best attained

by building upon the base of the double standard, or if not of the double, of the single silver. With this, I believe, the bank will work with more ease and confidence, as will consequently all those subordinate establishments which partake sympathetically, but infallibly, of its ease and quiet as of its ailings and apprehensions; and if this be true, it is equally so that the bank, having an easier recourse to the means of reinforcement, could safely afford to work with a smaller ordinary deposit of specie. The power of easily acquiring is equivalent to possession, and in this manner by removing impediments to the means of supply, you make a real increase of wealth.

These reasons have invariably induced me to think that we made a great mistake at the last settlement of our currency, in departing from our old system of the double legal tender. The events in 1825 strongly confirm that opinion, and I feel confident of the entire unsafety of our present system. We should acquire much present ease and facility by the change, and give to our paper circulation that power of contraction and expansion within reasonable limits, which is essential to its healthy action. Without it, I feel a strong conviction that we should not get through two years of any expensive war, without a renewal of the catastrophe of 1797, and a people so heavily laden as we are, would not easily recover a second time from such a misfortune. \* \* \* \*

Would not the weight and inconvenience of a silver coinage either give a great preference to gold, and occasion an *agio* upon it, or introduce a greater circulation of paper?—I think it would. In speaking of the facility that a system of this sort would give the bank (and when we talk of facility to the bank, it is facility to the country,) it would be well for your lordships to consider the increased facility which has arisen to the exportation of coin, from the two circumstances, of the perfection of the present coin, and the repeal of the law which formerly prohibited its exportation; because, although the change may be beneficial (and on the whole I think it is, though one is perhaps sometimes a little disposed to lose sight of the practical working of measures in favour of general principles), I think we cannot well object to the perfection of the coin, and the law which permits the free circulation of it; but there is no doubt that the machine moving with less friction, the coin goes out of the country much more rapidly than it used to do in old times; a person then collecting the gold, with all the imperfection of it in weight and risk of counterfeits, was materially clogged in his operations; and if you add to this, that the fact of its being illegal to export the coin, prevented all persons of character doing it, the exportation was reduced to persons who would violate the law: the difference of easy actual exportation under one law and the other must be very considerable. \* \* \* \*

I think also the bank would derive considerable advantage, from silver being less easily moved and used than gold; that the facility with which persons can carry off thousands of pounds in small bags in the case of gold, and the difficulty of doing the same thing in the shape of silver, creates mechanically a security to the bank, and gives to the institution more time for preparation. \* \* \*

The consideration of the greater extent of our transactions and engagements, as compared with France, and especially of our greater use of paper in them, lead me to the conviction that we require the larger base of the two medals. Undoubtedly, for practical use and comfort, our pre-



sent currency is convenient; but I cannot divest myself of the apprehension that our present is a fair-weather system, which the first clouds will endanger. This was proved in 1825; for although that crisis may in some degree have been brought about by mistakes, if we legislate on the presumption of absolute wisdom presiding over the bank and the government of the day, we shall be frequently disappointed. I am convinced that we shall not easily see two campaigns of any expensive war, without another suspension of cash at the bank; and I am willing to put up with some inconvenience and apparent imperfections in our current coin, for the more essential security to property, which I believe to be connected with the essential permanency of our standard.

I fear I have wearied the attention of the House by making these large selections from Mr. Baring's evidence; but it was of importance to my motion that this House should not be in ignorance of the opinion of so high a practical authority. There is more of the evidence which is well worth attention, but I will not detain the House by going further into it. To my mind, the great principle of our legislation on this subject should be—and this view is corroborated by the authority I have just quoted,—to secure the certainty of ultimate convertibility, but to place obstacles in the way of a conspiracy of individuals, arising either out of panic or design, coming suddenly on the Bank with demands too large for the Bank to pay at once in gold. The legal-tender clause in the late Bank Charter Act was intended to prevent any internal drain upon the Bank, that is, through the country banks. No one now has a right to demand gold at a country bank for any sum above five guineas, being obliged to receive Bank of England notes in its place. This very effectually protects the Bank of England, and yet is perfectly satisfactory to the public; for, as Mr. Baring said, facility to the Bank of England is facility to the public. The right honourable baronet, the member for Tamworth, was very determined in his opposition to this legal-tender clause, saying, that it struck at the root of convertibility. Who does not now see that this was an extravagant and theoretical alarm? He also said that it would be impossible for it to be carried into operation without the re-introduction of one-pound notes. There again he was mistaken. At the same time, I shall not be sorry if it in any way tend to bring back the one-pound notes; but I wish them to be on a sure footing. Greater facility to the Bank of England in conducting its operations—the great and constant plenty of silver on the Continent of Europe, where it is the general currency—the less liability to export, and so standing in the way of those fluctuations in the quantity of the circulating medium which have such an effect upon prices, and are so ruinous to trade, and which are the bane of the present system; these seem to be the chief advantages of a silver over a gold standard.

Sir, there is, however, another reason why some change is necessary in the present system, and in the present standard. I ask, what is the state of the Bank of England at the present moment? Last Friday, exchequer bills were at par, having been at a premium of 47s. two or three months before—an occurrence which has not been known since 1825.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER (across the table).—That was an accident.

Mr. CAYLEY.—The right honourable gentleman says it was a mere accident. It was no accident: it was the result of a vicious system. Whenever

the Bank, it is well known, wishes to enlarge its circulation, it buys up exchequer bills, sending out its notes in their place. On the other hand, when it wishes suddenly to diminish its circulation, it sells exchequer bills. It has lately been selling them, because its gold has, for the last twelve months, been gradually reduced from 10,000,000*l.* to 6,000,000*l.* To sell exchequer bills is the last resort of the Bank, under such circumstances. It has been unable to recover its gold. At last it resorted to the sale of exchequer bills, in such quantities as to lower their price, and to cause them to sink to par. But it did not get the gold for them after all. Such is the absence of profit in any productive investment, that there are about 12,000,000*l.* of deposits in the Bank of England, lying there without interest, watching every opportunity in the market to make some profit. These depositors, finding exchequer bills falling in value, and coming down nearly to par, buy them as the most profitable speculation; but they pay the Bank not in gold, but by a check on itself, in consideration of the whole or some part of their own deposits with the Bank. Thus the deposits have lately diminished, without increasing the Bank's hoard of gold. All these difficulties would be lessened by a silver standard.

It is no theory of mine, that the Bank is in an unsafe position. What is the language even of its own officers? At the meeting of the Bank proprietors, in March of the present year, the Governor said—

"There was no doubt that the efforts which the Bank of England had been making during the last twelve months to prevent the drain of gold, by contracting its circulation, had been counteracted by the course pursued by other banks of issue. During the period to which he had referred, the circulation of those banks had increased in the same proportion as that of the Bank of England had decreased. If this state of things should continue—if something should not be done to remedy the evil, it certainly would throw a heavy responsibility upon the Bank of England, and render it almost impossible for them to go on under the existing regulations."

No wonder that the Bank is in a state of alarm. What is the amount of bullion in its coffers at this moment? Their returns say 6,000,000*l.*; others, apparently on good grounds, assert that it is nearer 5,000,000*l.*; when, according to their own principles, it ought to be 10,000,000*l.*: and honourable gentlemen talk of the security of immediate convertibility under the present system! Why, the depositors at the Bank alone could cause it to stop payment in three days. Let us compare the present amount of its bullion with a period even when there was no practical necessity for its having a store of it at all. The amount, according to the statement rendered by the Directors to the Bank Charter Committee, stood in several of those years as follows:—

AVERAGE AMOUNT OF COIN AND BULLION HELD BY THE BANK OF ENGLAND IN THE YEARS

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| 1798 ..... | £6,187,520 |
| 1799 ..... | 7,282,340  |
| 1800 ..... | 5,647,350  |
| 1801 ..... | 4,187,690  |
| 1802 ..... | 4,022,365  |
| 1803 ..... | 3,684,625  |
| 1804 ..... | 4,625,665  |
| 1805 ..... | 6,751,150  |

|            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| 1806 ..... | 6,101,105 |
| 1807 ..... | 6,313,595 |
| 1808 ..... | 6,935,705 |
| 1809 ..... | 4,070,590 |

12)66,112,700

5,509,391  $\frac{1}{2}$ ths.

What a dangerous state of things! not only for the Bank, but the country—a few days may produce all the evils of the panic of 1825. The mischief, I repeat, of the present system is, that it affords too great facilities for ill-disposed and mercenary individuals running to the Bank for gold; it does not in the least secure ultimate convertibility better than another system; it affords facility for the mischief, and no better security for the good. Now, silver, although equally as good a security for convertibility, would be an obstacle either to sudden or frequent runs upon the Bank, and thus prices and commerce would fluctuate less. I do not deny that part of my object is, that a larger Bank circulation could safely exist on a silver than on a gold standard; for higher as well as less fluctuating prices are my object. But one mode of inducing the Bank to issue more notes, would be a security against these runs upon them. It is related by the Chevalier de Johnstone in his History of the Rebellion of 1745, that in consequence of a rumour of the Pretender marching straight up to London, there was a run upon the Bank, which was staved off by their paying in sixpences. Before the sixpences were half gone, the Pretender was gone too; and nobody thought of coming upon the Bank any more for coin. If they had been compelled to pay rapidly in gold, instead of slowly in sixpences, there would have been a panic; and the danger to the country from the Rebellion would have been tenfold.

Again, during the three days of July—the Revolution of Paris in 1830—there was a great run on the Bank of France, it was staved off by paying in crown pieces; if payment could have been demanded in gold, the store would have been gone in one-fourth of the time. And all are agreed, that if the public are determined to press for payment in coin, and continue to press for it, no effort of any Bank or Government can resist it. Only conceive all the paper out circulating in this country—Bank of England notes, country bank notes, bills of exchange, checks, and all other species of paper, amounting at least to 200,000,000*l.* all demanding payment in gold; besides the national debt of 800,000,000*l.*, which is all by law convertible into gold;—only let us conceive even a hundredth part of this demanded in gold, on any sudden emergency! The Bank of England has 6,000,000*l.* of gold to answer this demand. The property of the parties issuing the paper might be all-sufficient if time were given, but in gold, each party, if all had an equal share, would get about three-pence in the pound of it. And yet, for a system like this, we sacrifice the best interests of the country. I remember the great objection of the right honourable baronet, the member for Tamworth, (Sir R. Peel,) to the legal tender clause in the last Bank Charter Act, was, that it stood in the way of immediate convertibility.

I have before shown how immediate convertibility of all the paper circulating, is by the confession of all parties possessing a knowledge on the subject, wholly impossible, if all are resolved on pressing for it. It is for this reason that I venture to differ in principle from the right honourable baronet. I maintain that having ultimate

convertibility always in view, that is the best medium of exchange, or standard, which throws obstacles in the way of any sudden caprice for a run upon the bank. Under these circumstances, I think it highly expedient that the public should be accustomed, in ordinary times, to deeming paper of a certain description secure of convertibility; because when an extreme crisis arrives, instead of looking for gold, which cannot be had, they will be satisfied with this paper, which is morally certain of convertibility, and so the panic will be staid in its progress. Silver would facilitate the operation of this principle—it would prevent many a crisis arriving, and would impede it in its progress when it did arrive. The United States have just fitted the price of their gold to that of their silver standard, at a sacrifice, I believe, of 6 or 7 per cent. without a murmur upon the subject. It is upon no abstract principle I ask, therefore, for this committee, as Lord Liverpool asked for and obtained the gold standard in 1816, without any one desiring it; but it is with a view to alleviate the misery which now exists, and has existed so long. My firm conviction is that we shall see no material rise at present in the price of agricultural produce, without some modification of the present standard of value, which alone has caused the great fall in all prices. We neither can, nor is it safe to go on as we are. It is our duty to tell the farmers whether we have the means of relieving them or not; and if after having exercised our best judgments upon the question, we find that there are no means whatever of producing effectual relief, then excited hopes would no longer be disappointed. But if on the contrary, we find that there is a mode of relieving the distress, it is not for us, but for the people themselves to judge whether they will have it adopted. The refusal of a committee will only look like a fear to have the subject investigated.

Sir, there is no safety in standing still; the whole of the home trade is affected by the ruined state of the agricultural interest, which is the foundation of the whole. My opinion is, that the numbers connected directly and indirectly with the agricultural interest is very much underrated, and purposely underrated, in order to give undue importance to the export trade. I contended last year that 20,000,000 out of 25,000,000 of the people of these islands are directly interested in the well-being of agriculture, and in its relief from its present depressed state, in consequence of the fall in prices. I did it on these grounds, taken from the population returns of England, Scotland, and Wales:—

|                                        |           |
|----------------------------------------|-----------|
| Agricultural occupiers .....           | 1,500,000 |
| Agricultural labourers .....           | 4,800,000 |
| Mining interest .....                  | 600,000   |
|                                        | <hr/>     |
|                                        | 6,900,000 |
| Manufacturers.....                     | 2,400,000 |
|                                        | <hr/>     |
| Millers, bakers, and butchers .....    | 900,000   |
| Artificers, builders, &c .....         | 650,000   |
| Tailors, shoemakers, and hatters ..... | 1,080,000 |
| Shopkeepers.....                       | 2,100,000 |
| Clerical, legal, and medical.....      | 450,000   |
| Disabled paupers.....                  | 110,000   |
| Proprietors, annuitants * .....        | 1,116,398 |
|                                        | <hr/>     |
|                                        | 6,406,398 |

\* See Mirror of Parliament, ses. 1834, Vol. I. p. 848.



Now, taking the manufacturers at 2,400,000 in round numbers, as one-third of the 6,900,000 agriculturists and miners, I apportion the 6,406,398 individuals last mentioned as interested in, or employed, two-thirds by the agriculturists, and one-third by manufacturers. This will add 4,077,000 to the agriculturists, and 2,316,000 to the manufacturers; making 10,977,000 agriculturists, and 4,716,000 manufacturers. But of this number of manufacturers, half, at least, are employed (it is generally said four-fifths) by the agricultural body and its dependencies; this will deduct 2,358,000 from the aggregate manufacturing interest, and leave only 2,358,000 as the purely, or rather export manufacturing body, whilst it makes the agricultural body and its dependencies amount to 13,335,000. But, here, Ireland is left out of the question, which may be called a strictly agricultural country—Ireland, whose very existence almost depends on supplying us with corn. Add 8,000,000, the population of Ireland, to the above 13,335,000, you have a total of 21,335,000 as the real agricultural interest of Great Britain and Ireland, compared with not more than 3,000,000 at the outside, of the export trade. And the whole of this body of 21,000,000 is interested in a remunerating price for agricultural produce: and yet we hear nothing but “monopoly,” when anything is said of protection to agriculture. If it be a monopoly, the monopolists are 21,000,000 out of 24,000,000; and it will be difficult for the minority to persuade them out of the monopoly. The 3,000,000, whom I have stated to be the strictly export manufacturing body, have undoubtedly an interest in exchanging their produce for foreign corn, and they have an interest separate from the great body of the community, which consists of upwards of 20,000,000, and whose interests are strictly identified, as they supply each other with the necessities, comforts, and luxuries of life. Of this great body, British agriculture is the basis; and thus is the whole bound up with remunerating prices to our agricultural produce; and yet the honourable member for Middlesex asserts that this is essentially a manufacturing country,—by which he means that everything is to be conceded to the export trade. I, on the contrary, on grounds which I think indisputable, contend that its essential basis is agriculture, and that the encouragement of agriculture should be our first consideration, being the source of employment, as it is, to 20,000,000 of our population.

These are the numbers that are affected by our present ruinous policy; and can it be safe to stand thus doggedly out against them and their prosperity? In my heart, I believe that the present unsettled temper of the minds of the middle and working classes, springs from nothing so much as from their poverty and distress. To them, the institutions of their country are worth nothing, but as they produce comfort and competence; when they fail to obtain these, they become—and reasonably become—dissatisfied with their institutions,—first with those that really require reform, next with those that cannot be improved. But we have been governed by men who have only export theories, or who consult only those interested either in the export trade, or for increasing more and more, the value of money. I have before shewn, that the export trade is no test, and that it has been proved, on three separate occasions, to be no test of the prosperity of the home-trade, and especially of the agricultural interest. I implore the country gentlemen, in this house, to protest against the export trade being made the test

of their well-doing; at least, if they do not wish to see the transfer of their estates into the hands of the monied interest finally consummated.

Such, then, is the condition of the majority in this country. The farmer bankrupt; the landlords in the way to be expropriated; many of them gone; the labourer thrown out of employment; the shopkeepers without custom. These parties cry aloud for relief; but if they ask for it in the only mode in which it can come to them, they are taunted with a breach of public faith. Sir, they seek only public justice. They have been cruelly dealt with; publicly robbed; their estates and their labour confiscated. They appear at the bar of this house; at the bar of a reformed House of Commons, to have that justice conceded to them: they ask not for full redress, but for some palliation merely of their misery. And I trust they ask not in vain from a house affecting not merely to represent the opinions, but a house purporting to be resolute in its determination to remove the grievances of its constituents,—grievances now of twenty years' standing,—grievances which have no parallel to them in a free country, in the annals of history,—grievances which, in point of cruelty and oppression, throw those of Nero and Caligula altogether into the shade. These parties now demand redress at your hands: you may refuse it; but let us not delude ourselves with the idea that they will cease in their efforts to obtain it. Never till lately have they been aroused to the conviction of what the real cause of their misery was: the opinions which they held before of the cause were founded in error. As the errors were successively discovered, they ceased to press for relief in those ways. Already have the farmers of Cambridgeshire, Kent, Suffolk, Sussex, Warwickshire, Leicestershire, Yorkshire, and others, declared their conviction that the change in the currency is at the bottom of their distress; and, in proportion as they are right, will they gather strength to back their opinion, until he will be not merely a bold Minister, not merely a powerful one, but in the last degree short-sighted and insane who shall persist in saying nay to their just demands. You may tell me you cannot relieve the distress: I contend that you can; and I ask to have the truth of my assertion disproved before a select committee; if you can relieve, and won't, it is fit the country should know it; if you cannot relieve, as I said before, you will not only free the distressed from suspense, but prove that you have done your utmost for them. But it is in our power to relieve the distress. Mr. Pitt was anticipating some great reductions in the returns of industry, when he said—

At such a crisis, Parliament, if it be not then sitting, ought to be called together; and if it cannot relieve you, its powers are at an end. Tell me not (continued Mr. Pitt) that Parliament cannot protect—it is omnipotent to protect.

Sir, in seeking this mode of relief for the agricultural interest, I seek it at the expense of none of the other productive interests; on the contrary, they would all receive a stimulus and encouragement. If I look back to the years 1821-2, I find manufactures, and commerce, and labour generally languishing under the depression of agriculture. I find all of them springing up invigorated and refreshed by the increased currency of 1833-4-5. All was then prosperity; there was no dissentient voice. I propose to introduce the same results by different means,—means that shall secure us from the fatal effects of the panic of 1825. That panic was foreseen by all who understood

the subject of currency, and was the consequence only of ignorant legislation. I know I shall be taunted with the breach of "national faith." Sir, I seek no breach of national faith; faith has been broken with the public, and I seek to palliate the effects of that injustice. It will be said, the fixed annuitant will suffer from a rise of prices. From the rise of prices which I am aiming at, he will have no reason to complain. Wholesale prices have fallen one-half; it is those which I wish to raise, for these employ labour, and wages would rise in proportion to the fulness of employment; on the contrary, retail prices have only fallen one-fourth, so that the rise in articles of consumption would not be near in proportion to that in articles of production; and it is the good of producers generally which I am seeking. In this way the fixed annuitant will suffer far less than the producer will gain; for his income is spent on retail articles. Besides, whatever change takes place in prices, only affects the income of his fixed annuity.

Now, under any of the changes which I am about to state, the annuitant would have had no reasonable ground of complaint. Parliament passed a corn-law in 1815, making 80s the standard price for wheat: it is true it neglected to secure this price to the agriculturist, or rather took effectual means to prevent it, by the change in the currency; but if parliament had substantially secured 80s for the quarter of wheat, whether by a change of currency, or by any other means, the annuitant would have had no just cause for complaint; for the prices before 1819 were higher than 80s, so that he first received his annuity under the expectation of prices equivalent to at least 80s for wheat. Again, in 1822, the parliamentary basis of the wheat price was made 70s per quarter. Any act of parliament that had really and effectually secured that price to the farmer, would have committed no injury on the annuitant, because he had no reason to expect a less price. Then, in 1828, 64s was made the parliamentary basis of the wheat price: for three or four years subsequent to that period, deficient harvests created a price equal to 64s, and it is only the last two or three years that the annuitant has begun to expect a lower rate of price than 64s for wheat. Any change, therefore, now, which affected that price, would commit no real injury upon any party; while to the whole body of producers it would be an incalculable good, and would prevent the sweeping away from their homesteads full half the farmers of the country, who are now living on them merely by sufferance.

In conclusion, the mere monied interest, although so sanguine in its gain from the continuance of the present system, would not lose, because the rate of interest, driven down by the absence of profit in all productive investments, to 2½ and 3 per cent., would, by the change proposed, rise to 4½ and 5 per cent. the moment there was a prospect of profit in agriculture and the home trade. I have proposed the experiment of a silver standard in the hope of its producing these beneficial effects. Some change is absolutely necessary, for the country cannot go on as it is; nor ought we to allow it; for I contend with Mr. Burke, "that the foremost consideration of a government is the property of the citizen;—the first creditor of the State is the plough." Sir, I beg to thank the house for its kind and patient attention, and to move,—“That a select committee be appointed to inquire if there be not effectual means within the reach of parliament to afford

substantial relief to the agriculture of the united kingdom, and especially to recommend to its attention the subject of a silver, or a conjoined standard of silver and gold.”

(IN REPLY.)

Mr. CAYLEY.—Sir, I know that, according to the strict rules of the house, I have not—as my motion is, in fact, an amendment on going into a committee of supply—the right of reply; I trust, however, to the indulgence of the house, to allow me to say a few words in explanation. I have been taxed with a desire to injure the working-class by a rise of prices. Sir, I repel the charge with indignation. If there be a class in the community to whom I wish well—for whose benefit I would labour day and night—and whom I seek more than another to benefit by the measures I propose—it is the working-class. What is the value of low prices to that class, without employment, and without wages? I challenge inquiry into their condition now, and when prices were higher.

The SPEAKER.—I must remind the honourable member that he is exceeding the limits of an explanation.

Mr. CAYLEY.—Then, Sir, since I am not allowed to say more—although there are many points to which I should have wished to address myself—I will only add, in two words—the right honourable gentlemen who have spoken against the motion have entirely misapprehended or perverted its object. Whatever my opinion of the necessities of the case may be, my motion does not ask for the depreciation of the standard of value; and whatever their opinion may be of the results of the measure I mean to propose to the labouring classes, my firm conviction is—that that class, and their employers, would be equally benefited by it.

## THE CLEVER CLOWN.

BY JAMES BRUTON.

(From the New Monthly Belle Assemblée.)

Dang it! I be a clever lad,  
When I to talk begin;  
My seriousness makes neighbours grave,  
My joking makes 'em grin.

Both grave and gay I am by turns,  
Now dull, and now a jolly man;  
For fun a second Momus I,  
In grave discourse a Solemn 'un.

My hard words makes the yokels stare,  
For I be such a talker;  
They think I read the Diction'ry,  
But that to me is—Walker!

I spokifies on politics,  
And all the Tory gang,  
On Sunday morn, and Barber, says  
I makes a fine orang! (harangue.)

A heifer stuck fast in a gate,  
Once made the bumpkins stare;  
Says I from that a science learn,  
You see a cow sticks there!

If you could hear me talk, you'd say  
I was indeed a dab;  
I am a gifted creature, for  
I'm gifted with—the gab!



## THE AGRICULTURAL INTEREST.

I beg leave to submit to the Growers of British Corn the following as a copy of a Petition to Parliament, which may be curtailed, enlarged, or altered, as may be found best to answer the purpose.

The importance of such a Petition being prepared and signed by every grower of Corn in Great Britain, and that with as little delay as possible, needs no comment, nor any apology for the author's introduction of the same: and he begs it may have all publicity possible.

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled: the Humble Petition of—

Sheweth,

That your petitioners view, with considerable anxiety and alarm, the attempts that are making through the empire to depreciate the agricultural interests of the country, as well as the fallacious theories of political economists who would expose the home grower to the competition of the untaxed foreigner, and who are endeavouring to obtain a repeal of such protecting duties which may now secure the agriculturists against the importation of foreign corn. In advocating the utility, and even absolute necessity, of protecting duties, your petitioners need not point out to your honourable house the various trades which, as well as agriculturists, are upheld by such protection, and that even-handed justice demands, at least, as much protection for those who till the soil, as for those who are engaged in trades and manufactures.

Your Petitioners respectfully entreat your Honourable House to pause before you permit a fixed duty to be laid upon foreign corn, seriously expressing their belief that even a fixed duty of 20s per quarter would scarcely protect the British farmer: that the present graduated scale of duties was intended as a benefit to your petitioners, which they are firmly persuaded has been alone destroyed by the method of taking the averages,

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray your Honourable House that the present graduated scale of duties may continue, but that the averages be taken from the returns of the grower; and the merchant, corn-factor, miller, &c., should be obliged to make a return of such corn only as they purchase of the grower.

Your petitioners implore your honourable house to take these suggestions into your serious consideration, as the only means, they conceive, of preventing them from being removed from the station they are entitled to hold, and in which it once was the wise policy of the nation to endeavour to sustain them.

In addition to the above, we, the undersigned, beg to remark, that should the present favourable crops of wheat be secured in fine condition, that lower prices are certain, and if the same take place, they will unavoidably add total ruin to the present unprecedented low prices of wheat, which are far below a remunerating one to the British grower of corn.

We, therefore, take the liberty to recommend to your honourable house, that a loan of money be granted at 4 per cent, and proper persons appointed to lay out the same in wheat, the growth of the United Kingdom, and to be warehoused as a National Dépôt, under lock, in such towns as are best calculated to purchase and store the same, and whenever the average price of wheat of our growth shall be gazetted at 56s per qr., the wheat in dépôt allowed to come out of ware-

house to the consumers of wheat and flour only, at best price, adding to the same interest of money and expences in warehouse.

If the above scheme is adopted, it will not only secure to all mechanics and labouring classes good and cheap bread, but in case our future harvests are secured in bad condition, or the crops otherwise injured or deficient in quantity or quality, would enable us to be independent of a foreign supply of wheat.

It is also calculated, if the above or similar measures were adopted, they would prevent prices of wheat going lower, or in case of an advance beyond (what is only considered a remunerating price to the grower) 56s per qr; or admitting foreign wheat at a duty less than 30s 8d per qr; and what is not the least consideration, in case of such advance being realized to the cultivator, as above stated, it would be laid out by him in different articles of apparel, &c. produced by our own manufacturing districts, which would not only benefit the latter, but the traders in the same to a certain extent.

In conclusion, it is suggested that a printed petition should be prepared, and given to the leading agriculturists in every town, village, and hamlet throughout the United Kingdom, and by him presented to all growers of corn, labourers, and others connected with the cultivation of the British soil in his district, for their signatures, and when obtained to be forwarded to the members of parliament for the county, and by them laid before the House of Commons this session; lastly, we may venture to add, the strength of a country is its population, and it is numbers alone which have attention, and that in preference to the monied interest of the country.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

J. S.

Weaverthorp, Yorkshire Wolds, August 1, 1835.

## ON IRRIGATION.

(FROM SINCLAIR.)

OF THE SOIL AND SUBSOIL.—Irrigation is not restricted to any particular description of soil. Land naturally wet, may be greatly improved by it, when accompanied by drainage; and it is equally beneficial to that which is dry.

Rich looms produce the largest crops, even though the waters be not of the first quality. Peat-bogs, when properly drained, will likewise yield good crops.\* Irrigating adhesive clays is expensive, and the beneficial effects from it do not soon appear; but it is evident from a meadow near longleat, that even this sort of land may, by good management, be thus rendered more fertile: and it is well known, that some of the best meadows in Gloucestershire, and at Woburn, are upon a clayey substratum.

Barren slopes may be advantageously improved under the catch-work system; and in this way, much land, at present covered with heath, furze, or broom, may be rendered productive of hay, or valuable grasses. The most suitable soils however, are those of a sandy or gravelly nature; more especially when they can be irrigated by muddy streams, the sediment of which corrects their excessive openness.

\* Water is of great benefit to peat-bogs, or mossy grounds, by washing away improper ingredients, as the sulphate of alumina, by which that description of soil is rendered unfertile. In this way peat bogs may be enabled to produce succulent and nutritive grasses, and to rival the best natural meadows.

Indeed by means of the warm and rich waters, of a low, fertile, and populous district, impregnated with mud, and containing animal and vegetable manures, almost any soils may be converted into a rich meadow.

The bottom or subsoil of a water-meadow, is of more consequence than even the quality or depth of the soil. A loose gravel, or bed of broken flint, with little or no intermixture of earth, where that can be obtained, is the most desirable subsoil. With such a bottom, in seasons when water is abundant, a soil not six inches in depth, is quite sufficient to produce large crops.

**EFFECT OF CLIMATE.**—The process of irrigation, seems to be attended with much more beneficial effects, in warm than in cold climates. The difference of the seasons between Gloucestershire, in England, and Aberdeenshire, in Scotland, produces very important consequences. The latter is usually about five weeks more backward than the former: hence, it is hardly possible, to get such early crops of spring grass, in the districts of Scotland, as are easily to be obtained in England: and thus one of the principal objects of irrigation, (feeding ewes and lambs in spring), is thought to be unattainable. Nor will the application of water produce two, much less three crops of hay in Scotland, as it does in North America. The advantages of water meadows, however, are important, independent of spring feed; more especially when the catch work system can be adopted, as the expense of that process is inconsiderable.

**THE EXPENSE.**—This varies according to the nature of the work. Where the catch-work system is practicable, in favourable situations, the farming may be done as low as 10s per acre. This fact is, in many cases, decisively in favour of this natural and simple mode, which requires also much less water, and often answers fully as well as flat flooding.

The expense of *bed work*, as it is called, is however considerable. If the ground to be flooded, be smooth on its surface, or in regular ridges, and if the water can easily be brought to the meadow, with a temporary weir, supposing the extent to be almost 20 acres, it may be done at from 5*l* to 10*l* per acre; but if the land be of large extent, with an irregular surface if a large conductor, and a proper weir shall be required, with hatches both in it and also in the feeders, and if the aid of a professional person, to lay out and oversee the work, be necessary, (which is generally the case), the expense will vary from 10*l* to 20*l* per acre. Nay, in Wiltshire, where they are anxious to have their meadows formed in the most perfect manner, with that regularity which the nice adjustment of water demand, the expense per acre has amounted to forty pounds.\*

\* Smith's observations on Irrigation, p. 56.—Various accounts were transmitted to the board of Agriculture, of the expense of making water-meadows in different districts. The Rev. Mr. Clough, near Denbigh, in North Wales, expended 868*l* in forming about 50 acres into a water meadow; which is nearly at the rate of 30*l* per acre. Comm. vol. i. p. 263.—Mr. Eyres, of Longford Hall, in Norfolk, improved in the same manner 23 acres, at the expense of about sixteen guineas per acre, besides some extra charges. Ditto, vol. vi. p. 329.—Mr. Wilkinson, of Potterton Lodge, near Weatherby, in Yorkshire, converted 13 acres into water meadow for about 12*l* 12s per acre. Ditto vol. vi. p. 48.—And two spirited farmers of Norfolk (Mr. Beck of West Lexham, and Mr. Purdy of Castle Acre.) have tried irrigation with great success, at an expense of 30*l* per acre. Ditto vol. ii. p. 108, and 112.

**THE PROFIT.**—The profit resulting from this operation, when properly conducted, is always considerable. Mr. Wilkinson proves, by authentic documents, that all the out-goings, both capital and interest, were refunded within two years, besides a very considerable permanent increase in the value of the land. Mr. Eyres derived great advantage from his meadow, even the first season, by pasturing on it sheep, cattle, and even cart-horses. Mr. Clough found that land, which before irrigation was applied to it, was not worth more than six shillings per acre, was thereby increased in value to 2*l* 15s per acre, even to a farmer; and if let to the inhabitants of a market-town in the neighbourhood, would fetch 3*l* 10s if not more.

The following is the statement of profit from the formation of an irrigated meadow, on the estate of the late Mr. Ferguson of Pitfour, in Scotland, who carried on that species of improvement with much energy and success.

|                                                                                                                 |   |    |      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----|------|
| 1. Interest, at 7½ per cent, on the original expense of making, 10 <i>l</i> on an average per Scotch acre ..... | £ | s. | d.   |
| 2. The old rent of the land .....                                                                               | 0 | 15 | 0    |
| 3. The annual expense .....                                                                                     | 0 | 10 | 0    |
|                                                                                                                 | £ | 1  | 13 0 |

The annual value being raised to 4*l* per acre, hence it is calculated, that there is a clear annual profit of 2*l* 7s per acre.

A very distinct account of the expense and profit of a water-meadow, is given in the Hampshire Report. The produce is stated at 9*l* 3s 4d per annum, without including the advantage of folding the sheep from the meadow, on tillage or other uplands, which is estimated to be worth 16s 8d more, or in all 10*l*.—The expenses, including the interest of the money expended in forming the meadow, amount, to 5*l* 18 6d, leaving a balance of 4*l* 1s 6d in favour of the meadow.

It is, however, contended, that neither the grass nor the hay, produced by irrigation, contains those feeding or fattening qualities which are found in upland herbage. The stock will "hold their own," or keep to the state in which they were, when put to such food; they will increase in size, but not in condition. Others will not admit to its full extent, the truth of the doctrine; and besides maintain, that the benefits resulting from irrigation, are sufficiently ample, to support the practice, even though its produce may not possess a feeding or grazing quality. Nor is the pecuniary profit arising from irrigation, so material, as those indirect or secondary advantages resulting from the system, which shall afterwards be detailed.

**THE GRASSES BEST ADAPTED FOR WATER-MEADOWS.**—Where the catch-work system is adopted, the surface of the meadow is rarely much broken; the natural grasses in the ground are trusted to, and it is seldom necessary to procure any seeds, except for bare or vacant spots. When ridges, however, are formed by the spade or the plough, they are generally destitute of grass when first laid down. It is necessary, therefore, to sow the seeds of such plants as are best calculated to produce valuable and abundant crops. The most useful are, 1. Perennial red clover, cow, or marl grass, (*trifolium medium*); 2. The rough-stalked meadow grass, (*poa trivialis*); and 3. The crested dog's tail, (*cynosurus cristatus*)—Timothy, (*phleum pratense*), is greatly preferred for water-meadows in America; and in boggy lands, fiorin, (*agrostis stolonifera*), is found peculiarly productive in that species of soil. Where the object is



pasture, rather than hay, white clover, rye grass, and the meadow, foxtail ought not to be omitted. The soil of itself, when watered, will produce grasses the most congenial to the state of the land, and the degree of moisture applied to it; but a little manure, at the commencement of irrigation, by beds, (unless the turf has been pared, and preserved to be put upon the surface), is thought by some advisable. In short the superior grasses in general will thrive under irrigation.

**THE STOCK TO BE FED ON WATER MEADOWS.**—The advantage which a sheep farmer derives, when the climate will admit of it, by feeding his ewes and lambs in spring,\* on a watered meadow, can hardly be sufficiently estimated.† At that pinching period of the year, food is always scarce; and lambs, once checked in their growth, cannot afterwards be fattened. There is an interregnum, (if the expression may be used), between the vegetation of one year, and that of another, which is best supplied by an early crop of grass. Where this expedient is not resorted to, or where Swedish turnips, cole, or savoys (kail), are not extensively cultivated, the farmer may have no succulent food to give his flocks, and will of course suffer severely. During spring Bakewell recommends, that no heavier stock than sheep or calves should be admitted on the meadow. Much, however, depends upon the quality of the soil and subsoil, for where either consists of gravel, a farmer can feed his milch-cows during the spring, and after making a considerable quantity of cheese, may obtain three tons of hay per acre. In Wiltshire, after a crop of hay is taken, it is not usual to attempt a second, unless hay is very scarce; for the grass being of a soft nature, it takes so much time to dry, that it can seldom be made into hay: and it is of much greater value when fed with dairy cows, which may remain on the meadows, till the floodier begins to prepare for the winter watering. In autumn, fattening beasts, and even cart-horses, have been put on a water meadow.

**ON WATER MEADOW HAY.**—As the grass of water meadows is frequently large and coarse in its nature, it is advisable to cut it young and then, if it be well made, the hay is of a nourishing and milky quality, either for ewes or dairy cows. It has likewise been given to horses, and when properly made they thrive upon it.

It is however, proper to observe, that from the great succulence of the herbage, the making of water-meadow hay, requires a very considerable degree of attention; and that when the grass from which it is made, has been over watered, or rendered impure by scum or mud; or when the hay has been ill made in the meadow, or injured in the stalks, it will be hurtful to any stock to which it is given: but that altogether originates from mismanagement, and it has been found by experience, that cows if they do not fatten so well, yet give much more milk from hay produced by irrigation, if cut early, and having much

more softness and succulency, than any hay produced from grass lands, that have not been irrigated.

**OBJECTIONS URGED AGAINST IRRIGATION.**—Some have asserted, that water-meadows render a country unhealthy, by making the water stagnant; but no opinion can be more erroneous. In fact where meadows are irrigated, the water must constantly be passing over the surface, with a brisk current, and always kept in motion, to be of any service. Many of the best meadows also, in their original state, were unwholesome morasses, the draining of which has essentially contributed to the salubrity of the air.

Others think, that though the produce may be increased, it becomes in a few years of so coarse a nature, being mixed with rushes and coarse plants, that cattle frequently refuse to eat it, and that the appearance of cattle so fed proclaims, that it is far from being of a nutritious quality, but this objection is never applicable to meadows skillfully made, and properly managed; and whenever the grasses are coarse they should be cut earlier, if intended for hay. The growth of rushes and water plants is a proof, that the meadow lies too flat, and is ill managed.

**ADVANTAGES OF IRRIGATION.**—Where the situation is favourable, the following benefits result from the practice of irrigation. 1. With the exception of warping, it is by far the easiest, cheapest, and most certain mode of improving poor land, especially if it be of a dry and gravelly nature. 2. Land, when once improved by irrigation, is put in a state of perpetual fertility, without any occasion for manure, or trouble of weeding,\* or any other material expense. 3. It becomes so productive, as to yield the largest bulk of hay, besides abundance of the very best support for ewes and lambs in the spring, and for cows and other cattle in the autumn of every year. 4. In favourable situations, it produces very early grass in the spring, which is doubly valuable; and 5. Not only is the land thus rendered fertile, without having any occasion for manure, but it produces food for animals, which is converted into manure to be used on other lands, thus arguing in a compound proportion, that great source of fertility.†

Were these advantages more generally known, or more fully appreciated, a large proportion of the kingdom might become like south Cerney, in Gloucestershire, where every spring, or rivulet, however insignificant, is made subservient to the purpose of irrigation, fertilizing, in proportion to its size, either a small quantity, or a large tract of land.‡

**INHABITANT TREE.**—Along the base of these mountains is a large tree containing seventeen conical huts. They are used as dormitories, being beyond the reach of the lions, which since the incursion of

\* The large water-dock is the weed that principally infests water-meadows. It ought to be carefully eradicated.—Smith's Observations, p. 40.

† In Davis's Wiltshire, it is calculated that 2000 acres of water-meadow, will on a moderate estimate produce in four or five years, 10,000 tons of manure, and will keep in permanent fertility 400 acres per annum of arable land.

‡ Gloucestershire Report, p. 280.—Watering of land, is also of use by destroying vermin in the soil. Bakewell practised this with success in lands under tillage. Red worms were thus destroyed as well as snails and grey-slugs, though they in general like moisture, and injure crops most in damp weather, yet do not agree with wetness.

\* It is generally supposed, that sheep would be rotted, by pasturing on watered meadows at any time, except in the spring; but in Derbyshire, there are several well-authenticated instances to the contrary.—Report vol. ii. p. 472 and 475. Much probably depends upon the slope, but more on the soil or water being calcareous. It is said that in Ireland, sheep and lambs are rotted on water-meadows even in spring, but that is not the case in England.

† Half an acre of water-meadow will support 1000 sheep per day in spring.—Smith's Observations, p. 111.—Wiltshire Report p. 127.

the Mantatees, when so many thousands of persons were massacred, have become very numerous in the neighbourhood and destructive to human life. The branches of these trees are supported by forked sticks or poles, and there are three tiers or platforms on which the huts are constructed. The lowest is nine feet from the ground, and holds ten huts; the second about eight feet high, and the upper story, if it may be so called, contains four. The ascent to these is made by notches cut in the supporting poles, and the huts are built with twigs, thatched with straw, and will contain two persons conveniently.—*Stedman's Wanderings in South Africa.*

## A CASE OF RABIES IN THE HORSE.

BY PROFESSOR DUPUY.

(From the Veterinarian.)

A horse, fourteen years old, that had been bitten by a dog supposed to be rabid, was observed not to feed so well as he was accustomed to do; and when, in the evening, he was placed in the stable, he attempted to bite the horses that were nearest to him.

In the morning he showed the same disposition—rolled himself on his litter, and uttered the most frightful moans. A veterinary surgeon was sent for, who gave him a drink composed of two ounces of aloes, and some mucilaginous injections, thinking that he laboured under stomach staggers.

On the following day all these symptoms were aggravated, and the veterinary attendant thought that he was affected with phrensy rather than indigestion; and, placing him in another stable, he practiced two copious bleedings during the day, and inserted two setons in the chest, and the same number in the thighs.

The violence of the symptoms rapidly increased—the animal bit himself every moment, tore the setons from his chest, and rolled about, and rushed at every one whom he saw. At length he broke his halter, and was loose in the stable, from which every one hastily escaped.

On the fourth day he continued to eat and drink, and even with avidity. His groom, entering the stable, offered him water; he drank nearly two pailsful, and made no attempt to bite him. It was not, however, thought prudent for any one to go near him afterwards, and his food was thrown to him through an opening over the door, and a bucket was likewise suspended from the door, and supplied with water by means of a copper tube. As soon as he heard the water falling into the pail, he fell into violent convulsions, seized the tube, and crushed it to pieces.

On the fifth day he was covered with sweat, his eyes glared, he continually shook his head, furiously bit the right side of his chest, plunged about, and sighed deeply every moment. He foamed a little at the mouth: when the water in his bucket was agitated, he was seized with violent convulsions. He would occasionally approach the bucket as if he wished to drink, and then, after agitating the water for some instants, he would fall on his litter, uttering a hoarse cry; but he would rise again almost immediately. These symptoms were dreadfully increased if water was thrown upon his head, and he would endeavour to seize it as it fell. This continued until the next day with little change, when he died in violent convulsions.

On examining him after death the muscles were found to be discoloured and softened; they were easily torn, and much black coagulated blood was

found in the intermuscular cellular texture. The subcutaneous cellular tissue was in many points infiltrated by a blood-coloured serosity resembling jelly, which was particularly evident about the larynx. This was also seen in the laminous tissue along the dorso-lumbar portion of the spine; and it seemed to unite together the granules of the parotid gland, which were gorged with black blood.

The muscular coat of the esophagus, of an orange-red colour, was easily torn; the substance of the heart was also discoloured and softened, and its exterior surface presented several large black ecchymoses.

The venæ cavæ, the right auricle and ventricle, and the pulmonary artery and its divisions, were also filled with black coagulated blood. The pulmonary veins, the left auricle and ventricle, and the large arterial vessels, contained blood of a much lighter colour than in its natural state; large ecchymoses were found on the lining membrane, and the pericardium contained three pounds of red serosity.

The tissue of the salivary and parotid glands was exceedingly red, as were also the surrounding parts. The liver was enlarged, gorged with black blood, and easily torn. The membrane lining the septum of the nose, the nasal cavities, the turbinated bones, and the guttural pouches, was thickened and infiltrated. That of the larynx, trachea, and bronchi, was of a violet hue, and all these passages were filled with mucus spume.

The cineritious portion of the brain and spinal marrow was redder than in its natural state, and the medullary substance presented numerous little red spots. The mesian and lateral sinuses of the dura mater were filled with black blood.

The membranes of the brain and the plexus choroides were very red, and the fringed or floating substance of the concretion was of a stony consistence.

The spinal marrow was softened at various parts, and particularly from the fifth cervical vertebra to the third dorsal. At the lumbar region it was fluid, or resembled a broken-down caseous matter. There was also a yellow infiltration about the roots of the nerves, and between the duplicature of the membranes which invested the spinal marrow.—*Journal Theor., Avril, 1835.*

**CAFFRE MODE OF KILLING CATTLE.**—The practice employed in killing their cattle is as barbarous as their method of cooking is revolting. The ox being thrown upon its back, and secured with thongs, an incision is made through the integument below the sternum; the hand is then introduced and the vital parts of the agonized beast are wrenched asunder with a brutal violence most distressing to witness. Such is often the multitude, both canine and human, assembled at these scenes of slaughter, that instead of any provision being laid by for future wants, every morsel disappears within a few hours after the animal expires, many a steak being cut from its flesh with the assagun before life has become extinct.—*Steedman's Wanderings in South Africa.*

An agriculturist in Picardy has invented a species of plough, with which he is enabled to grub up trees. This operation is a saving of more than 50 per cent, besides the rapidity with which the work is effected. The labourers who follow the plough, having only to attend to the cutting of the side roots which hold in the earth at the two extremities, and with this precaution, the plough is never broken.



## AN ACCOUNT OF THE VETERINARY COLLEGE, FROM ITS INSTITUTION IN 1751.

The following account of the foundation of this institution will be highly interesting, not only to those who have studied at the college, but also to every one who desires the promotion of the science.—

The ardour for improving arts and perfecting science in this country, has given rise to many excellent institutions, by means of which, the interests of mankind at large have been eminently served, and the sphere of human knowledge almost incredibly extended.

In adverting to these establishments, we may discern the efficacy of opulence and patriotism united for the public good; and we may, at the same time, form a very just ground of confidence, that the same faculties will still continue to be exerted for the support of other plans, tending to promote the same beneficial end.

Whatever may have been done to increase the public stock of knowledge in other departments, the veterinary science hath been hitherto little cultivated in this country; nevertheless if its claims to public favour were fully stated, there could be no doubt but that our national spirit and benevolence would patronise it equally with other branches of natural knowledge.

To define this science will be sufficient to recommend it in the most effectual manner.

The veterinary science, then, is the art of preserving the health of cattle, and particularly of horses, and of curing their diseases; and comprehends a full and just knowledge of those several animals; of their anatomy, physiology and pathology; a knowledge of the general laws of the animal economy, and of the particular ones of each distinct species; a knowledge of the animal structure and its relation to exterior matter, alimentary, medicinal, and noxious.

Many able and ingenious persons, within these kingdoms, have appeared to concur in the utility of this science, and wishes have been expressed that means were provided for the cultivation of veterinary knowledge; which, for want of such means, hath remained unimproved; but notwithstanding the frequent complaints, which are justified by the losses sustained, the treatment of our cattle, of so much importance to the prosperity of our country, hath been universally restricted to those who are most remarkably unqualified to undertake the charge. That the shoer of a horse should, by virtue of his trade, become equal to a task which, in order to its being perfectly performed, would require the skill of a Harvey and a Boerhaave, appears a paradox which could have gained credit only in an age of general ignorance and barbarism; when indeed medicine had to encounter enemies, not much less formidable than those which have obstructed the advancement of the veterinary art. It does however, nowhere appear, that absurdity ever rose to such a height as to consider the care of the human health, as the proper office of the shoemaker. There was a time, indeed, when much was confided to the barber; and at that period, medicine was nearly in the same state in which we see the veterinary art at this day.

The incompetency of the persons to whom it has been abandoned, has drawn contempt on the

art itself, and few have ventured to concern themselves with a profession that seemed incapable of conferring any honour upon those who exercised it. But the benefits of medicine to man, in the state in which it exists at this day, and in this country, are evident to every ingenuous mind.

To extend those benefits to those parts of the animal creation that are destined for the use of mankind is the object of veterinary medicine; and as the sphere of human medicine is of large extent, and embraces much more than the art of healing alone, so does that of veterinary medicine likewise comprise many important parts of natural history, and the fundamental principles of natural philosophy "*Sicut animalia post hominem, ita ars veterinaria post medicinam secunda est.*"

The laws of the animal economy of our cattle are as various and as intricate as those of our own; and if to preserve them alive, and in the most thriving state, be one of our first concerns, we ought in consistency to proceed towards that object, by a path capable of conducting us to it.

And here it may be observed, that the arts of surgery and of human medicine alone, can render very little service in cases of veterinary practice; while on the other hand, they may be, and frequently are, the sources of error.

The *Materia Medica*, as an instrument which the physician can use expertly in cases of human malady, is converted into weapons, to whose power he is almost a total stranger, when he would employ them against the diseases of brute animals. It is not sufficient to encrease the bulk of a dose, in proportion to the bulk of the patient; the operations of simples are different in systems that have different laws; and there are many things which the human frame may safely receive in large proportions, which must on no account be administered to the horse even in the minutest. It requires the sacrifice of as many years to become a skilful veterinarian as to become a skilful physician: the acquisition of the science and the practice of each is a task sufficient to engage one man's life; and the contrary opinion is a portion of that ancient error, which while medicine was regarded as the province of the learned and the few, supposed the veterinary art on the level with the most ordinary capacities. If the veterinary art is free from the embarrassment, which the varied and violent influence of the mind on the human structure causes to the physician, he finds an abundant source of trouble and perplexity in the muteness of his subjects, to which the physician is not subject; which renders it essential that the veterinarian should add to his professional knowledge an active and observing mind, and a cautious, accurate, and penetrating judgment.

The advantage of extending the influence of science to our farms, and of applying it to the preservation of our cattle, cannot be made to appear more sensibly than by considering the ravages sometimes made among them, by contagious and epizootic diseases; the virulence of which, might yield to a judicious and scientific treatment, when the only remaining alternative, ruinous in its consequences to the grazier and to the public, is in the slaughter of the cattle. All that the practice of our hospitals can teach, is unable to qualify for these emergencies, much less can adequate assistance be found, in the worker of a country forge. It is only in the direct experience of the case, and studies properly adapted to it, that relief may be obtained.

As the proper treatment of distempers in horses, and other cattle, is of the highest commercial as well as domestic importance, it is incumbent on this nation to institute and protect, a veterinary school; in which, their anatomical construction, the diseases to which they are subject, and the remedies proper to be applied, may be regularly taught. Such an institution cannot fail of becoming generally important to the nation, and every part of it will gradually enjoy the advantage of possessing enlightened practitioners, on whose care and skill they may securely rely.

The treatment of the diseases of animals being taught scientifically, men of liberal education will cease to look on veterinarian medicine, as a mean and degrading profession. They will be convinced that its inferiority to human medicine, consists not in the arts themselves, but in the relative importance of their respective subjects, and that it deserves to be considered a distinguished science, occupying an eminent station in the scale of natural knowledge.

If we observe the dangerous practice of farriers, in their surgical operations, we shall see them daily sacrificing horses by boldly mangling the organized parts of the body, without knowing anything of its structure. How many muscles, and tendons, divided crossways! veins opened! nerves destroyed! membranes torn! and essential organs more or less affected, by the ignorant boldness of these unskilful operators, whose reputation has been supported merely by public supineness and credulity.

It must be unnecessary to enlarge on this subject, in order to demonstrate the utility of a seminary for veterinary studies, in a country where horses are so universally used for the purposes of agriculture, manufactures, commerce, and pleasure, and where such immense property consists in cattle. Much however, as this science has been hitherto neglected, its importance begins to be generally admitted; and it must give pleasure to every considerate mind to learn, that a theoretical and practical school is established for the instructing of pupils; and it now remains only briefly to state the circumstances which have occurred in forming the institution.

In August 1785 the members of the Odiham Agricultural Society resolved, that it should be a consideration for their meeting in October, what were the most likely means to encourage the study of scientific farriery. Nothing however, appears to have been done by the society until May 1788, when they resolved to advertise their intention of educating two or more young men, in the school of farriery in the neighbourhood of Paris, and to solicit subscriptions for that purpose; which was not done till after a similar resolution in March or June 1789. In August 1789, they resolved that 500 copies of their resolution should be printed, with an address, in which they say, "It is to be lamented that there is not yet in England any establishment adequate to the desired improvement in farriery, by a regular education in that science, on medical and anatomical principles," and they again express their intention of sending two or more youths to France for instruction.

Early in the same year 1789, Mr. Sain Bel came to England and published proposals for reading lectures on the general knowledge of the horse; and in the following year, 1790, he presented to the public a plan, entitled "Plan for establishing an institution to cultivate and teach veterinary

medicine." At the end of May or beginning of June, in the same year, several of these plans were transmitted to the Odiham and other societies; and in August following the Odiham Society resolved that a committee should be appointed to meet in London for the purpose, among other business, of collecting whatever might appear to be conducive to the views of the society for promoting the improvement of farriery; and elected Mr. Sain Bel an honorary and corresponding member, and one of the committee in London. It does not appear that the committee made any progress in the business; but they continued to solicit assistance from the public, and resolved on the 12th January 1791 to meet once a fortnight, to communicate such information as might be received. At the meeting of the 11th of February 1791, several gentlemen, not of the Odiham Society, having been informed of the object of the meetings, attended the committee; and at this time the following resolutions were agreed to:—

The resolves of the Odiham Society of the 5th of August and of the 8th October, 1790, whereby is acknowledged the receipt of 10 copies of a plan for establishing an institution to cultivate and teach veterinary medicine by Mr. Sain Bel, being read.

"Resolved, That this meeting is seriously convinced of the benefits which must result from an institution to cultivate and teach veterinary medicine; that they have observed the effect produced upon the public by the proposed measure of the society for the improvement of farriery, as also by the plan offered by Mr. Sain Bel. That the ultimate view of the society tends to the same object as the plan proposed to be immediately carried into effect by Mr. Sain Bel; that it is the opinion of the meeting, that it is to be greatly desired the plan of the Odiham Society and that of Mr. Sain Bel, should be consolidated; that as several gentlemen had subscribed towards furthering Mr. Sain Bel's plan, four of the gentlemen present should be desired to consult with Mr. Sain Bel on the subject, and that they should also consider of the best mode of effecting the union; that as soon as this matter should be determined a meeting should be held for the purpose of forming a society for the improvement of farriery."

On the 18th of February, the gentlemen present were informed Mr. Sain Bel had acceded to the plan proposed, when they came to the following resolutions:—

"This meeting having taken into consideration the proceedings on former meetings, and being informed that many respectable persons delay giving in their names as subscribers, while the proceedings of the committee are subject to be reported to the Odiham Society, and are under the controul thereof, find it expedient to detach themselves from that Society. The work in which they are engaged being of considerable importance (the reformation and improvement of farriery and the treatment of cattle in general) requires that the attention of the meeting should be confined to that purpose alone, and be under the sole management and controul of its own members.

"That from that day the meeting should be called the Veterinary College, London; that the Secretary do write to the Secretary of the Odiham Society, to inform him of the above resolution, and that the members of the college conceive that by detaching themselves, they are more effectually forwarding the liberal and laudable intentions



thereof for the improvement of farriery, and that the members hope the society will join them in their plan for promoting the so much wished for object.

"That Mr. Sain Bel be appointed Professor to the college.

"That a general meeting of subscribers be held on the 8th of April.

"That the foregoing resolutions be inserted in the public papers.

"That copies be transmitted to the members of both Houses, and other noblemen and gentlemen; as also to the Sheriffs of the several counties to be laid before the grand juries at the ensuing assizes.

Feb. 23, Mr. Sain Bel attended and accepted the office of Professor.

April 1. The Duke of Northumberland having expressed his wishes for the success of the institution, the Secretary was directed to solicit him to become president of the college, to which he consented.

April 8. The college consisting of 64 members, proceeded to the choice of President, Vice-Presidents, Directors, Treasurer and Secretary for the ensuing year. They also elected as honorary and corresponding members fifteen gentlemen on the continent, eminent for their veterinary abilities. Regulations for the constitution and organization of the college were read and unanimously approved of, subject however to such alterations as might become expedient.

April 19. A circular letter was ordered to be sent to professional gentlemen in different parts of the kingdom, requesting the provincial names of diseases incident to horses, bullocks, sheep, &c., with their accompanying symptoms; a letter was also directed to be sent to the Odiham Society to inform them, that as the college had appointed a Professor of veterinary medicine they did not think it necessary to persist in sending young men out of the country for instruction.

May 3. An abstract of the constitution of the college was ordered to be printed and distributed. A letter was read from the Odiham Society, stating that they had peculiar satisfaction in the establishment of the Veterinary College, and that they had directed their secretary to transmit to the college what papers they possessed relating to the veterinary art; that they considered the college as enabled effectually to execute what they had wished, that they, therefore, relinquished their intentions, —and concludes with observing, that they had requested the subscribers to their fund to transfer their subscriptions to the college.

May 17. It was resolved to provide a proper place for the professor's dissections and lectures.

May 24. A general meeting was held, the college consisting of 86 members, when it was resolved to advertise for premises for the purposes of the college. The sum of £100 was fixed as the salary of the professor, and the same sum for the secretary.

July 19. A special general meeting was held, when it was resolved, that in order to procure the attendance of a sufficient number of members to transact business, the meetings should be open to the attendance of every member of the college, no business having been done since the former general meeting. The addition of members to the college was reported to be 32, making in the whole 118.

July 26. The secretary was directed to transmit the proposed regulations of the college to the army agents, and to request their forwarding them to the regiments.

August 9. The secretary was directed to transmit the proposed regulations to the physicians and eminent surgical practitioners in London.

September 6. A general meeting was held, when the number of members was reported to be 133. An offer was made by Messrs. Kirkman and Hendy of a parcel of land at Camden Town, the property of Lord Camden, for the purposes of the college, for a term of 99 years; when it was resolved, that the committee should meet on the 13th instant, to survey the ground offered. The secretary reported that 63 bankers and other gentlemen in different parts of the kingdom, had accepted the office of receivers for the college.

September 13. At the meeting of the committee at Pancras, for the purpose of viewing the ground offered by Messrs. Kirkman and Hendy, it was resolved to be eligible for the purposes of the college. And a house with convenient offices, adjoining the above-mentioned ground, was now engaged as a temporary residence for the professor.

September 20. A general meeting was held. The number of members was reported to be 138. It was resolved to agree with Messrs. Kirkman and Hendy for the ground proposed by them belonging to Lord Camden. The secretary was directed to apply to the president, vice-presidents, and directors, to request five or more of them to be trustees for accepting the lease of the ground from Lord Camden.

September 27. Letters were received from nine of the above gentlemen, approving of the situation for the college, and consenting to become trustees. Mr. Burton was requested, in conjunction with Mr. Sain Bel, to prepare and lay before a future meeting, a plan of a building for the college; and Mr. Burton was also requested to superintend any temporary erection or alteration in the premises engaged for the college.

October 4. An advertisement was ordered to be inserted in the papers, containing the terms on which the professor's lectures would be delivered at the college.

November 1. The secretary was directed to send abstracts of the proposed regulations of the college to the proprietors of the stage coaches. An advertisement was ordered to be inserted in the papers, directing persons desirous of becoming resident pupils to apply to the committee.

December 6. A general meeting was held. The number of members was reported to be 179. Mr. Burton produced a plan for the college. It was resolved that a collector for the college should be chosen. A letter from Dr. J. Corrie was read, offering his services to the college during his stay in the East Indies, in collecting information on the veterinary science; when, on the motion of Mr. Hunter, he was elected an honorary and corresponding member.

December 13. It was resolved that peers, members of parliament, and ladies, should be allowed to vote by proxy at all elections. The professor informed the committee he should commence his lectures on the 4th of January.

January 3, 1792. A general meeting was held. The number of members was reported to be 204. Mr. Reuben was chosen collector. At this time there were four pupils in the college.

January 10. Mr. Arthur Young and Mr. Marshall were elected honorary and corresponding members.

February 14. Mr. Baynes, Mr. Penn, and Mr. Stone, were appointed a committee to examine the accounts, and pay all demands, on the college.

On account of the great number of applications made to the professor to receive diseased horses, it was directed to be advertised that there were not conveniences for the purpose, but as soon as stables were erected proper notice would be given.

February 21. A general meeting was held. The number of members was reported to be 233. It was resolved, that the proposed regulations should be sent to every member, with a request that such alterations as might appear to be necessary should be sent to the secretary. Regulations for the interior discipline of the college were read and approved.

March 1. A letter from Sir William Fordyce was read, inclosing one from the Earl of Macclesfield, on the rot in sheep.

March 22. It was resolved that temporary stabling for the reception of fifty horses, and a forge house, should be forthwith erected; and that such horses only should be received whose disorders were not contagious. That two or more young men should be placed at the forge as working pupils. Mr. Burton was desired to prepare a plan and estimate for the building fifty stalls and a forge-house.

March 27. It was resolved to agree with Messrs. Kirkman and Hendy for an additional piece of ground adjoining to the former parcel engaged, and on the same terms making altogether about six acres.

April 5. Mr. Burton produced a plan and estimate for the building. A proposal was received from Mr. Barnard, proprietor of the premises now occupied by the college, for letting them on lease, when it was resolved to agree with him. A proposal was received from Mr. Warner, respecting making bricks, which was agreed to. It was resolved, that on any contract being made by the college, the contractors should give security for the performance of their agreements. It was resolved to advertise for proposals from builders for erecting stables, &c. to be received on Thursday, the 19th instant.

It appearing necessary from the numerous applications made to the professor for the admission of diseased horses, that stables should be immediately built, with other necessary conveniences; and as the present funds of the college would not enable the committee to proceed on so extensive a scale as the importance of the institution demanded, it was resolved, that the friends of the institution should be requested to advance money on interest at three per cent. per annum, the principal to be repaid as soon as the funds of the college were found sufficient for that purpose, and that nine subscribers should be trustees.

April 26. The committee having received proposals from six builders, they agreed with Messrs. Howell and Russell for the sum of 2850*l*. Mr. Burton was desired to order the necessary implements for the forge. A memorial was presented from the professor, stating that he had been calumniated both with respect to his private character and professional abilities, and requested committees might be immediately appointed to inquire and report on the business; when it was resolved, that Mr. John Hunter and seventeen other professional gentlemen should, in compliance with the memorial, be requested to examine the professor, as to his abilities for the office of veterinary professor, and report their opinion to a general meeting. It was resolved, that the Earl of Morton and twelve other gentlemen, be requested to inquire into the complaints stated, and

report their opinion to a general meeting; and the officers should furnish both committees with such papers as they should have in their possession, and which should be called for.

May 10. It was resolved, that a special general meeting should be held on the 17th instant, to receive the reports of the committees appointed on the 26th of April.

May 17. A special general meeting was held. The number of members was reported to be 425. The reports from the committees, appointed in consequence of the professor's memorial to inquire into his character and abilities, and the complaints made by him against the secretary were read, and the following resolutions unanimously agreed to:—

"That from the report of the medical committee, consisting of John Hunter, Esq. Chairman, Sir George Baker, Bart., Dr. Crawford, Dr. Packwood, Mr. Cline, Mr. Vaux, Mr. Peake, Mr. Home, and Mr. Sheldon, this meeting is satisfied that Mr. Sain Bel "is perfectly qualified" for the office of veterinary professor in the college.

"That this meeting concurs in opinion with the said committee, that it shall be necessary, in order to carry on the business of the institution as perfectly as possible, that there should be two professors appointed, and that as soon as the proposed plan for the college is executed, which, from the encouragement already given, it is hoped will speedily be accomplished, the members will avail themselves of the offer made by the committee, and refer the merit of candidates for the second professorship to their investigation.

"That from the report of the committee, consisting of the Earl of Morton, chairman, Lord Heathfield, Major General Murray, Mr. Angerstein, Mr. Baker, Mr. Baynes, Sir John Ingleby, Mr. Butt, Mr. W. Baker, and Mr. Walcot, this meeting is perfectly satisfied with the character and conduct of the professor."

It was resolved, that a special general meeting should be held on Friday the 1st of June, for the election of a new secretary, (the former one having been dismissed;) that at the election no person should be permitted to vote who was not then a subscriber.

May 24. The duty of the secretary was regulated by the committee, and his salary fixed at 150*l*. per annum.

A general meeting was held, when the Duke of Northumberland, Lord Rivers, Lord Morton, Sir T. C. Bunbury, Sir H. Mildmay, Mr. Baynes, Mr. Penn, and Mr. Stone, were appointed trustees for executing the deeds in the leases to be granted by Lord Camden to the college; and any three of them were empowered to act.

Also Lord Heathfield, Lord Kinnaird, General Murray, Mr. Angerstein, Mr. Butt, Mr. J. Baker, Mr. Crane, Mr. Topham, and Mr. Hendy, were appointed trustees for the subscribers to the loan; and any three of them were empowered to act.

The salary of the professor was fixed at 200*l*. per annum. The meeting then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year; and afterwards dined together, the numbers were declared to be 478.

June 1. A special general meeting was held for the purpose of electing a secretary, when Mr. William Mounshee was unanimously chosen.

June 7. The committee formed regulations for the officers and for the infirmary.

July 5. The committee resolved to enclose the



whole of the premises by walls, Messrs. Kirkman and Hendy having proposed to join in the expense.

July 19. The surveyor was directed to give orders for building a porter's lodge, building a fence, and also to prepare a plan for the general building.

July 26. The committee resolved immediately to build lecture and dissection rooms, and to advertise for proposals from builders for that purpose.

August 2. The committee agreed with several artificers to erect the necessary buildings. Notice was ordered to be given that the forge was completed, and would be open for the reception of horses on the 10th and regulations were made for that purpose.

August 9. Regulations were made for the conduct of the porter &c.

August 16. Cards were ordered to be printed and sent with horses not admitted into the college.

August 30. The secretary was directed to advertise that the Professor's Lectures would commence on the first of October, and also the several arrangements in the college hitherto adapted.

September 6. A general meeting was held, when a state of the accounts were produced, and the medical experimental committee appointed, consisting of Sir George Baker, Sir William Fordyce, Dr. Crawford, Dr. Scott, Mr. J. Hunter, Mr. Clive, and Mr. Houlston.—It was resolved, that the anniversary meeting should be held on the 18th February next.

October 11. The committee resolved that one of the rooms in the centre of the building to be fitted up for the purpose of a temporary dispensary.

October 18. Mr. Kirkman was appointed to treat with the proprietors of the Hampstead water works for supplying the college with water.

October 25. A letter from President to Mr. R. Wilson was read, inclosing a draft for £500 as his subscription to the loan.

November 1. At a meeting of the council, Mr. R. Wilson was appointed solicitor to the college.

November 8. Mr. Burton reported, that the proprietors of the Hampstead water works had agreed to supply the college with water for one year, and then fix a price for a constant supply. Accommodations for the pupils being much wanted, and Mr. Kirkman having offered to accommodate the college with a house adjoining the college premises, for the secretary, it was resolved that his proposal be accepted, and that the Secretary do inhabit the same, as soon as it can be prepared and furnished for that purpose.

Nov. 15. At a meeting of the council, the price of the keep of horses were fixed, and regulations formed for the Infirmary.

Dec. 6. At a quarterly general meeting the college accounts were presented.

December 13. The committee gave orders generally for the providing all kinds of necessaries for the grooms, porters, smiths, &c., &c.

Jan. 1, 1793. The Infirmary was opened for the reception of diseased horses.

Feb. 14. A general meeting was held, and the regulations for the college were determined on.

Feb. 18. A general meeting was held, and the several officers of the college, as also the committees were elected for the ensuing year. At this time the number of the members of the college was 910; and the number of pupils in the college was 14. The establishment of the college, consisted of a Professor, a Secretary, a Collector, the Professor's Assistant, a Porter, 3 Smiths and

5 Grooms. The number of diseased horses in the infirmary were 50.

Such have been the origin and progress, and such is the present state of the institution, which, notwithstanding the prejudice of almost every class of men in the kingdom, may be said to have succeeded far beyond the highest expectations of its most earnest friends. From the foregoing statement every attentive mind must observe what obstacles may be overcome by industry and perseverance; and that in this country, the utility and benevolence of an institution need only to be perfectly ascertained, to meet with due attention and encouragement.

The institutors and friends of the Veterinary College presume, that to ensure the public patronage they have only to state the nature and tendency of the institution; being fully persuaded, that whether it be considered as an object of humanity to animals, or of general utility to the nation, it will excite and receive every degree of attention and support, which its intrinsic merit deserves.

*(To be continued.)*

## ON THE SPAYING OF MILCH COWS.

BY M. LEVRAT, LAUSANNE.

*(From the Veterinarian.)*

In May 1832, charged by the government of Vaud with the superintendence of the castration of the colts in that canton, the opportunity which this afforded me of repeating the experiments made in America on the spaying of the cow, was too favourable to be lost. I extracted the ovaries from a cow destined to be slaughtered. She was not then giving milk, and therefore my purpose could not be fully answered; nevertheless, it was something for me to have studied the method of performing the operation, and to have assured myself of its pathological connexion and effect. I should, on another occasion, be enabled to practice the operation with more adroitness, and I should probably inspire more confidence in those who might think proper to employ me. The cow seemed a little depressed during the first two days after the spaying, but on the third day she had regained all her ordinary habits and spirits.

I was then anxious to operate on a cow that was in the condition indicated by M. Winn, *i. e.* about a month after her second or third calving\*.

M. Francillon Michaud, to whom I imparted this wish, requested me to make the experiment on one of his cows. She was six years old, and had her third calf. In the preceding years she had given eight quarts of milk at each time immediately after her calving, and six quarts some months afterwards.

On the 28th of June, 1833, she was operated on. She appeared scarcely affected by it, except that she did not eat quite so much during the two next days, and her milk diminished to four quarts; but on the third day she recovered her spirits and appetite, and yielded her usual quantity of milk. During the summer she gave nine quarts at each milking, and after that, when the green food failed, she gave seven quarts, although, in the preceding years, she had not been accustomed to yield more than six quarts at this season.

Encouraged by the success of the first experi-

\* See an interesting paper on this subject in the *Veterinarian*, Vol. VII, p. 569.

ment, M. Francillon begged me to spay a second cow. He chose an old one that gave plenty of milk, in order that he might be able to judge of the effect of the operation on old cows. She was at least twelve years old, and had had two calves in the preceding October that had been got from her with considerable difficulty, and she was accustomed to yield, on the average, about eight quarts of milk. She was operated upon, on the 18th of November, thirty-three days after calving, and she was then yielding twelve quarts of milk. After the operation she yielded only nine quarts of milk; but it is right to say, that she had a purulent discharge from the vulva, and that she did not eat with the appetite she was accustomed to do.

Writers on the spaying of the cow have not described the manner of performing the operation; and it is well known that the ovaries do not retain the same situation in all animals. Daubenton was the first who described the spaying of the sheep; but the method which would be pursued with regard to the sheep would not be applicable to the cow. It is on this account that I feel disposed to relate the method which I pursued in spaying these animals.

The operation ought to be performed between thirty and thirty-eight days after calving, and on a cow that had just had her second or third calf, because that is the age and time when she yields the greatest quantity of milk, and retains it during the longest period. No preparation is necessary, except the refraining from feeding her so plentifully as usual on the night before the spaying, and to operate in the morning before she was fed. The necessary implements are ropes, a plank or bar of wood, two bistouries (one convex and very sharp, the other probe-pointed and straight), two curved needles, some strong thread well waxed, and a plank or bar of wood, about eight inches wide and three in thickness.

In order to operate safely and well the cow must be properly secured. To effect this, she must be placed against a wall with her left side towards the operator. Three strong rings should be fixed in the wall with straps and buckles attached to them; one for a cord to confine the head, the two others should be placed lower, the one on a level with the lower part of the right shoulder, the other at the point of the hock. A cord should be passed in front of the chest, brought along the left side of the body of the cow, passed behind the thighs, and fixed to the buckle which is on a level with the hock, or rather an assistant should hold the end of the rope passed once around the ring. The head is to be fixed by a turn of the cord, which is to be held by a strong man. Then the plank or bar of wood must be placed obliquely under the tests and in front of the hind limbs: an assistant holds this so that the operator may be safe from the kicking of the animal; finally some one holds the tail, or it is tied to the rope that goes round the patient, in order to escape the blows which the animal would give with it when the arm was passed into the abdomen.

In default of a wall provided with rings and buckles, a strong palisade will do, or any solid barrier, or trees growing at a convenient distance from each other, and to which a strong bar of wood may be fixed.

The animal being secured, the operator, armed with the convex bistoury, which he holds in his right hand, places himself at the left shoulder of the cow, with his left hand resting on her back. That hand serves as a point of support for him to

retire or rest upon, if it should be necessary, during her struggles, and also enabling him to use his right hand more effectually. He then places the edge of the bistoury on the middle and a little nearer the superior part of the left flank, and at one incision cuts through the skin and the muscles of that part vertically.

The flank having been opened, and the peritoneum with it, the operator enlarges the incision so as to be enabled to introduce his hand and arm. Taking the bistoury in his left hand, he now gently and cautiously introduces his right hand into the abdomen, directing it towards the pelvis, and behind the cul de sac of the paunch, where he will find the horns of the uterus. When he had recognized this viscus, he carries his hand a little above its bifurcation, where the ovaries are situated between the folds of the suspensor ligaments of the uterus; he seizes one of the ovaries, which he detaches at its posterior part, by means of the thumb and fore finger, and he passes his finger along the convexity of the ovary, in order to separate it completely from the peritoneal ligament which sustains it. Then he takes the ovary in his hand, he draws it gently towards him, and by means of the thumb nail, he saws the vessels and the horn of the fallopian tube on his fore finger, which offers him a point of support under these vessels: finally, he breaks the cord by successive gentle tugs at it, while he is sawing it with his nail; and he thus brings out the ovary.

He next introduces his hand a second time into the abdomen, and proceeds to extract the second ovary in the same manner, after which he closes the wound with two or three sutures, taking care to leave a little opening at the lower part of it, through which the matter of suppuration may escape, and which, without this precaution, would burrow between the skin and the muscles, or accumulate in the abdomen, and be a cause of irritation, and probably of danger.

The ovaries may, if the operator likes, be brought through the opening made in the flank, and detached by the points of the fingers; but this manipulation may sometimes be attended with inconvenience: besides, it is not more expeditious than that which I described, because it sometimes happens that the ovary escapes from the grasp, and the arm must be once more introduced into the belly in order to find it again.

Two or three days after the operation the wound may be dressed. The dressing consists in fomenting around the wound two or three times every day, and in hot weather injecting a little of l'eau de Labarraque (a solution of chloride of lime). A pledget of tow should be placed daily over the wound itself, and the stitches occasionally tightened. The wound will usually be quite healed in the space of fifteen days, or three weeks at most.

The cows on which I operated at the request of M. Francillon were all attended upon, and the wounds dressed and healed by himself: there is, in fact, very little skill requisite in this stage of the business.

From the observations which I have since been enabled to make, I should offer the following as the advantages to be expected from spaying milch cows.

1. An increase of at least one-third in the production of milch.
2. The certainty of having a nearly equal supply at all times.
3. Escape from all the chances and accidents that accompany utero-gestation and parturition.
4. Escape from the accidents which happen to



cows during the period of heat, arising from their riding and worrying one another, or their being injured by two large a bull.

5. The disposition to fatten more readily, and to greater extent, when their milk begins to fail.

6. The saving of an expense, often considerable, arising from barren cows, and which, in some districts, and on some farms, either from the influence of breed or bad management, occurs to almost every cow once in two or three years. As an illustration of this, I may mention, that, in the neighbourhood of Lausanne and Lavaux the farmers are often obliged to change their cows, an expense almost ruinous to them.—*Recueil, Feb. 1834.*

### THETFORD WOOL FAIR.

This Fair was held on Friday July 24, and was very numerously attended by the growers of Suffolk and Norfolk, and gentlemen connected with the wool trade from the North as well as the adjacent counties. Upwards of 200 persons dined in the Town Hall, and in other rooms from which they afterwards repaired to the galleries of the Hall. Mr. Coke was in the chair, as founder of the meeting.

Amongst the company were Sir C. M. Clarke, Bart. Capt. Fitz Roy, E. R. Pratt, Esq. A. Hamond, Esq. Wyrley Birch, Esq. B. Cladwell, Esq. W. Bagge, Esq. R. Buckworth, Esq. J. H. Powell, Esq. Rev. Mr. Broadhead, Rev. Jon. Townley, Rev. Jas. Bennet, Colonel Ray, Messrs. Amyss, Abbot, Adams, Alexander, Bryant, Beck, Blyth, Buck, Bidwell, Carse, Cooper, Cornell, Davy, Ellman (Sussex), Fullard, Frost, Fyson, Gayford, Garnham, Hudson, Kendle, Leeds, Milne, Mines, Muskett, Nunn, Negus, Overman, Payne, Reed, Rodwell, Read, Saul, Sexton, Shilito, Stedman, Stutter, Swan, Tubbs, Turner, Wigson, Wood, Wrightup, &c. and as dealers, Messrs. Baldry and Fuller (Halifax), Martin and Rouse, (Bradford), Evered, Evans, Fisons, Gardiner, Gill, Moyse, Mumford, Pymar, Revans, Sayer, Sheringham, Shepherd, Scott, Tetley, Waller, &c. The dinner was exceedingly well served by Mr. Edwards, of the Bell Inn.

After the cloth was removed, Mr. COKE gave "Constitution and King," "The Duke of Sussex," "The Bishop of Norwich," "the County Members." He had received a letter from Sir W. Folkes, who was prevented attending by a motion coming before the House. Mr. Pelham, the Member for Lincolnshire, had also informed him that his intention to be present, in the hope of establishing such a meeting in Lincolnshire, was frustrated by Parliamentary business; but that some respectable gentleman from that county would attend, and would gladly hear their opinion as to the practicability of establishing such a meeting. If any were present, he (Mr. Coke) hoped they would be able to make a favourable report, and he requested the favour of their company at Holkham.

Mr. G. WHITWORTH (of Acre House, near Caistor) said he had expected several gentlemen from Lincolnshire would be present, but he believed he was the only person from that county. He had some time since attended a meeting at Caistor at which Mr. Pelham (who, like Mr. Coke, had the interests of his county deeply at heart) expressed his wish to establish a Wool fair, and he was sure he would be sorry that he was unable to attend. He (Mr. W.) had seen a great deal of the wool trade, and was thought to have done some good in the county of Lincoln, where

he had no hesitation in saying the woolmen were playing a deep trick. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. COKE said he did not think such expressions were proper: every man had a right to make a fair profit by his trade, and his object in establishing this meeting was to promote fair dealing between buyer and seller. He always wished their meetings to pass off in good humour, which would not be the case if such remarks were indulged in. He hoped Mr. W. would excuse this observation: he believed he was indebted to him for some useful information at Holkham—particularly as to the grasses. (Mr. Whitworth is the inventor of the plan of inoculating pasture.)

Mr. WHITWORTH said he was the last person to say any thing which should interfere with the harmony of the meeting. His allusion was to the long wool of his county, which the dealers were employed in running down, though they were informed there was a very good trade in the articles made from it.

Mr. COKE said he certainly did expect more gentlemen from Lincolnshire. He had informed Mr. Pelham he should be happy to see the representative of the worst mutton in the kingdom. (A laugh.) In his younger days he had attended a meeting in Spilsby, when the long wools, with which the rents were chiefly paid, had fallen to 7s a tod, and great alarm was raised through the county. At that time Norfolk was parcelled out between three dealers, and the dealers never got more than 7s. a tod. With regard to the prices he was sure his friend Mr. Fison would tell them the manufacturers were never in a more wholesome state; and though they must not, perhaps, ask the same prices as last year, yet the establishment of a Yarn Company at Norwich must be something in their favour, as a saving in the expense of transport. Mr. Coke then told a humorous anecdote of Mr. Arkwright, originally a barber, inducing Sir Joseph Banks to take him to Court on condition that he should introduce the Lincolnshire wools into his manufactory. On the way Sir Joseph complimented Mr. Arkwright on the dressing of his wig, when Arkwright, told him he had sat up all night to do it. Sir Joseph found an opportunity to whisper this to the King, and when the cotton spinner was presented, his Majesty observed to him—"Well, well, of all the wigs I have seen at Court I have never seen a wig like your's Mr. Arkwright." Sir Joseph afterwards claimed the performance of his promise, but Mr. Arkwright answered, "I believe I did say something of the kind, but it would be so destructive to the spinning jenny that I cannot do it." Mr. Coke next gave the health of Sir Charles Clarke.

Sir C. Clarke returned thanks.

"Capt. FITZ ROY," who in returning thanks, begged to offer his *extensive* clip of ewe wool to Mr. Waller at the same terms as Mr. Coke might offer his, only stipulating that Mr. Waller should dine with him when he came to weigh it, though perhaps the price of their wine might outweigh the price of the wool. One reason for his coming here was to thank the inhabitants of Thetford for their kindness to his father and himself when canvassing the town. He was sure his father was a gainer in escaping the heated atmosphere of the House of Commons; and they were gainers also—for if they searched England through, they would not find a man more deserving of regard for all the amiable qualities of the heart than Lord Euston. (*Cheers.*)

Sir C. CLARKE proposed the health of the Chairman. In another county it might be necessary to explain how Mr. Coke was entitled to their respect,

love, and admiration, but it would be insulting the people of Norfolk to do so. (A gentleman said, "Or Suffolk either.") When he spoke of Norfolk he included Suffolk also—for he considered them as one in feeling towards their Chairman. Mr. Coke had encountered the foul air of the House of Commons—he said no more—for half a century—he had cultivated his lands in the best manner—he had furnished the table of his splendid mansion, not for himself but for the benefit of the agriculturists throughout the kingdom. (Great Cheering.)

Mr. COKE thanked the company from the bottom of his heart. He did not deserve the eulogy of Sir C. Clarke, but from an early period of life it had been his wish to mix with and to benefit the class of persons now present. He then adverted to the condition of his estate when he took possession of it, and to the progress of the Holkham meetings. When any improvement was suggested to him he never recommended it till after three years' trial, and he was eleven years before he obtained a single convert to the drill system. At that time Lynn imported 10,000 quarters of wheat; it had since exported 15,000. When Mr. Percival proposed to allow distillation from sugar, he (Mr. Coke) waited on him, and remonstrated against the injury which such a measure would inflict upon agriculture. Mr. Percival answered, "I know nothing about agriculture," to which he (Mr. Coke) retorted—"Then you are not fit to be the Minister of this country." (Cheers.) Mr. Percival, however, gave the West Indians this advantage (to the great injury of the farmer) solely for the purpose of securing their votes in the House of Commons. He hoped we had now arrived at a better state of things. (Cheers.) He begged to drink "prosperity to the Yeomanry of Suffolk and Norfolk." (Cheers.)

"Mr. Ellman and prosperity to the wool trade in the county of Sussex."

Mr. ELLMAN said that he had felt a great inclination to remain in the county for this fair, considering that it set the price for the whole kingdom. He understood there were to be sales of wool in London, this week and last to the amount of 400,000*l.* and should be glad if any one could state how they had gone off. He hoped to-morrow to have an interview with the Duke of Richmond, who had taken great pains to bring the French Government to a fair reciprocity in the wool trade. The French still laid a duty of 22 per cent. on our wool, whilst we received their's at a penny a pound. The Duke had put the matter on a plain footing. If we told them that unless they would come to our terms we would not deal with them, the business would soon be settled.

Mr. COKE then gave the health of Mr. Pratt, who in returning thanks, said he had received a letter from Sir Jacob Astley, whom he had expected till the last moment this morning to accompany him to the fair. He had attended this fair many years, and should do so as long as he was able. (Cheers.)

Capt. FITZ ROY gave "Lady Ann Coke and the House of Holkham." (Cheers.)

Mr. COKE returned thanks, and gave "Lady Clarke and the Ladies of Norfolk and Suffolk." He next gave "Mr. Fison, and prosperity to Thetford." No man could give them better information as to the state of the trade, and there was no one in whom he would sooner confide. He was sure he would admit the manufacturers were in a wholesome state. The way to make the fair prosper, was to act fairly between buyer and seller, and he must be excused for saying he thought the sellers last year exceeded in their demands any-

thing that could be rightly expected. He hoped he should never leave the room without disposing of his wool.

Mr. FISON, after returning thanks, said he did not regret that Mr. Coke had asked his opinion before he named a price for his wool, as it enabled him to give the meeting a piece of advice—not to ask too high prices. He did not wish to remind them of past errors, but they must all admit that the price of wool was much lower than last year. He certainly could congratulate them on the healthy state of our manufactures—the people were all employed, at good wages, and there was no superabundance either of the manufactured article or the raw material. But one complaint was general, and he believed well founded, throughout the manufacturing districts—the want of remuneration to the manufacturer. The fact that wool had been for some time gradually falling, in spite of the activity of trade, convinced him that the prices had been higher than the trade could afford. He would only add, supposing a revulsion in trade were to occur—which after so many months of prosperity was to be expected—what would then be the situation of the wool grower? With regard to the trade with France, the present state of the law was some disadvantage to us, but still more to France; for though British wool was not exported into France direct, at the duty of 22 per cent. he had been at a house in London in which wool to the amount of fifteen thousand pounds was prepared to be smuggled into France though Belgium, at a premium of 15 per cent. In reference to the high prices of last year, he might observe that whenever a great advance took place, a sort of safety valve appeared to be opened, and down went the price. He attributed this to the substitution of other materials for wool—such as hemp in carpets, and waste silk. This last article had advanced to a very great extent in consequence. He congratulated the company on the increasing attendance at this fair.

Mr. COKE thanked Mr. Fison for his information which he had no doubt was correct. The way to make the fair prosper was not to ask more than a fair price.—He had last year made 64*s.* of his Hogget wool, and 50*s.* of his ewe, he should offer this year's clip to Mr. Waller at what he admitted was a great reduction—namely at 54*s.* and 35*s.* Taking the experience of a long life, he believed he had made more money both of his corn and his wool, by taking the price of the first market.

Mr. WALLER began by saying he had never made a bargain in that room with Mr. Coke which he had not exactly fulfilled, though Mr. Coke had on one occasion very honourably and openly returned him 120*l.* at the ensuing fair, on account of his loss by the bargain. He last year gave him 4*s.* more than his wool was worth, as a proof of which nothing was afterwards sold above 60*s.* with one exception. He must say that Mr. Coke had now met the alteration in the market most honourably and liberally; one part of his wool was offered perhaps lower than he could have expected. He held at this moment 1300 tods of hoggett wool at 52*s.* to 56*s.* and ewe at 30*s.* to 35*s.* and he did not know where to find a market for it. He did not know where to make 56*s.* of Mr. Coke's hoggett, but taking the whole together he would accept his offer, and he flattered himself he should not keep it long, before he returned the small profit that would content him—a shilling a tod. He begged to give the health of the Hon G. J. Milles. (Cheers.)

Capt. FITZ ROY then offered his important clip to



Mr. Waller at the same terms as Mr. Coke's, and proposed his health.

Mr. COKE said perhaps Captain Fitz Roy's ewe wool, as Down, might be worth more money than his, but his object was to breed that sort of sheep which would bring the most money on the whole, by the carcase as well as the wool. He had found the advantage, from the Hampshire cross, of making a higher price than any one at this fair; he made a very high price of his mutton at Smithfield, and he obtained a return every year, instead of once in two years. He made as much of his lambs, as he used to make of his shearlings; he made 40s. of many lambs, out of the wool, last year, and the average was 32s. The last return from his salesman was rather lower.

Mr. WALLER accepted Captain Fitz Roy's wool, and returned thanks for the compliment paid to him. He was aware that Mr. Coke's hoggett wool was too high, and was not a purchaser of hoggett wool at anything like the price.

Mr. NEGUS offered his wool, (half Leicester and Down) to Mr. Moyse at 52s. Refused.

Mr. BECK (Congham) offered his to Mr. Fison at 56s. and 40s. Mr. Fison refused it as did Mr. Gardiner.

Mr. POWELL offered his to Mr. Head (who knew how clean it was) at 52s. and 32s.—Mr. Evered, for Mr. Head declined it, but offered 48s. and 35s. Not accepted. Mr. Fison declined it at Mr. Powell's price.

Mr. MUSKETT offered the Duke of Norfolk's wool to Mr. Sayer at 54s. for the hogget and 33s. for the fat sheep and flock wool. He had letters from Yorkshire which assured him the depression was only temporary, and agricultural labourers were so scarce that they were earning 15s. or 20s. a week. If so the manufacturers must have advanced their wages, and it was a fair presumption that they were making a good profit. His own wool, which had a little sand in it, he would offer at 52s. and 35s.

Mr. SAYER offered 50s. and 35s. for the Duke of Norfolk's wool. Refused.

Mr. Coke then gave "Prosperity to the Norwich Yarn Company."

Mr. D. BLAKE said this company had been established by 1001 shares, for the purpose of employing the surplus population, and restoring a manufacture which had long been lost to these counties. Norwich required a large supply of yarn, which they had been in the habit of bringing from Bradford, where it was spun from Norfolk wool. They had now 400 people, besides children, earning their livelihood in this manufactory, and the yarn was manufactured into fabrics used all over the kingdom and in many foreign countries. He hoped the undertaking would be encouraged in the county as well as in the city; but few county gentlemen had yet patronized it. They had now 2000 spindles at work, and though the Yorkshire gentlemen might smile, this was something for Norwich, and might be increased to 20,000. He should be glad to see substantial evidence that the Yarn manufactory was supported by the Norfolk wool-growers. Its business might be increased, for they were declining orders daily for want of more machinery and capital. If the manufactures of Norwich were considerably increased, the county would be relieved of its surplus labourers; so that it was the interest of the county in every way to support the undertaking. He hoped Mr. Coke, as the first wool-grower, would give it his patronage—if he would take a small share in the concern, he was sure it would thrive.

Mr. COKE said he was not aware of Mr. Blake's presence when he gave the toast. He thought the gentlemen of the county, should give the manufactory all the support in their power, and he himself should feel bound to countenance it as far as he was able.

Mr. D. BLAKE said he should be very glad if he and Mr. Waller could make any bargain so that Mr. Coke's wool might be spun at Norwich, and afterwards manufactured into an article that would reflect some credit on the city, and would be worthy to be worn by Lady Ann Coke and her family. He was sure there were manufacturers in Norwich who could produce a fabric equal to anything that could be made in England or on the continent, and he hoped Lady Ann would not decline to wear it.

Mr. COKE—"She shall go to court in it."—(*Cheers.*)

Mr. FULLARD said he had made up his mind to offer his wool (Lincoln, and not of the best description) so as to meet the low prices. He considered the depression was owing to the scarcity of sheep, occasioned by the rot for the last two years, being now filled up. Districts which, two years ago, produced only 3000 fleeces, now produced 4500. It would be some time before this would be worked off. He offered his ewe and hoggett wool together at 38s. Refused.

Mr. H. OVERMAN said he was one of those unfortunate persons who did not accept the prices offered at the last fair; and when they knew that wool inferior to their's by 6s. or 7s. had been previously sold at 63s. he thought they were justified. He did not feel justified in offering his wool at the prices asked to day, particularly as that Mr. Waller had given 57s. for hoggett and 43s. for ewe. That he did not continue those prices afforded too much reason to fear that the combination had this year fallen amongst the buyers instead of the sellers. As he did not feel justified in accepting the same prices for his fine wool as were offered for ordinary, he was not disposed to sell at present.

Mr. WALLER said Mr. Overman had not told them that the wool for which he last year asked 70s and 56s he afterwards sold at 52s and 33s. With respect to the wool which he had bought of Mr. Abbott, on the 30th of April, for 57s and 42s, he should be obliged to any gentleman who would take it off his hands at 54s and 35s.

Mr. Powell then offered his wool again to Mr. Head's agent at 50s and 35s, but Mr. Evered declined it.

Mr. GAYFORD offered his at 50s and 34s. If not taken he should be glad to have a bid.

Mr. COKE said if so fair an offer were not taken, it was little use remaining in the room, as it was evident no wool would be sold.

Mr. SHILLITO offered his wool (which he believed was very clean) at 50s and 35s. Not taken.

Mr. ELLMAN said he was afraid the buyers were taking an advantage of what had happened last year, hoping the growers would be frightened. But there was no reason to doubt of their obtaining a fair price for their wool. There was every disposition on the part of the growers to deal fairly, but the buyers seemed determined to hold off. When he saw wool refused at prices which he had been told by the buyers would be about the value, he owned he was surprised. It appeared to him there was—he would not say a combination, but an understanding amongst the buyers not to bid over one another.

Mr. Fison thought Mr. Ellman as a stranger, had dealt rather hard measure to the wool buyers. The word "understanding" was but a softer name for

combination, and that anything approaching to this had taken place, in the name of his brethren and himself, most solemnly denied. Mr. Ellman would allow him to say, that unless he were acquainted with the quality of the wool offered he was not competent to give an opinion. Even in the last week there had been a decline in the market. He left Bradford only last Saturday, and their agent had since sold wool at a halfpenny and a penny a pound less than he would have taken when he left.

Mr. ELLMAN confessed that he was not a competent judge of the Norfolk wool, but as the chairman had told them the Hampshire cross made such an improvement, he supposed that at least the Norfolk wool was worth as much as the Sussex. He knew something of Mr. Shillito's and the Duke of Norfolk's wool, and he was astonished that Mr. Shillito had not even a bid. Indeed the sellers had generally asked for a bid, but scarcely one had been made. In using the word understanding he did not mean to reflect on the buyers.

Mr. COKE said that having seen Mr. Shillito's flock last year, he must say he thought his ewe wool worth more than his (Mr. Coke's) and his hoggett little inferior. If, therefore, it was not worth the price asked, he had sold his for more than its value. From the information he had received he should advise the growers to take less than they had asked. If the prices of 35s and 50s were not given, he must be excused for saying he thought there was an understanding not to buy in the fair. That was the sort of opposition offered to him when he first established this meeting, and he hoped he should not see it renewed. If it were, he should say they were throwing every impediment in the way of the fair.

Mr. SHILLITO said he had offered his wool too low, being anxious to sell in the room, but he did not feel bound to take the same prices out of it.

Mr. BALDREY said he had come from a great distance, not to throw impediments in the way of the fair, but to promote it, and he solemnly denied that he had entered into an understanding or combination with any man. He did not know on what ground Mr. Ellman appeared here as the advocate of the Norfolk wool growers. If he saw him at Lewes he knew his object was to sell his wool at the best price he could get, but what business had he here, and why did he come here last year to state prices as having been given in Sussex which had never been realised! (*Hisses*.) As Mr. Ellman was surprised that there was no buyer of Mr. Shillito's wool, he called on him to describe it—whether the hoggets were sound, the ewes well washed, and how it was he was surprised.

Mr. ELLMAN said he had no desire to enter into a personal altercation. When he was asked what business he had in Norfolk, he begged to say that it was he who had introduced the Southdown sheep into Norfolk. (*Cheers*.) As to his having misstated the Sussex prices last year, he threw back the imputation with disdain, and he defied any man to prove that he had said what was untrue. So far from stating that prices were higher in Sussex, some one having said at Ipswich that 2s 6d a pound had been given in Sussex, he stated that it was untrue. He knew the character of Mr. Shillito's flock, and when he heard an honourable man say he had a good lot of wool, and that it was well washed, he was bound to believe it.

Mr. BALDREY said he believed that at the last fair Mr. Ellman said Sussex fleeces were selling at 2s a pound.

Mr. ELLMAN denied it. Their fair was not till after Thetford fair, so that he was not able to state the price.

Mr. BALDREY—You said something. (*Hisses and much confusion.*)

Mr. COKE said he thought it would have been better if Mr. Baldrey had made an apology to Mr. Ellman.

This unfortunate altercation broke up the meeting, the chairman retiring immediately after.

Mr. Powell and Sir C. Clarke sold their wool out of the room at 50s and 35s; we have heard of no other sales.

## LINCOLN SHEEP.

This county has always been remarkable for its breeds of cattle and sheep and for rearing them of an enormous size and weight. The cattle are now much crossed with the Durham breed, by which an animal is produced much handsomer in all its points than the original; the sheep are also crossed with the Leicestershire breed, and it is now difficult to meet with true bred Lincolnshire sheep.

The sheep are not only remarkable for their size and weight, but also for the surprising quantity and length of their wool; but whenever they are removed from their native soil into any other county they become much deteriorated, both in carcass and in the quality of their wool; this is doubtless occasioned by the difference of soil and climate. Amazing numbers of beasts and sheep are fed in the marshes during the summer, and the quantity of meat supplied from this county to the London markets is much greater than from any other.\*

\* Dimensions and weight of three sheep, belonging to Mr. Dawson of *Withcall*, as taken before the Rev. John Wray, Mr. Harland, Mr. Jones, and others, on the 21st of September, 1826:

### WILLIAM, (Three-shear.)

|                                                       | Ft. In.           |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Length from the top of the head to the tail           | 4 7               |
| Breadth across the chine                              | 2 2½              |
| Girth behind the shoulders                            | 6 1               |
| From the top of the shoulders to the breast-end       | 2 7               |
| Breadth across the rump                               | 1 10¼             |
| Round the rump from hip to hip                        | 3 4               |
| From the centre of the hip to the bottom of the flank | 2 5               |
| From the bosom-point to the rump                      | 5 6               |
| Length of the face from the crown to the nose         | 0 10½             |
| Breadth from eye to eye                               | 0 5½              |
| Round the crag                                        | 1 10              |
| Round the chop                                        | 1 0               |
| From the knee to the fetlock                          | 0 4               |
| Thickness of the foreleg under the knee               | 0 ¼               |
| From the hock to the fetlock                          | 0 7               |
| Thickness of the hind-leg                             | 0 5               |
| Height                                                | 2 8¼              |
| Weight                                                | 27 Stone 8 Pounds |

### MAGNUM BONUM, (Two-shear.)

|        |                 |
|--------|-----------------|
| Weight | 26 Stone        |
| Height | 2 Feet 9 Inches |

### CARCASE K, (Shearling.)

|                                                     |                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Weight                                              | 20 Stone 4 Pounds |
| Height                                              | 2 Feet 7 Inches   |
| Weight used in Lincolnshire is 14lbs. to the stone. |                   |



## THE CULTIVATION OF THE POTATOE IN LANCASHIRE, WITH PHYSIOLOGICAL AND ELUCIDATORY OBSERVATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE."

Sir,—I believe it is generally admitted, that if the cultivation of the potatoe be not better understood in the county of Lancaster, it is more extensively grown in this palatinate, than in any other part of the kingdom; and in quality decidedly superior. But, at the same time, it must be acknowledged, that, notwithstanding the great length of time which this useful vegetable has been successfully cultivated in Lancashire, the merit of producing the best potatoes in the world arises rather from the nature of the soil than pre-eminence of ability or superior genius; since, it must be acknowledged, its rural population can lay claim to no very high degree of intellectual attainment, or scientific research.

Having attributed the incontestable superiority of the Lancashire potatoe to the quality of the soil, I beg leave to offer a few observations upon what may be called the philosophical part of the inquiry, as notwithstanding what has been written on the subject, I have never yet seen anything in the form of scientific illustration. It is very well known, that the land, in the greater part of the county of Lancaster, is light and sandy; and it is upon these light and sandy parts of Lancashire that the *pink eye* (far superior to all other kinds of potatoe) is grown. In order to give the reader a clear idea of my notions on the subject under consideration, as well as to enable him to form a satisfactory opinion for himself, it will be necessary to state, that the light sandy soils in the county of Lancaster differ very much in quality from the Woburn sands, for instance, from the sandy parts of Cheshire, or from the sandy soils of any other part of the kingdom which have fallen under my observation. The light sandy soils of Lancashire are softer than those found in other parts of the kingdom, and more adhesive also.

From attentive observation, I have not the least doubt that much of the land upon which the best potatoes are grown in Lancashire has experienced very considerable alteration from the influx of the sea. In all the lower parts of this county, there are very extensive marshes or morasses, or what the inhabitants emphatically distinguish by the word *mosses*; thus we have Halsall moss, Skelmersdale moss, &c., &c. At some period (no doubt very remote) these mosses were covered with trees and underwood, as the incontestable evidence of facts sufficiently demonstrate: they formed woods, which must have existed at least a century, as the large oaks, which frequently make their appearance at the present day on the surface of the earth, may be regarded as incontrovertible proofs. These oaks have become black from lying in the earth for many centuries, but are perfectly sound, more solid, and much harder, than the same timber which has not undergone a similar interment. It seems strange how these ponderous logs, so much heavier than the earth in which they have been so long imbedded, should make their way to the surface! But such is the fact. A gradual rising or elevation of the earth will be perceived immediately above the tree, which is progressing towards the surface, and as it makes its way upwards, the elevation continues to increase; and so well acquainted are the occupiers of these mosses with the nature of this extraordinary pro-

cess, that they are able to form an opinion of the depth at which the tree lies buried from the moment they perceive the undulation; they watch its progress; and, when it has reached within a few inches of the surface, they assist the exhumation, completely uncover it, and take it away.

Now, although the solid part of the tree evidently hardens from the exclusion of the atmospheric air, and the mysterious operation of the bog upon it, yet the leaves, twigs, and smaller branches experience a very different result: they undergo a sort of decomposition, by which they are converted into that light black soil which appears essential in the production of the best potatoe in the world.

A great part of these mosses have been drained, and are in the highest state of cultivation of which it is susceptible; it is called *Car Land*, and excellent crops of grass, as well as of potatoes and wheat, may be obtained from it. This Car Land forms some of the best pasture ground in Lancashire; a proof of which may be seen on the estate of that indefatigable cultivator, Mr. Shaw, at Hoscarr Moss; and a similar remark will apply to many other places well known to the writer, but not necessary here to enumerate. The next quality of reclaimable Moss Land is that which has not been so well drained, nor so long under cultivation; but upon which the very best potatoes (and good oats) are produced. Some parts of these mosses have not experienced that superior degree of cultivation which would certainly have taken place, had the prices of agricultural produce continued at the war scale; and some little is not, perhaps, susceptible of cultivation from the difficulty, or perhaps impossibility, of effectual drainage—such, for instance, is the case with Martin Mere, the property of Charles Scarisbrick, Esq., Sir T. Hesketh, and the Earl of Derby; where, during a part of the year, about ten thousand acres are covered with water, where, on the approach of spring, the deep booming of the bittern is heard, and which is animated by the fluttering, floating, and discordant notes of myriads of web-footed and aquatic tribes, and where that splendid bird, the wild swan, is an annual visitor.

However, upon these cultivated mosses, and their immediate vicinity (where the soil is similar) the best potatoes are grown. The soil, as may be easily imagined, is of a very dark colour, frequently intermixed with sand of a lighter complexion; and either with this admixture, or without it, it still retains that degree of lightness or porosity that, whatever rain may fall, the superabundance will run through it, though sufficient moisture is retained, or absorbed for the support of the growing potatoe:—hence the superiority of the Lancashire potatoe. The principle will be more clearly seen when exhibited in the way of contrast.

Potatoes grown on the stiff soils of Cheshire, Staffordshire, Leicestershire, &c., are distinguished from those of Lancashire by their waxy and watery quality: the reason seems obvious: the clay upon which they have been propagated, by retaining more water after rain than is necessary for the production of superior potatoes, is thus enabled to impart something of its own quality to the thriving vegetable, since the analogy between clay and a waxy potatoe cannot be called in question. The Lancashire potatoe (the *pink eye*) is as remarkable for its mealy farinaceousness, as the potatoe grown on a clayey soil is for the moist, the waxy, and the very opposite quality. That this principle appears correct from what has been stated and our will admit; but it receives demonstrative con-

firmation from the circumstance that it is only in what may be called the mossy parts of Lancashire that the superior potatoe is produced. In the neighbourhood of Ormskirk, in Aughton, Altcar, Formby, Scarisbrick, Bickerstaffe, and what may be called the north western coast of this county, from the beautiful and picturesque Lune to the agitated Mersey, the best potatoes are grown. In Speke and Hale, for instance, which may be said to join the line of demarkation already sketched, the soil alters; it is more inclined to clay, and the quality of the potatoe is changed also—it is decidedly inferior. A similar remark will apply to the southern part of the county of Lancaster generally.

And this notion is strengthened by the fact that when the land has been lately *marled*\*, the potatoe it produces partake much more of a waxy quality, than those grown under other circumstances.

In speaking of the superior quality of the Lancashire potatoe, the remark is intended to apply to the *pink eye*; calculated above all other kinds for the table from its dry mealy quality, and very superior flavour. What are called *cattle potatoes* (the oxnoble, for instance, and another kind or two) are not uncommon in the county of Lancaster, and used, as the name implies, as food for cattle. A much greater weight of these is produced on the same space of ground. While five hundred bushels per acre† is regarded as a good crop of pink eyes, nearly double that quantity is expected, and frequently obtained, from cattle potatoes; and it is hastily supposed that, as the bulk is so much larger, the benefit resulting to the farmer, in giving them to cattle must be in the same ratio. It is quite a mistake. They absorb, and retain more moisture than the pink eye; and, when sufficient pressure is applied, it will be found that the farinaceous matter or flour of the pink eye is nearly, if not quite, equal in bulk, and in quality far superior; so that the same money expended in pink eyes would be more serviceable to cattle, and consequently cheaper to the farmer.

It is very well known that the potatoe crop in Lancashire last year (1833) exhibited a great falling off—indeed it was an absolute failure. I had many opportunities of watching the progress of the crop; and when, at length, during the month of September, I crossed some hundred of potatoe fields, I was grieved to see the miserable appearance which was exhibited. In many inclosures not half the sets had vegetated, and many of those which had sprung into life, and produced a plant, appeared weak and sickly; and notwithstanding the unwearied efforts of the cultivator, in endeavouring to fill up the gaps with second seed, fields, thus circumstanced, presented a very unsightly appearance—they might give rise to irksomely interesting reflections, but produced no pleasing impressions on the mind. I traversed many fields where the crops were as healthy, as vigorous, and as flourishing as possible: and I found, upon examination and inquiry, that where these excellent crops appeared, the land had not been long broken up.

The prevalent system of cultivation in Lanca-

\* *Marl*, a sort of friable clay, is frequently laid on the light soils of Lancashire for the purpose of strengthening them.

† One acre of the Cheshire measure (which is used in Lancashire) amounts to a trifle more than two statute acres.

shire is the following: where a grass field is broke up, it is what is called *skimmed* at the latter end of the year; and this *skimming* consists in the top or turf, being cut (with an instrument made for the purpose, and used by a man) about an inch thick, which is suffered to lie on the surface of the ground till the following spring, when the ground is prepared for the potatoe seed by repeated ploughings. After the potatoes, wheat is sown, and the system of potatoes and wheat is frequently continued for many years in succession. It does not always follow, where a grass field is to be subjected to the operation of the plough, that the turf is skimmed in the manner already described; on the contrary, the field is ploughed in spring, and sown with oats, without any further preparation. Then follows potatoes, succeeded by wheat, when potatoes and wheat succeed each other as in the former case. The soil thus becomes weakened by proceeding too long with the same crops, and the exact same system. I am aware that dung is introduced with the potatoe sets to keep up the strength of the soil; but when we consider how the soil is *anatomized* every alternative year by the potatoe fork, reason would seem to say that it stood in frequent need of a crop of grass for the purpose of uniting, strengthening, and binding it together.

Hence it appears to me that the failure of the potato crop in Lancashire in the year 1833 is attributable rather to the erroneous system of the cultivation than the imperfection of the seed;\* since there was no failure or falling off in fields lately broken up, and it was only where the soil had undergone the operation of *minute dissection* every second year for a long period that the failure occurred or was visible. It may be asked perhaps, how it happened, that the soil of Lancashire, did not manifest the evil before 1833-4, as the *same system* has been practised for nearly half a century? The answer is, that the system is *similar*, but not the *same*. It has only been within the last half score years, that the land has been so harassed with the continued succession of wheat and potatoes. Prior to that period, the profits of the farmer were immense, and hay, as well as other produce, sold for a good price; clover, therefore, was more frequently sown, and the land more frequently laid down. But of late years the cultivators of the soil have, with great difficulty, been able to pay their rents; and were thus constrained to pursue that which appeared the readiest method of raising the money for that purpose.

If we reason upon simple or cultivated nature, either as regards vegetable or animal life, the preceding observations will receive strong corroboration or collateral confirmation. No direct descent in the same blood can be long continued, without a very visible deterioration; in the same manner, vegetable life droops, unless frequently assisted, not merely by manure, but by alteration of soil; or what might be called crossing the strain.

The potatoe crops of the present year (in Lancashire) present similar appearances to those of the year 1833; equally defective—from the same cause,—that which I have described, I entertain not the shadow of a doubt. It is true, the seed† was generally denounced by the farmers, and these complaints produced elaborate essays from some

\* To which the Lancashire farmers attributed it.

† The seed of the Lancashire pink eye potatoe is procured from Scotland, principally, if we are to believe the advertisement, from the neighbourhood of Campbelltown.



of the learned Thebans who import the seed potatoes into Liverpool; who were no doubt, superlatively happy in this being afforded so inviting—so fascinating—an opportunity of placing their delectable excogitations before the eyes of an admiring public.

Having asserted that the farmers blamed the seed, it may be justly remarked that they were anxious to shift the blame from their own shoulders, or rather from their own convenient and profitable system. Potatoes and wheat grown alternately in the way already described, are attended with the least possible labour. The cultivation of the potatoe crop prepares the ground for the reception of the seed wheat; and the Lancashire farmer is thus saved the labour of those repeated ploughings, which in most other parts of England are deemed indispensable, and which in an unpropitious season are difficult to accomplish.

The farmers of Lancashire are perhaps more illiterate than the same class in any other part of England; but no men in the world are more industrious. Their present situation is more favourable than that of their fraternity in any other part of the kingdom, arising from the number of manufacturing towns thickly populated, and spread all over the county. During the war, they were enabled to reap a golden harvest: potatoes were seldom under three shillings and sixpence per bushel, and rose occasionally to seven shillings, when the produce of an acre (supposing it to be five hundred bushels) would amount to 175*l*. Wheat during the same period, varied from 15*s* to 30*s* a bushel. These times are passed away: the Lancashire farmers sigh for their return:—but I am fearful, they sigh in vain.

*The best potatoes are the cheapest.*—Potatoes in Lancashire may be regarded as a staple commodity; or, in other words, they are an article of general consumption. They constitute the principal food of the working and lower classes; with the middle classes, they are the favourite accompaniment of every joint which appears on the table, almost to the exclusion of every other vegetable—they are substituted for bread. Great quantities of potatoes are given to milking cows and cattle during the winter; and even in summer, the former receive them twice a day (at each milking time) in what is called *Licking*\* potatoes are largely consumed by draught horses, and indeed by saddle horses also: a similar remark will apply to pigs; and even poultry are fed, for the most part, with them.

Referring to the observations already made respecting the pink-eye potatoe, and those which come under the description of cattle potatoes, and that the same space of land will produce a much greater bulk of the latter, than of the former, I must further remark, that the Lancashire farmers labour under a mistaken notion in regard to the use of cattle potatoes. It is a common remark amongst them, that the latter will do as well for cattle, horses, and pigs, as the pink-eye; and thus unreflectingly suppose, that, as nearly double the quantity is produced upon the same space of

ground, a great saving is thus effected. However, when we take into consideration, that this superior bulk of cattle potatoes arises from the greater quantity of water absorbed and retained by them, and that, in consequence of this very circumstance, the quality of the farinaceous matter is rendered inferior to that of the pink-eye, it becomes evident that the latter is preferable either as regards the human subject or his quadrupedal dependants; and that, consequently, the Lancashire farmers, pursue, in this respect, a very erroneous method—a system which proceeds in the inverse ratio of truth. That the above reasoning is perfectly correct, I am convinced from observation and practical experiment; and those who feel disposed to put it to the test in the same manner, I have no doubt will arrive at similar conclusions. A pig will thrive better on half the quantity of pink-eye potatoes, compared with ox-nobles, for instance; and the same observation will apply to cattle and horses.

It will be necessary to remark, that what are called pink-eyes do not constitute the early potatoes of Lancashire, of which there are several kinds, such as the kidney, foxes, &c. These are very fine for the table, considered merely as early potatoes, but they are superseded as soon as the pink-eye has attained something approaching to maturity.

The cultivation of early potatoes is rendered precarious in Lancashire from the uncertainty of the weather, and particularly from frosts. I have known frosts in the early part of the month of May to make dreadful havoc with the early potatoe crops; a sharp frost turns the tops black—it kills them in fact; and, when vegetation no longer proceeds in the tops or stalks of the potatoes, it ceases underground also: it is the sap or juice in the top (or what in the county of Lancaster is called *wysle*) which conveys nourishment to the growing root or potatoe underground; and therefore, when the nutritious supply has been annihilated or cut off, there can be no produce. The month of May is the season for planting the pink-eye potatoe, and it thus escapes the danger of frost.

The leaves of the potatoes sometimes appear shrivelled up, which the Lancastrians call *curled*; it is an infallible indication of a bad and diseased crop. Many of the farmers attribute it to too much dry weather; but this is a mistake, it arises from bad seed; and particularly from the farmers using their own seed; that is, seed grown upon their own farms. I tried the following experiment:—Upon the ground where the seed had grown I again planted it; the crop proved very indifferent; the leaves were curled, the potatoes small and scabby. I reiterated the experiment:—the tops were as sickly as possible, few potatoes were produced, those not larger than nutmegs, scabby and diseased beyond measure.

As food for milking cows, potatoes are superior to turnips, to mangel wurtzel, carrots, or cabbage. Mangel wurtzel fattens a cow at the expence of her milk; and its use is not unattended with danger. Some few years since I had a beautiful heifer which was allowed to eat unrestrainedly of the leaves of mangel wurtzel: they produced the same effect as wet clover, and the animal died.

T. B. J.

\* *Licking* is composed of sliced potatoes mixed with bran, of which each receives a portion at milking time—many of the cows will not allow their milk to flow till the licking is given them. Such a system would appear strange to a Leicestershire farmer; but it is not the less correct on that account; in no part of Great Britain do cows produce more, if so much, butter as in Lancashire.

A new tulip, rared by M. Patrix, a gardener at Ghent, and which the Society of Florists of the town has named the "Citadel of Antwerp," has been purchased by M. Vandernineck, a horticulturist of Amsterdam, who was formerly a Captain in the Dutch navy, at the price of 16,000 francs.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS."

Sir,—I have for some time past read your articles on the subject of Irish Poor Laws with some surprise, but have abstained from remarking on them, with the hope of being supplied with some tangible facts, which might be brought to bear directly on the practical understandings of your readers, and your paper of this date has furnished me with them, in the petition from Burishoole, presented by Mr. Sharman Crawford.

I beg your attention closely to the averments of this petition.

It states that there are "7,841 persons of the parish necessarily consigned from want of employment, to the alternative of dying by starvation, or of protracting existence by plunder, &c. &c.," and a few sentences lower, it gives the total rental of the parish, at 6,972l 7s 8½d. (From the exactness of the sum, even to a halfpenny, we may presume the writer had access to correct documents.)

Now, let a Poor Law be enacted, to entitle each of these 7,841 individuals to subsistence from the land of the parish, the entire value of which is 6,972l 7s 8½d, and when the assessment of twenty shillings is made, it will give about nineteen shillings per head to support the poor for a year; that is to say, about five farthings per day, for each pauper.

Here is the result of an entire confiscation of estates for the support of the poor in the parish, now pressed on the attention of parliament.

If starving able-bodied men, now confined to their own parish by want of a farthing to take them away from it, were to get a weekly allowance of anything marketable, is it not likely that they would carry their labour to the British market? A Poor Law would give them means to pay their passage, which they now cannot command, and would at once direct them to the seat of wealth and industry. I cannot understand the cause of that delusion which makes so many agriculturists believe that Poor Laws would keep the Irish at home. They stay at home now from a necessity, in many cases, which could not exist, if their families were supported by the parish.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

"ONE WHO PREFERS FACTS TO ARGUMENTS."

## A LAPLAND SUMMER.

Including also what in other countries is called spring and autumn, consists of fifty-six days, as follows:—

|        |                              |
|--------|------------------------------|
| June   | 23, Snow melts.              |
| July   | 1, Snow gone.                |
|        | 9, Fields quite green.       |
|        | 17, Plants at full growth.   |
|        | 25, Plants in full blow.     |
| August | 2, Fruit ripe.               |
|        | 10, Plants shed their seeds. |
|        | 18, Snow.                    |

From this time to June 23, the ground is every where covered with snow, and the waters with ice.

A pamphlet in the form of a speech on the improvement of the River Shannon, in Ireland, has lately been sent to us. It does not bear the name of the author, but we understand it was written by Mr. C. W. Williams. The remarks it contains were suggested by what passed in the debate, on the 12th of May last, relative to Lord Kerry's motion on the improvement of the Shannon. The object of the writer is to show that, as had been generally admitted so long ago as 1794, the completing of the

navigation of that river and the great rivers adjoining, from Lough Allen to Limerick, would improve and open the home and foreign markets to the produce of more than 2,000,000 of acres of land in the heart of the kingdom, and moreover would advance the commerce, manufactures, agriculture, and population of Ireland. The author affirms, on the authority of all the evidence and reports on the subject, that the practicability of the proposed measure, and the extensive and national advantages that must ensue from its adoption, are unquestionable. In support of some of his allegations, he enters into a comparative view of the navigation of the Rideau Canal in Canada, and though he appreciates the advantages which are reaped from the labours and expenditure lavished on that canal, he deploras that an excessive liberality should have been exhibited on its behalf, while a policy the very reverse is adopted towards Ireland. Two maps are appended to the pamphlet in illustration of the author's view of the matter.

The more I am acquainted with agricultural affairs, the better I am pleased with them; inasmuch that I can nowhere find so great satisfaction, as in those innocent and useful pursuits. In indulging these feelings, I am led to reflect how much more delightful to an undebauched mind, is the task of making improvements on the earth, than all the vain glory that can be acquired, from ravaging it by the most uninterrupted career of conquests.—*Washington.*

## KING'S BENCH.

SHAW V. ROBERTS.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, with whom were Mr. KELLY and Mr. SHEE, stated this to be an action brought by the plaintiff against the defendant, representing the Norwich Union Insurance Company, to recover a sum of money upon a fire policy of insurance. The plaintiff had carried on business at Lynn as a corn-merchant, and had insured his premises in the sum of 1,400l, and the policy stated that there was a kiln on the premises for drying corn—the premium paid was 3s. 6d. per cent. In December last some bark was being dried on this kiln, when unfortunately a fire took place on the premises, and they were burned down. The plaintiff then applied to the Company to pay the amount of his policy, but they refused to pay him, and he was compelled to bring this action; he should produce the policy and should call evidence to show that the fire was accidental, and he should then be entitled to their verdict. The learned counsel designated this refusal of payment as a most ungracious act on the part of the Insurance Company. The learned Attorney-General then proceeded to produce the following evidence:—

The policy of insurance was then put in, and it particularly mentioned a kiln for drying corn.

Charles Goddard: I was clerk to the plaintiff; he carried on business as a corn merchant at Lynn.

Benjamin Green: I was employed in the kiln; I recollect some bark coming from a lighter and being put upon the kiln; I left the premises with some other men belonging to them about a quarter past five; we went to get our tea; when I left the premises they appeared to be perfectly safe; as soon as I saw the fire I went to the premises; a messenger was sent for Mr. Shaw, who lived two miles and a half off; we kept supplying the kiln with bark from time to time as it was required.

Cross-examined: the fire took place on 13th December: I removed some bark about 10 or 11



that morning, and the fire broke out about six in the evening; I never saw any bark dried before.

Re-examined: the first quantity of bark came on the 11th: the kiln had been recently built; the fire broke out in the granary.

Thomas Hart: I was in the employ of Mr. Shaw when the fire happened; before the time of the fire I never knew bark dried there; the whole place, and everything in it were burnt.

Cross-examined: I don't recollect whether the door between the kiln and the granary was of wood or iron.

This was the plaintiff's case.

Sir FREDERICK POLLOCK then addressed the jury for the defendants. There was no doubt the plaintiff had property on the premises exceeding in value the amount of the insurance but it was the duty of the defendants as regarded themselves and the public, to take care that they did not pay a loss for which they had never contracted a liability—against which, if they had anticipated it, they would have protested. The whole was owing to the plaintiff's obstinacy. His defence was this: In the policy it was stated that there was a kiln for drying corn, but that was never intended to be applicable to kiln for drying bark. The kilns used for these two purposes were totally different in their construction. A kiln for drying corn had small holes in the floor, but the kilns for drying malt had no such holes, because particles of the bark would go through the holes, and being of a nature something like touchwood, or tinder, would set the premises on fire; but in addition to that there was this distinction, that the insurance for a kiln for drying bark was 7s. 6d. per cent. whereas the insurance for a kiln for drying corn was only 3s. 6d. per cent. He should be enabled to establish in evidence that the kiln in question was constructed for the purpose of drying corn, and that bark was dried in that kiln, in consequence of which the fire arose. In point of law he should submit that the plaintiff was not justified in doing this, and could not therefore recover against the Insurance office upon this policy.

Allan Scott: I was kilnman to Mr. Shaw in December, 1832, and had been so for 6 or 7 years. The kiln was used for drying corn and seed; he was a corn-merchant; I never saw bark dried there before; a lighter loaded with bark arriving, the waterman of which came and asked me to dry it, I told him to go to Mr. Shaw; he saw Mr. Shaw, who sent for me, and told me to dry the bark. I told him I did not understand it, as I had never seen any dried. There were holes in the floor of the kiln, so that corn could lie upon it without going through the holes. I said it would require a cloth to be put over the fire, to prevent the dust of the bark going through the holes, as I thought an accident might occur. Mr. Shaw desired me to light the fire immediately, and he said that it did not require a cloth, and the bark was put on the kiln. When I went to tea on the day of the fire, I left the fire very moderate. On my return, I found the kiln was on fire; it spread to the granary. I cannot account for the fire happening.

Cross-examined.—The door leading from the kiln to the granary was wood; the door was shut when I went away. I believe I stated the conversation between Mr. Shaw and myself to Mr. Jarvis.

By the Court.—If any particle of the bark had gone through the holes, I should not think it would have taken fire; that's where I am done; but the floor is over the fire-place, about five feet above the fire.

John Whiteby.—I am a lighterman; Scott was

the first man at the fire. I was there soon after it broke out. I had been there all day turning the bark, and had only left the premises about an hour. The fire was in the middle of the kiln; the bark was on fire.

John Green, Agent for the Norwich Union at Birmingham.—There are kilns for drying bark as well as for drying corn; a kiln for drying bark is generally constructed with a flue round the room. The rate for insuring a corn-kiln is 3s. 6d. per cent.; the rate for insuring bark kilns is 7s. 6d. per cent.

Thomas Lewin.—There are kilns expressly constructed for drying bark with flues; there is no access between the bark and the fire.

Mr. KELLY then replied.

Lord DENMAN, in summing up, said the first question for the Jury was, whether the drying of corn by the kiln, and the drying of bark as it took place, were two essentially different things. The second question was, whether the drying of the bark, as it was taking place, was more hazardous than drying corn. The third question was, whether the drying the bark did not produce the loss.

The Jury retired for a short time, and then delivered a verdict for the defendant on all the questions.

## COURT OF EXCHEQUER.

ELCOM V. NASH.

Mr. BALL opened the pleadings.

Mr. KELLY stated the case. This was an action of trover for ten horses and two sets of harness, under the following circumstances;—A man named Lipscombe, who was coachman of the new Colchester coach to London, and who horsed that coach one of the stages, sold the horses in question, with two sets of harness, to the plaintiff, who was landlord of the White Horse, Little Britain, for 150*l*. Some little time before the sale a veterinary surgeon, named Pennington, had valued the horses on plaintiff's behalf, and a person named Cartwright, said the plaintiff paid the money on the 6th of August to Lipscombe at his own house, and Lipscombe's receipt for the 150*l* was proved. The plaintiff next day went down to Witford, in Essex, and took formal possession of the horses. After this Cartwright, a lawyer's clerk, drew up an agreement, by which Lipscombe hired the horses of the plaintiff at the rate of 6*l* per month, with authority to buy, sell, and exchange the horses for others, as he thought proper; but before doing so he was to consult the plaintiff, at whose house he lived while he was in London. Lipscombe had, under the agreement, again possession of the horses. In December last the defendant, who was creditor to Lipscombe to the amount of 138*l* for corn, pressed for the amount, and prevailed on him to sign a paper, which turned out to be a bill of sale of the horses and harness. Lipscombe stated he was not aware of the contents of the paper. The defendant soon afterwards took possession of the horses, after which Lipscombe gave a note for 50*l* to the defendant for re-possession of four of the horses, in order that the coach might not be stopped from running.

These being the facts of the case,

Mr. THESIGER, for the defendant, addressed the Jury, contending that the bill of sale was given for a *bona fide* consideration, and therefore the defendant had a right to the horses.

Lord ABINGER left it to the Jury to say whether the bill of sale was fraudulent or not.

Verdict for the plaintiff—Damages, 150*l*.

## NORTHERN CIRCUIT — LIVERPOOL. NISI PRIUS COURT.

HUTTON V. LION AND ANOTHER.

This was an action brought to recover 23*l*, being the amount of damages awarded by the decision of an arbitrator against the present plaintiff, and also the amount of costs incurred upon that occasion.

Mr. Alexander and Mr. Anderson appeared for the plaintiff; Mr. Cresswell and Mr. Crompton for the defendants.

It was stated that the plaintiff was the tenant of a warehouse in Liverpool, and that a Mr. Frankland was his landlord. The plaintiff had sublet a room in this warehouse to the defendants, who, employing it for the purposes of their business, had stored it with meal. After a few weeks, either from some defect in the construction of the building or from the weight being greater than it had been intended to support, the floor of the room occupied by the defendants gave way. Mr. Frankland, as landlord, repaired the premises, and brought his action against the present plaintiff to recover the amount of the expense then incurred. The matter was referred to arbitration, and it was decided that Mr. Hutton was liable for the amount.

On the part of the plaintiff witnesses were called, who gave it as their opinion that the room in question was only capable of sustaining the weight of meal piled to the height of four, or at the utmost five feet, whereas the defendants had filled it as high as seven feet, and that they had no doubt but that the excessive quantity of meal had caused the floor to break down.

For the defendants a number of witnesses appeared, who stated that it was the usual custom to stow as much in the warehouse as they were capable of containing, and that with reference only to their size, and not to their strength, which was always supposed to be equal to the greatest possible weight that they could contain; that the plaintiff was fully aware of the quantity of meal which the defendants had placed in the warehouse, for that, in consequence of the distance from which it was brought, he received a farthing for every load, and that he never made any objection that the weight would be more than his room could sustain. They also said that the quantity, 750 loads, would not be too much for a warehouse of the proper construction.

Lord Abinger summed up the case to the jury, who after a short consultation found a verdict for the defendants.

**MICE.**—A farmer, of Beame, who kept his corn on an unboarded floor, found it constantly devoured by mice. To remedy this, he plunged a number of earthen pots into the earth, all round the heap of corn; he filled them half full of water, and, being varnished within, when the mice came to drink they slipped in and were drowned. In the space of two months he thus destroyed 14,500.

The extraordinary number of upwards of 2,230 mice were a few days ago, killed from two wheat stacks, the property of Mr. T. Crowe, of Flamborough, which were being removed. The above number is independent of what were devoured by cats and dogs. The air of Flamborough must be of a prolific nature, as well as the sea.

In the nights of the 24th and 25th July (that is in the Dog Days) there was such severe frost in the neighbourhood of Riga that the haulm of the potatoes was frozen and turned quite black.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "FARMER'S MAGAZINE."

SIR,—Relief to the agriculturist can only be obtained by unity of purpose. It behoves us, (farmers,) when ruin is staring us hard in the face, to arouse every dormant energy to obtain an immediate and radical redress of those grievances under which at the present moment and for the last four years past we have been suffering to a most alarming extent, and since our distress has been admitted on all sides, no longer to be slumbering at our post, but to bestir ourselves before it be too late to make our voices heard in that place where alone any redress can be obtained. If we ever have thought that the submitting tamely to our present depressed condition, was the most likely means of obtaining that consideration which so numerous and respectable a class are justly entitled to, a sufficient time surely has elapsed to remove such blindness, and make us see clearly that we, and we only, must look to our own interest, that we must unite to be heard, that we must use every constitutional means to obtain that relief we so much stand in need of. Need I say that the press is the most powerful organ in our hand, and since we have now a magazine dedicated wholly to the agricultural interest, let us make it the means of communicating from county to county the exertions made by our fraternity, as a stimulant to still greater if necessary, to obtain a fair and impartial hearing; it is this which has induced the humble individual who is now addressing you to become a contributor to these pages.

We, (the farmers,) by being distributed over the country, a few in one parish and few in another, and meeting only perhaps once a week in any considerable numbers at some neighbouring market, when our time is chiefly spent in the business of the day, have not as yet, from the inconvenience attending it, ever been united for our own protection; but surely when we see our interest suffering in the way it now is, it is high time no trivial obstacle should deter us from using our most strenuous endeavour for the protection of our remaining property! Many persons who are unconnected with land, imagine that the relief the farmers want is to be obtained at the hands of the landlords in the shape of reduction of rents, but every tenant who keeps an accurate account of the produce of his farm, must be perfectly aware of the fallacy of such a supposition, for I am quite sure that on many, very many farms, if the whole of the rent were taken off, that then it would not leave the farmer a remunerating profit for his time and capital employed; if such be a true statement of facts, and I affirm it to be so, it clearly shows the utter inability of landlords to meet the times with their tenants, and the little tenants ought, comparatively speaking, to expect it at their hands. If our present depression were only a temporary one, resulting from some unnatural cause, we might expect shortly again to be placed in a more prosperous condition; but when the duration has been for the lengthened time it now has, with prospects still more lowering, it must carry conviction even to the most dull that it cannot proceed from any of the causes which have hitherto only produced this temporary depression, this will of course lead us to enquire from



what other source it does proceed; upon this there seems but one opinion, which I think must be quite conclusive, that the change in the monetary system caused by "Peel's Bill," has been the origin of all our troubles. If then our grievances are caused by an Act or Acts of Parliament, it is to Parliament, and Parliament only, we can look for any satisfactory redress of them. To the particular attention of Parliament we have such strong claims, as being the largest tax payers of any individual class in the kingdom, as the principal employers and supporters of the poor, as, in fact, the mainstay of the nation; and, if these were not sufficient, as the most loyal and patriotic of all his Majesty's subjects, and this I assert we are not from any vain boasting, but from very natural causes, that we draw our subsistence from the soil itself, our time and occupation is so mixed up with it, that it would be the height of degeneracy if it were otherwise. Then, surely, with such strong claims to attention, we need not be afraid to speak boldly, but temperately, or that if properly directed and zealously persevered in, our claims to the attention of the legislature will be thrown carelessly aside in the shameful way they have been. There seems to me but one way to effect so substantial a good, which is in the establishment of Agricultural Societies, only partially attempted in some counties. Yet the benefit these few confer on agriculture makes me wonder that so many counties should not earlier have followed the steps of their neighbours. If these societies became general, and as many as three, four, or five existed in each county, composed as they naturally must be of the agricultural influence and intelligence of it, nothing could or would have so great weight with the legislature as petitions from them, bearing on the face of them undeniable authenticity of the depression under which we labour. We cannot be surprised we have a deaf-ear turned to our complaints by those who are totally ignorant of agricultural pursuits, when we reflect, that we are proverbial for our grumbling dispositions. It remains therefore for us to shew by persevering in forcing our claims to attention, that now we need not seek for grounds of complaint. But if farmers will continue blind to their interest, and will not stretch a hand to relieve themselves, how can they expect others will attempt it for them?

#### A TENANT OF WESTERN SUSSEX.

August 19th, 1835.

#### THE ALDERNEY COW.

It is the opinion of those best informed upon agricultural matters, that the Jersey and the Alderney cow are precisely alike—both distinguished by the fine curved taper horn, the slender nose, the fine skin, and the deer-like form; and both preserved in their purity by breeding in and in.

Quail, in his report, truly says, that "next to the possession of *vraic* (sea-weed for manure and firing) the treasure highest in a Jerseymen's estimation, is his cow." It is now as it was in Quail's time. The cow is the object of his chief attention; and his care and affection for it may be compared with those of a German for his horse.

"It is true," says Quail, "that in summer she

must submit to be staked to the ground, but five or six times in the day her station is shifted. In winter she is warmly housed by night, and fed with the precious parsnip; when she calves, she is regaled with toast, and with the nectar of the island, cider—to which powdered ginger is added."

The high estimation in which the Jersey cow is held by its possessor, is shared by the island legislature, which has preserved the purity of the breed by special enactments. An act was passed in the year 1789, by which the importation into Jersey, of cow, heifer, calf, or bull, is prohibited, under the penalty of 200 livres, with the forfeiture of boat and tackle; and a fine of fifty livres is also imposed on every sailor on board who does not inform of the attempt. The animal, too, is decreed to be immediately slaughtered, and its flesh given to the poor.

The number of cows everywhere dotting the pastures of Jersey, add greatly to the beauty of the landscape: though when one passes near to them, the discovery that they are tethered, somewhat decreases the pleasure we have in seeing them. In apple-orchards, however, in which the under-grass crop is always used as cow-pasture, it is necessary to tether the animal; and not only so, but to attach also the head to the feet, that the cow may be prevented from eating the apples, which she would be quite welcome to do, were it not that they might injure her.

All over England, the Alderney cow, as it is generally called, is celebrated not only for its beauty, but for the richness of its milk, and the excellence of the butter made from it. Extraordinary milkers, even among Jersey cows, are sometimes found. I have heard of three cows on one property yielding each from sixteen to eighteen quarts per day, during the months of May and June; and of thirty-six pounds of butter being made weekly from their milk. I have heard, indeed, of one cow yielding twenty-two quarts—but these are, of course, extreme cases. The general average produce from Jersey cows may be stated at ten quarts of milk per day, and seven pounds of butter per week. It is stated that in summer from nine to ten quarts produce one pound of butter; and that in winter, when a cow is parsnip-fed, the same quantity of butter may be obtained from seven quarts—an extraordinary produce certainly. The profit on the best cows, the calf included, is estimated at about 12*l.*; 30*l.* being the money received, and the keep reaching 18*l.*: but this certainly applies only to the best cows. Two verges and a half, or somewhat better than an acre of good land, is considered sufficient for a cow's pasture. The price of Jersey cows has considerably fallen during the last fifteen years. A good cow may now be purchased for 12*l.*; a prime milker will fetch 15*l.*; and the average may be stated from 8*l.* to 10*l.*

GUERNSEY.—In this island, the cows are universally tethered, as in Jersey, and are moved, watered, and milked, three times a day. From about the beginning of November, during the winter, parsnips and mangel-wurzel are given to the cows at night.

There are few points of island jealousy carried further than that which regards the breed of cows of Jersey and Guernsey. It is certain, however, that of late years greater attention has been bestowed upon the breed of cattle in Guernsey than in Jersey; and the law forbidding the importation of any foreign breed, has been scrupulously acted upon. A Guernsey farmer would not, upon any account, admit a Jersey cow on his grounds. In England no difference between Guernsey and Jersey cows is understood; but the number of the latter exported being by far the greater, they are generally better known to the job-

bers. The Guernsey cattle are considerably larger than those of Jersey: and it appears from the evidence of the clerk of the market, that an ox has attained the weight of 1500 lbs. Quail, in his report, says, those of 1200 lbs., or sixty score, appear not unfrequently. I am told that a Guernsey cow, when its birth is distinctly known, and when offered among those best able to judge, fetches a higher price than the Jersey cow. This may possibly be owing to the larger size; for there can be no doubt, that greater size, supposing all the other points equal, gives the animal an advantage.

The following is the description and standard of excellence of a Guernsey cow, transmitted to me by one well versed in those matters:—The points of excellence are, 1. Pedigree of the parents; yellow ears, tail, and good udder. 2. General appearance; colour, cream, light red, or both, mixed with white. 3. Handsome head, well horned, and bright and prominent eyes. 4. Deep barrel-shaped body. 5. Good hind-quarters and straight back. 6. Handsome legs and small bone. I believe, however, that this classification of points of excellence is not rigidly adhered to. I have seen it stated of the Guernsey cows, young and old, that the general average is rather more than 365 lbs. of butter in the year, being equal to one pound of butter, or eight quarts of milk in twenty-four hours.

**ALDERNEY.**—In my rides I often paused and drew up my horse to look over the walls at the pretty little Alderney cows, whose beauty and qualities have so greatly distinguished their native island. My attention was particularly directed to some acknowledged as fine specimens; and to me they seemed well to deserve the praises that had been passed upon them. I found it, however, everywhere admitted, that there is but little distinction between the Alderney and the best specimens of the Jersey cow. The Guernsey cow, though also of the same breed, is (as I have observed) a larger animal, and, in the opinion of many, finer, though certainly not more comely.

I had been told in the other islands, that the true Alderney breed, such as I should find it in the Alderney, is black and white; but I did not find that the people of Alderney adopted this criterion of purity of breed. Red and white, and brown and white, I found equally common; and the choicest specimens shown me, were white and reddish-chocolate colour; but not with too great a preponderance of white. The Alderney people look more to the short curved horns, than to the colour: and it was stated to me by a gentleman who had paid great attention to the subject, that there is no indication of a true Alderney cow so certain, as prominent sparkling eyes; and in this the Alderney cow offers a strong contrast to other cows; for the eye of a cow is generally of a tranquil and sleepy expression. —Abridged from "Inglist's Channel Islands."

## ON FLOODING LAND.

(FROM SINCLAIR.)

The practice of flooding, under the name of "The Lock Husbandry," has been carried to great perfection in Livonia. It has there been ascertained, that it is a great improvement to have fish put into the water employed in flooding the soil. Carp is principally employed at the rate of from thirty to forty fish per acre. They are put in at from six to eight months old, and it is found from the fertility they produce, that the land will yield a third more in this way, than if the water had been without fish. The family of a great landed proprietor in Courland, (Baron Hoher,) owes its fortune entirely to this system. They have twelve fields appropriated for the purpose of flooding, four of which are constantly under water, and the other eight fields were cropped with grain, by means of which, an immense quantity of straw is annually furnished. This is an important acquisition in a country where they are obliged to keep their cattle constantly shut up in cow-houses for five or six months in the year.\*

## ON WARPING LAND.

There is no circumstance which proves more clearly the advantages to be derived from minute and extensive enquiries, adopting for their basis the political divisions of the country, than the discovery of the process called warping land. This most valuable species of improvement, applicable wherever tides in their course keep alluvial matters in a state of suspension, was confined to a small district on the banks of the Humber; and though it had existed there for about fifty years, yet not a syllable concerning it had ever found its way into a page of printed husbandry; and it might have remained unknown for many years longer had not the Board of Agriculture undertaken the survey of the kingdom, in the course of which it was brought to light.

In discussing this subject, it is proper to consider,—The origin of the practice;—The nature of the improvement;—The means of effecting it;—The season most suitable for the purpose;—The expense and profit;—The mode of cultivation and produce;—The situations where it may be attempted;—and, The improvements and the extent of which it is susceptible; together with some account of a species of river warping in Italy.

1. Origin of the Practice.—A species of warping has long been known in Italy; but the person who made the first experiment of warping in England, was Mr. Richard Jennings of Armin, near Howden, in Yorkshire, who tried it about the year 1743.† It was about the year 1753, before it was

\* An account of this curious practice was given me by the Baron A. de Meyendorff, a Livonian nobleman, in 1829, whose post town is Riga.

† When the political divisions of a country are made the basis of inquiry, no part of it is overlooked or neglected; and there is reason to expect, that every local useful practice may be brought to light, and ample information obtained, regarding the real state of a country, and the means of its improvement.

‡ Mr. Day of Doncaster, (West Riding, Report, p. 171), states that warping was first tried 'about 50 years ago,' and his information was given in 1793. Mr. Marshall was informed at Booth Ferry, near Armin, that one Barker, a small farmer at Rawcliff, was the first warper of land; and that Jennings, of Armin, was a steward of a professional person, who

The *Mémorial du Calvados* of the 14th instant states that the whole of that country is entirely burnt up by the extreme heat, and the rivers are so low that the mills have ceased to work. The greater number of the men employed at the Cotton-mills of Condé-sur-Noireau, amounting to between 2,000 and 3,000, are thrown out of work; at Falaise, water is sold at the rate of 50f. a tun: in several cantons of Brittany cider is given to the cattle to drink; and the horses of the dépôt at Bretteville, for remounting the cavalry, have been removed to Caen.



attempted by any other person; and it remained in obscurity till the beginning of November, 1793, when it was made public by three eminent farmers, who had been appointed by the Board of Agriculture, to draw up a report of the husbandry of the West Riding of Yorkshire. As the Board had only met for the first time on the 4th day of September preceding, the discovery of warping, in less than two months, is a striking proof of the zeal and activity of those appointed to carry on its inquiries.

2. The nature of Improvement.—The water of the tides that come up the Trent, the Ouze, the Dun, and other rivers which empty themselves into the great estuary of the Humber, is muddy to an excess; inasmuch, that in summer, if a cylindrical glass, from twelve to fifteen inches long, be filled with that water when the tide is high, it will presently deposit an inch, and sometimes more, of what is called warp, or a species of mud of great fertility. This substance probably originates from a variety of earthy particles, washed down by the rivers to their mouths, where they are mixed with saline and other fertilizing matters with which the sea abounds, and by agitation are rendered so fine, as to be suspended when the water is agitated by the tide. Some of it was analyzed by an eminent chemist, whose report was, that it contained mucilage, and a very minute portion of saline matter, a considerable quantity of calcareous and most probably aluminous earths; the residue mica and sand; the latter in by far the larger quantity, but both in very fine particles.

3. Mode of carrying the Plan into effect.—The plan of securing rich alluvial soil by embankments, has been practiced for ages; but it was reserved for modern times to conduct mud-laden waters, artificially, from the estuary or river in which they flowed, for the purpose of furnishing low and barren ground with a sufficient depth of fertile soil. The mode of executing the plan is extremely simple. When the improvement is determined on, the ground must first be surrounded with banks from three to four, six or seven feet high, according to circumstances, that the water may be of a proper depth on the land to be warped, and to prevent the contiguous lands, whether cultivated or not, from being overflowed. The tide is then admitted, and detained, until the sediment in the water is deposited upon the surface of the land. To render the plan efficacious,

extended the practice. Tradition says, that Barker, like other men of aspiring genius, hurt himself at the outset, (as is too often the case), by the prosecution of his scheme, which he was, in consequence, on the point of giving up; but laying his case before a friend, he advanced him fifty pounds, which enabled him to complete his grand design, by which he afterwards made a little money, so as to be able to forward his children's progress in life. One of his sons is now settled in business at Hull. Mr. Marshall very properly adds, that those who have made, or are making fortunes by this discovery, ought to ascertain who made it, and should lose no time in raising a monument to his memory. *Easter Department*, p. 197, note—"Mr. Wells, of Booth Ferry, near Howden, mentions it as a tradition, that the utility of this process was an accidental discovery. A stubble field was inundated with water from the river, and covered with mud. The benefit which the field derived from the enriching substances thus brought to it, was the cause of Mr. Barker's proceeding.

there must be a complete power over the water, either to keep it out, or to let it in; accordingly to accomplish these objects, there must be, not only a cut or canal made to join the river, but a sluice, (provincially clough), to open or shut, as required. The effect is very different from that of irrigation, for it is not the water which produces the effect, but the warp or mud; and the great object is, not to manure, but to create a soil of the richest quality, and that at a moderate expense.

4. The Season of Warping.—June, July, and August are undoubtedly the best months for warping on account of their being in general the driest seasons of the year. Land, however, may be warped in any season, provided the weather be dry, and the fresh water in the river very low. When the season is wet, and the river full of fresh water, this operation cannot be advantageously executed. The fresh water, in this case, stems the tide, and occasions a degree of stagnation, favourable to the repose of the prepared matter, and consequently it is not half so muddy, nor capable of depositing the same quantity of sediment as when the tide flows in more freely, and stirs up the mud. Warping in spring, is attended with no peculiar advantage, more than in summer, as there can be no crop the first year. The sediment must lie to soak and dry, before the ground can be cultivated.

5. The Expense and Profit.—Without ascertaining the situation of the lands proposed to be warped it is impossible to calculate the sum it will require to embank the lands, to build the *cloughs* or sluices, to cut the drains &c., and the quantity of land the same drains and cloughs will be sufficient to warp; for the greater the quantity, the less will be the expense per acre. There are *great quantities* of land, however, which might be warped for so small a sum as from 3*l.* to 4*l.* per acre; an expense trifling when compared to the profit that is derived from the operation. Mr. Webster at Bankside, in Yorkshire, purchased a farm of 212 acres, which he warped. The price was 11*l.* per acre, and the expense of warping about 12*l.* more, or 23*l.* in all. It was immediately rendered by warping worth 70*l.*, and, in some parts, even 100*l.* per acre, at which price warped land frequently sells; but even at 70*l.* the profit is immense. Mr. Webster warped some moorland, worth only 1*s.* 6*d.* per acre, (for such land there is in that neighbourhood), and could immediately let it for 5*l.* per acre.

6. The Mode of Cultivation and Produce.—The best mode of cultivating new warped land, is to sow it with clover, and to let it remain under that crop for two years, in order that it may be brought into a state fit for corn. It does not answer to sow land, immediately after it is warped, with wheat, even though fallowed; but after white or red clover, continued for two years, a good crop of wheat may be relied on, unless injured by the slug, which sometimes makes its appearance.\*

Nor is it proper when land is warped, to plant it with potatoes, or to sow it with flax, it being at first of too cold a nature; though these crops may answer, if the land be not too strong for potatoes, after it has been for two or three years in cultivation.

In the quality of warped land, there are most essential differences; some parts of the field being very strong, and others very friable. The land nearest the drain is, in general, the lightest,

\* Their depredations might be prevented, by salt strewed on the surface after the crop was sown.

owing to the quantity of sand that is deposited as soon as the water enters the field; the land farthest from the drain is in general the best. The produce of warped land varies much; but, in general, it may be stated, of wheat, at from 20 to 40 bushels; of beans from 35 to 50, and in some rare instances even 80 bushels; and of oats from five to eight quarters per acre. Warped lands require manure, and will not carry many crops without its aid, even where the situation is dry, and the soil fertile.

7. Can the process be extended?—Some doubts are entertained, whether the great repository of highly prepared matter in the Humber, may not be exhausted. But there seems no just ground for such apprehension, when the great extent of the estuary in which it is found, and the vast tract of country, which, for ages, has been pouring down these valuable substances into its bosom, are considered. At the same time, it would be desirable to remove every doubt of that sort, by as accurate examination of the banks or the bed of the river and the shoals in it, as is practicable in such cases. If upon inquiry it should be ascertained that the quantity of warp is as immense, as there is reason to expect, it is to be hoped, that such a treasure, in value equalling any of which the country is possessed, will not be neglected. We have the means in our power of converting land worth only a few pence, to land worth 5*l.* per acre per annum; or in other words, of transmuting copper into gold. The efforts made in Egypt to obtain, and to secure the fertility of its soil, in circumstances not very dissimilar, are well known; and shall nothing be done by the British Government to promote an imitation of the husbandry of the Nile on the banks of the Humber, and of other rivers where it may be found practicable? Why not give some species of public encouragement to so great a national object? more especially as the valuable substance in question, (silt or warp), is not confined to the Humber, but is to be met with in great perfection and abundance, in many of our other rivers and arms of the sea.

8. Of River Warping in Italy.—From some later accounts which have been published of the agriculture and statistics of Italy, it appears that a species of warping has been long known in Tuscany. It is there called *colmata*. The rivers in that country carry down with them vast quantities of mud and sand, by which their discharge into the sea is impeded, and great marshes are formed, not only at the mouths of these rivers, but in their courses, when they are passing from one level to another. Torricelli, it is said, was the first who taught his countrymen to enclose the marsh with a dike or embankment;—to admit into this inclosure the water of the rivers;—to force this water, by means of sluices, to remain stagnant as in a lake, so as to deposit its mud;—and by the sediment so produced, to raise the level of the bottom. At one time, three or four inches of earth have been often deposited;—the operation has been several times repeated in the course of a year;—and the level so much raised, that the ground is no longer liable to be overflowed by the river. The soil thus acquired, is of the highest fertility; and an instance is mentioned, of a piece of ground thus treated, which had yielded 25 measures of wheat from one. Necessity was the parent of this operation in Italy; whereas, on the banks of the Humber, it seems to have originated from accident, and has been carried on by a zeal for improvement, and the prospect of gain.

## THE BARLEY-MOWER'S SONG.

BY MARY HOWITT.

BARLEY-MOWERS, here we stand,  
One, two, three, a steady band;  
True of heart and strong of limb,  
Ready in our harvest trim;  
All a row, with spirits blithe,  
Now we whet the bended scythe.

Side by side now, bending low,  
Down the swaths of Barley go;  
Stroke by stroke, as true's the chime  
Of the bell, we keep in time;  
Then we wet the ringing scythe,  
Standing 'mong the Barley lithe.

After labour cometh ease,  
Sitting now beneath the trees,  
Round we send the Barley wine,  
Life-infusing, clear and fine;  
Then refresh'd, alert, and blithe,  
Rise we all and whet the scythe.

Barley-mowers must be true,  
Keeping still the end in view  
One with all, and all with one,  
Working on till set of sun;  
Bending all with spirits blithe,  
Whetting all at once the scythe.

Day and night, and night and day,  
Time, the mower, will not stay;  
We may hear him in our path,  
By the falling Barley swath;  
While we sing with voices blithe,  
We may hear his ringing scythe.

Time,—the Mower, cuts down all,  
High and low, and great and small;  
Fear him not, for we will grow  
Ready, like the field we mow;  
Like the bended Barley lithe,  
Ready for the whetted scythe.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORWICH MERCURY.

Glynde, near Lewes, 29th July, 1835.

SIR,—Believing an account of Lewes Wool Fair will be acceptable to many of your readers, I have great pleasure in informing you that a great deal of business was done, and at prices quite as good as was anticipated. I sold mine, consisting of about 750 ewe and two-year old wether fleeces, and about 640 hoggets, at 5*s* per tod of 32 lbs, which is rather more than 1*s* 7*d* per lb ewe and hogget together. Calculating the ewe and wether at 1*s* 5*d* and the hogget at 1*s* 10*d* will be as near the price as may be. Many other lots were sold at 1*s* 6*d* per lb ewe and hogget together, which is the customary way of selling with us—lots consisting of about three-fourths ewe, one-fourth hogget. I know not whether Mr. Baldrey has inserted in your last a letter similar to the one in the Norfolk Chronicle, which was forwarded to me, but thinking it probable he may have done so, I will only add, that yesterday I saw the person who was reported to have sold his wool previous to Thetford Fair in 1834, and which on being asked as to prices in Sussex, I only stated as report, and it was strictly true. So that what possible grounds Mr. Baldrey could have for the gross attack on my veracity at the last Thetford Wool Fair, I am quite at a loss to discover. The quotation Mr. Baldrey



makes of what was said by me at Thetford in 1834, states clearly that I only spoke of it as a single instance, and that not with certainty, but which has proved to be a correct report, as the lot of wool was sold at 2s per lb. I cannot omit this opportunity of thanking most sincerely the noble-minded chairman of the Thetford Wool Fair, T. W. Coke, Esq., of whom your county may be truly proud for his kindness in defending me against the attack made on me that day—and will only add, that notwithstanding the sneer made by Mr. Baldrey against me for attending at Thetford, so long as my conduct is viewed, as I trust it is, by the gentry and yeomanry of Norfolk and Suffolk, and which indeed *their kindness the other day so well evinced*, I shall hope to be present at Thetford Wool Fair the next and many following years, even though by so doing I may incur the displeasure of Mr. Baldrey.

#### A PRACTICAL FARMER.

### PROPOSED EXPERIMENTAL FARM.

Some months since I published "Suggestions" as to an Experimental Farm, with a view of directing the attention of Agriculturists to the advantages which would result from an establishment of that nature, conducted upon scientific principles. Those "Suggestions" were intended to be submitted to the Highland Society. But it will be observed, by turning to page 10, expressly stated, that "*before presenting*" the Suggestions "to the Highland Society, the author" thought it "necessary to lay them before his brother Agriculturists, that they may have it in their power to testify the value and importance they attach to an Experimental Farm;" and subsequently advertisements appeared in several of the Scottish newspapers, intimating, "in order that the sense of Agriculturists, regarding the efficacy of the measure, may be more effectually known, it is proposed to prolong the period for returning the 'Suggestions,' with the names of the approvers annexed, till 31st December next." Thus it was evidently not contemplated to bring the subject under the consideration of the Highland Society, till its January meeting, when the sense of the country would, in some measure, have been obtained; my feelings of surprise and mortification may therefore easily be conceived, when, in a distant part of the sister kingdom, I read the decision of the Society on a question which, if the Directors had either perused the "Suggestions," or the advertisements already referred to, they must have seen was not before them. I do not mean to find fault with the noble Duke, who, doubtless from the most patriotic motives, called the Society's attention to the subject sooner than I wished; on the contrary, I would rather be inclined to give his Grace credit for his anxiety to promote the great interests of agriculture. Nor do I blame the Directors because they have not approved of my scheme, but I do think their decision was come to without the whole bearings of the case being fully considered, or the sense of Agriculturists fairly ascertained. As the opinion of the Society, thus prematurely given, may have the effect of leading many, who otherwise approved of the principle of an Experimental Farm, to deem the scheme now hopeless, I feel compelled, though reluctantly, to call on Agriculturists not to despair because an unfavourable decision has been published, but rather to use increased energy to attain so desirable an object; and to convince those who may be in any degree

sceptical as to the practical utility of such an establishment, I shall attempt to point out a few of the more obvious benefits likely to result from it, in the hope that every man will judge impartially for himself, and say, whether these advantages do not far outweigh the difficulties of the Directors of the Highland Society.—But before adverting to the benefits to be derived from an Experimental Farm, I beg to offer one or two remarks on the report of the Directors, as it appeared in the public journals. Those honourable gentlemen seem

"With one hand thrusting from,  
With the other pulling home,"

for, in one sentence, they state that an Experimental Farm is "*inconsistent* with the plan of the Society, which is, not to be itself the experimenter, but to encourage, stimulate, and in some cases to remunerate those who are about to make, or have made, experiments." Yet this same report concludes by telling the public, that "if an Experimental Farm, on a well digested plan and moderate scale, should be thought an advantageous adjunct for the investigation of certain phenomena, of which cases may perhaps be conceived, offering a too uncertain or too remote chance of advantage for individual speculation, the means of carrying it on being procured and placed at the disposal of the Society, they would do their utmost to make the scheme conducive to the public advantage." This appears to me like blowing cold and hot in the same breath. The whole extent to which my suggestions went, was to direct attention to the subject; and if the general feeling was favourable, then a plan would have been digested. But the Directors, while they admit that there may be cases in which the investigation of certain phenomena may be too uncertain for individual speculation, which, by the bye, is almost conceding the whole point at issue—they do all in their power to crush the embryo scheme. The Directors assert that an Experimental Farm "must, under any circumstances, be conducted at a great expense, its objects being, in a great measure, incompatible with attention to profitable return from its operations." To a certain extent this is true: but the Directors are surely not aware of the fact, that although the experimental garden of the London Horticultural Society cost upwards of 20,000*l.* to establish, it now not only pays current expenses, but is liquidating its debt by upwards of 1,000*l.* per annum, and why should a different result be anticipated in an Experimental Farm? Every agriculturist knows that high prices are paid for superior descriptions of seeds: and where would the agriculturists buy with equal security, as from an institution where he was certain that nothing would be sent forth that was not superior; and the reasoning which applies to seeds, applies still more forcibly to animals for breeding, inasmuch as the propagating of superior stock is the most important part of rural economy. I am far, indeed, from undervaluing the information collected and published in the Society's reports; but the Directors require not to be told that what a man sees going on before his eyes makes a more lasting impression than any thing he reads. It may be here remarked, that in an establishment of this nature, profit can hardly be taken into account. An Experimental Farm would be, in fact, an adjunct to the agricultural class in the University. It would be a school in which the Professor could apply the principles of his prelections in a way to produce the most lasting impression on his pupils:—it would be an establishment from whence stock and

seeds could be procured, the kinds and qualities of which had been fairly tested; and although not one farthing of profit was realized directly, such incalculable benefits would flow from it as would soon far outweigh any trifling shortcoming that might occur.

To prove that a farm, upon the principle pointed out in the "Suggestions" to the Highland Society, is a desideratum, I shall, in the first place, endeavour to show the advantage of such an establishment in improving the present stock of cattle in the country.

This important branch of agriculture has no doubt met with great encouragement from many enterprising individuals, and not unfrequently much progress has been made in producing fine animals; but those who have hitherto directed their attention to this department, acting as they necessarily must have done, without either concentration of purpose or unity of design, have laboured under many disadvantages, which it is altogether impossible for the detached exertions of individuals so operating to overcome. From the want of properly authenticated data, and registered facts, each individual improver had to commence and perfect a system for himself, without being much enlightened by the experience of those who had preceded him, and hence comparatively little has been effected in diffusing a general improvement in this department of rural economy throughout the country. Besides, the enterprising spirit occasionally displayed by individuals, too frequently ceases with themselves, and the stock so carefully cultivated under their own immediate superintendence, is allowed to degenerate, from the inexperience and neglect of those whose property they subsequently become. Thus, in a few short years, not a vestige remains of a once valuable breed. In alluding to what has been accomplished by individual exertion, I would beg to be understood, not as wishing to disparage, but rather to praise those exertions—the wonder being, not that so little has been achieved, but that so much has been effected in circumstances both adverse and dispiriting.

To remedy those disadvantages, which had been long felt, local associations now generally and liberally encouraged in the agricultural districts of the country, began to be established, and though the beneficial effects resulting from these are but partial and limited, and by no means commensurate with the expectations of their founders, they have unquestionably had a good effect in proving what can be done in fattening and in pointing out more distinctly the comparative merits of the different animals.

The great desiderata and essential elements of all improvements are therefore evidently wanting,—co-operation and union. Such has been partial, not because the energies of the country are unequal to the task, but because its strength has been divided and its efforts detached; and it appears a matter of no small astonishment that some such establishment as that advocated in the "Suggestions" has not been long ere now exclusively set apart for this purpose, more especially when it is recollected that every individual or company of individuals who have, for any length of time, devoted practical attention to the improvement of their breeding stock, have generally succeeded in their efforts, and in realising very high prices.

From the defects at present existing, the necessity and advantages of such an establishment are sufficiently apparent—both as respects improving

and renovating the present inferior breeds, and securing to the country a constant and permanent supply of the most improved sorts; for if once a proper breeding stock were obtained, superintended by properly qualified persons, whose whole attention should be to this particular department, and if no animal was suffered to leave the establishment without the sanction and approval of a committee of management and the manager himself—there would be an annual issue of animals, of a highly improved and useful character, which, by caution and perseverance, would be the means of displacing the coarse and unkindly breeds, which, at present, constitute such a large proportion of the cattle stocks in Scotland. To this grand depot every breeder could repair—and on the stock issued or the information gained, he could rely. From the publicity that would be given to every circumstance connected with its economy, from the register of well-authenticated facts that would be periodically and regularly issued—whether as regarded the failure of any particular mode of management, or its success, rural science would assume a certain and systematic form hitherto unknown, and a diffusion of sound practical knowledge would ensue that could not fail to be attended with the most beneficial results. All the advantages likewise of union and co-operation would be secured—the grand parent society taking the lead, would point out the road to success, and assist local associations and individual breeders. Such an establishment would likewise be of vast importance in dispelling the crude and contradictory opinions that prevail to such an extent in this department of agriculture, for it is a well known fact, that almost any system, no matter how absurd or ridiculous, can boast of its supporters and partizans. For instance, while the great majority of breeders (in theory at least) appear to deprecate what is called breeding in and in, they propose remedying the obvious defects of the existing breeds by adopting the very opposite extreme—a method no less prejudicial than the first. The truth in this, as in most other cases, will be found removed from either extreme. While, with its warmest opponents, we condemn the practice of breeding in and in, we are also of opinion that too great a disparity between the sexes, should be as carefully avoided, it being well ascertained that the greater the difference between the sire and the dam, the greater will be the uncertainty of the symmetry, feeding qualities, and general character of their offspring. All this, however, by the method we propose, would be brought to the test of experiment; prejudice and error would necessarily give way to fact, and a system of treatment, based on reason, would gradually extend itself to the remotest corners of the country, instead of a matter of moment being left to the direction of accident or caprice, as has hitherto generally been the case.

If the opinion alluded to in the preceding paragraph be founded in fact, we may conclude that the improvement of the present deteriorated class of animals, with which the country is stocked, will not be so speedily accomplished as the generality of breeders may suppose. If extreme crossing must be avoided, and almost imperceptible changes superinduced upon the existing stock, it is not difficult to foresee that a series of years must elapse before the defects which have been transmitted by every successive generation, can be eradicated, and stock brought to that state of perfection of which it is susceptible. If we are to foster, not to force, it will not be by any sudden



movement that the wished-for amelioration is to be accomplished, but by a succession of nice and delicate operations, requiring not only time, but caution and perseverance to conduct to a successful and satisfactory conclusion. These, as has already been mentioned, are entirely beyond the reach of individual or local exertion, and can only be attained by the patronage and countenance of some such influential body as the Highland Society of Scotland, and these certainly are subjects, whether we look to the variety of improvements contemplated, or the ultimate benefits accruing to the country at large, worthy of attention and liberal support.

As a powerful inducement to embark in this scheme of improvement, it may be remarked, that from the year 1710 to 1830 the average increase on the weight of the cattle at Smithfield market has been estimated at about two-fifths. If so much then has been accomplished by individuals in circumstances so adverse and discouraging, the improvement that would ensue from the formation of an Experimental Establishment would be almost incalculable; and now that an additional field of enterprise has been opened up by Scottish Agriculturists feeding off, and sending their cattle direct for the London market by steam, instead of disposing of them to English dealers, and having them fattened on the rich pastures of the sister country, it is evidently the interest of all, who are in any way connected with land, whether as proprietors or tenants, to have the present coarse and unkindly breeds displaced, and others of a superior character introduced.

In conclusion, we would observe, that although an accurate estimate of the increased value of an improved stock, would involve a variety of details, and some very nice calculation, which it is at present out of our power to furnish, still it is satisfactory to know the opinion of practical men in regard to this subject throughout various parts of the country. The opinion of many eminent farmers who have had considerable experience in the breeding, and particularly the fattening of stock, has been obtained, and all agree in stating that if it were in their power to fill their stalls with well-assorted animals instead of their mixed stock, which necessity alone obliges them to take, it would at least be one pound per head in favour of the country. In some districts they admit, where the breeding of stock has been more particularly attended to, the difference would not be so much, but in other districts the difference would be greater. Now, take the annual number of cattle killed in Scotland, along with the quantity sent to England, and the gross number will not be found less than 300,000, which at one pound per head, would give an increase of value to the extent of 300,000*l*, and this estimated increase is supposed to take place in the five or six months of feeding. If the country is at present annually receiving this sum less than it would do by having a proper stock of cattle, it would certainly be of immense consequence to have the matter rectified as soon as possible, and we consider no plan better calculated to ensure such result to the country than an establishment from which an improved superior breed could at all times be commanded.

I may at a future period direct public attention to the advantages likely to result from the establishment of a breeding stud, as a portion of the economy of an experimental farm.

A SCOTCH FARMER.

## REMEDIES FOR THE DEMORALIZATION OF THE AGRICULTURAL POPULATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE CHRONICLE.

SIR,—You are entitled to grateful thanks for the insertion in your paper of the 17th inst, the extract from the *Farmer's Magazine*. I have never chanced to meet with that publication, but for years I have raised my single voice against the mischievous system among farmers, towards their servants and labourers, in having discontinued boarding and lodging their single men under their own roof. I rejoice at every means towards returning to a better order of things; and, by giving wider circulation to the suggestions in the *Farmer's Magazine*, you have most usefully employed your pages. Perhaps, however, an extract so long may have been passed over by some of your subscribers, without reading; and I address you on the subject in this short letter, that, if you print it, it may again refer your readers to the extract; drawing the attention of those who have not read it, and inviting the further thoughts of those who have already perused it.

I entirely agree with the writer in the Magazine that "the great cause, if not the sole cause, of the deplorable state of the agricultural districts, has arisen from the system of the farmer discontinuing to board and lodge their men in their houses;" but if no one "will venture to doubt this truth, I would earnestly caution the farmer from casting the responsibility from himself upon his landlord, or postponing the remedy until some other person has done some other thing towards it. From this evil plan which "has worked so badly," has grown up the loss of morals among the poor, and consequently the loss of morals among the rich; and all the worst features in the administration of our poor laws;—the separate rate of wages for the single and married;—(a most wicked and unjust distinction, for wages are the reward of skill and industry, not the measured dole to situation, nor to the wants of the workman);—the payment of wages out of poor rates;—the call for public-houses and beer-shops;—false principles;—undue combinations;—and more than all these latter, the chain of social order has been robbed of its principal link, and society has become disorganized, and is fast passing to dissolution.

In such a state of things, let not the farmer cast the responsibility from himself upon his landlord, nor postpone the remedy until premiums are offered, or additional buildings erected, or other measures taken:—it is the great mistake of the present day, the great error in all personal reform, that we desire our neighbour to do well, but we desire to excuse ourselves. The landlords on their part have, by lessons of the same severe experience as have visited the farmers, to retrace false steps; to restore small farms upon their estates;—to abolish board wages in their families, as means to restore society to a healthy state. Let "the happy farmer's boy, inexperienced in vice, the picture of health and contentment," know that the farmer can reward faithful service by providing a cottage and garden to the married adult labourer, who has lived in his house; and let the married adult labourer know that the landlord can reward skill and industry by letting a small farm to the experienced and thrifty cottager, and much will be effected towards restoring the moral character of the agricultural population:—far more good than

can ever be accomplished by any display of liberality by landlords on their rent-days, in, what is termed "voluntary reduction of rents," to be afterwards recorded in the newspapers;—a public degradation of the farmers, and a condemnation of the landlords themselves, in having set higher prices on their lands than they can venture to exact;—far more good than agricultural societies or premiums, (useful as I admit these to be)—far more good than all the legislative enactments, which a hundred parliaments may pass in a hundred years!

Only let not the farmer postpone the remedy, the landlord will build the lodging-room, when he finds the labourers are *in the house* to require it.

Yours, &c, 665.

### WILTS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The anniversary of this Institution was held on Wednesday, July 15th, in Devizes; and on no former occasion since its establishment, was there a more numerous attendance. There was also a fine exhibition of cattle, and a greater competition for the premiums than usual. At about four o'clock, a large party partook of a splendid dinner at the Bear Inn, served up in a very superior style, by Mr. Lord, the new landlord. Mr. Bennett, as usual, filled the chair, and among the company were, Mr. Locke, Mr. Neeld, Mr. Estcourt, Rev. Mr. Goddard and son, Rev. Mr. Ashe, Mr. O. Codrington, Mr. Hughes, Mr. F. A. S. Locke, Mr. S. Neate, Mr. Tylee, Mr. Atherton, Mr. Mayne, Mr. G. E. Sloper, Mr. Budd, Mr. Legg, Mr. Shepherd, of Swindon, Mr. W. R. Brown, Mr. A. E. Saunders, Mr. Young, Mr. S. Mills, &c. &c.

As soon as the cloth was removed, the following toasts were drank in succession:—The King—The Queen and Royal Family—The Navy and Lieut. Budd.—The Marquis of Bath, the Patron of the Society, and thanks to him for his donations, and for his annual present of a Buck—The Marquis of Aylesbury, a great promoter of the interests of the Society.—The Lord Lieutenant of the County—The High Sheriff—Lord Suffolk and the Wilts Militia, and Capt. Goddard. Mr. BENNET then said, that in proposing *The Church*, he would connect with the toast the name of a gentleman who was beloved and respected by all who knew him, who was an old friend to the Wiltshire Agricultural Society, and who was also an ornament to the church, of which he was a Minister—he meant the Rev. Mr. Ashe—drank with three times three.

The Rev. Mr. ASHE said, if he should express himself inadequately he could assure the company that he was not the less sensible of the compliment which had been paid him. It was a source of great pleasure to be assembled with gentlemen for the purpose of promoting the objects of a Society, in which, though persons of all political grades might join, politics were not suffered to enter. Here the tumults of elections, and the squabbles of the hustings, were forgotten; and whatever differences of opinion on other subjects might be entertained, all parties to-day were met for one common object, to promote the cultivation of the soil. He felt the high honour of having his name connected with the church; and he could assure the company that the Ministers of that Establishment had no wish to receive testimonies of approbation any longer than they deserved them by doing their duty. Before he sat down, he begged to propose the health of a gentleman under

whose presidency the Wiltshire Agricultural Society had flourished for a great number of years;—who had lent his fostering hand to it in its infancy—who had watched and protected it to manhood—and who, if he should live to see signs of its old age, would double his support in order to sustain it. Without further preface, he proposed the health of the Chairman, Mr. Bennett.—Drank with three times three and three times three.

Mr. BENNET rose, but it was some time before he could be heard; each renewed effort to speak, appeared to excite to renewed cheering. Nothing could exceed the enthusiastic manner with which the toast was received.—After sincerely thanking the company for their kindness, the hon. gent. said.—He could assure the company, that no one was more attached to agriculture—no one was more attached to his country, and on the prosperity of agriculture depended the prosperity of the country—no one was more attached to Wiltshire and to Wiltshiremen than he was. There were those who attended public meetings merely from a sense of duty, and were glad when that duty was over; but he attended the Wiltshire agricultural meeting from a very different feeling. He looked forward to it with a degree of pleasure and anxiety that he could not adequately express, and he was never more gratified than when surrounded by those friends who generally attended that meeting. He would willingly make some observations as to the prospects of agriculture; but he could say nothing that was cheering. He would advise them, however, to persevere, and rely upon Providence for the rest; and he was assured that Agriculturists could display a spirit of perseverance under circumstances of depression, which would be almost sufficient to turn the most resolute from their purpose. The agricultural interest of the country could not be destroyed without some great revolution, which for a time would annihilate all interests; but he apprehended no crisis of danger. The native energies and good sense of Englishmen would enable them to overcome all difficulties. It was true that a large number of persons connected with land had been entirely broken down by the heavy burthens they had to sustain, and he feared that many more would drop; but still he trusted that better times would arrive. There was a great difference of opinion regarding the present Corn Laws; some thought that a fixed was better than a fluctuating duty, and he at one time had been among the number, but he had lived to see his error. Whatever their opinions might be, they had better not quarrel with the present law, and by that means throw themselves into the hands of their enemies; rather keep the good they had, than trust to that which they knew not of. Besides, whilst British Corn continued at such low prices, the present Laws acted as a direct prohibition to the importation of foreign grain. With regard to Taxation—the hon. gent. said, he had always been a strong advocate for the repeal of the Malt tax, and he thought that the landed gentlemen grossly deceived themselves, when they supported the reduction of the beer tax rather than that of the Malt-tax. That the Malt-tax produced an immense revenue there could be no doubt, and if it were taken off to-morrow, under the present debt of the country, some other tax must be laid on in lieu of it; but it was much more easy in the present House of Commons to repeal a tax than to impose one: in his opinion, it would be a very difficult matter to renew the beer-tax. He, however, could honestly vote for a repeal of the Malt-tax, as he was ready to substitute a Property-tax in lieu of all



those taxes which bore on productive industry. Government expected that the Agricultural interest would be greatly benefitted by the alteration in the Poor Laws, and they had taken the complete controul of the poor into their own hands; but in his opinion they ought to go farther, and take upon themselves the paying of them too. What reason could be assigned why every one should not contribute to the forced Charity—the Poor Rates? Why should the landed more than any other interest be peculiarly subjected to the burthen? Government having the controul of the public money, he would urge that the poor should be paid from that money. A substantial relief would then be afforded to both landlord and tenant; for each was experiencing difficulties that no others laboured under. As to a reduction of rent, it was well known, that rent in some places formed so inconsiderable a portion of the farmer's expenses, that it would be impossible to give him adequate relief from that source, even if his landlord relinquished his claim to nearly the whole of the rent. No reduction of rent, generally speaking, could enable the farmer, at the present depressed prices, to cultivate the soil and pay the expences. Landlords and tenants then should unite together for their common interest, and endeavour, if possible, to obtain some direct relief from Government; at the same time bearing in mind, that it was absolutely necessary for the welfare of the country that our Institutions should be strictly maintained. After a few more observations, Mr. Benett sat down, amidst loud and reiterated cheering.

"The Members for the Borough of Devizes" was the next toast proposed, which was drank with applause.

Mr. LOCKE, in returning thanks, said, he fully concurred with the sentiments so ably expressed by his friend, Mr. Benett. No one could be a more sincere friend to the Agricultural interest than he (Mr. Locke) was, and he would use every exertion to promote its welfare. He, too, would support a property-tax, because he believed it to be the most equitable tax, and it would be the means of transferring the burthen from those who were ill able to sustain it, to those on whom it ought to fall. (*Loud cheers.*)

"The Members for the Northern Division of the County"—(*drank with cheers.*)—"The Members for Chippenham"—(*reiterated cheering.*)—Mr. NEELD, in expressing his acknowledgments, said, he did not feel that he deserved the kindness which had been evinced towards him. It was true, he had come from town purposely to attend that meeting; but he had done no more than the worthy President, and the excellent representative for Devizes. He could however have wished that it was not so much the fashion to keep the representatives so long in town; for he was confident that at this season of the year they could be of far more service in their respective districts than in the House of Commons. He thought that Associations like the one they were met to celebrate, were productive of immense benefit; they were calculated to draw still closer the bond which it was most desirable should, and he hoped ever would, exist between the landlord and tenant, and between the tenant and the labourer who tilled the soil. It was by such Associations that our national industry received new directions, and went on in the way of improvement. It was also by such associations that our national wealth was increased. Although he was no practical Agriculturist, he would do all in his power to further the objects of the Wiltshire Agricultural Society.—(*Loud cheers.*)

Mr. DAVIS proposed as a toast "The Members for

the Southern Division of the County."—(*Drank with loud applause.*)

Mr. BENETT returned thanks, and said that an honest independent Member of Parliament had no difficulties to contend with. His path was clear: he had only to exercise his judgment, and to vote according to his conscience for those measures which, in his opinion, were most conducive to the real interests of his country. He (Mr. Benett) held certain principles which governed his conduct; and—though it might occasionally give him pain, when he knew he was differing in opinion from some of his dearest friends—he never looked to the right or to the left, but went on honestly and straightforward, acting as his conscience told him was right. He had felt greatly annoyed at the division which had been made in the county; though he believed it had made no division amongst his friends in point of kindness towards him; this he would say, he would never do any thing to forfeit their esteem; and high as he felt the honour to be the representative of the southern division of the county, if any one could be found that would represent it more faithfully, he was ready to be put upon the retired list. (*Immense applause.*)

Mr. BENETT then said, that the company had that day been honoured with the presence of a descendant of one of the most eminent agriculturists that England had produced, and who inherited a large portion of his father's talent. His name was well known throughout the country—he meant Mr. Thomas Ellman, of Beddington, in Sussex, whose health he begged to propose, and whose name he was desirous should stand on the book as an Honorary Member.—(*Loud and continued cheering.*)

Mr. ELLMAN returned thanks for the high honour conferred upon him, an honour as unmerited as it was unexpected. He trusted that the meeting would excuse his replying at any length, as he was not so much accustomed to making speeches, as to the pursuits of agriculture. Mr. Ellman remarked upon the difficulty which the judges of stock had to contend with in awarding premiums, especially when the animals were shewn in unequal condition. He would take the liberty to recommend the exhibitors of stock to put the best face upon those animals which they intended to shew, both on account of the credit of the society, as well as their own credit as farmers. If it did not pay to keep stock in good condition, it would not pay to keep them poor, and judges could not well decide upon the quality of the animals, when no flesh was to be found upon the frame; not only was the difficulty of the judges increased, but the chance of the exhibitor thrown away. He would say one word upon the subject of the malt tax, the repeal of which he considered of paramount importance to agriculturists. The tax was unequal, unjust, and impolitic: unequal, because it imposed a tax amounting to 100 per cent., bearing exclusively upon one part of the community; unjust, because it deprived the hard-working man of one of the greatest necessities of life; and impolitic, because it dried up the fountain of our national wealth, namely the exertions of our peasantry. By that abominable tax, the labourer was not only robbed of almost his birthright, but if he was to enjoy a pint of his natural beverage, he must seek it at a beer-shop, instead of having it at his own fire-side, in the presence of that family which he now too often neglected and left in abject misery. The working of the new Poor Laws, as far as he (Mr. E.) had been able to view the operation of the measure, appeared to improve the condition of the agriculturist. One crying mistake which the legislature had made in

carrying the measure into execution, he could not refrain from observing, that was the expense to which the tenantry were subjected too suddenly, in the defraying the expenses of building poor-houses. Either the landlord should bear half the expense, or the time for paying off the debt incurred should be extended. He would now ask leave to propose a toast, which, if permitted, he should do with more than ordinary pleasure: he would give, "Prosperity to the Wilts Agricultural Society." It was to these meetings that we owed all our improvements in agriculture; and not only had we this advantage arising from them, but it brought together landlord and tenant, and produced those good feelings between them, which was a mutual advantage to both. (*Loud applause.*)

"The Mayor and Corporation of Devizes," was the next toast drank.

Mr. THOMAS ESTCOURT said he felt additional pleasure in expressing his acknowledgments for the honour done the Mayor and Corporation on the present occasion, as it was not improbable this was the last time that the gentlemen present belonging to that body would be complimented in their corporate capacity. In whatever capacity they might however be placed, he would take upon himself to say, that they would be always ready, in their respective stations, to promote good feeling and good fellowship among their neighbours. (*Loud applause.*)

"The health of the judges of horned cattle."—Mr. LITTLE returned thanks.

"The health of the judges of sheep."—Mr. ELLMANN returned thanks.

"The health of Mr. Nicholson, the vice-president, and thanks to him for the great and gratuitous services he had rendered the society."—Mr. NICHOLSON was much cheered, and acknowledged the honour in appropriate terms.

Mr. BENETT then passed a high eulogium on Mr. Neate, and Mr. W. R. Brown, the stewards of the society, and proposed their healths, which was drank with three times three.

Mr. NEATE returned thanks, and was willing to receive the compliment paid him (in conjunction with his brother steward) as a proof of the good feeling entertained towards him by his neighbours and friends, among whom it was a great object of his ambition to live on terms of amity and friendship. (*Loud cheers.*) He congratulated the society on the number and fineness of the stock exhibited that day; on the number of visitors to the cattle yard; and, in consequence, on the enhancement of the funds of the society. (*Continued cheers.*)

Mr. BENETT said that the society had been under great obligations to the Treasurers, when it was not quite so prosperous as it then was. He therefore proposed the health of the Messrs. Tylee, whose conduct had always been extremely liberal. (*Drank with great respect.*)

Mr. BENETT next reminded the company that the society had originated with Mr. Saunders and other spirited gentlemen of Market Lavington; he therefore thought the healths of those gentlemen should be drank in a bumper. (*Loud applause.*)—Mr. A. E. Saunders expressed his acknowledgments.

"The successful candidates for the premiums."—Mr. O. CODRINGTON returned thanks.

After some other toasts were drank, a bumper was taken to the next meeting, and the company separated.

The premiums were awarded as follow:—

#### HORNED CATTLE.

FIRST CLASS, No. 1.—To Mr. Richard Stratton, of

Calcott, for the best two year old Bull, a premium of three guineas.

To Mr. Jonathan Grant, of Coulston Farm, for the best Bull of any age, a premium of three guineas.

SECOND CLASS, No. 1.—To Mr. James Beaven, of Thornham, for the best Heifer under four years old, a premium of three guineas.

No. 2.—To W. W. Salmon, Esq., of Devizes, for the best Cow of any age, a premium of three guineas.

THIRD CLASS, No. 1.—To Mr. David Unthank, of Warren Farm, Tottenham Park, for the best pair of Working Oxen, a premium of three guineas; and a premium of five guineas to the same gentleman for the best Fat Ox, (in the fourth class).

To Oliver Codrington, Esq., of Wroughton, for the second best Fat Ox, a premium of three guineas.

To the Marquess of Bath, for the best Fat Cow, a premium of five guineas.

To Mr. James Beaven, of Thornham, for the second best Fat Cow, a premium of two guineas.

FIFTH CLASS.—To Mr. Jonathan Grant of Coulston Farm, for the best Boar Pig, a premium of one guinea.

JUDGES,—Messrs. Thomas Little, James Hull, and James Maton.

#### SHEEP.

A premium of three guineas to Mr. James Maton, of Maddington, for the best two-tooth Ram of the South-down breed.

A premium of three guineas to Mr. William Gulliver, of Collingbourn, for the best four-tooth ditto.

A premium of three guineas to Mr. Stephen Mills, of Elston, for the best Ram of any age.

A premium of three guineas to Mr. W. Gulliver, of Collingbourn, for the best pen of Ewes of the South-down breed.

A premium of two guineas to Mr. Collings, of Devizes, for the best pen of fat Wethers, of the South-down breed.

A premium of two guineas to W. W. Salmon, Esq., of Devizes, for the best pen of fat Wethers of any breed.

A pen of two-tooth Ewes and two Rams, shewn by Mr. Thomas Mills, of Figheldean, as extra stock, were very much admired.

JUDGES—Messrs. Thomas Ellman, David Unthank, and William Church.

#### PREMIUMS FOR REARING LAMBS.

The first premium was awarded to William Pike, shepherd to Mr. John Goodman, of Fyfield, who reared 280 lambs from 268 ewes, 267 of which ewes were living on the first of May last; the second to John Pinchin, shepherd to Mr. Harry Hayward, of Wilsford, who reared 398 lambs from 392 ewes, 391 of which ewes were living on the first of May last; and the third to Joseph Goddard, shepherd to Mr. John Stratton, of Rabson Farm, who reared 407 lambs from 412 ewes, 408 of which ewes were living on the first of May last. The committee, conceiving that very great credit was due to Mr. Hayward's shepherd, recommended that an honorary premium of 10s. be paid to him as a reward for his meritorious conduct.

The following were declared to be entitled to the premiums awarded by the society to female servants in busbandry:—Sally Mullins, servant to J. T. Mayne, Esq., for a period of upwards of twenty years. Ann Eatwell, servant in the family of Mr. Budd, of Winterbourne, for a period of fifty-six years. Ann Parrot, servant to William Wyndham, Esq., for a period of 30 years; and Mary Cook, servant to Mr. John Brown, for a period of 30 years.

The following were the claimants for the great



coats awarded by the society:—Thomas Carpenter, servant to Jos. Neald, Esq.; Thomas Kemp, servant to Lieut.-Gen. Popham; John Richardson, servant to the hon. Sidney Herbert; James Powney, servant to Thomas Poynder, Esq.; William Little, servant to H. Nelson Goddard, Esq.; and John Carter Cove, servant to Sir Edmund Antrobus. There were fourteen other claimants, but the servants of the above gentlemen, not having received a society's coat, they were entitled to take precedence without a ballot.

Mr. Locke, M.P. for Devizes; Gen. Popham; John Neeld, Esq., M.P.; Thomas H. Phipps, Esq.; and the Rev. Mr. Goddard, of Cleeve, were elected vice-presidents of the society. The following gentlemen were elected members:—Mr. Thomas Little, of Biddesden; Mr. Stratton, of Rabson; Mr. Stratton of Calcott; Mr. Atherton, of Calne; Mr. F. A. S. Locke, of Chippenham; and Mr. Wm. Stratton, of Shaw Farm.

The committee recommend that the ploughing match and sheep shearing of the society, for the ensuing year, should be held at Lavington, the third week in June.

## TO THE AGRICULTURISTS OF ESSEX.

TO THE EDITOR.—It is a general opinion that there never was a time in the memory of the oldest inhabitant of this country when misery, embarrassment, and impending ruin, were so diffused amongst the cultivators of the soil, and the trades connected with this employment, as at the present time; and those feelings are progressively increasing, and will at no distant period produce the most lamentable consequences, unless something effectual is done to arrest the deterioration of property which now so generally pervades the farming business.

It is of the utmost importance that measures of relief should be obtained immediately, or hundreds and thousands of families must be overwhelmed in irretrievable ruin.

It is stated in the papers, that two hundred respectable farmers of the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Association waited upon the Duke of Wellington, at the late installation, to deliver an address, representing the distressed state of the farming interest, in which they relate "whilst we thus avail ourselves of the opportunity afforded us of paying our unanimous respects to your Grace, we hope we may be permitted to allude, for a moment, to our condition as farmers. The whole of our rents, tithes, and taxes are paid out of our fast diminishing capitals, instead of out of the profits which such capitals, and our own industry, ought to return." I apprehend this is a true description of the state of the farming business, not only in Cambridgeshire, but generally through the country.

It is a most appalling state of things, and demands an immediate searching enquiry of both Houses of Parliament into the causes of distress, and the remedies for them; both of which I confidently anticipate are within our reach.

I have seen many writings on political economy, and I have heard many speculative opinions on the present alarming state of the country; but I have neither read nor heard any thing satisfactory on the subject, till a letter was put into my hands, addressed to the President and members of the Chelmsford Agricultural Society by Lord Western.

This is an inquiry particularly fitted to his enlightened mind. I know of no member of either Houses of Parliament so qualified to enter upon such

an investigation. He is a legislator of long tried experience, of sound judgement, and he has had an opportunity of watching and tracing cause and effect, and, he has been during many years intimately acquainted with all agricultural subjects. In the time of the late Mr. Pitt, no member of the House of Commons obtained more respectful attention from that great statesman than this intelligent legislator, therefore Lord Western must be considered high authority; and, he tells you the most cheering news—that golden days may be again restored to you, and that happiness and comfort may even now supersede embarrassment and distress. Lord Western appears to me to have made out a strong case; his facts, his illustrations, and his arguments I regard as unanswerable. He tells you that the cause of your distress is the Currency Bill of 1819. When that measure was discussed in the House, it was admitted on all hands that it would make a great change in our relative situation; and it now appears that change will be as Sir Robert Peel's father predicted!—a most fatal change to thousands, unless by retracing our steps measures of relief are obtained.

Therefore, Farmers arouse yourselves: let every parish immediately petition both Houses of Parliament; beseech them to consider the opinions and suggestions of Lord Western, and thus be the means of saving you and your families; it must be now, or never; your case will not admit of delay; you must demand redress of your grievances, for they are too deep and sorrowful to admit of postponement—they can be no longer sustained. Give your petition to those who can advocate your cause; let them tell the Houses of Parliament that delay to you is ruin.

Lord Western tells you, and I believe truly, that redress is easily attainable, that our monetary system may be adapted to the condition of the country without injury to any class of the people, that is to say, upon the balance of advantage and disadvantage, and he states he is sanguine enough to believe that if such was effected, the brightest scene of prosperity would open to us, even yet, that was ever enjoyed by any country in the world. AMICUS.

CAUTION TO FARMERS. — On Thursday last, Mr. Amphlett, of Dunclent, applied to the county magistrates sitting at Kidderminster, to grant summonses against some nailors of the Lye Waste, under the following circumstances. He had engaged them to reap his crops of wheat, and given them four shillings as earnest money; they now refused to complete the bargain. The magistrates decided that Mr. Amphlett should have had a *written* agreement with the men, and not having this, they could not issue the summonses.

The manner in which corn is preserved in Morocco is deserving of mention. A subterranean cellar is dug seven or eight feet in depth, the sides of which are covered with reeds and straw, the bottom part being matted, and straw placed over it. The grain is then deposited, and well protected at top by straw being placed over it: the opening is covered by a large slab, over which the earth is heaped in a mound, to prevent the rain settling and entering. In these kind of granaries, or *matamors*, as they are called, and which are usually made on sloping ground, to secure them from damp, wheat and barley, I was informed, would keep perfectly good for five years, and other grain to a longer period. The largest *matamors* are at Rabat, and are capable of containing some hundred bushels.—Spain, by Sir Arthur de Capell Brooke.

## TRIFOLIUM INCARNATUM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CAMBRIAN.

Sir,—In the months of August and September of last year, I sold a great quantity of seed of the New Scarlet Trefoil, or *Trifolium Incarnatum*, to the gentlemen and farmers in this and the adjoining counties, which I am sorry to find in many places partially, and in some places, altogether failed. Feeling anxious to find out the cause of failure, and to ascertain the best method of cultivation, in order to give the agriculturists of this country correct information, I wrote to three seed merchants in London, with whom I do business, requesting them to get all the practical information they could from growers in Essex, Kent, and other parts, where it has been successfully cultivated to some extent for the last two or three years.

Their travellers, in their different circuits, have kindly attended to my request, to which they have added their own observations, and write to me as follows :—

The *Trifolium Incarnatum* has done better this year than ever. The general plan has been to sow on the stubble, and harrow it in without ploughing; this plan has succeeded better than fallowing, as the root seems to require solidity of soil. In several places where the land has been fallowed, the plant has died away two or three weeks after its appearance: in this case, where the roller has been applied, it has been successful in saving the crop. As an instance, one farmer had fallowed 18 acres, and sowed the latter end of August; in three or four weeks after the plant appeared, he perceived it going off in various parts of the field; he took a heavy roller, and put on as much weight as three horses could well draw about, and from that day it improved; the result was, that in May he cut two tons and a half of prime hay per chain acre, and in four or five weeks after had another heavy crop. My informants also add, that the *Trifolium* supersedes the vetch in every respect; in the first place there is no expense in cultivating the land, where there is a clean stubble; in the second place, it produces more than double the quantity of fodder; another advantage is, that it makes as good hay as our common clover, and as green fodder is much better proof, being more solid and much more nutritious.

The *Trifolium* should be sown in August and September; 14 to 16lbs of seed is the proper quantity per acre.

By giving the above remarks a place in your widely circulated paper, you will oblige, Sir, your obedient servant, JAMES SAUNDERS.

Abergavenny, Aug. 13, 1835.

## AGRICULTURAL REPORTS.

## NORTH OF STAFFORDSHIRE.

We are now in the midst of our corn harvest, and almost every field appears loaded with an abundant crop, both of corn and straw. We had also heavy crops of meadow grass, and all got secured in excellent order. The clover crops were rather deficient, but so little of that useful herbage is sown in this country that the failure is of little consequence. Our southern neighbours are sadly short of pasture grass, and certain patches with us are also quite burnt up; we have not had such a dry season since the year 1826, but the crops are nearly double to what they were last year. Should the dry weather continue beans will be a deficient crop. The potatoe crops look well. Nevertheless, with heavy crops, and with

rents much lowered, the farmers have a hard struggle to keep their heads above water. What with the best of wheat selling at less than a penny per pound, and potatoes selling at six pounds for a penny, we are naturally led to say that wheat is cheap enough to give to the pigs, but then the best fed pig is worth no more than 3d per lb, and the finest dry hams and bacon will not fetch more in the market than 5d per lb wholesale.

Cheesemaking, (which is the staple farm produce of this country), began very promisingly, but has fallen off lately from two to one per day, and farmers think they will only have about three-fourths of an average weight; they look anxiously to an advance of price: 5d per lb is the best price at present.

Wool has been sold pretty well; 1s 6d per lb has been got for such wool as last year brought 1s 9d per lb, still no grumbling; 1s 6d is a fair price.

Butchers' meat is at all prices—from 3d to 6d per lb, according to quality, but the offal causes great grumbling amongst the butchers; but though skins, hides, and tallow, are very low, still some how or other boots and shoes are like penny pies, always of a price, viz:—10s for shoes, and 30s for boots. Jockey boots are now out of fashion, else their price is 2 guineas per pair.

Farming here is at a very low ebb, tenants have long ceased to improve land in the usual way, they are taking what God sends without cultivation or improvement, and many landlords begin to neglect their estates and home-farms,—they seem no longer anxious of showing their tenants a pattern of good farming, with the improved implements or systems of the art,—all they seem to want is to get a rent of some shape, and they let their lands not to the most experienced tenant, but to the most monied man, who is not likely to go to gaol for a year or two; it is all over with the British agriculturists, there is no more sending to Northumberland, or Norfolk, or Scotland for farm bailiffs; the ancient deer-parks are let to such as can re-let them to the public asleys for cattle, or stock them with calves, or stirks, or heifers, or cows, or colts, or bulls, or any other animal that will bring in a shilling or two per week. As a proof of agricultural depression it may only be observed, that the writer of this, who has had perhaps more practical experience in the cultivation and improvement of lands than ever fell to the share of any one man, and after forty years service he is at this time, for the first time in his life, in want of a situation, not from any fault or blunder on his part, for his character would ensure him in any situation, but there are actually no situations to be got, and though he has applied to some scores of what he called friends in various parts of the kingdom to look out for him, he has never been offered any thing better than a head ploughman's place, with a shilling more per week than a common labourer, or one shilling less than a bricklayer's labourer. This, you will observe, must be very heart-breaking to a man who for the last 21 years has been as farm-bailiff, at the head of a large establishment, with every thing under his care from the ice-house to the hot-house; but his character, his experience, his attainments, his inventions, (including the gate shutter hinge), must now be wholly lost to himself and to the public; he must now in the decline of his strength endeavour to earn his bread by main strength, as he never was cunning enough "to turn the penny" at buying and selling, and farm produce can only be turned over once in the twelve months. The only shift that he can make is to rent a few fields, and with his own hands to milk his few cows night and morning, till Providence places him either in a better or worse situa-



tion. A small farm would do him no good, and he has not capital sufficient to stock a large one. No farm will pay when it is so small as not to support something like a farming establishment; on a small farm nothing can be done to advantage, something is for ever wrong, strength is wanted, implements are wanted, and the little farmer loses half his time in begging, borrowing, or returning the articles borrowed, and he is obligated to sell his produce at a disadvantage in order to meet his payments; and, should he by the best of luck work out his own salvation from a gaol, he must wear out his own constitution during the time with fear and trembling.—August 18.

#### SUFFOLK.

Harvest work is proceeding rapidly, aided by weather the most favourable we have experienced for many years; we have not had sufficient rain in this county since our last report even to lay the dust; many farmers have already secured all their wheat in most excellent condition, and in all probability the wheat harvest will be completed by Saturday, before this report is published. Peas also are secured in fine condition, and as "hard as shot." Barley harvest is now generally commenced; we have observed several pieces carted, and should the present unusually fine dry weather continue for another ten days, the barleys will also be secured in uncommon fine condition; in fact, the harvest will be entirely finished (with the exception of beans,) and every species of grain in the finest condition possible.

It may be expected we should give some account of the probable or expected produce of the different crops. If we were to form our opinion from the bulk of straw we should say they are superabundant, but as practical farmers we would not deceive ourselves or others by such frail calculations; nothing but good crops, that is, full average crops, will avail the English farmer, and such we feel thankful to the Bountiful Disposer of all good is our happiness to report for this county. The wheats are not such a fine even sample as last year, from being lodged so early (when they were in blossom); many ears produce only a shrivelled, flourless grain, and upon close examination, we find more or less shrivelled kernels in fine ears, therefore, a portion of the kernels being injured, the produce will by that means be lessened. The barleys which are not lodged are particularly fine and bright; we see no reason to suppose but they will be a fair average crop. Oats also are a heavy crop. Peas are particularly well podded, but the intense dry weather has made the peas rather small in size; they are generally a very handsome sample. The quantity of winter vetches saved for seed is more than usual, and well loaded with pods. The second crops of clover are very short, scarcely sufficient to stand against the scythe. The turnips, which at the time of our last report were very promising, are now at a complete stand, and the late sown ones, which escaped the ravages of the fly, are perishing for want of rain. Mangel wurzel stands the drought somewhat better, and where an early plant was obtained, is looking well beyond expectation.

The poor law commissioners are extending their labours gradually from hundred to hundred throughout this county. We believe the general feelings of the rate payers, before they commence putting in operation the new arrangements, are greatly prejudiced against them; but we are happy to state we cannot learn a case but that that feeling has subsided on the rate payers and commissioners being brought in contact, and that decided majorities, if not the

entire meeting, have fully acquiesced in their propositions. It further affords us gratification to find they are fully persuaded they shall be able to reduce the present amount of poor rate from one-half to two-thirds; principally by finding employ for the surplus labourers in some distant county (Lancashire), where they (the commissioners) guarantee to find a comfortable house and constant employ, and from 12s to 15s per week for each labourer, for three years, the parish to which such labourer belongs paying the conveyance there. We are sorry to state nearly every parish in this county will have its share of surplus labour, and there is no other prospect at present but that it will greatly increase in consequence of the depressed and still declining price of all agricultural produce; not that we infer there is a surplus of labourers in every parish, but that the low price of agricultural produce will not enable one-fourth of the occupiers to employ half the labour they actually want.—Aug. 14.

#### NORTH RIDING.

We have had three weeks of very droughty weather, occasionally very hot. Showers have certainly fallen in some places, but not general rain, on which account our pastures and seed lands are very bad; seeds in particular are quite brown and burnt up, and in many places a run of water would be found very useful. I am afraid many will be obliged to sell their feeding stock to disadvantage, particularly beasts. Sheep stand the weather much better. I have my store ewes in a seed field, which appears quite bare, and there is not a drop of water in the field, yet they are in good condition. Turnips are looking much better than I expected; they want rain very much; the fly has not been so troublesome this year. I took a ride round our neighbourhood the other day to examine the crops. I find wheat to be more an equal crop on the good and bad soils than it generally is, and likely to be ripe more together; the dry favourable spring has been in favour of the cold wet sows, but some high winds we had some time back, and the long drought, I believe, has injured it very much; on close inspection there appears great numbers of stems down, and good for nothing; many of those standing appear to ripen prematurely, and by feeling at the ears they do not appear so full as one might expect. I think it is short of an average crop, and do not believe the sample will be equal to last year, either in appearance or weight. There is a great quantity of old wheat on hand yet, more than I ever recollect to have seen.

Barley is not heavy; on some of the best barley land the crop is much below an average one; on inferior soils it is rather better. Oats about the same, but I do not think there are so many grown as there were some years back. Beans only middling, they appear to want rain. This account is given to the best of my judgment, without interest, as I have no old wheat to sell.

I was thinking so much about harvest that I find I have forgot hay time, which has been a very favourable one; the crop of grass not heavy; but as for fog or aftermath we have none; never saw them look worse in my life. Our markets go like the barometer, but contrarywise; when there is appearance of rain they rise; if like fine weather, down they come again; at present they are rather changeable, but rather denoting fair weather; it is very good wheat that is worth 6s per bushel. I forgot to state in its proper place that on some of the forwardest soils harvest has commenced, but only a few fields; next week if the weather continues as at present it will be more general; we are cutting it much longer be-

fore being ripe than formerly, and I believe there are many advantages in so doing; there is not that hurry, or danger of winds as when it is allowed to get quite ripe. Price of reaping from 7s to 8s 6d per acre. Our cattle markets are rather on the decline.

I cannot close this report without expressing my great regret at the treatment which the agricultural interest meets with in parliament. What can they be thinking of? Why, now for instance, they are for cheap bread. Well! Mr. Lawson proposes (like a sensible man) that draining tiles should be exempt from tolls. Mind, he did not bring in a bill, to compel landlords to give their tenants draining tiles. No such thing. He only proposed that the tenants should not have to pay toll for them. And what do they do? Why, cause him to withdraw the motion, or it was lost, or something else; however, I heartily thank Mr. Lawson for bringing it forward. In my humble opinion, that simple measure would have done more real service to the country, than all the work they have done this session put together.

Knaresborough, Aug. 12.

J. N.

#### NORTHAMPTON.

The wheat of this county has been secured in excellent condition. On the warm land, the bulk of straw is unusually large, but there cannot be a doubt that the grain will prove of inferior quality, and the quantity not a full average one. From the generality of the crops having been so long layered, and the weather so hot and dry, the grain became dried up, and thus prematurely ripened. The clay land has produced less straw, and the weather suiting the soil, the wheat produced on it will be found to be of very good quality, and the quantity a full average. The barley, which is chiefly carted, is a full average crop, and of excellent quality. Oats and beans full crops, of good quality.

The crop of Swedish turnips cannot prove an abundant one; it is only here and there that a good crop is seen, for many after having escaped the ravages of the turnip fly, have been much eaten under ground by the wire worm or grubs, and many late sowings have not come up. The common turnips, although now much dried up, may, with timely showers, yet become good fair crops.

The good grazing land of this county is very much dried up; but where the pastures are well supplied with water, the cattle hitherto have continued in a thriving state. Although the bite of grass is very short, it is nutritious; this sort of roast meat, suiting cattle better than the long washy grass of a wet season. Flocks of sheep are seen on such closely bitten clover leys as to induce the supposition that the sheep must be nearly starved. Nevertheless, they are not doing amiss as store sheep.

The crops of hay have been remarkably abundant, but in few seasons have so many ricks taken fire, or been seriously heated as to be rendered of little value. No doubt more caution will be exercised in future years, but in this county less trouble has certainly been bestowed upon hay-making than it was once customary to give. Hay, no doubt, needs more making in some seasons than in others, and the grass produced on some lands requires to be longer exposed to the sun and air than that which is produced on a different soil. The writer of this report has a small meadow, the produce of which he can, in fine weather, safely carry the day after it has been mowed, but this can never be done without great risk with the pro-

duce of the rich meadows on the banks of the Nen, nor, in fact, of any rich grass land. The grass this season was of very quick growth; being therefore so young, and so full of sap, it necessarily wanted more making than usual. This season appears to make good the assertion, that there is as much hay spoiled in fine weather as in bad.—Aug. 22.

#### HARLESTON.

As the harvest in this district is now nearly completed, it may not be uninteresting to know the result of the best information obtained on the subject. The opinion expressed, when the wheats were so universally laid by the heavy rains in June, that with fine weather afterwards, the crop would be found not to have received the injury anticipated by many people, will, we think, be proved to have been correct. The quantity of straw is greater than it has been for several years, and the corn, both in quantity and quality, is a full average crop, although in the former not equal to last season. It is all secured in the finest possible condition, and judging from the present deliveries, the best samples where the straw was not lodged, will prove equal in weight to those of last year; but smut is, we think, more prevalent.

Of barley about two-thirds is carted. This crop is also very bulky in straw, and in yield will be found, if not a full average, at least much superior to last year. The quality will be of every variety, but the greater part, from its premature ripening, thin and steely. Some are very coarse, and others of fine colour. The Chevalier will again be the best, and having now proved its superiority in different seasons, it will, we think, in future be almost universally grown.

Our breadth of Oats, although perhaps greater than usual, is still very limited: they have stood the drought better than anything, and the samples are very handsome. There are no complaints of the yield by those who have thrashed.

That most uncertain of all crops, the peas, are this year considerably above an average, but they will be wanted to make up the deficiency in beans. The rains in June came too late to save the latter. They will be very dry and heavy, but the produce must be short.

We have a larger quantity than usual of old wheat in hand, which will successfully compete with the new, and prevent any improvement in the price of the latter, low as it is setting in, say for good dry red from 36s to 38s, and white 38s to 40s per qr. The best fresh thrashed old will not fetch above 1s to 2s per qr more.

We have had an excellent crop of hay, all well got up; and the second crops of clover, having little or no seed in them, will be principally mown immediately after harvest, and add to the quantity; but the turnip crop, on which so much depends in this county, is a total failure. A few weeks since nothing could be more promising, but the Swedes have been either killed by the severe drought or destroyed by the grub, and the white turnips within the last week have been completely taken off by a species of caterpillar, called provincially the "Black Jack," whose ravages have not been experienced for nearly forty years. As many as from sixty to one hundred may be found on a single plant, and they take off fields of eight or ten acres in half as many days.—Aug. 22.

#### OXFORDSHIRE.

We have experienced remarkably dry weather for several weeks past; even the nights have frequently



been so free from dew that carrying might have been continued from eve to morn without injury to sheaf corn. Teams have been in the field before three o'clock, carting wheat in some places, in others the labourers might have been heard as late as ten at night. The quantity of wheat carted, within a period of 8 days, is probably without parallel. A considerable quantity of barley has been housed in most capital order. The demand for labourers has been great, the wheats having ripened off on a sudden, and a loss has been sustained where a sufficient number of hands were not engaged in due time. The reaping has proved more tedious and more expensive than we ever remember, (amounting to upwards of 20s per acre). The wheat in this county may be said to be all secured, but a large portion of barley and oats are yet standing. Peas have been stacked in good condition, and will yield a good product, and of fine quality. Beans are become so ripe, and shed so freely, that they can only be cut without great loss in the early part of the day, the men being put to other employ the after part. The quality, (if well harvested), will prove excellent. Chevalier barley (a large proportion of which is grown this season) is a beautiful colour, but not so plump as last year. The wheat is so bulky that the number of ricks is quite unprecedented, and the yield to the acre we apprehend will be good, and the sample (as far as we have observed) is better than we could have anticipated, considering how much it was laid. It will however come very slowly out of the straw, and thrashing it so as to clean the straw appeared to be almost impracticable. The barley crop was never remembered better, and but rarely, if ever, so good (reckoning both quantity and quality.) Oats are a good crop, but on thin land have been too much dried in the grain for them to produce a heavy sample. The great heat and bulk of work to be got through has caused an immense consumption of beer, consequently will require a corresponding proportion of malt to replenish the farmer's cellars, and yet the price demanded for new barley is less than one might have supposed, when we consider the quantity of malt that will soon be required, and the low stock remaining in the maker's hands.

The pastures are so dried up that keeping is become very scarce. The barometer has for several days indicated a change, and this morning we have had several showers so as to put a stop to carrying. Our markets are become very flat; perhaps rain in a sufficient quantity to set the plough going and drive the mills, may infuse a little more life into the market.

#### GLAMORGANSHIRE.

The weather continues warm and highly favourable for the harvest. The thermometer rises in the shade frequently above 80 deg., and on the 11th it rose to 84 deg. More than half the wheat crop is now secured in the vale of this county, and generally in good order. In the last week some rain fell, and although it was light, yet it rendered the corn unfit to be stacked for two or three days; but the impatience of many would not allow them to wait, and a large portion was put together in a damp state, and in some instances this has again been spread about to prevent heating. We observe that the damage in the rick-yard is much greater every year than is experienced on the field, by unavoidable causes. The wheat crop proves to be an average one in bulk, and the grain is good, but the yield will be deficient on those pieces which were lodged early in the season. The barley is rather light, especially on thin soils, from want of moisture, and it will not be equal to

last year. The summer has been very dry throughout, and the quantity of rain fallen in the last two months extremely small, not half the amount as in the corresponding months of last year. Grass is short, and the pastures are burnt up, having lost their verdant hue. The turnips will be a light crop. The mangel roots penetrating deeper into the ground than the turnip, stands the drought better. At the commencement of harvest reapers were expected to be scarce, and higher wages were demanded, which in some cases was submitted to, but an ample supply arrived from the adjoining counties. The average price paid is 9s and 10s per acre, or 6s per acre and diet for reaping, binding and Stooking. Reaping in this county had long been a disgrace to it, on account of the practice of leazing immediately after the reaper. In some parishes the latter claimed it as his property, and let it out at so much per acre without any reference to the farmer; but this absurd practice has been nearly abolished, by some of the principal occupiers in the vale procuring strangers for cutting their corn.

The markets remain dull for all agricultural produce. Ewe and lamb wool has been selling at 29s per stone of 21lbs; tegg wool is worth 3d per lb more, but there is no great quantity of the latter in this county. A few weeks ago there was some appearance of rough weather for the harvest, which had an immediate effect on the price of old corn, but the recent fine weather has brought down the price to from 5s to 5s 6d per bushel. History does not furnish us with so long a succession of fine seasons in our climate as has been experienced lately. Formerly a wet harvest was calculated upon in the course of six or eight years. The present generation have had three, namely—1799, 1816, and 1821, in each of which a large portion of the crop was destroyed, and the old stock became invaluable; but since the latter date, now fourteen years ago, the damage in any season has not been of any consequence. The holders of old corn having been sufferers so long will cease to continue it, and when a wet harvest does arrive, we expect it will find the country without any old stock. The government should take out of the market a portion of the surplus at the present low price. It would afford immediate relief to the grower; and may, in all probability, prove equally beneficial to the consumer at no distant period, and yield a good profit on the transaction.—Aug. 15.

#### MONTROSE.

Since the 7th inst the weather here has been fine, but on that day we had a tremendous storm such as we never remember experiencing at this season, which has done a great deal of injury to the crops, by breaking down, twisting, and loosening at the roots. We did not think the injury was to such a great extent until Saturday, when one of us had a long ride through the country and found so much premature ripening, particularly on light soils where it was much loosened at the roots in many places, but the most exposed seemed quite ready to cut and not half filled. We shall have a great deal of light grain this season in consequence of the storm, and also a great deficiency in quantity to what there would otherwise have been. It did not extend far south, but to the north we learn it was even more violent than here. Beans and potatoes are also much injured; in many places they are almost black. We shall have partial cutting in the early districts this week, but it will be two or three weeks yet before we shall have general harvest.—August 15.

## AGRICULTURAL INTELLIGENCE, FAIRS, &c.

At ASHBURTON FAIR, the show of bullocks was not large, and the business done was at about late quotations. There was a large supply of sheep; but things in this way were very dull, and quotations at about 4½d per lb. Wool was selling at 10d per lb.

At MARK FAIR, there was a good show both of lean and fat cattle, which met with rather a ready sale. Few horses of any description were exhibited, and although offered for sale at low prices were quite a drag.

CARMARTHEN FAIR.—There was a considerable display of horses and cattle; the former sold at fair average prices, and the latter, we regret to say, went off at low prices. Ponies and colts obtained improved prices. On the following day a fair for pigs was held, but there was little or no demand for them.

HORNCASTLE GREAT HORSE FAIR.—Wednesday, August 19.—We have had a greater show of horses this year than usual, and almost every thing above the common grade of hacks has been sold. Several dealers attended from Germany, France, and Prussia, who have purchased extensively in carriage-horses and hunters. Among the principal English dealers were Messrs. Ellmore, Dickinson, Anderson, Cattle, Western, Wimbush, and Shackle. The Messrs. Ellmore purchased five beautiful greys of Lord Wharnclyffe, for 800 guineas. Several horses have fetched from 100 to 250 guineas each. It is by many persons regretted that the town authorities do not put a stop to the business carried on in the fair on Sunday; it is calculated that not less than between 200 and 300 horses have been sold on that day; and even during the performance of divine service both morning and afternoon, horses were shown and trotted up and down the principal streets.

STOWMARKET LAMB FAIR was very fully attended, and the number shown was large, but in consequence of the continued drought, although they were offered at very reduced prices, little business was done. The general currency was from 14s to 21s. The show of neat stock was good, but there was no briskness in the trade. The fair seems to be upon the increase, both as respects the attendance of company and the quantity of stock.

ASHBORNE FAIR was well supplied with cattle and sheep; there was also a good show of lambs, but in consequence of the dry weather and the consequent scarcity of food, business was anything but brisk. Beef and mutton averaged about 5d per lb. In the horse fair there was nothing that calls for remark—prices were low and business flat.

WARWICK FAIR.—At our fair, there was a good supply of fat and store stock, but the sale was not brisk. The prices were—for beef and mutton, 5d to 5½d, and lamb, from 7d to 7½d. Store and milch cows were much depressed in price.

At THETFORD FAIR on Monday last there were from 10 to 12,000 sheep and lambs penned, which met a slow sale at the following prices:—Lambs from 18s to 22s; shearlings, 28s to 32s; and crones, 14s to 16s per head.

ROMNEY FAIR.—The annual Stock Fair was held at New Romney on Friday Aug. 21. The ordinary provided at the New Inn, was laid out in the National School Room. T. Hallows, Esq in the chair. The chairman, on giving 'prosperity to agriculture,' noticed the fatal consequence of the long drought to the occupiers of land in the Marsh, and expressed his hope that landlords would consider the losses of their tenants, on receiving their rents. He then announced the number of sheep and lambs penned on this occasion to be 17,304—out of which there were sold only 709. The average prices were, lambs, 15s 6½d; old ewes, 14s to 19s; tags, 23s to 26s. The number penned was 5,000 more than on any former occasion, which the chairman

accounted for by the want of keep occasioned by the long drought. To the same cause may be attributed the small number sold, and the low prices obtained.

At KNIGHTON FAIR, the stock of horned beasts brought for sale was not so large as we have seen in former years, therefore the business done was little; but in sheep and pigs the market might be said to be brisk, and much money exchanged hands, at from 5d to 5½d per lb for mutton. The number of sheep penned far exceeded all expectation, and had it not been for the extreme dryness of the season, the whole would have been disposed of.

PAISLEY, ST. JAMES' FAIR.—The number of horses in the market was not so great as we have seen, and the business done was inconsiderable. There was a good show of milch cows however, and prices ran rather higher than for some time past. The average rates of those in the market were from about 9l to 14l. Highland cattle for marts ran from 3l to 6l, according to size and condition, but most of those in the market were in a very poor state.

LOCKERBIE LAMB FAIR.—This market agreeably to the regulations regarding it, was held on Wednesday week. The number of lambs on the hill at 12 o'clock was about 40,000, exclusive of a few lots that had been driven off early. Of these about 20,000 were pure Cheviot; 10,000 cross Cheviot and Leicester; 5,000 black-faced; and from 4 to 5,000 cross black-faced and Leicester. Selling became general about 11 o'clock—although up to three it might be called a heavy market; yet the sale of a great number of the principal lots of each of the three first mentioned kinds had then taken place. It may be stated generally that the rates of the medium half-bred Cheviot and Leicester lambs were from 13s 6d to 15s 6d, some superior lots reaching 16s, and one very superior lot reached 18s 6d. These rates were from 2s 6d to 3s under last year's general prices. The cross black-faced and Leicester might be from 11s to 13s. One or two of the very best lots of Cheviot lambs reached 12s to 12s 6d, but the price of fair medium lambs would be from 9s to 10s. Cheviot ewe lambs, from the best stocks, were in request, one lot only reached 11s. From 8s 6d to 9s might be an average. Cheviots on the whole, were from 1s 6d to 2s a-head lower than last year. From one-third to one-half of this fall may be accounted for from the inferiority of the lambs compared with those of last year. The sale in the afternoon was considerably quicker than in the forenoon; and by 5 o'clock with the exception of black-faced lambs, few lots remained unsold. The demand from Cumberland, indeed from the north of England generally, was good. The black-faced lambs were not much in demand. One lot of mid-ewe lambs sold for 9s, and two or three lots of wethers reached 7s or 7s 6d, but many lots remained unsold. It seemed generally understood that the prices given for this description of stock at the recent market at Lanark were scarcely maintained. Many wool staplers were present, and wool sold readily from 18s to 19s per 24lbs.

At MELROSE FAIR, the number of lambs brought forward was estimated at 60,000. The market opened heavily, but quickened in the after part of the day. Cheviot ewe and half-bred lambs, were most in demand while for Cheviot wether and full-bred lambs, of which only a few lots were exposed, the sale was dull. The prices were for bred lambs, 18s; half-bred 12s to 17s, and a few very fine lots sold as high as 18s. Cheviots brought from 5s to 10s, according to quality, being a decline of 1s 6d to 2s per head on the prices of last year. The demand for old sheep, a few of which were exhibited in the market, was exceedingly dull; and in the cattle market very little business was done.

At STIRLING LAMMAS FAIR, about the usual number of black cattle were shown. Fat sold readily at from 6s to 6s 6d per stone; other descriptions were dull sale, and from 15s to 17s a-head lower. Good milk cows were from 7l to 9l, queys, from 6l to 7l, and a number were unsold. There was no business done in



the horse market worth reporting. The price of hay is usually fixed at this fair, but to-day it has ended in a sort of hold-and-draw way betwixt the farmer and consumer, the former refusing to part with it under 60s to 62s a ton, while the latter is only offering 52s 6d to 55s. The price will probably be in the middle.

**AT MINNIEHIVE NEW LAMB FAIR** there was produced for sale nearly 6000 lambs of the Leicester and Cheviot breed, which sold at from 13s to 19s a head; there was likewise exhibited a considerable number of black-faced and Leicester lambs, and these sold from 10s to 12s. Before three o'clock p.m. nearly the whole had changed hands, at fair remunerating prices to the breeder. Mr. Moffat, Gleucorse, sold 64 scores of well bred lambs, and 70 head of bullocks.

**FALKIRK TRYST.**—We may enumerate a few of the purchases that were made, on the first and second days, of lean or driving stock:—Some lots from Skye, two years old, from 2l to 4l 10s per head; ditto three years old, 4l to 5l per do; from Hlsay, 110 two years old, from 4l to 5l per do; from Argyll, 50 two year-old stots, at 4l 4s per do; from Lewes, 100 two year-old stots, at 3l per do; Angus and Fife runts, from 7l to 10l per do; country heifers, three years old, from 4l 10s to 6l 10s per do. From the above statement, it will appear that the prices of black cattle must have fallen, upon the gross, full 15 per cent since this market of last year. Yet it may not be unworthy of remark, that at this market, the young and small cattle sold about 7 per cent higher than the heavier kinds in comparative value, of which a number remained unsold. These being generally the first, when our usual English dealers were in the market. Of the horse market little can truly be said. Although the show was large, yet few horses worthy of high prices were observed and a general dullness and want of animation was observable throughout the whole of the tryst.

**THE DROUGHT.**—The protracted drought begins to excite considerable alarm among the farmers in the environs of Brussels and the canton of Arche. The fields are scorched and burnt by the sun, water is scarce, the wells and springs are dried up and exhausted; the water in the ponds is spoiled and so bad that the cattle will not drink it. The fruits on the trees are withering for want of moisture—forage is becoming scarce, as well as culinary vegetables—the hops, which constitute the chief resource of the little farmers in some districts, will hardly produce anything this year. Last year 100 perches of hop gardens produced 110lbs of hops; this year the produce will be 25 lbs at the most. It is a remarkable fact that there are no wasps, which in other years did so much damage to the fruit, and were a great annoyance even to the horses.—*Brussels Paper.*

**THE HARVEST.**—The wheat harvest is almost completed in this county, and finer weather, from the commencement to the close, has not occurred in any former year within the memory of the oldest agriculturist; consequently the wheat has been housed in fine condition, and the crop is excellent in quality, and where not materially injured and laid by the heavy rains and winds at the end of June and beginning of July, the produce will be sufficiently abundant. Peas are every where an ample crop, yielding in many places a large produce per acre; but those of the very early description are much inferior to the later ones. Beans have proved, in many places, little better than half a crop; there is little doubt but they will rise in price soon, as last year was unfavourable to them. The hops in this county will not average more than one-third of a crop; yet a few choice yards are to be found in Orleton, near Leominster, Marden, and Wellington, almost equal to any in Kent. The produce of fruit is very irregular, but taking it altogether, there is a fair "hit." In some orchards the trees are loaded to such a degree that their branches touch the ground; while in others there is scarcely an apple to be seen. Owing to the continued dry and warm weather the apples will be small, but the cider, if not so great in quantity, will probably be of first-rate quality.—*Hereford Journal.*

At OSWESTRY FAIR, store cattle were very dull sale. Sheep barely supported former quotations.

**KENT.**—In consequence of the prevailing drought in the neighbourhood of Canterbury, the want of water is severely felt by the inhabitants. Waggon and carts, from the country, containing butts and tubs, may be seen daily employed in the conveyance of this essential article. The most remarkable fact is, that many wells in the immediate neighbourhood of the Stour refuse their wonted supply; and it is no unfrequent occurrence to suspend the working of the machinery of the Abbots' mill, owing to the failure of the springs. The most serious consequences will ensue, unless a copious supply of rain, which has not been experienced for many months, should cause them again to rise to their usual height. The beautiful stream at Bridge, which intersects the Bifrons estate, remains dry; the channel presents the appearance of a newly-cut road. All the fish in the preserve of the Marchioness of Conyngham died some weeks ago.

**EAST LOTHIAN.**—Some patches of barley were cut in this vicinity the end of last week, and on several early farms the shearing both of it and wheat, has this week become pretty general, considerably more than one hundred hands being employed on one extensive possession. As several of the wheat fields are much broke down and twisted by the frequent high winds, the use of the scythe hook is found peculiarly unsuitable; it will, therefore, be highly advantageous to operate with the teetled sickle, which is calculated to make better work. Now, from the partiality which labourers have for the former implement, it is often difficult to induce them to use the latter, but when hands are so abundant as at present few or no objections are made.

The harvest is getting on as fast as possible about Spalding, but there is a general complaint of want of hands. Farmers are giving 20s per acre.

In the NORTH OF DEVON the harvest is pretty well got through with. The crops of wheat, barley, and oats, are every where spoken of as abundant, and so superior as to excite the admiration of all farmers and agriculturists.

**HARVEST.**—In all early and sheltered spots, harvest will be general in a few days. On Thursday last, we observed stooks on the Corbelly hill, behind the Observatory, and have since learnt that Mr. Hutchinson commenced cutting about the same period. But Tinwald is so early and kindly a parish that we presume before the lapse of many days, all hands will be at work on its slopes and plains. Mr. Brown, miller, New Bridge, ended his barley harvest on the 14th inst., and we doubt not there are others similarly situated whose names we have no opportunity of recording.—*Dumfries Courier.*

The great heat of the weather, and long continued drought, has brought on harvest much more rapidly than was at one time anticipated, and, in many cases, too fast for the benefit of the grain. On Friday and Saturday week reaping commenced on several extensive farms on Tweedside, and on others within these few days, and should the weather continue dry, there will not be much interruption in the labours of cutting. There is found on reaping a great diversity in the bulk and quality of the crops. Some oats on light land have been cut with the scythe, being too short for the reaping hook, whilst on heavy and retentive soils, the long and almost unprecedented drought has not done so much injury as was feared. The pastures are literally burnt up, and it is a remarkable fact, that, in many places in Berwickshire, it has been found necessary to supply stock on pastures land with hay. In consequence of the drought the crops in the upper part of the county are ripening very fast, and harvest has already commenced on several farms.—*Kelso Mail.*

In a few instances, in the Upper and Middle Wards of Lanarkshire, the reaping of wheat and barley has commenced. In particular a field of wheat of some acres has been cut at Milton, parish of Carluke.

## REVIEW OF THE CORN TRADE IN MARK LANE DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST.

The favourable weather which has been experienced throughout the past month for all agricultural proceedings, has been highly conducive in bringing to an early conclusion the wheat harvest throughout the eastern, southern, and western parts of England, and even north of the Humber rapid progress is making in securing the crops. Much of the barley and oats is also cut and housed, and many of the beans and most of the peas are safe. The appearance of the standing crop of wheat, from the abundance of the straw, led to the expectation, that the yield would be plentiful, and even larger than the produce of last year; on inspection, however, as we noticed last month, the favourable impressions were altered, and now that thrashing has partially commenced, and the only criterion, on which certain judgment can be formed, has been essayed, that of ascertaining the yield per acre, it is proved, we fear, in too many instances, that the return will be much shorter than the sanguine hopes of the agriculturist had anticipated; where five and six quarters the acre had been looked for, only three and four quarters are measured out; and we have heard of even a greater diminution according to the prejudged opinion; added to which, the quality is very uneven, the samples having many thin and shrivelled corns, which of course materially affects the weight and quantity, and which may be rationally accounted for, by the *three days* heavy rain and wind experienced towards the close of June, at the critical period of the blooming of the plant, and when it is most susceptible of injury, succeeded by dry, parching weather, bringing the ear prematurely forward, without permitting time for the juices progressively to swell the grain, and give it that plumpness consequent on a mature ripening; smut, likewise, is found in many instances, with a total or partial failure of corn in many of the ears, which apparently promised a good return. These facts, at this early part of the season can only be deduced, it is true, from a small portion of the crops, but the belief is gaining ground, that the average of the kingdom will not turn out more favourably—and at Liverpool speculation has already begun to revive, founded on these premises. Barley is an abundant crop, and the late rains will prove extremely beneficial to the outstanding grain; that which has been already housed proves *flinty* and *unkindly*, and until it has undergone the usual degree of fermentation in the stack, is unfit for malting; the colour is *white* and *silvery*, and the article in excellent condition, though in some instances thin in quality from the want of moisture; sufficient nutriment on light soils not having been communicated to the ear. Oats promise luxuriantly, and the weight heavy. Beans and peas are yielding well, and of

fine quality and in superior condition, being fit for immediate consumption. In Ireland and Scotland the harvest is not yet sufficiently advanced to form any just opinion of the general produce; but reports from the southern and western portions of the Sister Isle speak favourably of wheat and oats, but in the northern districts the wheat crop is not expected to prove so satisfactory; and as the harvest, as well as in Scotland, has been retarded by the weather, it is rendered more liable to casualties, though in the latter country the promises are by no means discouraging.

The business in Mark Lane as well as in the leading country markets has been dull and depressed. Millers, owing to the scarcity of water and the calmness of the weather, being prevented employing the full power of their mills, have bought merely to the amount that their immediate wants required; and as the harvest advanced so quickly, and the stocks of old wheat were still found to be large, their operations have been limited, at a reduction in price of 5s to 6s as compared with the currencies at the close of the previous month: the best red wheats of the new growth are not worth more than 37s to 38s, old 39s, and in corroboration of the inequality of the new samples, Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire wheat has appeared in Mark Lane, weighing only 53 to 54lbs, and not valued higher than 28s to 30s; white wheat may be noted at 42s to 43s; fine, 44s to 45s.

In bonded wheat nothing has transpired to relieve the speculators; strenuous and laudable efforts have been made on the part of the merchants and corn factors of Plymouth, who are interested in foreign wheat, in which the bonded holders in London have warmly co-operated, in petitioning the government to permit the bonded wheat to be ground into flour for export as well as for the manufacture of biscuit, as a favourable opportunity was now afforded for the sale of both articles, in consequence of the failure in the crops in the United States and the rapid rise in the price of flour, enabling shipments to be advantageously made from hence to South America, the West Indies and other parts supplied from the American ports. The President of the Board of Trade however, though he could not contravert the justice of the appeal, refrained from countenancing the measure, on the plea, that the session was too far advanced to allow ministers to agitate any question relating, however remote, to an alteration in the corn laws, as the landed interest looked with much jealousy and suspicion upon insulated enactments of such a nature; and thus capital to the amount of fully one million and a half of money remains locked up; and the boon which government might have granted the holder of bonded wheat has been neglected. When the prospective view of the speculator can find an object, though distant, to ground a chance of partially relieving his capital, it makes the weight under which he is labouring the more tolerable, but now the continuance of favourable weather, having thwarted all his speculations,



it becomes a dreary reflection, the period that must elapse, before another incentive can be given to his hopes, which are only likely to arise on the approach of the harvest of 1836.

The flour trade has worn a heavy aspect, and at the beginning of the month, millers, owing to the decline in wheat, reduced the price of best town made qualities 2s per sack, the top quotation becoming 38s. Ship qualities have also given way 1s to 2s; but as the supplies coastways have been limited from the difficulty in manufacturing the article from want of wind and water, added to the bakers being generally short of stock, prices have latterly remained steadily at this reduction. The scarcity of sour and particularly sweet American flour, has prevented shipments to any extent to be made to the United States; prices of the former have ranged at from 18s to 20s per barrel, and the latter was worth 25s to 26s.

The alteration in the duties have consisted of an advance of 2s per qr. on wheat, from 44s 8d to 46s 8d; and 3s per qr. on Peas, from 11s to 14s; and a decrease of 1s 6d per qr. on Oats, from 12s 3d to 10s 9d. We noticed last month the sudden diminution in the duty on peas, owing to the high amount of the Warwickshire average; it has been since struck out by the Inspector General, and stated to be a clerical error.

The receipts of barley have continued extremely limited, but with the addition of the foreign samples, which had been entered for the consumption, have proved fully adequate to the demand. The sales with a few exceptions, have been confined to grinding qualities, which have receded 1s per qr, realizing from 25s to 27s. The new barley samples, which have appeared at market, exhibit much disparity of quality, some being thin and others plump and heavy, but nearly the whole more or less *steely*; even the Chevalier, which is remarkably fine in color and heavy, was not free from this defect; and as the quality was not sufficiently *kindly* for Malting, added to the warmth of the weather, the new parcels were not worth more than 30s to 32s per qr.

In the prices of malt little or no alteration has taken place; fine parcels remaining saleable at the previous currency; and other descriptions not meeting much attention.

Though the supply of Irish oats has not been so large as the previous months, yet the arrivals having exceeded the amount, which it was calculated Ireland was capable of furnishing us with, together with the appearance of new samples in our markets, and in such fine condition as to render them fit for immediate use, have caused the trade to rule extremely dull, and to assume a very different character to what was anticipated; the calculations as to the supplies which we should require, and which have been formed on the previous consumption, have been so far frustrated, in consequence of the extent of the shipments from the sister kingdom, and the

early state of the crops, together with the exportation of a large quantity of foreign oats being entered, these circumstances have induced consumers and dealers to confine their speculations to the narrowest compass; expecting weekly lower rates, and which have succeeded to their wishes; English qualities having receded 2s to 3s per qr; Scotch descriptions 1s to 2s; Irish potatoe samples 2s per qr, and light feed 3s to 4s per qr, quotations being from 16s to 18s per qr. Speculation having been made in foreign oats to a considerable extent, every effort has been attempted to reduce the duty, which remains at present 10s 9d, and though a probability exists that it will decline to 9s 3d, which prevents holders from entering their stock at present, yet below that point there is little chance of its reaching, and with the amount of duty and the low prevailing currency, a heavy loss must at all events be sustained on the article, say from 3s 6d to 5s per qr, but still it is preferable at once to submit to the sacrifice, than incur the additional risk and expense of another season, and we may look forward to 200,000 qrs being brought in for the consumption. The amount in bond in the united kingdom on the 5th of August, was 390,873 qrs, of which 186,155 qrs are in London in bond, good fresh feed is not worth more than 12s to 13s, and brew qualities 14s to 15s; old Danish and Pomeranian parcels are noted free at 18s to 20s; Petersburg, Riga, and Archangel 21s to 22s.

Beans, during the early part of the month, declined 2s per qr, in consequence of the favourable reports of the crop, and the continued admission of foreign qualities; latterly, however, the trade has become more firm, and though we have new Mazagen, Longpods, and Harrow beans at market, fine in quality and condition, yet prices have remained steady at the previous depression; new Mazagan obtaining 33s to 34s; Longpods 32s to 34s.

Peas, in the beginning of the month, met a dull and heavy sale at a reduction of 4s to 5s per qr, in consequence of the duty suddenly declining, and the appearance of several foreign free parcels on the market. New samples, of fine quality, at 30s to 32s both for white and grey descriptions, since which the trade has rallied fully 1s to 2s per qr, new white being noted at 34s, and grey 30s to 33s.

New winter tares have come to hand dry and good in quality, realising 6s to 6s 6d, fine 7s per bushel.

New rapeseed is in limited supply, but the samples bold and in excellent condition, and obtain 29l per last from the crushers.

Caraway, owing to the inferiority of the crop, has advanced above 4s per cwt, being noted at 50s to 52s.

New white mustard seed, though fine in quality, came at first sparingly to market, and obtained 9s 6d to 10s per bushel, but as the arrivals have increased, it has declined 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; the best parcels not bringing more than 8s; new brown has been dull at 11s to 12s.

During the month of August, the following quantity of grain and flour has arrived in the port of London.

|              | Wheat. | Barley. | Malt. | Oats.  |
|--------------|--------|---------|-------|--------|
|              | qrs.   | qrs.    | qrs.  | qrs.   |
| English ...  | 30,682 | 1,754   | 9,553 | 3,888  |
| Scotch ....  | 54     | 559     | 30    | 7,974  |
| Irish .....  | ...    | 138     | ...   | 47,260 |
| Foreign .... | 1,372  | ...     | ...   | 11,342 |

|             | Beans. | Peas. | Linseed. | Flour. |
|-------------|--------|-------|----------|--------|
|             | qrs.   | qrs.  | qrs.     | sacks. |
| English ... | 997    | 4,016 | ...      | 15,182 |
| Scotch .... | 105    | 30    | ...      | 30     |
| Irish ..... | ...    | ...   | ...      | 364    |
| Foreign ... | 402    | ...   | 3,400    | 2,489  |

The new wheats in France are now coming freely to hand, and have caused a further depression in the currencies, for though a disparity in quality appears, yet the quantity being abundant, notwithstanding that the yield is not equivalent to the number of sheaves, it will effectually check all chance of the prices rallying. At Paris, the quality is represented to be lighter than that of last year; purchases could be made at 32s 8d, but offers do not generally exceed 31s 3d, while the finest descriptions are held at 35s 10d. Barley is reported only an ordinary crop, and barely equal to that of last year. The accounts of the oat crops vary materially, not only from different parts of the country, but even in the same districts; in some places it is good, in others, middling, and in part, bad. In Brittany and the lower parts of Normandy, the harvest will be satisfactory, as well as in the southern departments. The continuance of dry hot weather is increasing the inconvenience and detriment to the farmer. Flour meets, generally a brisk demand, but as the mills are in many instances not working half their force from the want of water, any improvements in the value of the article is not likely to affect the currencies of wheat. At Marseilles business has been rendered quite stagnant, by the re-appearance of the Cholera, as well as at Toulon.

The Italian markets are in a very languid state; the harvest throughout the Neapolitan and Papal States, as well as in Sicily, having proved abundant, with considerable stocks of old wheat on hand, and anticipated large arrivals from the Black Sea, where plentiful supplies have been received from the interior, there appears little chance of the prices rallying. Barletta wheat may now be purchased at 20s 6d. At Trieste, however, prices of Linseed and Rapeseed are likely to rule high owing to the failure in Lombardy and Hungary, and orders are already transmitted from them to Messina to purchase the former article.

By the latest advices from Athens the harvest is represented to be very abundant throughout Greece.

At St. Petersburg the grain trade towards the middle of July became more animated, in consequence of the demand for rye to meet the wants of the interior, and prices have considerably advanced,

being much higher in proportion than that of wheat, the latter article, for Kubanka quality, being held at 30s 1d, and rye selling at 30s. The stocks of all grain are much diminished, and fears are entertained that the wants are likely to be severely and extensively experienced, before the supplies of new corn can reach the different markets. Speculation, by the impolitic interference of the Government, has been completely paralyzed. The merchant, who may have embarked capital in grain, not knowing, at what period or at what price, the Government will dispose of the store in the national warehouses, and not content with suddenly allowing an influx of the article to come upon the market, and realizing the currency of the day, they affix their own price much below the current value, and at rates ruinous to the private holder—a proceeding in a mercantile point of view, intolerable, and at the same time unjust to the honest trader, who is totally incompetent to compete with the all-powerful influence of the Autocrat's government; latterly however, grain has again declined, and wheat as an import would not obtain more than 27s; Rye 24s 8d; and Oats 11s 8d. At Riga the crops promise to be good, and wheat is nominal in value at 23s 4d to 27s 8d; Courish rye 22s 10d. The weather was favourable, but the harvest will be late, and consequently few shipments of new grain will be made this season. At Danzig the trade was dull and prices barely supported; white wheat was held at 31s, high mixed 29s; high mixed of 60lbs 25s. The weather had been stormy and ungenial, more like October than August, which would, it was expected, retard the harvest. In Mecklenburg heavy gales of wind had been experienced, which had damaged the standing corn, but the greatest injury had been sustained throughout Denmark and Jutland, where a kind of hurricane had prevailed for three days, laying waste, in some instances entire fields of grain, in others, committing only partial loss; but on the whole, the damage is estimated at least at one-fourth the aggregate produce; so that some farmers will be incapacitated from paying rent or taxes, or finding enough grain even for seed. At Wiemar and Rostock, wheat remained at 25s 6d; barley 14s to 15s; oats 13s to 14s. At Lubeck, wheat was held at 23s; rapeseed 25l to 25l 10s. At Copenhagen, grain had advanced from 10 to 15 per cent, and in fact, few holders would sell under existing circumstances. Rapeseed was noted at 25l 10s to 26l, the crop having been secured before the storms. At Hamburg the weather had been stormy and unsettled, but the wheat trade was in a dull state and purchases confined to the consumers. Red Anhalt wheat was noted at 25s; Magdeburg 24s 6d; Mark and Mecklenburg 26s 5d. New peas had obtained 22s to 23s 10d. In oats nothing doing and prices lower. Rapeseed was also dull, owing to the reports from this county; Mecklenburg and Holstein qualities 25l 10s to 26l; Dittmarsh and Glückstadt 26l 5s to 26l 15s. Red cloversseed had advanced in price owing to the unfavourable accounts of the crop, and was noted at 34s 6d to 37s per cwt.



## CURRENCY PER IMPERIAL MEASURE.

|                                         | BRITISH.         |                  | AUGUST 1. |        | SEPT. 1. |        |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|--------|----------|--------|
|                                         | s.               | s.               | s.        | s.     | s.       | s.     |
| Wheat, red, Essex, Kent, Suffolk.....   | 36               | 44               | 31        | 40     | 40       | 40     |
| White.....                              | 49               | 50               | 49        | 45     | 45       | 45     |
| Norfolk, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire.... | 33               | 38               | 30        | 36     | 36       | 36     |
| White, do. do.....                      | 36               | 42               | 34        | 40     | 40       | 40     |
| West Country Red.....                   | 33               | 38               | 32        | 36     | 36       | 36     |
| White, ditto.....                       | 36               | 42               | 34        | 40     | 40       | 40     |
| Northumberland and Berwickshire Red     | 33               | 37               | 32        | 35     | 35       | 35     |
| White, ditto.....                       | 34               | 40               | 32        | 36     | 36       | 36     |
| Irish Red.....                          | 30               | 34               | 30        | 32     | 32       | 32     |
| Ditto White.....                        | 31               | 35               | 31        | 33     | 33       | 33     |
| Barley, Malt, new.....                  | 30               | 32               | 30        | 32     | 32       | 32     |
| Chevalier, new.....                     | 32               | 34               | 31        | 33     | 33       | 33     |
| Distilling.....                         | 28               | 32               | 28        | 30     | 30       | 30     |
| Grinding.....                           | 27               | 28               | 26        | 27     | 27       | 27     |
| Irish.....                              | 24               | 26               | 24        | 25     | 25       | 25     |
| Malt, Brown.....                        | 35               | 40               | 35        | 40     | 40       | 40     |
| Ditto, Chevalier.....                   | 60               | 62               | 60        | 62     | 62       | 62     |
| Ditto, Norfolk and Suffolk Pale.....    | 46               | 54               | 46        | 54     | 54       | 54     |
| Ditto Ware.....                         | 60               | 64               | 60        | 65     | 65       | 65     |
| Peas, Hog and Grey.....                 | 33               | 36               | 28        | 32     | 32       | 32     |
| Maple.....                              | 38               | 39               | 30        | 34     | 34       | 34     |
| White Boilers.....                      | 33               | 37               | 32        | 34     | 34       | 34     |
| Beans, small.....                       | 36               | 40               | 37        | 39     | 39       | 39     |
| Harrow.....                             | 36               | 38               | 34        | 37     | 37       | 37     |
| Ticks.....                              | 35               | 37               | 32        | 36     | 36       | 36     |
| Mazagan.....                            | 34               | 37               | 32        | 35     | 35       | 35     |
| Oats, English feed.....                 | 23               | 25               | 20        | 23     | 23       | 23     |
| Short small.....                        | 24               | 25               | 22        | 24     | 24       | 24     |
| Poland.....                             | 24               | 27               | 22        | 25     | 25       | 25     |
| Scotch, Common.....                     | 26               | 28               | 25        | 26     | 26       | 26     |
| Berwick, &c.....                        | 25               | 27               | 25        | 27     | 27       | 27     |
| Potatoes, &c.....                       | 27               | 29               | 26        | 28     | 28       | 28     |
| Irish, Feed.....                        | 20s 0d to 22s 0d | 16s 0d to 18s 0d | 20s 0d    | 24s 0d | 24s 0d   | 24s 0d |
| Ditto Potatoes.....                     | 22s 0d           | 21s 0d           | 20s 0d    | 24s 0d | 24s 0d   | 24s 0d |
| Ditto Black.....                        | 22s 0d           | 23s 6d           | 16s 0d    | 22s 0d | 22s 0d   | 22s 0d |
| Bran.....                               | 11s 0d to 12s 6d | per bushel.      |           |        |          |        |

## PRICES OF FLOUR,

|                                        | Per Sack of 280 lbs. |    | AUGUST 1. |    | SEPT. 1. |    |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------|----|-----------|----|----------|----|
|                                        | s.                   | s. | s.        | s. | s.       | s. |
| Town-made.....                         | 35                   | 40 | 33        | 38 | 38       | 38 |
| Norfolk, Suffolk, Kent, and Essex..... | 27                   | 32 | 27        | 30 | 30       | 30 |
| Sussex and Hampshire.....              | 27                   | 32 | 27        | 30 | 30       | 30 |
| Superfine.....                         | 32                   | 34 | 32        | —  | —        | —  |
| Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and Stockton. | 27                   | 32 | 27        | 30 | 30       | 30 |
| Northumberland, Berwick, and Scotch.   | 27                   | 32 | 27        | 29 | 29       | 29 |
| Irish.....                             | 27                   | 32 | 27        | 29 | 29       | 29 |
| Extra.....                             | 30                   | 33 | 30        | —  | —        | —  |

STOCK OF GRAIN AND FLOUR IN BOND  
IN THE PORT OF LONDON ON THE  
5TH AUGUST.

| Wheat.                  | Barley. | Oats.   | Rye. | Beans. | Peas. | Flour. |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|------|--------|-------|--------|
| qrs.                    | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs. | qrs.   | qrs.  | cwt.   |
| 270,678                 | 26,291  | 186,155 | 791  | 1,855  | 5,019 | 76,094 |
| Cloverseed, 16,063 cwt. |         |         |      |        |       |        |

## IMPERIAL AVERAGES

|                                                                                                                                       | Wheat. | Barley. | Oats.    | Rye. | Beans. | Peas. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------|----------|------|--------|-------|
| Weekending                                                                                                                            |        |         |          |      |        |       |
| 10th July                                                                                                                             | 41 6   | 27 11   | 23 8 35  | 0 40 | 7 38   | 10    |
| 17th ..                                                                                                                               | 42 1   | 28 10   | 23 11 29 | 7 40 | 1 45   | 6     |
| 24th ..                                                                                                                               | 43 6   | 28 5    | 24 9 31  | 0 40 | 2 39   | 7     |
| 31st ..                                                                                                                               | 40 0   | 28 4    | 21 5 31  | 3 40 | 2 28   | 1     |
| 7th August                                                                                                                            | 43 2   | 28 1    | 24 8 30  | 2 40 | 1 33   | 10    |
| 11th ..                                                                                                                               | 42 6   | 27 9    | 25 3 30  | 4 39 | 7 32   | 6     |
| Aggregate Average of the six weeks which regulates the duty.....                                                                      | 12 10  | 28 3    | 24 5 31  | 3 40 | 1 37   | 2     |
| Duties payable in London till Wednesday next inclusive, and at the Outports till the arrival of the Mail of that day from London..... | 44 8   | 19 10   | 10 9 22  | 9 9  | 6 14   | 0     |
| Do. on grain from British possessions out of Europe.....                                                                              | 5 0    | 2 6     | 2 6 3    | 0 3  | 0 3    | 0     |

An Account of the Quantity of Grain and Flour imported into the United Kingdom during the month ending the 5th Aug. 1835; the Quantity on which the Duty has been paid for Home Consumption, and the quantity remaining in Warehouse.

|                                       | Wheat.  | Barley. | Oats.   | Rye.    |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                       | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    |
| Quantity imported....                 | 6 322   | 1,021   | 22,282  | ..      |
| Do. entered for home consumption..... | 2,888   | 38      | 2,858   | ..      |
| Do. remaining in warehouse.....       | 625,622 | 88,861  | 390,873 | 4,242   |
|                                       | Peas.   | Beans.  | Maize.  | Flour.  |
|                                       | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | cwts.   |
| Quantity imported....                 | 646     | 11,046  | 526     | 3,199   |
| Do. entered for consumption.....      | 896     | 34,659  | ..      | 2,501   |
| Do. remaining in warehouse.....       | 11,348  | 17,322  | 1,121   | 316,712 |

## BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS MARKETS.

SEPTEMBER 1.

New Potatoes—with which these markets are well supplied—move off slowly, at last Monday's quotations—viz., Ware Potatoes, from 3s to 5s; middling, ditto, 2s to 2s 6d; and Chat ditto, 1s to 1s 6d per cwt.

## PRICES OF HOPS IN THE BOROUGH.

|                            | AUGUST 1. |          | SEPTEMBER 1. |          |
|----------------------------|-----------|----------|--------------|----------|
|                            | £         | s.       | £            | s.       |
| East Kent Pockets.....     | 5         | 5 to 7 0 | 5            | 0 to 6 2 |
| Mid-Kent Pockets.....      | 4         | 15 6 10  | 4            | 15 6 0   |
| Weald of Kent Pockets..... | 4         | 8 5      | 4            | 9 5 2    |
| Sussex Pockets.....        | 4         | 4 4 18   | 3            | 10 4 10  |
| Yearlings, Bags.....       | 3         | 3 4 10   | 3            | 0 3 15   |
| Old Olds.....              | 1         | 1 2 10   | 0            | 18 1 5   |

## SMITHFIELD MARKET.

Per stone of 8lbs. to sink the offals.

|                    | AUGUST 1. |          | SEPTEMBER 1. |          |
|--------------------|-----------|----------|--------------|----------|
|                    | s.        | d.       | s.           | d.       |
| Inferior Beef..... | 2         | 0 to 2 2 | 2            | 0 to 2 2 |
| Do. Mutton.....    | 2         | 2 2 4    | 2            | 2 2 4    |
| Middling Beef..... | 2         | 8 3 4    | 2            | 6 3 2    |
| Do. Mutton.....    | 2         | 6 2 10   | 2            | 6 2 10   |
| Prime Beef.....    | 3         | 6 4 0    | 3            | 4 3 10   |
| Do. Mutton.....    | 3         | 4 4 0    | 3            | 2 4 0    |
| Veal.....          | 3         | 0 4 0    | 3            | 2 4 8    |
| Pamb.....          | 3         | 0 3 0    | 3            | 0 3 10   |
| Lark.....          | 4         | 4 5 0    | 4            | 0 5 0    |

## WOOL MARKETS.

## BRITISH.

|                       | AUGUST 1. |           | SEPTEMBER 1. |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| Per lb.               | s.        | d.        | s.           | d.        |
| Down Tegs.....        | 1         | 7½ to 1 8 | 1            | 7½ to 1 8 |
| Half-bred do.....     | 1         | 8½ 1 9½   | 1            | 8½ 1 9½   |
| Ewes and Wethers..... | 0         | 0 0 0     | 0            | 0 0 0     |
| Leicester Hogs.....   | 1         | 7½ 1 8    | 1            | 7½ 1 8    |
| Do. Wethers.....      | 1         | 3 1 3½    | 1            | 3 1 3½    |
| Blanket Wool.....     | 0         | 16 1 2    | 0            | 10 1 2    |
| Flannel.....          | 1         | 0 1 5     | 1            | 0 1 5     |
| Skin Combing.....     | 1         | 2 1 3     | 1            | 2 1 3     |

## SCOTCH.

Per Stone of 24 lbs.

|                               | AUGUST 1. |           | SEPTEMBER 1. |           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|-----------|
|                               | s.        | d.        | s.           | d.        |
| Laid Highland Wool, from..... | 10        | 3 to 10 9 | 10           | 3 to 10 9 |
| White Do. Do.....             | 13        | 0 13 6    | 13           | 6 14 0    |
| Laid Crossed Do.....          | 13        | 0 14 0    | 13           | 0 14 0    |
| Washed Do. Do.....            | 14        | 0 16 0    | 14           | 0 16 0    |
| Laid Cheviots.....            | 14        | 0 16 0    | 14           | 0 16 0    |
| Washed Do.....                | 18        | 6 20 0    | 18           | 6 20 0    |
| White Do.....                 | 24        | 0 26 0    | 24           | 0 26 0    |

## FOREIGN.

Since our last no alteration of any moment has taken place. Private contract trade has been confined to very limited transactions.

# THE POLITICAL COMPANION

TO

## THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

### DISTRESS—IRELAND.

(From the Times.)

The painful subject of Irish famine came again before the House of Commons on Monday. Mr. S. Crawford on that occasion discharged a duty, of which every humane man must feel the imperative and solemn nature, by pressing upon the attention of Parliament the necessity of some act of prompt and resolute legislation, in the hope to render less frequent, if not wholly to avert, the recurrence of evils which are as disgraceful to the upper classes of Ireland, as they are afflicting to the poor. We wonder how men can ever again hold up their heads in places where they are flatly denounced in unmeasured terms as the most heartless beings on the surface of God's earth—the most oppressive in their dealings—the most selfish in their feelings—the most unchristian in their spirit towards their fellow mortal. Yet such is the language in which the great bulk of Irish landlords have been addressed, in writing and in speech, by those who know them; such, in substance, was the language of Mr. S. Crawford, who blamed Parliament for “allowing session after session to pass without attempting to enforce, *from the rapacious landlords* of Ireland, a contribution to the means of relieving the aged, the feeble, and the distressed.” How does Mr. Crawford describe the rents exacted from the poor of Ireland by their landlords? “In many parts of Ireland the rents reserved exceeded *the whole produce of the land*.” A tolerable sure receipt for the starvation of the tenantry!

Is it not something more than monstrous that these owners of the soil, who do so much to ensure the misery of their humble neighbours, to whom they ought at all times to extend a cordial and parental protection, do absolutely *nothing* for their relief? Is it not a standing stigma upon human nature, that landlords who draw thousands of pounds per annum from their estates, and spend those sums in distant countries, should, when the hour of distress arrives, throw the entire burden of charity upon us; and then when you propose that they should be compelled by law to perform the duties which are here entailed upon and freely undertaken by English proprietors, they twist, and writhe, and shuffle, and cry mercy, declaring “that Ireland would be ruined by such an innovation, and that English poor laws, and the wretchedness which they had caused, ought to prove a warning to Parliament respecting Ireland, rather than a temptation.” Nothing in the shape of impudence can exceed this mode of talking, as if any distresses connected with English poor laws had been inherent in the laws themselves, or as if the want of them had not produced more suffering in one week to the Irish poor than their maladministration had inflicted on those of England in a twelvemonth. If the landlords are not made to

feel that the wretchedness of their tenantry will recoil upon themselves, Parliament grants a bounty on their barbarity, and England, as has been the case in every instance, pays out of her own pocket the claims of the Irish poor upon their own oppressors. It is impossible that such a system should be perpetuated. The public will remark, that Mr. Daniel O'Connell took no part whatever but that of dogged silence in the discussion which had for its object the suggestion of some remedy to the distresses of those miserable beings from whom he wrings his own exorbitant income. We will venture to affirm that there is not a landlord in Ireland who charges the poor so high a “rent” as Mr. Daniel O'Connell for a tenement which never yet produced to any man, woman, or infant in the land, a single meal of potatoes.

### THE LORDS AND CORPORATION REFORM.

(From the Times.)

It could be no secret to anybody what fierce and desperate efforts would be made to bully the Peers of England into an abject submission to whatever course of proceeding would best suit the purpose, of the dominant party in the House of Commons, with relation to the Municipal Reform Bill,—we might add, to every other democratic measure, but specifically, at the present moment, to this.

The Lords' debate on Monday evening was most important. An attempt was made by Lord Melbourne, who seems rapidly degenerating into a mere “flash man” of the Radicals, to force their lordships' house into a committee on the Corporation Bill, and thus carry the measure, “hand over head,” in obedience to the sovereign will of the O'Connell faction, without hearing one tittle of evidence, or receiving one syllable of *authentic* information, as to the truth of any of those charges which were brought against existing municipal bodies by the Whig-Radical commissioners, although the validity of such charges has been denied in numerous petitions, and the policy of acting on them, even if demonstrated—that is, acting upon them in the manner enjoined by the Corporation Bill—has been contested in as many more. We never have disputed the assumed fact of the local misgovernment practised by sundry English corporations, or the fact which is notorious, that many of them are irresponsible monopolies, and therefore *must* be mal-administered, according to all human reason.

The necessity for a corporate reform, founded upon such recognition of the inherent constitutional vices of these bodies, was admitted by almost every conservative peer who spoke last Monday against going into committee on the bill.

It is consistent with the tricks and wickedness of faction to represent every exercise of judgment or free-agency on the part of the House of Lords, if



for no other reason than that it is an exercise of the dependence by that assembly, and provided it be connected with any measure which the Whiggo-Raddicals have an interest in pushing precipitately forward, as an act of rebellion against the majesty of the movement, and a forerunner of ruin to the British Peerage. The decision, accordingly, which was come to by their lordships on Monday evening, to hear evidence on some of those startling statements which were laid before them by counsel at their bar—or, in other words, to hear with their own ears from competent witnesses, the truth, and nothing but the truth, with regard to matters which might have been partially represented to them and the other House of Parliament, by a partially chosen commission,—that vote has raised an outcry among the Whig-Radicals, as if the House of Lords, in endeavouring to make themselves acquainted with the corporation question, could have no rational design or purpose but to throw out and annihilate the measure. Now, this question lies within a short compass. The report of the commissioners is or is not the foundation of the Municipal Reform Bill. If that be the groundwork of the Ministerial measure, who, as Lord Lyndhurst puts it in his inimitable speech—who are these commissioners? Having a high public trust to execute, and being of necessity professional men, they ought to have been taken indiscriminately from all parties, upon no other principle of selection than that of pure fitness for the office, so as to impress the public and the Legislature with a belief that their report would be based on a knowledge of facts obtained through conscientious inquiry, and to serve no ends but those of unbiassed and disinterested justice. But has that been the case? The learned lord alluded to went through the list of twenty commissioners, and with the single exception of Sir Francis Palgrave, ascertained that those fortunate and shrewdly selected gentlemen were one and all *Whigs, or something more than Whigs!* Was Lord Lyndhurst, then, we ask, much out of his reckoning when he pronounced this whole scheme of corporate reform to be nothing more nor less than one enormous Whig-Radical job, set on foot, not for the sake of any great national object, but to strengthen and consolidate still further the political party by which the commission has been issued and the measure framed? Well, is the report of such a commission, or rather of such commissioners, each prosecuting his own detached bit of the inquiry unchecked by any revision or control from the rest—is, we ask, such a report to be submitted to by the House of Lords as their sole textbook and authority, whereon to undertake and finish the most momentous revolution in the domestic policy of England which it is possible for the human mind to conceive, when their lordships have it in their power to proceed themselves to the fountain-head of intelligence, to examine their own witnesses, to conduct their own investigations, and to satisfy themselves that the Whig-Radical personages on whom they are commanded by O'Connell and Lord Melbourne to rely, have not presented them with a garbled, faithless, or otherwise imperfect report upon the state of the corporations? Now, we repeat, will any man with a grain of sense or honour pretend that in thus desiring to inform themselves upon a question which involves such a mass of property, and such a multitudinous diversity of ancient rights, and of perennial interests—a question on which there is *prima facie* ground for strong suspicion that they are in danger of being made the dupes of factious machinations—the House of Peers have done an act, or betrayed an intention, for which they ought to have their legislative and judicial privileges abolish-

ed, and to be, as a class of high functionaries in this empire, laid prostrate in the dust? "Aye," say the revolutionists; but we say "No;" and the people of England are with us.

But again, quoth Lord Melbourne, the measure is "not grounded on the report of the Commissioners. It is a calumny, or a folly to assert it." Then we would beg leave respectfully to ask his lordship, on what else can it be founded, if not on an official report of some description, unless it be on the statements—the *ex parte* statements—the designing, selfish, insidious statements—of the Whig-Radicals themselves? Is that then, is the asseveration of a Whig-Radical in office, even though it be a Cabinet office, sufficient evidence whereon to justify an independent Legislative assembly for going on slap-dash to a change, universal almost—and almost organic—in the local government of the great bulk of Englishmen inhabiting towns throughout the kingdom? or is it to be alleged against the whole body of Peers, as a crime, that they do not feel themselves authorized, as men of common sense and constitutional principle, to adopt so wild a course? The truth is, that Lord Lyndhurst has infinitely damaged the character of the commission, by exhibiting to public scorn and ridicule the paltry spirit of jealous and sordid faction in which it was appointed. Sure we are that, after such an exposure, the country generally would not hear with patience that the functions of the House of Lords had been devolved upon a score of Ministerial partisans, for the sake of enabling the understrappers of the Treasury to work the Corporate Reform Bill, as they are daily striving to work the registrations under the Electoral Reform Bill, to the sole advantage of the Whig-O'Connell Government. The majority of the House of Lords have been basely accused of employing the examination of witnesses as a screen for the defeat of the bill. The reckless beings who make this foul charge dread nothing so much as a calm inquiry into facts, and are therefore furious that the Lords will not vote and make laws in total ignorance of them. It is certain that their lordships have buckled to the examination of witnesses, like men who are resolved on executing vigorously a great and arduous task. We have no time to do more than refer our readers to the examination which took place yesterday upon the circumstances of the City of Coventry, and the *exemplary fidelity* with which it is there sworn by a respectable witness, that the Municipal Commissioners discharged their sacred trust in certain boroughs, with respect to which matters have come out, affecting the report of the Commissioners in a way which will go some length towards accounting for the anger of the organs of the Whig-Radicals at the determination of the House of Lords to get at the truth of the several cases brought before them, and not take it on the very frail authority of Commissioners who have been packed, or of Ministers whose chief object it is to keep the salaries of office to themselves. Thank God—and the sentiment will be echoed by every honest man in England—thank God, we have in the House of Lords, men who will neither be bullied themselves, nor suffer the national interests to be sacrificed. The implied menaces of Lord Melbourne towards his brother Peers are the most pitiable signals of distress which the Radical-Whig Government has yet exhibited from the mast-head.

#### THE BUDGET.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer brought forward his Budget on Friday Aug. 14; in the early part of his observations, he adverted to the enormous amount of

reductions which had been carried into effect since the peace—no less a sum than 40,191,000*l.* of taxation having been reduced since 1814; of which sum nearly 7,000,000*l.* had been reduced by the Government of which Lord Grey was the head, notwithstanding the great reductions both of taxation and expenditure which had been previously effected by the Administration of the Duke of Wellington, and by which further reductions had of necessity been rendered more difficult. The Right Hon. Gentleman proceeded to institute a comparison between the receipts and expenditure as estimated by Lord Althorp in July last year, and as shown by the actual balance-sheet ending July 5, 1835. The following are the results:—

|                                                                                                                               |              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Estimated Income for the year ended                                                                                           |              |
| 5th July, 1835 .....                                                                                                          | £45,778,000  |
| Actual Income .....                                                                                                           | 45,539,000   |
| Decrease .....                                                                                                                | £239,000     |
| Estimated Expenditure .....                                                                                                   | £44,801,000  |
| Actual Expenditure .....                                                                                                      | 44,334,000   |
| Decrease of Expenditure ...                                                                                                   | £467,000     |
| Deduct Decrease of Income .....                                                                                               | 239,000      |
| Balance .....                                                                                                                 | £228,000     |
| Add Estimated Surplus, 1835 .....                                                                                             | 977,000      |
| Actual Surplus on 5th July, 1835                                                                                              | £1,205,000   |
| The following is the Chancellor of the Exchequer's calculation of the Income and Expenditure for the ensuing financial year:— |              |
| Income .....                                                                                                                  | £45,550,000  |
| Expenditure { Charge of Debt } £30,580,000                                                                                    | } 44,715,000 |
| { Supply .... 14,135,000 }                                                                                                    |              |
| Surplus .....                                                                                                                 | £835,000     |

The total possible charge in the present year on account of the West India Loan is stated at 1,010,000*l.*, which if set against the above estimated surplus of 835,000*l.*, would leave, not a surplus on the ensuing year, but a deficiency of 175,000*l.* The probable charge within the year on account of the loan is estimated at from 600,000*l.* to 700,000*l.*, leaving a real surplus on the year, therefore, of from 150,000*l.* to 200,000*l.*

The Chancellor of the Exchequer proposes to reduce the duty on Flint Glass from 6*d.* to 2*d.* in the pound, under which reduction he calculates upon a loss of revenue in the first year of from 60,000*l.* to 70,000*l.*, but that deficiency will be entirely supplied by increased consumption in succeeding years.

He next proposes a reduction of the Spirit License Duty in the cases of those publicans whose consumption of spirits has been very small compared with the consumption of malt liquor, and upon whom the additional duty imposed last year has operated very oppressively. The loss which the revenue would sustain from this alteration is estimated at 40,000*l.*

The only other reduction or rather repeal of duty proposed by the Right Hon. Gentleman is that of Stamps on Awards for sums below a certain amount in Ireland, by which a loss of revenue of about 500*l.* would be incurred.

A number of most interesting facts are brought forward by the Right Hon. Gentleman in proof of the increased and increasing resources of the country, amongst which is the fact of duty having been

paid in one single quarter into the legacy department of the Town-duties Office alone, upon property amounting to no less than 6,812,941*l.*—"an exhibition of such an enormous increase of wealth as few other countries perhaps in the world could boast of." The official value of the exports in 1784 is stated to have been 15,000,000*l.*; on the average of the four years ending 1830, 65,330,000*l.*; on the average of the four years 1831, 2, 3, 4, 78,179,000*l.*, showing an actual and positive increase in the last four years in the exports of the country of 12,849,000*l.*; this increase being more than two-thirds of the whole official value of the exports in 1784.

The returns of the Savings Banks show an increase in the number of depositors in the last year of 33,972, and in the sum deposited, of 956,861*l.*; the total number of depositors being now 501,163, and of amount deposited 15,430,814*l.*

The beneficial effect which has actually resulted from the practical operation of the Poor Laws in several Unions, specified in detail by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, was adverted to by the Right Hon. Gentleman, in proof of the opinion which he had no hesitation in expressing with reference to the pressure which at present exists upon the agricultural interests, that no reduction of taxation that could be made would produce any thing like that degree of benefit or relief to agriculture which they would derive from the reform of the Poor Laws; under which reform it was considered probable that within a short period the agricultural interest would be relieved or benefited to the extent of 1,500,000*l.* a-year.

The Right Hon. Gentleman then called attention to the facts, that since the year 1820 a reduction in the expence of collecting the revenue had been effected to the extent of 620,362*l.*—and that whilst the amount of sinecure offices left unprovided for by abolition in 1810 was 191,000*l.* a year, in 1834 the amount was only 17,000*l.* a-year.

## THE LORDS AND CORPORATION REFORM.

(From the Morning Chronicle.)

The course which the Lords have taken must be encountered with a spirit and resolution worthy of the people. The Lords have shown the purpose to reject the Municipal Reform Bill, but they reckon on the exhaustion of the public indignation between the manifestation of the purpose and the accomplishment; and the hearing of evidence is therefore conveniently interposed, to deaden the shock, as it were, and take off the sharpness of disappointment. The Lords probably contemplate another advantage in this device: namely, that it will give them the opportunity of watching the temper of the public, and of not provoking it too far, if it does not cool with delay. The Lords are trying an experiment on the earnestness of the people. If the people allow their attention to be wearied out—if they flag in the struggle with the wilfulness of their enemies—if they appear inert and indifferent, the event is certain; but, on the contrary, if they make a lively and spirited, and, above all, a persevering stand, the Lords may yet take counsel from their best, their justest, their only wise and honest advisers—their fears. The hearing of evidence is undoubtedly a dextrous expedient for delay, and, with it, for trying the resolution and constancy of the people. The time ostensibly spent in hearing evidence, will really be a time wasted in trying the public purpose. Upon the way in which the people fill it, we still think that the result will very much depend. But



be the event what it may, our fellow-countrymen should have the satisfaction of knowing that they have done their best, and shown as high and resolute a spirit as the Lords, who would be their masters. While the Lords are hearing their evidence against the bill, the people must be everywhere putting forth the evidence of their resolution to have it. The evidence against the bill will be delivered at the bar of the House—the evidence for the bill must be given by the voice of the country. The people are the witnesses of the existence of the evil, and are competent judges of the value of the remedy.

The trite proverb says, that "he who wears the shoe, best knows where it pinches;" but the Lords deny this doctrine, and prefer taking the evidence of the shoemaker, as to the fact whether the wearer is galled and lamed by the shoe. The opinion of the people as to corporate abuses had its legitimate expression in the Commons' House, and now the town clerks, &c., are to be heard against the measure of redress in the Lords. That no one will heed the evidence of persons interested in the abuses, politically or otherwise, is certain enough; but the hope of our adversaries doubtless is, that it will weary out the public, and allow of the evaporation of anger at the predetermined fate of the Bill. The evidence is taken, as woolpacks are used at sieges, to deaden shot. To fire at such a bulwark were a waste of ammunition, and our forces must keep up a lively and steady bombardment, directed at the main object, around which these temporary defences are thrown. A shell a minute was the practice by which the French reduced the citadel of Antwerp, and about a parallel bombardment of the citadel of Toryism by public opinion will serve the present purpose. The most active demonstrations within the pale of the constitution are now the best.

If we were to attempt to add anything to the emphatic warning which Lord Melbourne gave to the Peers, it would simply be the citation of that very ugly admission of weakness made by Lord Lyndhurst, that the fall of aldermen might drag down the Lords! What can that body venture to attempt, whose nearest and dearest association of interests is with aldermen? Have the proud Peers, the doughty Barons of England, come to this, that the whiff and wind of the falling alderman's robe is enough to puff them from their station of authority? Is it conceivable that any power can stand, to the stability of which the existence of aldermen is essential? Lord Lyndhurst takes a pitiable view, indeed, of the case of the Lords.

The Tories are as contradictory as any lover of truth need desire, in their objections to the Municipal Reform Bill. When the disfranchisement of the freemen was discussed in the Commons, we heard a vast deal of hypocritical prate about the injustice of supposing that the poor were not as trustworthy as the rich; but Lord Lyndhurst objects to the proposed franchise, expressly because it will extend to the lower classes, and he assumes that they must oppose and over-rule the intelligence of the more affluent orders. Thus, unless a poor man happens to bear the name of a freeman, he is concluded by the Tories to be a being devoid of reason, and a destructive. We quote his Lordship's words:—"The electors were to be householders. If their Lordships looked at the list, they would find that persons occupying under 10*l* were twice the number of those above that amount; and that inferior class of persons were always of the movement party. Thus the intelligent and respectable classes would be swamped by the great mass of the lower classes." And this is one of the professed champions of the poor!

## TORY CONSPIRATORS.

*Times*, Aug. 5, 1835.

The majority of the House of Lords have been basely accused of employing the examination of witnesses as a screen for the defeat of the bill. The reckless beings who make this foul charge dread nothing so much as a calm inquiry into facts, and are therefore furious that the Lords will not vote and make laws in total ignorance of them. It is certain that their Lordships have buckled to the examination of witnesses, like men who are resolved on executing vigorously a great and arduous task. We have no time to do more than refer our readers to the examination which took place yesterday upon the circumstances of the city of Coventry, and the *exemplary fidelity* with which it is there sworn by a respectable witness, that the Municipal Commissioners discharged their sacred trust in certain boroughs, with respect to which matters have come out, affecting the report of the Commissioners in a way which will go some length towards accounting for the anger of the organs of the Whig-Radicals at the determination of the House of Lords to get at the truth of the several cases brought before them, and not take it on the very frail authority of Commissioners who have been packed, or of Ministers whose chief object is to keep the salaries of office to themselves. Thank God!—and the sentiment will be echoed by every honest man in England—thank God we have in the House of Lords men who will neither be bullied themselves, nor suffer the national interests to be sacrificed. The implied menaces of Lord Melbourne towards his brother Peers are the most pitiable signals of distress which the Radical-Whig Government has yet exhibited from the mast-head.

*Times*, June 14, 1835.

The country is now forewarned of the projects of the Tory conspirators. Those latter complain of it as a pure calumny, when we charge them with manœuvring for a return to office. In their sense they are right: it is not a return to office only which could at this moment fulfil the ambition or stimulate the violence of the Tory Chiefs—it is the purposes to which official power might in their hands, according to their hopes, be converted. The work of reaction and destruction—the demolition of all the yet unfinished labour of the friends of free and upright government—the suffocation in their cradle of those numerous, some of them excellent measures which have just seen the light, and which are deemed by THE PUBLIC ENEMY (THE OLD AND SCOTCHED AND WRITHING DRAGONS OF THE OLIGARCHY,) so many clinchers of their own everlasting exclusion from that which alone gives value to office in their eyes—a monopoly of dominion over the spoils of the entire empire. The East Indian monopoly endangered—the West Indian tyranny denounced in its fundamental principle as no longer to be endured—the Bank monopoly touched somewhat disrespectfully, though certainly not enough, by the existing Government—the HITHERTO SACRED ABUSES OF CLOSE CORPORATIONS EXPOSED, AND ON THE POINT OF BEING SIGNALLY PUNISHED—the Church of both countries—that rich storehouse for the destitute scions of the Aristocracy; that mass of perversions of whatever is best and holiest to the meanest and vilest use—the Church itself about to be cleansed of its impurities. Why all these together, are enough to drive Toryism mad, and to nothing short of madness has the Tory faction been at length exasperated. . . . . They

reason rightly as to the end, but their premises bespeak deplorable infatuation. They do not err in believing that the accomplishment of all the great measures above glanced at, would be absolutely and for ever inconsistent with those views which constitute the moving power of politicians of their clique, or in resolving to check, if they can, and extinguish such schemes of public good in their infancy; but their error, their frenzy, was in the imagining that they possess or can ever attain to such supernatural power. The Tories might as well dream of uprooting this island from her ocean seat, as of crushing the seeds of universal Reform, which have sprung up every where from a congenial soil, and cover every spot within her boundaries. The whole band of Conservatives have stood aloof from the people of England, and to this hour know them not. *They keep down the Nation! They re-impose the old cast-off shattered yoke! Where are their means?—Where their resources?—Where their hundreds of thousands of armed men? Where their hold over the affections of a people, amongst whom they are but an isolated and hated coterie.*

*But will they govern without a House of Commons, or in spite of them? Will there be a Parliament of Peers at York, and a Commons House of Parliament in London? What times were they, and in what did they terminate? Whither would these maniacs drive their unhappy country?*

#### ORANGE LODGES.

*(From the Globe.)*

Orange Lodges have at length received their quietus; and not only Orange Lodges, we hope, but all secret political societies or affiliations, of whatever character or party, will shortly be put down by a vigorous and decided act of the legislature. The rough treatment which Orangeism received in the Commons last night, from all sides, afforded a gratifying proof of the good sense and good feeling of the house, and augurs well for the future tranquillity of Ireland. The condemnation pronounced upon the introduction of Orange Lodges into the army was especial and unanimous. Even Colonel Perceval, the Grand Treasurer, and Mr. H. Maxwell, the Grand Secretary of the society, were obliged to admit the flagrant impropriety of this act of the grand lodge. These gentlemen, the very individuals who have signed "marching warrants" for nearly forty different regiments, professed their ignorance of the use which was to be made of these warrants, and denied all knowledge of the existence of Orange lodges in the army! We regret to say that some incredulity was manifested on the occasion; and it does, moreover, seem drawing largely on the good nature of the public, to ask it to believe that a resolution to grant Orange warrants to soldiers, carried in the grand lodge be one party in opposition to the wishes of the more moderate Orangemen, should have been unknown to its principal and most active functionaries—hidden only from two individuals whose duties are to receive its monies and record its acts!

We stated on Monday that the evidence did not go the length of proving that the Duke of Cumberland was personally cognizant of the fact that Orange lodges existed in the army. This, we still believe, is perfectly correct; although Colonel Wood's volunteer defence of his Royal Highness has not by any means improved his position in respect to his alleged ignorance of these transactions. It appears from this gentleman's admission, that the Duke of Cumberland, on the occasion when directly applied to transmit a regimental warrant, had refused to do so. We wish Colonel Wood had been authorised

to add that the Duke had followed up that refusal by some inquiry or other measure indicative of his disapprobation, instead of presiding at an Orange meeting at Lord Kenyon's, where it was resolved that a fee of fifteen shillings should be paid on taking out warrants for forming lodges, but *from which payment non-commissioned officers, soldiers, and sailors, were to be exempted.* It appeared to be the understanding of the house that some more official explanation of the conduct of his Royal Highness would be afforded, and to give an opportunity for that being done, the debate was adjourned till Tuesday next. After what has passed, however, we think it extremely probable that the Duke of Cumberland will be required to make his option between the rank of a Field-Marshal of England or a Grand Master of Irish Orangemen. The functions of both in one person are totally incompatible.

#### CORPORATION REFORM BILL.

*(From the Globe.)*

In what shape the corporation bill will come out of such hands as these it is impossible for human foresight to prognosticate. That the same majority which has thus decisively outvoted ministers on every occasion presented to it, is ready to go on damaging the bill in every mode which may be hereafter proposed, there can be no doubt. It will soon become a question whether, such as the House of Lords may deign to give it, it will become the House of Commons to accept the bill. The representatives of the people will have to decide whether it will be their duty to accept it as an instalment of popular rights on the present occasion, or reject it as an insulting mockery, leaving on their lordships the responsibility of frustrating the just desires of the nation. We must say that the alterations hitherto effected by the House of Lords are not such as would lead us to think the bill worthless. By retaining the parliamentary franchise of the freemen, the House of Lords, as Lord Hatherton frankly and forcibly told them, keep up a body of electors for Tory bribes to act on. By vindicating to them the perpetual abuse of corporation property they keep up the sanctity of prescriptive misappropriation of public funds, deprive the new corporations of a large portion of their revenues, and conciliate the existing freemen by a considerable boon. We do not think they will gain much by this—that the votes of the freemen will at a future election stand them in much stead. At any rate the extension of popular power in matters of municipal government has not yet been curtailed; and while the bill secures the people any particle of influence, while the proposed system of popular election remains unimpaired, we shall hail the bill as good, and use it to get something better.

We must regret the apparent delusion which has brought the candid and liberal Marquis of Northampton into the ranks of the opponents of reform; and we trust that the exaggerated alarms about the security of property, which appear to influence his lordship, will not induce him long to lend a countenance to the only course of policy by which the foundations of property run any great risk of being shaken. Lord Segrave's desertion does not pain us. We abandon to the Tories, without a sigh, his private worth, his public virtues, his acquirements, his wisdom, and the eloquence which prompted his ebullition in behalf of his order. His lordship's elevation to the peerage was a rare subject of Tory reproach against a reforming ministry. The party will now, perhaps, think him fitter for the peerage when he joins their ranks.



## THE IRISH TITHE BILL.

*Times*, Aug. 20, 1835.

We understand that the House of Lords will not oppose the committal of the Irish Church Bill, but that in Committee they will strike out those parts of the measure which spoliate the REVENUES OF THE IRISH CHURCH, and which have shocked to the last degree every sincere Protestant who values the maintenance of pure reformed religion above all political or factious considerations.

*Times*, May 22, 1834.

In Ireland we doubt not that the revenues now absorbed by that UNNATURAL WEN, CALLED THE IRISH PROTESTANT CHURCH, must eventually be, alienated to more general objects; and that on including, as must be, all sects of Christian ministers in the great measure of payment by the State, the income allotted to the Established Clergy *must be proportioned to the duties they perform, and to the numbers and wants of the community which they serve.*

*Times*, May 27, 1834.

"The point in dispute with regard to the Irish Church is pretty nearly this: whether the whole revenue of the Irish Church, shall, in its new form of a land tax, be appropriated in *perpetuum* to the Protestant Established Clergy; administering to the spiritual wants of about one-sixth of the gross population of Ireland, or whether Parliament shall assert the right of determining the revenue to be bestowed upon the Clergy according to the amount of duty performed by them—that is, ACCORDING TO THE PORTION OF THE PEOPLE WHO APPERTAIN TO THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH? It were a fruitless task at this time of day to argue such a question in detail. He who denies the right to Parliament to deal with revenues so circumstanced as national property, must hold that the temporalities of the Church were established exclusively for the personal enjoyment of the Clergy; that a Christian laity constitutes no necessary member of a Christian Church; and that a province, nay, a kingdom, which contains not a single Protestant congregation, is bound nevertheless, to throw away for ever an enormous mass of property upon Protestant Ministers who have no souls under their spiritual guidance, or in other words, who discharge no clerical functions, while the demands of charity, of moral education, and of spiritual instruction for the great body of the people, are left altogether unprovided for. But here we take leave of a subject upon which the country most deeply interested HAS WITH ONE VOICE DECLARED ITSELF. Ireland—Episcopal, and Protestant Dissenting—Catholic Ireland—these three forming the entire nation have resolved on a re-adjustment of the entire system of Church property, and REDUCED THE LEGISLATURE TO A SINGLE COURSE. The very abstract argument whereon the Church of England has ever been defended as a national church—namely, that of its embracing the majority of the nation—that argument when applied to Ireland, CUTS AWAY THE NATIONALITY OF THE IRISH CHURCH, and reprobates the everlasting and total absorption of the only fund which has at any time been appropriated to religious ends and uses in that country, by a Clergy administering to one-sixth of the people, as UTTERLY UNJUSTIFIABLE AND REVOLTING."

## THE AGRICULTURAL INTEREST.

*(From the Mark Lane Express.)*

The session is now rapidly drawing to a close, and although in a political point of view, we yet anticipate proceedings of weighty, nay, of almost overwhelming importance, still that important disclosure to which all

look with the greatest anxiety, namely, the financial statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer has been made, and the class which by *candidates* out of the House, and *hon. members* in the House of Commons, is admitted to be suffering the most extreme degree of distress, has obtained of relief, what? Abundance of *commiseration*, and 110,000*l.* in aid of the county rates. The Tories, when seeking office and seats in the House of Commons, upbraided the Whigs with neglecting the interest of the agriculturalists, nay, they even branded them with being decidedly hostile to that interest. The Whigs as often as occasion needed, upon their return to office, appealed to the conduct of the Tories when in power, as evidence of their disinclination to do more for the benefit of the farmers than they the Whigs had done, and held out hopes of something being under consideration for the improvement of their condition. The Whigs were turned out, and the Tories came into office, the Tories were in their turn ousted, and the Whigs returned to power, but not one single step has been taken by the really influential men of *either* party to raise the agriculturalist from his present fallen condition. We are not blind to the difficulties which in a financial point of view, stand in the way of any considerable reduction of taxation. We are not weak enough to imagine that with a surplus of revenue so limited as that which the Chancellor of the Exchequer has now at his disposal, the Malt-tax, or even a moiety of it could be taken off, but when we look back and see the fostering hand which not only the Whig but the Tory Governments of this country have been extending to the commercial class, we do not think it was too much to expect that some disposition should have been evinced to succour the agriculturalist in his pressing hour of need. Out of little but little can be bestowed. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has deemed it advisable to reduce the duty on flint glass not only for the purpose of preventing smuggling, but also for the sake of encouraging the manufacture of that article. Would it have been too much to expect that as a measure of evenhanded justice to the agriculturalist, he should, at the same time, have reduced, or altogether taken off the duty on hops. We have no doubt that we shall be told that the relief afforded by the repeal of the duty on hops would be exceedingly partial, affecting only a few individuals. The statement is true as the case now stands, but if the hop-grower were unfettered by that obnoxious tax, the price of hops would be materially reduced, the article would be more extensively used by the large brewers, instead of the pernicious drugs which are now employed as a substitute, the cultivation of hops would be extended, and an increased demand for agricultural labour would follow, as a necessary consequence. The boon would not be a large one, neither would the sacrifice be great, but the act itself, small though it were,

would be a recognition of his right to relief, and evince a disposition, when means should be afforded, to relieve his burthens. The real truth, however is, the fault rests with the farmers themselves. Were it not that the suffering which the tenant farmer now endures comes under our notice, daily, through a variety of channels, we should be inclined to ascribe the loud complaints which are, in some instances made, to what has been called the proverbial disposition of farmers to grumble; and to disbelieve that distress existed at all. We might be disposed to agree with the editor of the *Courier*, who observed last week—

“We are sorry we cannot quite go along with the right hon. gentleman in what he states about agriculture. In some districts it may be depressed; but we are well satisfied that, speaking of the empire at large, it was never at any former period, in so flourishing a condition. How, were it otherwise, are we to account for the lowness of prices, coupled with the virtual exclusion of foreign corn, and the rapid increase of population? On the whole, we congratulate our readers on the prospect presented by the state of the country. It is, in most respects, highly satisfactory.”

There is not a class of individuals in the whole commercial, manufacturing, or operative communities of this country, from the most extensively connected and opulent merchants upon the London Exchange, down to the fraternity of chimney sweepers, which does not steadily coalesce and perseveringly call the attention of the leading and active members of the Government to any measure about to affect its interest, or to the peculiar condition of its respective trade or calling. Day after day do we hear of deputations, first of this trade, and then of that trade, waiting upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer. But what do we hear of the farmers? Every now and then some county member gets up and presents a stray petition on the subject of agricultural distress, and once or twice in a session some real friend of the farmer, makes a motion declaratory of the distressed state of the agricultural interest, or for the repeal of a tax which he knows beforehand will not be granted, and there ends the matter. Not so with the commercial and trading communities. No sooner were the extent of the alterations about to be made by the Peers in the Municipal Corporation Reform Bill known, a measure by the way, rather affecting the privileges than the pecuniary interests of the parties concerned, than meetings were called, and petitions to the legislature prepared and signed in almost every town of consequence in the kingdom. Nay, we venture to affirm that more petitions have been presented for the repeal of the stamp duties upon Newspapers during the present session, than from the whole agricultural body for relief of agricultural distress. We now repeat that which we have often before stated, that nothing short of one uniform system of organization by which petitions may be prepared and laid before the legislature by the members representing the agricultural interest, *without reference to political principles*, and supported out of doors by the whole agricultural body, will ever obtain that attention which the justice of their cause demands, and without which the growth of corn for the maintenance of the British population will be transferred to foreign climes.

## ORANGE LODGES.

(From the Times.)

Mr. Hume's motion against Orangism, which was supported by a large majority of the House of Commons, is to be considered under two points of view—1st, the existence of Orange lodges in the army, and the connexion of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland with them. On the part of the subject relating to the introduction of such a plague among the troops, there can, we presume, be no difference of opinion. Men who know what an army is, or ought to be, must be aware that any bond of action or co-operation but that of military duty, including obedience to the lawful commands of their officers, is ruin to the discipline of any soldiery, otherwise the best disposed. In a country, moreover, where civil dissention is unfortunately too frequent, and where the armed force is brought from time to time into collision with the people, nothing can be more lamentable than the inoculation of the army with a spirit of partisanship on either side, or more reprehensible than the conduct of those by whom such a mischief is perpetrated or encouraged. It is impossible to shut our eyes to the contingency, already described in this journal, and dwelt upon by Mr. Sheil on Tuesday night, of the spread of Orangism among the Protestant troops, leading to the infection of the Roman Catholic soldiers with the counterpoison of defenderism, or any of those other forms which disloyal Popery has assumed within the last fifty-six years in Ireland—we mean since the first relaxation of the Popery laws in 1779. Into what a state would the armed force of the country be thrown, what reliance could be placed upon the efficiency of the British army throughout Ireland, if each regiment were divided into Orange and Green factions, hardly restrained from butchering each other on parade, but compelled by the oaths which bound them to the societies into which they had respectively been initiated, to take opposite sides in cases of popular tumult, and so convert the ultimate instrument of public tranquility and security into an irresistible destroyer of both? It is gratifying, at least to moderate politicians, to discover, that however prevalent may have been the practice of seducing private soldiers into the ranks of Orangism, the very parties accused of it have been forced to reprobate and disavow it, not even Colonel Verner, grand functionary as he is, having ventured to say a word in extenuation of the crime of corrupting the paid protectors of the Crown and country,

With regard to the Duke of Cumberland, we do not pretend to say that any privy has been brought home against him, as to the real and highly criminal destination of the blank warrants to which he had affixed his signature. But every one will admit that his Presidency over those Orange meetings at Lord Kenyon's, where mention was made of the military men for whom certain warrants were intended, and of the fees from which soldiers should be exempted, bore at least a rather awkward appearance.

## ORANGE LODGES.

(From the Herald.)

What is the cause of the present rabid hatred and persevering malice of the O'Connellite party to the Orangemen? It cannot be doubted that it is the experience which that party has had of their devoted and inflexible adherence to Protestant principles and British connection. It is not many years since Mr. O'Connell himself courted the Orangemen of Ireland



by the most abject advances and the most fulsome flattery. His object was to wheedle them into an alliance with his anti-Saxon party for the dismemberment of the empire by the repeal of the legislative Union. Some of the adulatory expressions which he addressed to them were quoted by Colonel Verner in the debate on Tuesday night. Among other things he said, "They (the Orangemen of Ireland) were the most noble, generous, and patriotic band of men that ever existed." His acts were as expressive as his words—he pressed the Orange lily, the symbol of Orange politics, to his bosom, and drank "the pious, glorious, and immortal memory of the great and good King William," in a glass of pure Boyne water. He called on the Orangemen to "assist in destroying the connection of Ireland with the British parliament, which was the source of all their distresses." He told them that by their co-operation they might in twelve months have an Irish parliament sitting in Dublin. The Orangemen, faithful to their principles and to British connection, despised the flattery of the agitator as they had always scorned his threats. They were proof against all the charms of the tempter—they were resolved to hold fast by British connection—to flourish or to fall with the Protestant constitution of England, rather than give Mr. O'Connell an opportunity of destroying it by their instrumentality, while he satiated at the same time his revenge on the "base, bloody, and brutal Whigs" as he styled those whom he now covers all over with the slaver of his panegyric. Hence a more bitter and venomous hostility than ever on the part of the chief agitator and his party against the Orangemen, who, had they acted so as to merit the praise of their present defamers, would not have deserved so well of their country.

We should rejoice to see the day arrive when there would be no necessity for Protestants associating together in Ireland for the purpose of self-defence. But while societies dangerous to the peace of the country, hostile to the Protestant religion, and opposed to British connection, are organised in that country, Protestants must altogether disregard the law of self-preservation if they do not unite upon the defensive principle—carefully abstaining from becoming assailants, but resolved not to be assailed with impunity. In 1641 the Protestants of Ireland slept unsuspectingly while a most extensive and destructive combination of their enemies was in progress, and more than 60,000 of them, on the smallest computation, perished by midnight massacre, and but for an accidental revelation of the plot in Dublin the tragedy of Protestant extermination in Ireland would have been complete.

### THE CRISIS.

(From the Age.)

So it appears that the supplies will be stopped if the Lords do not truckle to O'Connell and the death's head and cross-bones government, so graphically depicted by Maurice Fitzgerald (whom John O'Connell will not fight) in the petition presented by young Scarlett. Will they indeed?

What the consequences of such a step would be we have on a former occasion shown. It would leave the army unpaid, the navy unpaid, the civil functionaries of state unpaid, the national obligations unpaid, the dividends unpaid, the colonial expenses unpaid—even the beautiful black job unpaid. In other words, it would produce mutiny in our fleets and armies, ensure the speedier loss of our colonies, and

break up the empire. Is a majority of the House of Commons prepared to do this? We doubt it.

We wish they would try—sincerely and from the bottom of our souls do we utter that wish. The present House of Commons has become all but intolerable, and the cup would be filled by this addition. Stop the supplies!—very well. Even a Whig ministry could not stand that—even they would be obliged to counsel a dissolution; but it would not be left to *them* to suggest that act of justice. A Tory government would be imperatively demanded by the angry voice of all that is honourable and powerful in the country. The Tories, now nearly a match for the O'Connell crew in the Commons, would by a new election, outmatch them by a powerful majority. In the present state of the registration we might expect, even as it is, a majority of a hundred; but if the feelings of the country were to be outraged by such an atrocious act as that suggested on Friday night—suggested, we admit, by the most shameless part of the house—the combined Whig, Radical, and Papist contingent would not amount to 150 in a house of 658. And well they know it.

### CORPORATION REFORM.

(From the Examiner.)

Mirabel goes into the den of thieves gallantly appointed; he is received by the bravoes with much courtesy, but soon the character of his company and his entertainment appears: one observes that his purse is unnecessary; another takes a fancy to his snuffbox; a third relieves him of his sword; a fourth proposed the amendment of exchanging suits—copper for gold lace: and after these various friendly improvements, Mirabel wears the appearance of the rogues who have stripped him. Then one treads on his toes, and another tweaks his nose, and the sufferer must submit to all patiently, for there is an overwhelming majority of bravoes against him.

Such has been the treatment of the unfortunate Municipal Reform Bill in the house of ill fame. The parallel, however, fails in this respect—that, though despoiled, Mirabel's body remained un mutilated and undamaged; but the substance of our desired measure has been so cut up and mangled that hardly a particle of the original remains. In fact, there is no identity; and this thing which is sent down is a hideous changeling. The Lords have substituted their own ill-favoured offspring for the sound, well shaped measure that was sent up to them by the Commons.

The freeman's abused privileges have been perpetuated; an insolent oligarchical qualification has been introduced limiting the class eligible to the town council to the richest sixth of the rate-payers; the licensing power, vested by the original bill in the town councils has been given back to the magistracy, whose reputation has suffered so much by the possession of it, to say the least; the existing aldermen are fixed for life in town councils, to neutralize the principle of popular election, and to taint the new system with the imbecility and corruption of the old; a further division of towns into wards has been carried, and the arrangement of the divisions has been given to the justices of the neighbouring districts, as persons, forsooth, who cannot be suspected of prejudice! The magistracy is notoriously in the main Tory, and the effect of this enactment would be to give them the power of parcelling out the boroughs according to the aristocratic influences.

## TURF INTELLIGENCE.

Amidst the turbulence of the senate, and the fierceness of political contention, as well as the general depression of the commercial community, and the agricultural interest, it is a pleasing contemplation that racing is on the increase, as if the people of this country sought a solace for their sorrows in the fascinating recreations of the race-course. The operations of the turf have become a very important business, divided, like our manufactures, into every advisable ramification: thus we have breeders, trainers and jockeys, whose united exertions have produced a degree of perfection which, in the opinion of many, bids defiance to improvement: nor must the betting circle be forgotten, whose busy proceedings give a degree of interesting animation to the scene, unattainable in any other form. However, if satisfactory excellence has been thus far obtained, it must be acknowledged that those who have undertaken to convey to the public accounts of turf affairs, through the medium of the beautiful science of writing, are utterly inadequate to the discharge of the duty, owing to their gross ignorance of the subject upon which they have unblushingly undertaken to instruct others by practical elucidation; those, therefore, who place any confidence in the "*sporting reports*" which appear in the London daily and some of the hebdomadal papers, will receive but a very vague, a very flimsy, and, indeed, a very fallacious idea of passing events, and cannot fail to experience the most miserable disappointment in their prospective anticipations.

Chester Races, which take place early in May, may be regarded as the first meeting of the season—of any consequence at least—and affords an opportunity for forming an opinion of the two-year-olds of that part of the kingdom, as well as the influence of the previous winter upon the constitutions of the candidates for turf distinction. Chester meeting is succeeded the following week by Liverpool Spring Races, when we arrive at one of the most important meetings of the season, Epsom. The Derby, the Oaks, and the Doncaster St. Leger, are the three most important stakes which are offered for contention, the last of which, though less valuable perhaps than the Derby, excites the greatest interest. The Ascot, the Liverpool, and the Goodwood Cups, form brilliant stars in the racing constellation, superior in attraction to any other stake or prize, except those already enumerated.

The decision of the Derby this year evinced the advantage to be derived from the jockey possessing a thorough knowledge of the qualities of his horse, and using them honestly. Mundig, on the Derby day, was not so good a horse as Ascot; Will Scott is inferior to several jocks as a rider; yet, by the strength and persevering disposition of the one, and the very liberal animations (whip and spurs) of the other, the prize was won. The decision of the Oaks manifested the folly of the general custom of holding a dark nag too cheaply.

Of all the disciples of frail humanity, none are more reserved than trainers; and of all the trainers with whom we ever came in contact, we never encountered one more circumspect than John Scott; he contrived to keep Mundig so much in the dark, that from the time the betting commenced on the Derby up to the period of running, nothing had been as-

certain respecting him; it is true, he figured in the betting list, but in a very humble situation, and sometimes the question might be heard at Tattersall's, *en passant*, "What's the price of Mundig?" Once or twice, when the odds were very heavy against him, those who were in the secret, the select, the very select, few—contrived to transact business upon him to some extent; the circumstance awakened curiosity, which, however, subsided as soon as the cause that had created it ceased to operate. In the meantime, Will Scott, (brother of the trainer,) had ridden the horse in his gallops, had well ascertained his quality, and hence immediately before starting, he mutteringly remarked, that he "would win the Derby if he cut Mundig to pieces."

It is very well known that Queen of Trumps won the Oaks the following day without a shake of the bridle or a lift of the hand. Tommy Lye sat upon her as steadily as possible from beginning to end; she outstripped her competitors, held all the way.

On the following Tuesday Mundig was announced as the favourite for the Doncaster St. Leger, with the Queen of Trumps occupying a position on the list three degrees lower. Ascot, the second in degree, was beaten a fortnight afterwards by Ibrahim, who did not make a remarkable figure in the race for the Derby, nor, indeed, is he so good a horse as Ascot; but, on the occasion of his success, happened to have a rider on his back. However, this made no material alteration in the betting for the St. Leger. At length, Goodwood Races came on, where Preserve (who had uniformly been a favourite for the Oaks up to the moment of starting,) proved herself a superior racer. Thus stood the case, Ascot had been beaten by Mundig, he had been beaten by Ibrahim, confessedly not a first-rate; and Mundig, although Will Scott contrived to push his nose to the winning-post three inches in advance of Ascot's muzzle, was beaten to a "stand-still;" it was a very close affair, while it was abundantly evident that two more strides would have placed Ascot in advance, consequently Mundig cannot be a first-rate horse. The matter was too obvious; Queen of Trumps took the lead on the betting list, kept it up to the 20th of August, nor can the trifling retrocession which she then experienced be accounted for upon the principles of reason and common sense.

Queen of Trumps is a very healthy filly, possessing uncommon speed, and extraordinary powers of endurance. Preserve, an acknowledged good racer, she could have distanced at Epsom, as every person must be well aware who witnessed the race for the Oaks; is it likely, therefore, that she should experience defeat at Doncaster by Mundig or Ascot, neither of whom can lay claim to any superior pretensions, and both of whom have had too much taken out of them to come fairly to the post. Queen of Trumps has never experienced greater fatigue than that which her indispensable exercise imparts.

Throughout animated nature, with very little exception, we find males more powerful than females; but, inasmuch as the latter arrive at maturity at an earlier period than the former, in our estimate of their relative strength, this circumstance should be uniformly taken into consideration. A horse does not attain maturity till he is seven years old, which is accomplished by the mare at six, if not earlier; nor



have we the least doubt that, up to five years, the filly as a racer, is stronger by comparison than the colt. If we look at two years old stakes, we shall find that they are more frequently won by fillies than colts, when the sexes contend against each other. We have frequently noticed that when a three years old (colt in particular) has been worked hard or been overmarked, he has not been able to run again for a very considerable period, generally not for the remainder of his life, at least successfully: of the truth of this position or principle, Mr. Dawson's Satan (by Lottery) is a living instance, amongst many others. And therefore, according to this doctrine, Mundig, three years old, and who experienced very great distress from his overstrained exertions at Epsom, can be scarcely expected to come to the post for the Doncaster St. Leger with a promising chance of success against such an animal as Queen of Trumps, who, in addition to her extraordinary powers, will come out as fresh as possible. Ascot has run several unsuccessful but distressing races; and, although he may derive considerable advantage from good nursing for two months, the effects of his exertions on Epsom Downs and Ascot Heath will scarcely be obliterated. Moreover, we are decidedly of opinion, that if the two colts just mentioned came to the post with every advantage of freshness and condition, Queen of Trumps would beat them with ease. However, in Turf calculations, dark horses should be duly considered: Mundig was a dark horse prior to his race for the Derby, Queen of Trumps was similarly circumstanced prior to the decision of the Oaks. In the contest for the Doncaster St. Leger, this magnificent filly, this Queen of Trumps, may be hemmed in, other untoward incidents may occur; but, if all be *on the square*, we entertain very little doubt of her success.

In the early part of the month (August) Queen of Trumps became the favourite at 7 to 4 against her; Mundig receded several points, but was placed second on the list; Ascot third. In a few days Queen of Trumps advanced a trifle; Mundig experienced a further depression, and he and Ascot might be said to exchange places on the betting list. Shortly afterwards, Preserve (whose appearance at Doncaster was not expected) came briskly into the market, and from 20 to 1 experienced such a rapid ascension as placed her fourth on the scale at 10 to 1. Since this time she has ascended several points, whilst Queen of Trumps has experienced a decline, and Mundig appears once more at the head of the list.

The following is the state of the odds on

#### THE DONCASTER ST. LEGER.

- 9 to 2 agst Mr. Bowes's Mundig.
- 5 — 1 — Mr. Mostyn's Queen of Trumps.
- 8 — 1 — Mr. Greville's Preserve.
- 8 — 1 — Lord Orford's Ascot.
- 12 — 1 — Lord Derby's Verbena.
- 15 — 1 — Mr. Richardson's Hornsea.
- 20 — 1 — Mr. Watt's Mamsel Otz.
- 20 — 1 — Mr. Johnson's Jupiter.
- 30 — 1 — Capt. Taylor's Amlerby.
- 40 — 1 — Mr. Peel's Trim.
- 40 — 1 — Mr. Houldsworth's Turban.

We consider the above list as a factitious state of the betting, as far as relates to Mundig and Queen of Trumps, as it cannot be supported on the genuine and unerring principles of physiological deduction. The owner of Mundig, whether it be Mr. Bowes or Mr. Ridsdale, may be anxious to dispose of him prior to the period fixed for the decision of the important stake in which he stands engaged; therefore, like a foreseeing salesman, may have sent friends into the market for the purpose of enhancing his price.

"There are more things in heaven and earth,  
Than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

#### TATTERSALL'S, MONDAY, AUG. 24.

The assemblage was not so numerous as the near approach of Doncaster races reasonably enough induced the anticipation; nor indeed was business transacted except to a very limited extent. A degree of suspicious indecision was the predominant feature of the meeting, owing to the mystery in which Mundig has become completely enveloped. He appeared to have a number of supporters, or rather semi-supporters, as their offers to back him were in conjunction with other candidates for the glittering prize. However, it had the effect of preventing that decided recession which we had fully anticipated; and although in defiance of the circumstance already mentioned, he sunk a point or two, yet on the close of the afternoon he stood at 4 to 1. Queen of Trumps advanced just sufficiently to place her at the top of the list. Preserve was frequently mentioned, as also Verbena, both of whom advanced in the estimation of the betting circle. We can scarcely refrain from entertaining the opinion that Mundig will not start for the Leger. At the close of the business the odds stood thus:—

#### DONCASTER ST. LEGER.

- 7 to 3 agst Mr. Mostyn's Queen of Trumps.
- 4 — 1 — Mr. Bowes's Mundig.
- 13 — 2 — Lord Orford's Ascot.
- 7 — 1 — Mr. Greville's Preserve.
- 13 — 1 — Mr. Richardson's Hornsea.
- 18 — 1 — Mr. Watt's Mamsel Otz.
- 20 — 1 — Mr. Johnson's Jupiter.
- 20 — 1 — Mr. Pottinger's Crescent.
- 25 — 1 — Mr. Golden's Brother to Hope.
- 33 — 1 — Mr. Houldsworth's Turban.

Queen of Trumps, Mundig, and Preserve were offered against the field; as also the two former accompanied by Verbena, and bets made in each case.

**GROUSE SHOOTING.**—The morning of yesterday, the 12th, was ushered in with the only heavy and continued rain which has fallen in this part of the country for many weeks. The weather being also close and hazy was an additional disadvantage to the sportsman; yet, with all those drawbacks, the result of the day's sport, so far as can be ascertained while we write, has been equal to an average of seasons. Many of the shooting grounds had been gone over before the actual owners had reached them, for it is a well-ascertained fact that some hundred brace of grouse reached this place the Highlands in the course of the early part of the week, and were forwarded to various parts of the country.—*Perthshire Courier* of the 13th.

**HYDROPHOBIA.**—It seems to be a vulgar error that dogs are more liable to become mad in warm than in cold weather. "In hot countries," observes a popular writer, "the disease is, indeed, almost unknown." On the Continent, where the disease is often caused by the bite of wolves, it occurs *oftener in winter than in summer*. Hydrophobia (in English water fret) is not caused only by the bite of a dog—as frequent instances are given from that of a fox, cat, hog, &c., but varying in the symptoms and in different degrees of violence. The poison will remain in the constitution for a considerable period of time. In one case, which occurred under Dr. Bardsley, at the Manchester Infirmary, *twelve years* had intervened! Many remedies and modes of treatment have been proposed for hydrophobia when confirmed, but there has yet been none found to answer the high expectations excited at their first appearance.

# THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

OCTOBER, 1835.

No. 4.]

[VOL. III.

## ORIGINAL LETTERS.

No. I.

### DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT.— THE AGRICULTURISTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

“ For little office  
The hateful Commons will perform for us ;  
Except, like curs, to tear us all in pieces.”  
SHAKESPEARE.

SIR,—It seems to be a prevailing opinion, that a dissolution of parliament will occur before the end of the year. In what manner this event is to be brought about, does not appear to be quite obvious, nor do I feel that it is at all essential to my present purpose to know from what cause a new parliament may be called. The struggle between parties has at this moment but little interest for persons connected with the land ; because it is now placed beyond all doubt, that the sympathy of the Tories in the House of Commons for the distress of the agricultural community, is,—when compared with the sympathy of the Whigs for the same interest—in about the proportion that six bears to half-a-dozen. To come to this conclusion, does not, I admit, offer any very cheering prospect either to the land-owner, the occupying tenant, or to the labourer ; but at the same time I think when the fact is as notorious as that the Emperor of Russia practises the cruelty of a tyrannical despot towards the subjugated kingdom of Poland,—it is the better course at once to acknowledge the misfortune, and then set determinedly to work to endeavour to take that care of ourselves which others do not seem at all disposed to observe on our behalf.

When any subject deeply connected with the manufacturing world, is before the legislature, there is immediately a combination of that interest, carried on in various ways, and regulated by the necessity of the case, to support their cause before parliament, and it is quite astonishing to observe the strict unanimity and industry of purpose which is generally exercised on these occasions. It is true this object is much more easily accomplished in towns among the manufacturers than it is in the country, dispersed as the agricultural population is, in small villages, distant mansions, and solitary farm-houses ; and this separation is, beyond all doubt, one leading cause why this vital interest of the state, in times of distress, and on occasions of oppression, is not heard so clamorous in its demands for relief and redress, or so systematic in political pursuit, as the more gregarious part of the nation, namely, manufactures and trade. Then, as to the protection in parliament, of the landed interest, through the especial

care of the county members, let it be remembered, these representatives of the land labour under a twofold disadvantage, the first arising from a numerical inferiority in the house, and the other an inferiority of another description, to characterise which, I will copy a paragraph or two from “ Smith’s Wealth of Nations,” beginning at page 396, vol. I.—“ Merchants and master manufacturers are, in this order, the two classes of people who commonly employ the largest capitals, and who by their wealth draw to themselves the greatest share of the public consideration. As during their whole lives they have been engaged in plans and projects, they have frequently more acuteness of understanding than the greater part of country gentlemen ; as their thoughts however, are commonly exercised rather about the interest of their own particular branch of business, than about that of the society, their judgment, even when given with the greatest candour, (which it has not been upon every occasion), is much more to be depended on with regard to the former of those two objects, than with regard to the latter. *Their superiority over the country gentleman is, not so much in their knowledge of the public interest, as in their having a better knowledge of their own interest than he has of his.*”

“ It is by this superior knowledge of their own interest that they have frequently imposed upon his generosity, and persuaded him to give up both his own interest and that of the public, from a very simple but honest conviction, that their interest, and not his, was the interest of the public. The interest of the dealers, however, in any particular branch of trade or manufactures, is always in some respects different from, and even opposite to, that of the public.”

Truly, one would think from the above quotation, that Dr. Adam Smith had written his famous Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations, after the sad experience we have had of the workings of “ Peel’s Bill ;” but as, however, we know this was not the case, we may fairly make up our minds to the fact, that the course of things is not much altered since 1775, and that subsequent events have fully justified the opinion of Adam Smith, as to the relative qualifications of self-protection and principle, possessed by the merchants, manufacturers,—including the Jews—and country gentlemen.

If we have need of the above truths being more closely brought home to our minds, we have only to take a view of the present state of manufactures and trade as compared with the present condition of the agricultural interest ; and although circum-



*stances*, independent of the legislature, may have favoured for the last few years the former interest beyond that of the latter, still the great and *substantial cause* of the present prosperity of the manufacturers is undoubtedly the result of the fostering care of the British parliament, exercised on their behalf, and which has operated to the destruction of the landed interest at the shrine of trade and commerce. I may be told that the *prosperity* of the one interest is incompatible with the *distress* of the other. Aye, so it is incompatible with such extreme distress that would drive the suffering party to open rebellion and violence; but with any distress short of this, so long as a foreign demand exists for British manufactured goods, equal to the demand of the present time, I not only deny that it is incompatible for the manufacturers to flourish when the interest of the land is depressed, but I will go much further, and assert, that this depression of the land will be one source from which the manufacturers will derive their prosperity.

During the late war, the favourite toast at all public dinners, was, "The Plough and the Loom," and at that time, and under the then existing circumstances, these interests were inseparably connected, and for this obvious reason, that the trade of the manufacturers—or the exchange perhaps would be a more appropriate term—with foreign nations, was completely paralysed, and consequently the only consumption to be depended on for their produce, was the home market; and as the greater part of the purchasers of manufactured articles derived their profit or wages from the land, it is quite clear that the plough and the loom at that time had the deepest interest each for the other. But after the conclusion of the war, another great interest was added to the above favorite toast, by the technical term of the "Sail," and then it was generally thought that these interests must rise or fall together. Now, so long as the war continued, and when the "Wooden Walls of Old England," comprehended as they then did, the whole of our shipping interest, from the line-of-battle ship to the mere ferry skiff, because every thing that could float was employed in the common defence from the common enemy,—then, indeed, the above interests were inseparably connected, and stood precisely in this situation. The manufacturing supplied the agricultural interest with the various necessities and luxuries of life; the agriculture of England was the only means of affording bread and meat to the manufacturers, and the wooden walls defended both interests from the invasion of a foreign enemy. But no sooner was the war concluded, and trade and commerce had again revived with foreign nations, and the "wooden walls" had lost their warlike name for the more pacific and commercial term of the "sail," than these great interests had immediately different views; the "loom" and the "sail" hanging together, leaving the "plough" in the lurch. The two former interests demanded cheap bread, the latter interest insisted on the impossibility of bread being cheap on account of the heavy charges the expenses of the war had entailed on the land in the shape of taxes. But no, the "loom" and the "sail" were inexorable, and by unity of purpose and industrious representatives in the House of Commons, cheap bread has been secured to them.

I have ventured on the above lengthened digression from the subject with which I commenced this letter, namely, the probable dissolution of the present parliament, in order to show the fallacy of the assertion that the views and interest, during

the time of profound peace, of the plough, the loom, and the sail are inseparably connected, and consequently that we who derive our support from the agriculture of the country ought to send men to parliament to represent our interests, who are determined friends to the land, and staunch supporters of all those measures which are generally believed to influence the condition of the agricultural part of the community. In ordinary times it may be well enough to take a general and not a confined view of the probable nature of the votes any candidate for the suffrages of the electors of a county might give, provided he was returned to parliament. But these are not times in which we can spare one tittle either of our interest or our cares on any matter but those causes which have directly the effect of bringing about our present unnatural distress, and consequently it behoves us to look for men as our representatives who will vote for a *revision of our present anomalous monetary system, and for the total repeal of the malt tax*. These two great questions are, I believe, mainly instrumental to our present extreme distress, for with our restricted circulating medium the prices of the produce of the land can never, for any length of time together, be sufficiently high to keep the landed proprietor from the gripe of the Jews, or the yeoman and occupying tenant from ruin, unless some source can be devised for raising the money necessary to pay the interest of the national debt by other means than the present system of taxation, and the effect of the malt tax ever has been—and ever will continue to be so long as it exists as a tax—most injurious to the morals and industry of the agricultural labourer. Poor law amendment bills, municipal reform bills, tithe commutation bills, may occupy the attention of the country and the time of parliament session after session, but from these or any other legislative measures the cloud which hangs over the landed interest can never be dispelled so long as the effect of "Peel's Bill" be allowed to cramp the resources and enterprise of the cultivators of the soil, or the prohibitory tax on malt to degrade the pursuits and to weaken the physical power of that invaluable portion of the community, who literally perform that part of the sentence of our Maker to our first parents, as one effect of the fall of man, "in the sweat of thy face thou shalt eat bread." Let us not then continue to be cajoled either by Whig or Tory; let us not be deceived by the representations of *exporting manufacturers or monied Israelites*, who tell us that their interest is our welfare; and above all, let us not be led astray from our purpose because Sir Robert Peel says that a relaxation of our currency and a repeal of the malt tax would lead to individual ruin and national dishonour.

That Sir Robert Peel is the ablest and most sagacious statesman of the present day, does not, I think, admit of a doubt; but after all the right honourable baronet is only mortal, and as such is liable to all the errors and *temptations* that human nature is heir to; and his liability to error (*to use the most charitable term*) is at least fully exemplified by the ruinous consequences of his bill of 1819, and his subsequent fallacies in defence of that measure, together with the sophistry and specious art of reasoning embodied in his speech of the late session on the occasion of the Marquis of Chandos's motion for the repeal of the malt tax. Now I know that powerful speech had the effect of reducing the number of the friends of this measure, and I admit that it was almost impossible for any man to rise from a superficial

reading of this effort of Sir Robert Peel's, without its having made an impression in favour of the tenour of the arguments it contained; but if the reader gave himself the trouble to try the views and assertions (of the right honourable baronet, contained in that speech) by the test of actual results, those views and assertions would be found to be miserably mistaken. As the Song of the Sirens was fatally irresistible to the mariners of their enchanted coast, so do the arguments of this clever man appear to be irresistible to the majority of the House of Commons. I mean his arguments on the currency and the malt tax. Let us then, like old Ulysses, endeavour to provide for this danger, not by stopping the ears of our representatives in parliament, but by sending such men there who are prepared, through good report and through evil report, to vote for these measures. It is the great object of ambitious men contending for power, to divert the attention of the agricultural part of the kingdom from these two great questions, and to endeavour to engage their interest and feelings on subjects which may be important enough to the inhabitants of corporate towns, or to the payers and receivers of Irish tithe, but which in fact are in no degree essential to the prosperity of the British farmers. Let us not then, I repeat, be cajoled in this way; let us vote whenever we have an opportunity to do so for men who will support, "tooth and nail," a revision of the money system of the country, and a repeal of the malt tax; and if we secure these promises from a candidate, let us vote for him, be he Tory or Whig (although I confess I would much prefer being represented in these feelings by a Conservative member), still as it is impossible to have everything just as we may happen to wish for it, let us be satisfied at the present moment with securing the above objects, and these having been once attained, we shall have room to suit our "political taste" in other respects for the future.

At Findon sheep fair, on the 14th inst, the effect of the dry summer had a natural influence on the prices of sheep, and although the number penned was certainly less than an average, one-half of the sheep were driven back unsold. Ewes fell short of last year's prices from 6s. to 8s. per head, and lambs from 2s. to 4s. a-head. In the wool-trade very little was doing; indeed, I only heard of one sale being effected, and that was a considerable lot at 45s. per tod of 32lb. Flock owners were inquiring for keep for their ewe lambs during the winter, but very few persons appeared to be inclined to make an engagement of this nature.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient and very humble servant,  
 AGRICULTUROR.

Sussex, Sept. 18, 1835.

## No. II.

### AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS.

TO THE BRITISH FARMERS.

Brother Farmers,—

The late Mr. Henry Hunt, once speaking in reference to the Bath and West of England Agricultural Society, some of the members of which had given him affront, said that it was composed of "a set of long-headed landlords and noodle-headed parsons met together to diddle a set of thick-headed farmers out of their money." In this sentiment, in reference to agricultural societies, I by no means agree, considering them as I do not only necessary but absolutely requisite. How far the epithets applied to the landlords and par-

sons are rightly applied, I shall not stop to inquire, but thus much I do know, that it were impossible for any one who was not acquainted with the peculiar situation in which you are placed, to come to any other conclusion, than that you are a most stupid, thick-headed, sluggish, and apathetic race of men, fit only to slave on ploddingly for the benefit of your task-masters, the landlords. Borne down for years by the pressure of taxation, from which other classes have been exempt; deluded, from time to time, by false promises, made the tools of cunning political speculators who have sought and succeeded in aggrandizing themselves at your expense; you are seemingly as unprepared and disinclined to unite as if your sufferings were of yesterday. Your conduct as a body is most revolting to my feelings, and were it not that I still entertain a hope that you will arouse to a sense of your degradation, I would withdraw myself from your ranks, and blot out from my recollection that I had spent the morning of my days amongst you, and one of you. There is not a man amongst you who cannot do something in aid of the cause of agriculture. Those whose avocations or localities preclude them from attending local or central agricultural meetings, may contribute a trifle towards the expense of others who can sacrifice their time and labour. Limit your consumption as much as possible to the produce of your farms, screw down wages and rates to the lowest possible pitch, retaliate upon your hard-hearted landlords who would drain the last shilling from your pockets, by expending nothing upon the land which can possibly be avoided, and if you cannot, as is now the only certain method of obtaining speedy redress, meet in tumultuous masses and overaw the government, you may by steady perseverance in the course I recommend, prove, not only to your landlords by whom you have been shamefully neglected, but also to the free traders, the political economists, and all who desire to annihilate you, that your prosperity is absolutely essential to their existence and well-being.

A SUFFERING TENANT FARMER  
 Of 35 years Experience.

No. III.

### THE LABOURERS OF ENGLAND AND HOLSTEIN COMPARED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

SIR,—When I took the liberty to address you for the first time in June last, I, as a foreigner, having no manner of connexion, nor any interest whatever in anything relating to England, did so for no other purpose, than to throw out some hints, which might lead to rouse the attention of those interested in the welfare of your agriculturists; and pursuing the same object, I hazard another letter, treating the matter on the basis once laid down, adding at the same time a few words on the condition of the labourers here, in order that a comparison may be made with the condition of those in England, which may perhaps produce some endeavours to improve it, in a manner suited to the localities. And that this must be done, no one I hope will deny.

Examining the subject before us, in the most simple and plain way, it will be clearly perceived, that the expenses of the farmer exceed the value of the produce of his land; consequently the one must be brought to balance the other, as without such balance, his ruin is inevitable. This is the plain fact, and the first question now is, what remedy is to be applied against this evil? In searching after this remedy, we will soon discover that either the prices of corn must be raised, or the expenses of producing it diminished; but as the former cannot be effected without employing artificial means, which in the course of their operation must prove prejudicial to the com-



munity at large, as we have the proof before us, there only remains the latter; and the next question is, how is that to be performed?

In my first letter I said, that the rents must first of all be reduced, and I believe to have shown that they are in intimate connexion with the taxes, &c. The one is the natural consequence of the other, and unless they are made to agree, all hopes of lessening the distress of the cultivator must be abandoned. This will be best illustrated by referring to one of your own writers, Soame Jenyns, who wrote some thirty or forty years ago; and what he said at *that* period, is fully applicable to the present, and bears in point on the subject before us.

"Every new tax, he says, does not only affect the price of the commodity on which it is laid, but that of all others, whether taxed, or not, and with which at first sight, it seems to have no manner of connexion. Thus, for instance, a tax on candles must raise the price of a coat, because out of this, all the taxes on the candles of the woolcomber, weaver, &c., must be paid. A duty on ale, must raise the price of shoes, because from them all the taxes upon ale drank by the tanner, leather dresser, and shoemaker must be refunded. No tax is immediately laid upon corn; but the price of it must necessarily be advanced, because out of that, all the innumerable taxes paid by the farmer on windows, soap, candles, malt, hops, leather, salt, and a thousand others, must be repaid, so that corn is as effectually taxed as if a duty by the bushel had been primarily laid upon it."

These are truths which cannot be contradicted, and whatever arguments should be brought forward to disprove them, would only turn out to be so many sophistries, belied by the facts.

That the price paid for labour, is higher than it should be, is evident, otherwise the Irish would not come over to England to work for what will not satisfy, nor can satisfy an English labourer, who claims a greater share of comforts than an Irishman does, but this I suppose, was not the case in former times when England exported corn, because then, there must have been more equality in the price of labour all over Europe, otherwise no corn could have been exported from England to other countries. If therefore this be admitted, and I see no reason why it should not, it is incumbent to alter this anomaly, first by introducing such a state of things in Ireland, that the industrious labourer may find work at home, and secondly by mending the *domestic* condition of the English labourer, so as to enable him to work for less than what he now earns; and to live notwithstanding with more comfort than he now does. This would not only attach him more to his family, but would at the same time have the greatest influence on his morals.

I shall not extend my reasoning to the first of these points, as not belonging to my province, but confine myself to the last, saying a few words only on the condition of our labourers here, in order to prove that our system, if introduced in England, with the necessary modifications of course, would be followed by the most beneficial consequences, to the land owner, to the farmer, to the labourer, and to the population of the country in general.

There are here in Holstein for instance, two kinds of day labourers, viz: Those living in buildings or cottages on the estates, or in villages belonging thereto, and forming a part of them; and those living in villages *not* belonging to estates, where they find work with the peasants, who own the lands around them, and on such estates as lie nearest. Some of the labourers living in villages have often a cottage of their own, and some land which they cultivate; others

live in cottages belonging to peasants, for which they pay a small rent, and in that case, they also rent a small plot of ground on which they grow rye, buckwheat, and potatoes. The prices generally paid for labour hereabouts is as follows. From Easter to 24th June 12d of our money, answering to about 10½d sterling; from this to 30th September (harvest and seeding period) 14d or 12d sterling; again 10½d sterling to 14th November, and from that to Easter 10d, or 8½d sterling, which calculating the working days all the year round to 300 days, averages at about 12d here, or 10½d sterling per day. Women, when employed, generally earn 8d, or about 7d sterling, and 10½d sterling when assisting in reaping. Such as live in habitations on the estate, live either rent free and work in such a case for about 2d less per day, or they pay a moderate rent and get the usual wages, but in both cases the landowner, or the farmer of the estate, assigns to each of them about one-quarter or one-third of an English acre of land to grow his corn and potatoes, allowing them besides to dig a certain quantity of turf for fuel. Labourers of this description usually have a cow of their own, which is fed in the pastures together with the cattle belonging to the estate during the summer, and in the stall during the winter, which expense to the farmer is in some degree compensated by his keeping the dung, whilst the labourers are enabled to manure their land by what proceeds from a pig which they fatten for their provision, having at the same time a small garden for raising vegetables, and a few hens for eggs. On most of the large estates in the interior regular contracts are made with the labourers for one year, beginning the 1st of May and ending 30th April which are renewed, altered, or cancelled three months before their expiration according as the parties may agree. Thrashing is never or very rarely paid for in money, but in kind, and those employed at it get from 1-12th to 1-17th (which varies in the different districts) of what they thrash and winnow. By the whole of this system, which agrees with the suggestions your Lisbon correspondent F. C., in your last Monthly Reporter, No. 13, the day labourer here eats his bread, this greatest necessary of life, at the price of his work in his leisure hours, he has his milk, eggs, vegetables, and winter provision for almost nothing, he is sure of his daily work, and is enabled to maintain himself and family free from want and care.

I cannot conclude this letter without saying something on the education of the children of the country try people in Holstein, although I cannot see the benefit that may be derived from it in England, where so great a value is laid on individual liberty, that to sacrifice a small portion of it for the common weal, is repugnant to almost every one. Every village in this country has a school, the master of which has been hitherto, and in many places is still, as miserable a teacher as can possibly be imagined. This has undergone a very material, and at the same time, a very beneficial alteration, for by an imperial order of the King of Denmark, every village community in which the school gets into such a decayed state, that a new one must be built, is obliged to build one of bricks, with good rooms for the teacher to live in, and the schoolroom large enough to contain all the children in the village capable of receiving instruction, which is on the Bell or Lancasterian system. The old teacher must retire on a pension, and a new one is appointed, who has been educated for such a purpose in one of the Royal seminaries. The village people are *obliged* to send their children to school during the winter, (allowing the parents their service during the summer, (where they are instructed in

religion, reading, writing, and arithmetic, and some who show capacity, even in geography, &c. It is astonishing to behold what proficiency some of them make in a short time, and on the whole it cannot be denied, that a system like this must tend considerably to improve the morals of the people. Lord Brougham, (leaving aside his political opinions, with which I have nothing to do) in pressing the necessity of a better system of education for the common people of England, highly deserves the support of his contemporaries to carry his plans into execution, and their warmest thanks for his benevolence.—I remain, Sir, yours, very obediently,

H. De JONGH.

Schenefeld, Duchy of Holstein,  
Aug. 24, 1835.

No. IV.

## PRODUCE OF THE WHEAT CROP.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

Sir,—Mr. Thomas Lindsell, of this place, has a farm at Needingworth, on which this year grew 12a. of Wheat, which previous to the Wednesday, and two following days' rain in June, promised at least forty bushels to the acre. The crop became prostrate and blighted. He has machined it, and the yield is only twenty-two bushels an acre, weighing 18 stone, but I don't know if with or without the sack; but I rather think with the sack. The colour and thinness is bad beyond any thing, apparently only fit for pigs. Had it been a stand-up crop, he would have machined it out in about 1½ day; it took him nearly four good days.

I farm in the same parish, but the last two years have avoided sowing much Wheat—sowing Clover, Tares, &c., wherever I could; so that last year I had only about 125a. of Wheat, instead of 200a., and this on all my worst land; some, only, owing to drought, came up wretchedly, not more than 12 bushels an acre, although dibbled twice over; grass got into it. Other grounds 30 bushels an acre, averaging, I expect, on the 125a., about 26 bushels an acre; none of it thrashed yet. The three days' rain did me good to the extent, I believe, of five bushels an acre, mine being all a stand-up crop, except about five acres, which was much lodged; the wire-worm also injured about 16a., to the loss of, I think, about 13 bushels an acre. Had it not been for that rain, the greater part of my Wheat would have been mouse-eared; the weight promises to be good, also the quality; Millers' Wheat so much so, that I think I shall keep my own, and buy thin Fen Wheat for seed.

We shall not know much about the Fen yield for a month, as I should think all their Wheats are not even carted yet; they are full of straw, I expect, but thin and blighted.

Smut is a good deal complained of. Potatoes plenty to a root, but very small, and some now ripe.

As I think these times can't continue, consequently one year nearer better prices, I shall this year clap on and sow every acre I can, breaking up one and two-year old Clover leys. I am a holder of three years' Wheat, and a precious muddle I find myself in. None of us at present know whether to sell or hold; what I have harvested this year I intend to sell in the old way of weekly quantities.

Thrashing is not general with us at present. One of my neighbours, a very slovenly farmer, machined out 19a. of Wheat, and only got about 12½ bushels to the acre; his rent 2l. an acre. But

here was decided bad management. The same farm is now let at 24s an acre the first three years, 34s. the next eight years, and 40s. the last three, if Wheat averages 8s. a bushel. Landlord repairs, finds slates, &c., and all tiles for draining.

The new tenant, Mr. Manning, is *betting* that on another farm he grows 56 bushels of Barley an acre, and *thinks* he shall have 64. He has sold part Chevalier at 3s. 6d. a bushel.

No Red Clover left for seed this year in our county. I have 130a. total failure. No bulb to our Turnips. Coleseed only just now peeping. Tares at present yield about ten bushels an acre, very small and hard. Beans I think with us will average about 22 bushels an acre, so many were lost in the field. Straw short. Oats a good crop. Peas a very fair crop; good; well hung.

Mr. Wiles, of Pedley, had a Clover-stack fired last Monday; no further damage. Several have been served so by being over-cunning.

Yours obediently,  
A SUBSCRIBER.

Burleigh Hill, near St. Ives, Hunting-  
donshire, 11th Sept., 1835.

No. V.

## FEEES OF OFFICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

Sir,—As the burdens pressing upon the middle classes of society are exciting attention, I was glad to observe you have began examining into one, which has long needed enquiry and explanation, I mean the county rates. Our county is large and contains a vast number of parishes, and if all contribute in equal proportions, the sum must be very considerable. Our own parish pays annually about 50l. Another not small charge upon parishes, consists of the fees required upon delivering in returns, passing accounts, or taking any office. Last week the overseers paid 3s 6d each upon giving in the return of pauper lunatics or idiots. The fee when surveyors are admitted, including a paper of instructions, is 6s 6d each. If any of your correspondents can give us information whether we are only paying according to custom, we must then wait in hope that in time due regard will be had to those who pay tribute.

As this is the time for making out the jury lists, allow me to ask whether a gentleman living upon and occupying a farm at a rent of 300l or 400l per annum, though he has not fifteen windows in his house or is assessed 20l inhabited house duty, is not liable to serve, and ought to be returned in the list.

I am, sir, Your constant reader,  
Sept. 1. In-ESSEX.

No. VI.

## ON THE CULTIVATION OF POTATOES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

Sir,—I apprehend that the long rigmarole of your correspondent T. B. J., on "THE CULTIVATION OF THE POTATOE IN LANCASHIRE WITH PHYSIOLOGICAL AND ELUCIDATORY OBSERVATIONS," is far too "elaborate" an "excogitation," for the "illiterate farmers of Lancashire" to derive any material benefit therefrom, notwithstanding, some of them have the penetration



to discover that he has been soaring out of his *own proper element*, in treating upon this subject, and that they can glean more really useful information through the medium of the "learned Thebans" than from his "scientific illustration."

With respect to the *failure* of the potato crop, which has caused such a great sensation during the last three seasons, so far from being confined to the county of Lancaster, it has been experienced very generally throughout the whole kingdom; and, so far from having occurred only in hard-cropped land, it frequently proved more extensive in good fields that had not been ploughed for several years previously, *especially when well manured*, than in garden or other repeatedly worked soil; moreover, potatoes were found to be defective previous to being cut and planted, therefore the farmers had good and sufficient reason to blame the seed. I am disposed to admit that the crops of fresh broken-up land are better, in many respects,—and especially for seed—than those of light soil that has been hard ploughed, and thus rendered somewhat artificial; nevertheless, I am aware that the seed used has not generally grown better in the former than in the latter.

That potatoes have latterly been exceedingly tender and defective, experience sufficiently testifies; consequently, it is highly expedient that the *cause* thereof be correctly ascertained and set forth; and I decidedly agree with those Essayists\*, who attribute the injury to the extreme mildness of the recent winters, which created excessive fermentation among the potatoes, when stored or covered up in heaps, thus inducing premature growth, and eventually the defect or disease—a brown rot—which was so general, but usually prevailed to a greater extent in those crops which had been dug too soon, and then were hastily covered up in large heaps. Hence, there was considerable loss, in many stocks, before they were used or sold off; and the seed proved so tickle, when planted, that, unless the state of the land and of the weather were sufficiently favourable to produce rapid growth, the seed frequently rotted before the sprouts could take hold of the ground; the fermentation of the manure having, in many cases, destroyed the cut-sets planted in contact with it, whilst whole tubers were seldom known to fail, if sown when planted. Besides, it is well known that where apples or turnips, &c. &c., have been stored or put together, in even small heaps, for the purpose of being kept awhile, they latterly evinced an unusual proneness to decay, and had to be made off at an earlier period than was customary a few years ago.

I think it appears evident, then, that the injury proceeded from the stocks having been overheated during winter; consequently, it behoves all agriculturists to guard against the recurrence of similar seasons, as far as practicable, by resorting to such approved methods of storing their crops as may appear best calculated to keep them uninfluenced by the warmth of the atmosphere; if, however, this cannot be accomplished so effectually as to check vegetation until the proper season of the year for planting, it is unquestionably expedient to plant the tubers whole, in all cases where the manure has not been previously incorporated with the soil. T.

NO. VII.

## REMARKS ON A PAMPHLET, "CORN LAWS AMENDED,"

BY J. DOYD, R. C.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

Sir,—A pamphlet having lately appeared before

the public from the pen of a Mr. Doyd, entitled "THE CORN LAWS AMENDED," and having been for many years connected with Mark Lane, the subject was one, which naturally excited my curiosity, and I had hoped to have found some practical suggestions which might have merited the attention of the Government; but I have been, I confess, much disappointed in the perusal. The author commences by stating that he submits his scheme of "*Amended Corn Laws*" to the honourable members of the two houses of parliament, and to the *most intelligent* of the electors, as the basis of a convention between the owners and occupiers of land, and the consumers of its produce. He aims to reconcile the differences of opinion which exists among them, whether upon the operation particularly of the last act of July, 1828, or upon any system of corn laws in general; and also to establish in both parties a conviction of the existing laws being capable of such modification, as to lead, as well to the lawful insurance of temporary evils—for any restrictions, however necessary, upon international commerce, are evils—as to certain conclusions preparatory to, instead of their immediate repeal, at the most suitable opportunity. Selecting the moment of peace and plenty as favourable to his views of treating this subject, the author has embodied them into the form of an *additional act* to amend the act of 1828, which being placed in juxta-position, it will appear from their comparison, that the intended change effected is, the *substitution of a new scale of suitable duties* in lieu of the present, retaining the working of the general average prices. The few clauses introduced of *matter* beyond such new scale, consist merely of *additions*, by way of amendments, in the present or any other corn laws, so as to render them more effective as a whole.

The motto adopted is, "In times of abundance, be mindful of future wants." First I will meet the author on the *vantage ground* of his own motto.

It is admitted by Mr. Doyd, that on an average of years we want some foreign wheat; as he states in page 10, we imported and paid an average duty of 6s 8d per quarter on about five million quarters, from July 1828 to July 1834; but Mr. Doyd seems not to be aware that a very inconsiderable proportion of these five million quarters was entered in 1833 or 1834, which throws the five millions over a space of four years, being one and one-fourth million per year; though I believe I had better say our actual wants were one million a *year only* in that period, for it is now very evident, we did not want the last million of the five, because the good crop of 1832 followed closely on the import of the last million.

Now, with all the enclosure bills and high prices which his table shows for thirty years, (and he might have gone on to forty years), we have been importing foreign wheat, I think, with only the exception of now and then, a year or two, when we had fine crops; until lately Providence has blessed us with four superabundant harvests, and hence low prices have and must prevail.

As there is no precedent on record for four successive years of over-abundance, may we not fairly expect to have a bad crop in the natural course of seasons, and then, *as before*, we shall want foreign aid. This latter position, the author does not deny, but my object is to shew that his "*Corn Laws amended*" are not deserving of the title; but may, and some day will, make "*scarcity more scarce*." But I need not trouble myself about his theoretical principles, for sure I am that the first time we had a bad harvest, his system would be annihilated by an

order in council. But I wish to point out the injustice of his propositions : first, to the merchant, as an importer ; and next, to the public and farmers, or say the landed interest. First, the merchant :—Mr. Doyd proposes to force out the present stock of bonded wheat at 20s per quarter duty. Observe, the wheat is now not wanted ; so the agriculturist is to have about one million quarters of wheat and flour let loose upon him, to make his ruinously low prices still more ruinous ; but to the merchant the effect would be worse, for he proposes to force him to pay a further 20s on that which is already not worth the rent, exclusive of the original cost and freight, and so preclude him from even the chance of freeing himself, if next harvest should be deficient, at the same time, and cutting off the little chance of export, if any should arise. Now this is rather too bad, both for the merchant and farmers, besides a flagrant breach of the laws under which both merchants and farmers have made their arrangements since 1823.

I will give Mr. Doyd credit for not having seen the thing in the right light, and I dare say he thought it a boon to the merchants, and perhaps to the farmers ; but I think he will not now entertain the same opinion.

We will next review that part of his plan where he wishes to compel importers to pay 20s. duty on their future importations, if they happened to be obliged to keep their wheat 24 months.

It is well known, that even the present corn laws prevent import, unless the merchant thinks he sees that *he may* get a very large profit by the chapter of accidents to crops. Therefore does the author think, that under his *ultra anti-free-trade law* he would never induce the import of a single bushel.—Certainly not ; or his law might so operate, and very likely very soon, that we might find the yield of a crop bad at the very time when all the corn growing in every part of Europe was frozen up ; besides he totally overlooks the important fact, that he would force capital out of the country to be employed in warehousing corn on the continent, where no twenty-four months law existed ; and I can conceive it possible (without any very great stretch of the imagination), that such a place as Calais might become the warehousing depot for corn for all Europe, instead of our own ports having this business, which his twenty-four months' law will never get us, but which benefit I trust we shall eventually derive, under what may be really deemed, an amended state of the Corn Laws.

Having, I think, exhibited what the effect of Mr. Doyd's plan would be on the merchant, and above all on the people, as bread-eaters, by shewing that if we wanted wheat at a critical time of the year, we could not get it, and the consequent high price that must exist until we could.

Now, as regards the agriculturists, and the injustice to them :—If the present or any Corn Laws are justifiable, why does Mr. D. propose to let in all the foreign wheat at a duty of 8s., when the averages reach 55s., the present law, fixing the duty at 31s. 8d., when under similar rates ? Therefore, if the present Corn Laws approximate even towards equity in favour of the farmers and landlords, then Mr. Doyd's plan must be very far distant from justice.

Mr. Doyd makes another severe thrust at the people, which I really believe he does not himself intend ; namely, he proposes that all the foreign wheat when sold, shall be taken in and form part of the quantity from which the averages are made up. Mr. D. perhaps did not see that this would keep the average many shillings lower at times of need, than it

otherwise would be, and so injure the cause I suppose he is advocating, namely, the interest of the many, against the few.

Having (as I presume) proved that Mr. D.'s plan cannot succeed, it may be asked, what better plan than his or the present law I would substitute, and I answer thus :—That bread is cheap enough at present is generally admitted, and therefore, we do not now need any alteration that should further depress the raw material. I am also of opinion, that any corn law restrictions are bad, and will the first time we have a bad crop, be blown to atoms by the present reform House of Commons.

Therefore I propose to meet that evil, if evil it would be, by altering our present sliding scale of averages and duty ; thus take the scale and slide the average of 60s down to where 70s now is, and let all the intermediate rates follow. Then instead of a duty of 26s 8d, when the average was at 60s as now, the duty would then be only 10s 8d ; and further, if this should not be thought enough in favour of the people, then slide the scale down 1s each year, so that in ten year's the duty would be nearly nominal.

I take leave at once to say, that our government should not look to a duty on the bread of the people as a source of revenue. "That is odious."

Therefore Corn Laws resolve themselves into a question of landlords, versus people ; and I really mean *landlords* and not *farmers*.

I feel reluctant to say, as some do, that Corn Laws should be totally abolished forthwith, therefore I propose easing them down gently—all violence I hold to be bad, even in cutting away inproprieties like this has become : but I do not see why the article of land, which is the commodity of one class of the community, should have laws to enhance or keep up its value, when other owners of property, merchants, traders &c., have no restrictive and individual laws to prop up the value of their property.

It may be said, Ireland is increasing by rapid strides in her cultivation ; so the country is, but the population in the three kingdoms is growing in an equal proportion, and if it should so happen, that the Irish people should happily ever be able to live better than our pigs, they will want all their Wheat, though they may and will be able to spare us their Oats.

In short, I am still of opinion we shall on an average of years, want some foreign aid in Corn ; at all events we ought to ameliorate our Corn Laws so as to get it cheaply when we do, and then we may safely leave the rest to *Providence*, but not to *landlords*.

With every good feeling towards Mr. Doyd, as to his beneficial intentions, crude and undigested as they are,—I am, Mr. Editor,

Yours and his humble servant,  
Wm. RUSTON.

NOVEL VETERINARY CASE.—A horse, the property of Mr. J. Gaskin, baker, of North-street, Leeds, died rather suddenly, and the owner determined on having it opened. Mr. Knapman performed the operation, and on making an incision into the bladder, discovered that there was some hard substance within ; and, on further examination, he found two very large calculi with a smooth surface ; one of them weighs 1 lb 13 oz ; and the other 1 lb 9 oz. A number of Medical Gentlemen and Veterinary Surgeons have examined them, which are rather of an oval figure ; and it is believed to be the first instance in which two substances of this nature were ever found in such a situation at one time.



## ON THE APPLICATION OF THE POINTS BY WHICH LIVE-STOCK ARE JUDGED, TO SHORT-HORNS.

By MR. JAMES DICKSON, CATTLE-DEALER,  
EDINBURGH.

(From the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture.)

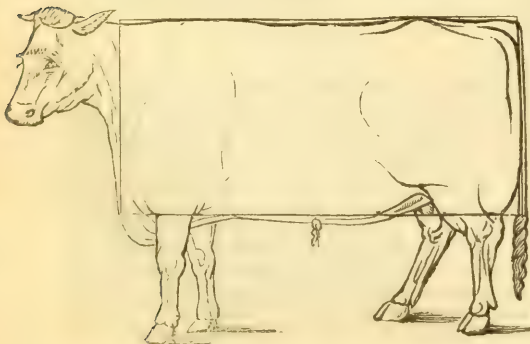
Having, in my former paper (vol. v. p. 159), enumerated the *points* and form by which the value of an ox of any breed ought to be ascertained, let us now apply them to the prevailing breeds of cattle, that we may thereby discover which is the most valuable one existing; and, after having ascertained that by comparison, we will then be prepared to consider whether the less valuable breeds might not be improved by intermixture with the most valuable, or, at least, whether such attempt at crossing would be beneficial to the country.

Before proceeding with this interesting investigation, I may remark, that the points and form recommended for general application are neither imaginary nor arbitrary; on the contrary, they have been discovered and established by long experience patiently acquired, and they have now received the general sanction of competent judges; in short, they form the rule of judgment for our best practical judges of cattle. It may have been observed, however, that I have hitherto applied the rule only to *oxen*, and it may therefore be very reasonably demanded whether it applies as well to heifers, bulls, and cows? To this I answer, that it applies to every age, sex, and condition of cattle, and that if it did not, it could not be maintained and recommended as a *general* rule; but in its application to bulls and cows there is a slight deviation occasioned by sexual development. In the bull, age produces an enlargement of the muscles of the neck, and a fulness of the gristle, and a consequent dependence under the brisket; there are marks of *virility*, beside others, which cannot exist in the ox; and in the cow, age produces a thinness in the buttocks and an enlargement of the abdomen, and a consequent depression of the loins; these being marks of *calf-bearing*, which cannot exist in the heifer. In all other respects in regard to general form, points, quality, and good breeding, the rule applies as strictly to the bull, the cow, and the heifer, as the ox.

Of the various prevailing breeds of cattle in Scotland which I shall enumerate and apply the rule of judgment to, I shall begin with the *short-horns*.

When we survey the frame of a short-horn ox, we have a straight level back from behind the horns to the top of the tail, full buttocks, and a projecting brisket; we have, in short, the rectangular form, as represented in a side view by this Fig. 1;

Fig. 1.

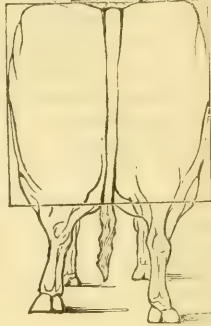


We have also the level loin across the hook bones, and the level top of the shoulder across the ox, and perpendicular lines down the hind and fore legs on both sides, these constituting the square form when the ox is viewed before and behind, as represented in Fig 2 and 3; and we have

Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



straight parallel lines from the sides of the shoulders along the outmost points of the ribs to the sides of the hind quarters, and we have these lines connected at their ends by others of shorter and equal length, across the end of the rump and the top of the shoulder, thus constituting the rectangular form of the ox when viewed from above down upon the back, as represented by Fig. 4. We have in this manner the form of the short-

Fig. 4.



horn ox and heifer in perfect accordance with the diagrams of the rule.

Further, I should be inclined to assert, although I have not directed my attention to the fact sufficiently to be able to prove the assertion from examples, that the carcass of a full-fed symmetrical short-horn ox, included within the rectangle, is in length double its depth, and its depth equal to its breadth. Hence, Figs. 2 and 3 are squares, and Figs. 1 and 4 each two similar squares, placed in juxtaposition. The short-horn bull deviates from the rule in a rising of the neck, a dependence under the brisket, and a fulness of the neck vein; the cow only a little from the ox or heifer in a thinness in the buttocks, and besides this, when aged, in an enlargement of the belly, and mostly, though not always, in a hollowness in the loins. The *form*, therefore, of the short-horn breed is perfect according to the rule.

In its *points*, that for quantity and well laid on beef, the short-horn ox is quite full in every valuable part, such as along the back, including the fore ribs, the sirloins and rumps, in the runners, flanks, buttocks, and twist, and in the neck and brisket as inferior parts. In regard to quality of beef, the fat bears a due and even preponderating proportion to the lean, the fibres of which are fine and well mixed, and even marbled with fat, and

abundantly juicy. The fine, thin, clean bone of the legs and head, with the soft mellow touch of the skin, and the benign aspect of the eye, indicate in a remarkable degree the disposition to fatten; while the uniform colours of the skin, red or white, or both, commixed in various degrees,—bare cream-coloured skin on the nose and around the eyes, and fine tapering white or light-coloured horns,—mark distinctly the purity of the blood. These points of blood and quality and quantity of beef, apply equally to the bull, the cow, and the heifer, as to the ox. Combining all these properties of points and form, we shall find that the short-horn breed illustrates, in a very satisfactory manner, the application of the general rule which has been explained. On account of its valuable properties, this breed demands further illustration.

The external appearance of the short-horn breed is irresistibly attractive. The exquisitely symmetrical form of the body in every position, bedecked with a skin of the richest hues of red and the richest white, approaching to cream, or both colours, so arranged or commixed as to form a beautiful fleck or delicate roan, and possessed of the mellowest touch,—supported on small clean limbs, shewing, like those of the race-horse and the greyhound, the union of strength with fineness; and ornamented with a small lengthy tapering head, neatly set on a broad firm deep neck, and furnished with a small muzzle, wide nostrils, prominent “mildly beaming” eyes, thin large veiny ears set near the crown of the head, and protected in front with semi-circularly bent, white or brownish-coloured short (hence the name), smooth, pointed horns;—all these several parts combine to form a symmetrical harmony, which has never been surpassed in beauty and sweetness by any other species of the domesticated ox.

Enthusiastic as this language may be considered when applied to the external beauty of cattle, it is not more so than the beauty of cattle is entitled to; for when it is considered that symmetry of form generally accompanies mellowness of touch in the skin, and that both constitute the true index to a disposition to fatten, the most *useful* property of all, beauty of external appearance is too valuable a criterion to be overlooked. Fortunately, indeed, beauty cannot be overlooked in cattle, for, even were it useless, it is so irresistibly engaging, that the judgment of a stoic would be biassed in its favour. To my taste, nothing can be so attractive a spectacle of the kind as a show of fine bred short-horns in high condition, such as are to be seen at Dunse June Fair, Alnwick First Fair, or the monthly markets at Kelso and Coldstream in May and June.

As proofs of a disposition in short-horns to fatten, many facts might be adduced. The famous Durham ox of Mr. Charles Collings of Barmpton was computed to weigh, at five years old in 1801, 168 stones imperial, and was purchased to exhibit, on the 14th May 1801, by Mr. John Day, for £250. Mr. Day could have sold him on that very day for £525, on the 13th June for £1,000, and on the 8th July for £2,000! He travelled him for six years, and after all that long confinement, and eight weeks of illness, the ox weighed when killed 165 stones 11lb. the four quarters. In 1808, Mr. Collings exhibited a four-year old white heifer, which was estimated to weigh 130 stones. In 1815, Mr. Thomas Smith of Grindon had two five-year old oxen, which were computed to weigh 160 stones each. One of them (called Caps-all)

was afterwards exhibited through a great part of Scotland and England. Mr. Smith sold ten beautiful fat cows one year at Berwick June fair, which had all slipped calf, for 32l. a-piece, and which were computed to average 90 stones each.

Two very fine oxen, three years old, were shown by the late Mr. John Rennie of Phantassie, at the Show of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland in Edinburgh, in 1827. They obtained the first premium for the best pair of short-horn oxen, were supposed to weigh 110 stones, and 115 stones the four quarters, and were sold after the show at, I believe, 50l. each.

The Spottiswoode ox, bred by Mr. Spottiswoode of Spottiswoode in Berwickshire, was perhaps the largest ox that ever was exhibited. As I was at one time a little interested in this ox, I may be permitted to give his history. He was out of a country cow, by a short-horn bull, brought to Thornydyke by Mr. Swan, from the neighbourhood of Morpeth. There was no particular notice taken of him till he was two years old, when he had outstripped all his companions on the ordinary food of the farm. During the two following summers he was kept by himself, with only a calf in a small park; and fed on turnips in winter. He was fully fed in the fifth and sixth years of his age, and, when rising seven, he was sold in June 1802 to my father and uncle, butchers in Dunse, for 210l., including the value of the waggon which was made on purpose to exhibit him in. His dimensions at that time were:—height of the shoulder 6 feet four inches, length from nose to rump 12 feet 4 inches, girth behind the shoulder 10 feet 2 inches, breadth across the hooks 3 feet 1 inch; computed weight 320 stones, of 14 pounds to the stone. After being exhibited for about a year in the principal towns in Scotland, when a handsome profit was realized from him, he was sold to Messrs. Johnston, Richardson, and Morrison, for 350 guineas. In the race week at Newcastle, in 1803, he drew 30l. a day. On his way through Durham 600 guineas were offered for him. He was subsequently shown in London and in all the principal towns in England. Falling lame, probably from long confinement, he was brought back to Scotland, and put into the Canonmills Distillery at Edinburgh, to be fed off, but refusing that kind of food, and probably feeling much pain from his increasing lameness, he fell off prodigiously in condition, which rendered it necessary to kill him.

But not to dwell only on examples of great weights at great ages, I may mention, that the late Mr. Robertson of Ladykirk sold steers and heifers from 1814 to 1822, varying in age from three years and two months to four years and a half, whose four quarters produced from 90 stones to 135 stones of beef, and tallow from 15 stones to 26 stones each. Mr. Robertson has often brought his fat cows to 100 stones each. Many farmers in Berwickshire and Northumberland bring their three-year old oxen to 80 stones or 90 stones. In a central part of Forfarshire, Mr. Stephens, at Balmadies, sold in 1830 a five-year old short-horn cow which had slipped calf, and which gave milk for eighteen months. She was fed on turnips and straw from only November to April, when, being slaughtered by Mr. Robert Small, Dundee, she produced 72 stones of beef the four quarters, and 23 stones 8lb of tallow. And even so far north as Kincardineshire, Captain Barclay Allardice of Ury can show as heavy steers as any breeder, having realized 40l. a piece for three-year-olds at his an-



nual sales. All these weights were obtained by common feeding.

In a breed of cattle evincing a disposition to fatten, it is erroneous to suppose that this property is only obtainable by an extraordinary consumption of food at an unprofitable rate. I have heard this supposition frequently asserted as an undeniable truth by many farmers who were unacquainted with short-horns. Indeed, such a supposition can only have arisen from ignorance of the constitutional habits of the breed. It is well known to every feeder of cattle that every ox in the same lot does not feed alike; and to what does he attribute this difference in the capability of feeding, but that one ox is a "harder feeder," or, in other words, is more difficult to feed than another? He does not maintain that the hard feeder consumes less food than the kindly feeder, for he sees and knows the reverse to be fact; on the contrary, he allows that the difference of feeding arises from a difference in the "nature," or, in other words, the *disposition*, of the animal. He observes that a restless ferocious disposition not only prevents the possessor of it from feeding, but his companions also. It must therefore be allowed, that an ox of a kindly, will lay on more beef with the same quantity of food than one of an unruly and churlish, disposition, and hence it is more profitable to feed an ox of a kindly than of an opposite disposition. Still a difficulty may reasonably arise in the mind of one unacquainted with short-horns. He may acknowledge that an ox of gentle disposition may lay on more beef with the same quantity of food; that knowing the hardness of feeding exhibited by some kinds of cattle, that property of itself cannot convince him that it may not cause more food to be consumed than the larger quantity of beef obtained may be profitable. To one unacquainted with the disposition to fatten in short-horns, this difficulty in feeding may appear insurmountable. But experience would soon prove to him that short-horns not only possess disposition to fatten, but that they consume less and less food in *proportion as they attain weight and fatness*. Disposition to fatten, therefore, means not only the acquisition of more beef with the same quantity of food, but the diminished consumption of food in proportion to the weight of beef acquired.

The profit arising from feeding short-horns may be exhibited from a few instances. I have seen Mr. Thomas Smith of Grindon, receive, at Whitsunbank Fair, for four-year old steers, 44*l* a-piece. The late Mr. Robertson of Ladykirk has frequently received 35*l* a-piece for three-year olds. I remember in 1815, that he showed, at the meeting of the Border Union Agricultural Society at Coldstream, two three-year old oxen, which were computed each to weigh 110 stones. Happening to be at Morpeth market a short time afterwards, I saw these two oxen, with six others, sold for 45*l* a-piece, and the two were resold before they left the market at sixty guineas a-piece. Mr. John Rennie used to realize 40*l* a-piece for three-year old oxen, at the sales which annually took place at Phantassie. I have seen the late Mr. George Brown, who was in Whitsome Hill, Berwickshire, in 1815, sell the whole cast of his beasts, twenty in number, at twenty-five guineas a-piece. Such prices cannot be considered unprofitable, or if they are, the rent of land must be exorbitantly high.

Disposition to fatten insures another valuable property—early maturity. This property is almost peculiar to short-horns. It is obvious that a disposition to fatten cannot develop itself till the ox

is supplied with more food than will merely support life. Young cattle are frequently restricted to such quantity of food as will only support their growing condition. This practice probably had its origin in that period of husbandry when the raising of food for animals attracted little attention from the husbandman; and even after food became more plentiful, young cattle were restricted in its use, from a conviction, erroneously acquired, that only cattle of mature age could be fattened. This prevalent practice confirmed a habit of treatment which was extended even to short-horns till a very few years ago. It was a prevalent custom for breeders of short-horns to keep them till four, and sometimes five years old, before they were fed off. Now that the breed is improved and generally distributed, a more profitable system obtains. Three years is the longest period, and very frequently oxen are fed off at two years of age. I have frequently seen Mr. Robertson have two and a half year old steers sold for 26*l* a-piece, and brought to a weight of 72 stones each. The late Mr. Abraham Wilson of Edington Mains, used to bring two-year olds to 80 stones, and sold them at 28*l* a-piece. Mr. John Rennie of Phantassie often exhibited two year olds at 80 stones each, and realized 30*l* a-piece for them. At the great sales of stock which took place at Phantassie, Mr. Rennie always realized 30*l* a-piece for two-year olds.

These instances prove very satisfactorily, that two-year old short-horns can be made fit for the butcher; but of course, in accomplishing this object, proper management is requisite. To show what good management can accomplish, I may mention that I have seen breeders of short-horns, who farmed fineturnip land, but could never obtain more than 10*l* to 12*l* for two-year olds, while their neighbours, on inferior soil, obtained 20*l* for cattle of the same age; and yet in the former case, as much food had been consumed as in the latter. By improper management, the advantages to be derived from the largest portion of the food are sacrificed. But many breeders, eminent as first-rate farmers, have no desire to sell their cattle till they have attained the age of three years. At this age they will easily attain 70 stones, or 75 stones, and a few to 80 stones. Such a system is pursued by Mr. Smith of Shedlaw, Mr. Wilson of Preston, near Dunse, and some others, such as the late Mr. Hogarth of Ballieknow, near Kelso. They all produce first-rate three-year olds. I am of opinion, however, that the two-year old system is more profitable. The object of all farming is profit, and that can best be obtained by supplying cattle with more food, and keeping them a shorter time on the farm than three-year olds generally are, provided they can be brought to *maturity* at an earlier age.

I have already shown that short-horns can be brought to maturity at two years old. Let us suppose a case to illustrate my position. Suppose that a breeder dispose of twenty fat three-year olds every year, he will in that case require to winter sixty head of cattle;—twenty on full feeding, twenty one-year olds and twenty two-year olds, on half feeding. Instead of this arrangement, suppose the breeder kept thirty one-year olds, and thirty two-year olds, which were annually fed off. My position is, that this latter arrangement will realize more profit than the former. For, suppose the twenty three-year olds attain 70 stones weight each, which, at 6*s* per stone, gives 21*l* for each ox, or 420*l* for the twenty. On the other hand, suppose the thirty two-year olds attain 50 stone each,

at 6s per stone, they would give 15l each, or 450l. in all; showing 30l, or more than 7 per cent., *additional* profit. Another important consideration in this argument is, that the risk of loss of life on sixty head of cattle, is considerably less over two than over three years; and I have heard the annual average loss of cattle throughout the country rated as high as 3 per cent. This sort of calculation will apply to a small or a large farm. The supposed weights of 70 stones for three-year, and of 50 stones for two-year olds, appear to be fair averages for ordinary years on most farms; and 6s per stone may also be taken as a fair average price for beef at Morpeth since the war, and it is the regulating market for prices in the north of England. The feeding off at two years old, is a system which is fast gaining ground in the country; and as it makes a quick return for capital, which is a desirable result in times when profits are low, it should induce every one to bring up all their cattle, which are intended to be disposed of, at the feeding pitch from the period of birth.

Besides being of early maturity, short-horns yield beef of fine quality. It is the opinion of many breeders, particularly of black coloured cattle, that a four or five year old Scotch ox carries finer quality of beef, which fetches a higher price per stone than a young ox. If both the oxen are equally ripe, the difference in the quality of the beef is not discernible; and a well fed two-year old short horn heifer will fetch as much per stone at Morpeth market, if not more, for cutting up, than any aged ox. This preference to heifer beef holds in other markets in the north of England, as at Darlington, York, Skipton, and Wakefield. The reason for this preference is obvious,—there is scarcely any coarse beef in short-horn heifers; they carry most of it on their backs, and other most valuable parts; on all those parts, in short, which yield roasting rather than boiling beef. Roasting and steak beef will fetch in every market a higher price than boiling beef. I have seen lots of steers and heifers bred and fed together, and when brought to market, the heifers, although four or five stones lighter than the steers, would fetch a higher price per stone, on account of their finer quality, which is always held in high estimation. In other parts of England, however, heifer beef is not preferred to ox. In Smithfield, for instance, a prime Scotch ox, either Galloway or West Highland, or any other breed, if he carry beef on the best parts, such as ribs, rumps, and sirloins, will obtain the highest price of the market. Carcass or wholesale butchers in London, buy oxen to cut up to suit their respective customers. Retail butchers, and tavern and eating-house keepers, who are their customers, buy roasting and steak beef, from the rumps, sirloins, fine ribs, and thick flanks, and will pay for it from 4s 8d to 5s per Smithfield stone of 8lb. Buttocks, thin flanks, middle ribs, shoulders, and briskets, though profitable for family use, do not fetch more than 3s 4d or 3s 8d per stone; while all the coarse parts, such as the houghs, clods, and stickings, will not realize more than 1s 8d or 2s per stone. It is difficult to account for the predilection for ox beef in one part of the kingdom, and for heifer beef in another. It is well, however, for the promiscuous dealer and breeder, that large markets exist for both; and they should remember that *only* the best quality of beef, whether of heifer or of ox, fetches the *highest* price.

Whilst considering the subject of the quality of beef, I cannot too earnestly press upon the breeder

the necessity of breeding cattle only with fine points. These alone carry beef of the finest quality, and these alone realize the largest profit. Every breeder in Scotland, whether he *fatten* his cattle or not, should treat them as if all heifers were to be sent to Morpeth, and all oxen to Smithfield, the largest market for cattle, as every body knows, in the world. To Smithfield market! What have *we* to do with Smithfield? exclaims a Scotch breeder. Smithfield is every thing to you. It is the great mart for consumption in the country; should you not find a suitable market for your well fed oxen, upon which you have bestowed much trouble, and which you cannot afford to part with at a small price, you have steam-ships ready at the nearest large shipping port to take them to Smithfield. But should you have no *fat* cattle to dispose of, and dislike the trouble of sending them to a distant market at your own risk, still you have a strong interest in Smithfield market through your *lean* cattle. As thus:—Cattle are generally purchased by dealers in the northern counties from breeders, in small quantities; and are driven south to the Falkirk Trysts, or other markets, to meet other dealers who purchase them, already selected in lots, to drive still further south to markets in England. There they are again purchased by feeders or graziers, who either sell them at home to dealers who take them to Smithfield, or consign them direct to a Smithfield salesman. Of course, those cattle of the finest quality, and shewing the greatest proportion of beef on the fine points, obtain the highest price, and their worth is duly appreciated by every dealer through whose hands they may happen to pass.

As one example will give a better illustration than many arguments, I shall instance the practice of a celebrated dealer in north country black cattle, Mr. Charles Macomie in Aberdeenshire, to illustrate the mode of dealing in cattle in Scotland. When such extensive dealers as Mr. Macomie go to a country market with the intention to purchase, they select cattle with a view of suiting their customers, who they know will purchase them according to their respective tastes; and as they may have finer or coarser keep for them. They select four or five from one lot, six or eight from another, and so on, till they make up a lot of perhaps fifty, or, it may be, a hundred cattle, all well selected, matched, and having the appearance of being bred by the same person. They make up several such lots of cattle of different characters to suit different customers. These they take to Falkirk, where they are purchased by south country dealers, who have a view of disposing of them to particular dealers or graziers in England, and take or consign them to Smithfield after they are fattened. Such selected lots of cattle will insure pleasure, if not profit, to every one through whose hands they pass. The salesman in London is proud in having such to dispose of. The carcass butcher thinks himself fortunate in having fallen in with a fine lot. The hotel, tavern and eating-house keepers, are pleased with their purchase of prime rumps and sirloins; while the epicure chuckles with delight over his savoury roast or steak.

Every breeder should therefore be careful to cultivate good points in his cattle, and always steadily keep in view that they may one day or another appear at the greatest market in the world, where their worth will be duly appreciated; and even although they should never reach



Smithfield, the possibility of the beef which he has bred and fed being served up on the table of his Majesty, looking invitingly in the dining-hall of the nobleman, or gracing the hospitable board of the Lord Mayor, ought to stimulate every breeder to the production of an article which would be worthy of being so honourably preferred. We may depend upon it, that the caterers for these high dignitaries will only select the finest quality of beef, irrespective of the condition of the individual, be it humble or otherwise, who had cherished, or of the more humble shed which had sheltered, the object of their choice. Such customers are able and willing to pay a good price for good beef. Nay, lean cattle of fine quality will always command a market when those of inferior quality cannot be turned into money at any price; and even small cattle, if of superior quality, will obtain a higher price per stone than large coarse animals.

I was once present at an amusing altercation between five men who were appointed judges of cattle at an agricultural show. Three were in favour of one short-horn bull, and two of another. The favourite bull of the three was a much larger animal than the other, but shewed inferior points as to quality of beef. One of the two asked the other three, "Whether roasting or boiling beef was worth most money per pound? Two remained silent, but the third answered, he was 'not aware of the difference in that part of the country,' which was the north of the Frith of Forth. 'Then,' rejoined the one of the two, 'roasting beef sells from a penny halfpenny to two pence a pound more in London than boiling beef from the same animal.'" The spokesman of the three deprecated any reference to London practice. He was immediately replied to, that "breeders had a very strong interest in the English market, for four-fifths of the cattle bred in Scotland are driven into England and consumed there, and therefore they ought to study to supply what was suited to the English market, and that was fine quality of beef. The large bull with coarse points," he added, "was only fit to get cattle suitable to his Majesty's ships, whereas the other could get them fit for his Majesty's table." In this remark it is not to be understood that I acquiesce in the opinion, that *inferior* quality of beef is good enough with which to provision his Majesty's navy. Far from it. Every gallant defender of his country deserves to share the best produce which his country can supply. But it is well known that cattle cannot be too large for shipping, as large grained beef stands the salt better on long voyages, whereas size is no object when fine quality is only required.

Disposition to fatten and early maturity are the only means by which profit, both to the feeder and the butcher, can be insured. This proposition may not be self-evident, because, as has been already demonstrated, that if these properties are the results of fine bone, small head, and compact form, little offal will be left to the butcher for his profit, whatever the carcass may be to the feeder. In these respects the butchers' profit on short-horns are no doubt small; but as a compensation for the diminished value of the less useful parts, nature has caused these same properties to secrete an increased supply of valuable fat or tallow in the interior of the animal. And thus, short-horns, when ripe, at whatever age, "die well." The instances which I have already related of the quantity of tallow yielded by the large oxen, cows, and

heifers, varying from twelve stones to twenty-six stones each, indicate the source of profit to the butcher which exists in the interior of the animals of this breed. The tallow alone would be, in most cases, a sufficient profit to the butcher. These instances of from twelve stones to twenty-six stones of tallow are certainly extraordinary, but even in ordinary cases of six or eight stones, the value of the tallow more than compensates for the small value of the rest of the offals.

Natural docility of temper, which the short-horns possess in a remarkable degree, renders their disposition to fatten more effective. A good tempered animal receives all the benefits to be derived from the food which he consumes. This is very apparent in feeding oxen. But the bulls even are gentle, and never become mischievous, excepting under particular provocation: and the cows, and heifers, and calves, can be approached for any purpose at all times, in the field and in the house.

It would be an interesting investigation to ascertain how the short-horns have been enabled to originate, maintain, and extend apace the celebrity which they have so long enjoyed. I fear such an investigation cannot be pursued with much satisfaction, for the origin of this breed, like all other existing breeds of cattle, is enveloped in obscurity. All that we know of the mode of maintaining the proved good qualities of any domesticated breed is to preserve the *purity* of its blood; but what is understood by purity of blood, and how it can be preserved in practical breeding, is more easily conceived than defined by breeders. In practical language, *purity of blood* means freedom from an immediate intermixture between different varieties of cattle; and it is preserved in practice in the highest degree by the union of selected males and females, free from that immediate intermixture and close relationship. Blood, in the sense used by breeders, does not mean mere consanguinity in animals of the same kind, for breeds of animals exist which shew no symptoms of purity of blood; but it denotes the exercise of those superior influences which improve the external characters, and give a refined tone to the useful properties of animals. The external characters of animals are described from the form, bone, colour of the horns (if any), and structure of the head. The useful properties originate in the improvement of the external characters. Hence, the *points* form the true index to them. The useful properties, however, must acquire permanency before they can exhibit a refined tone. The refined tone constitutes the "high blood" or "high breeding," as it is commonly called, and it acquires its greatest vigour or bloom when *all* the useful properties arrive at the greatest degree of perfection. Animals thus made perfect attain the highest degree of domestication,—the state in which they yield the greatest profit to man. This high tone, however, may be too much refined, it may lose its bloom, and exhibit symptoms of decay. When it declines, that is, when the points become coarse or obliterated, the external characters undergo great and rapid mutation; and the useful properties dwindle into worthlessness; the good points disappear, and bad ones substitute themselves in their stead. The refined tone may thus be regarded as the pendulum of the domesticated animal economy, the altered oscillations of which indicate the approach to, or recession from, the acme of the point of perfection in domesticated animals. This refinement can only be observed in

domesticated animals. The external characters of wild animals are always permanent, but they may or may not possess the useful properties desired by man. Those which do possess them might be usefully domesticated, and their utility rendered permanent by the acquisition of a refined tone, or "blood." The power of practically exercising those influences which improve the external characters, and give a refined tone to the useful properties, has evidently been conferred by Providence on man, to enable him to domesticate animals, by rendering these properties eminently useful to him.

As an illustration of permanent external character being differently impressed by nature and domestication, I may instance the two opposite cases of the urus and the wild horse. The urus possesses few or perhaps none of the useful properties to man of the domesticated bull and cow, though its external characters are quite permanent. The wild horse of the Savannas of South America and the Steppes of Tartary, possesses all the useful properties of the domesticated horse, and has retained them, though he is not, like the urus, strictly a wild animal, for he is the descendant of the domesticated horse let loose, and possesses, in most particulars, the properties of the blood horse of Arabia and England. Were our domesticated cattle let loose, it is as probable their descendants would retain the useful properties as permanently as the wild horse now does. The horse of Arabia is a domesticated animal, and his "high blood" can be traced back to antiquity, where it eludes our research. In like manner, the "high blood" of our short-horn cattle may one day be traced back to antiquity by our posterity.

If my view of the characteristics of blood in the domesticated animals be correct, then other races of animals than the blood-horse possess "blood," or are "high bred." True, it is not the same tone which pervades different races of domesticated animals. The difference in blood is exhibited by a difference in the refinement of the tone, owing probably to the idiosyncrasy of the race; and each race which shows "blood" or "breeding" has a refined tone correspondent with its permanent useful properties. The refined tone of the race-horse stallion corresponds with the external characters and useful properties of his race; and that of the short-horn bull corresponds with the external characters and useful properties of his race. The refined tone of the cart mare is in accordance with the external characters and useful properties of her kind; and that of the Leicester ewe is in accordance with the external characters and useful properties of her kind. Distinct races of domesticated animals have therefore distinct traces of refined tone, or "blood," or "breeding."

*(To be Concluded in our next.)*

## EAST SUFFOLK AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

The fourth annual meeting of this association was held on Thursday, Sept. 10, at Saxmundham. Owing to the unfavourable state of the weather, the rain falling heavily during a considerable part of the morning, the attendance was not by any means so numerous as that of the preceding year, at Wickham-market. The show of stock generally was exceedingly large, being much greater than at

any previous meeting. There was a large assemblage of horses, in excellent condition, and it was the general opinion, that there had never been, on any former occasion, a finer display in the county. There were 11 stallions on the ground, 19 beautiful Suffolk mares, and 11 geldings. The show of neat stock and sheep was likewise excellent, particularly the latter. Some Southdown tups belonging to Mr. Thomas Crisp, of Gedgrave, attracted general attention, as did also some Southdown sheep and tups, the property of A. Arcedeckne, Esq. Mr. Thomas Capon, of Dennington, showed a very beautiful Hereford ox, three years old, and weighing about 80 stone. It was greatly admired, and Mr. Capon was complimented upon the superior specimens of stock which he invariably exhibits. Mr. Colchester sold Mr. Edwards's rams at from 12*l.* each. The Duke of Newcastle's steward selected six. Mr. Edwards's celebrated cart stallion, which won the prize at Wickham-market in 1833, was knocked down at 60*l.* Mr. Cana sold a Southdown shearing tup, the property of Mr. Arcedeckne, at 15*l.* There was a large collection of agricultural implements. Messrs. Garrett and Sons, of Leiston, exhibited a new seed and manure drill, by which any quantity, from 10 to 20 bushels per acre of pulverized manure with seeds at the same time, may be deposited by the use of one horse, at the rate of 9 acres per day. They also exhibited a machine to clear away smut seeds and dirt which injure a sample of wheat. The judges of the horse stock and swine were, Mr. Cattling, Butley Abbey; Mr. John Blake, Wickham-market; Mr. Thomas Roberts, Alderton; and Mr. John Burch, Charsfield. Of the neat stock and sheep, Mr. Charles Adams, Barton; Mr. Ethridge, Starston; Mr. Thomas Waller, Eyke; who were assisted by Mr. Isaac Churchyard, of Pettistree.

About 4 o'clock nearly 500 gentlemen partook of an elegant cold collation, in a spacious building in the yard of the Bell Inn, provided by the landlord, Mr. Thompson. Above the head of the chairman, we observed on a blue banner the motto, "Agriculture and Commerce, England's glory;" at the other end of the room, above the vice-president's chair (which, for some reason or other, was not occupied, nor were even any of the seats in the vicinity), another blue banner, with the old motto of "Church, King, and Constitution." The right hon. the Earl of Stradbroke took the chair, and was supported on the right by Sir T. Gooch, Bart., Rev. R. Wilson, Rev. J. H. Groome, A. Arcedeckne, Esq.; and on the left by Lord Henniker, M.P., Sir W. Middleton, Rev. W. R. Norton, Rev. A. Greville, and Joshua Rodwell, Esq., &c. &c. We also observed present, Sir Charles Blois, Sir J. Rowley, R. N. Shawe, Esq., J. Moseley, Esq., R. Farr, Esq., — Leman, Esq., J. Mingay, Esq., Rev. E. Wade, Rev. — Westhorp, Captain Bates, J. Woods, Esq., and Messrs. Revans, Gildersleeves, R. and A. Ransome, Wolton, T. Crisp, &c.

The Earl of STRADBROKE proposed "Our gracious, excellent, and constitutional King, William the Fourth;" three times three.—"The Queen and the Royal Family." (*Applause.*)

The Noble CHAIRMAN again rose, and said he should now propose a toast in honour of the day. Since they last met, a short but eventful year had passed, which, by the blessing of Providence, had been the means of producing prosperity and peace in most parts of the country. If it were their misfortune to deplore, in some parts of that their native county, that they had not been blessed with the same productions which had favoured other



parts of England, still he did not observe on that account any diminution in their numbers that day, no want of sympathy, or any reduction of that good feeling which ever had, and he firmly believed ever would, characterise the members of that association, in endeavouring, to the utmost of their power, to emulate each other, to the best possible advantage, in protecting and encouraging good conduct amongst their poorer brethren. (*Applause.*) He must, indeed, lament the absence of one member, a noble lord, the excellence of whose stock had been the constant theme of their admiration. (*Cheers.*) It was with pleasure that he had to announce to them, that their funds were in a flourishing condition, and that they would be enabled, when the subscriptions were paid up, to maintain and improve the amount of donations which they had hitherto awarded. Some alterations might possibly be required in the details connected with the proceedings of the society, which had better be settled at a committee meeting. He was anxious that the premiums for stock should be confined to that which is bred in the county only—(*cheers*)—and that they should not preclude those scientific ploughmen who had once received rewards, from being again enabled to compete for the prizes; in fact, he wished them to be given to the most scientific, and the most deserving, and that they should not continue to go by mere routine. (*Cheers.*) They must have remarked the manifest improvement in the greater part of the stock exhibited, and more especially in horses and sheep. He would venture to state, that notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the morning, they had never before had an opportunity of seeing exhibited in that county, so many horses and sheep of so excellent a quality. Such was the opinion also of many gentlemen with whom he had conversed. It was difficult, indeed it would be impossible for him to touch upon any new topic connected with a meeting of that description. He should therefore propose “Prosperity to the East Suffolk Agricultural Association;” three times three, and “one cheer more.”

“The Lord Lieutenant of the County.”

“The Army and Navy.”—Sir Joshua Rowley returned thanks.

LORD HENNIKER proposed “The health of their noble president;” three times three, and one cheer more.

The EARL OF STRADBROKE returned thanks, and gave “Mr. Arcedeckne and the vice-presidents;” three times three. A. Arcedeckne, Esq., returned thanks.

The SECRETARY (Mr. C. Welton) then proceeded to read the names of the parties to whom the prizes had been awarded; after which, the treasurer (Mr. Woods) retired to deliver them to the successful candidates.

The following is a list of those who received prizes in the

#### SECOND CLASS.

- |                                                                                                                                 | £  | s. | d. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| 1. To Mr. Wm. Spink, Eyke, the owner of the best stallion, for the general purposes of agriculture, bred in Suffolk .....       | 10 | 0  | 0  |
| 2. To Mr. Crisp Plant, Farnham, the owner of the 2nd ditto .....                                                                | 5  | 0  | 0  |
| 3. To Mr. Charles Todd, Otley, the owner of the best brood mare, for the general purposes of agriculture, bred in Suffolk ..... | 5  | 0  | 0  |
| 4. To Mr. Morris Crisp, Letheringham, the owner of the 2nd best ditto .....                                                     | 3  | 0  | 0  |

- |                                                                                                                                                |   |   |   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 5. To the owner of the best 3-year old colt, for the general purposes of agriculture, bred in Suffolk .....                                    | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| [This prize was not awarded, as there was no colt shown of sufficient merit.]                                                                  |   |   |   |
| 6. To Mr. Thomas Crisp, Gedgrave, the owner of the best, 3-year old cart filly, for the general purposes of agriculture, bred in Suffolk ..... | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 7. To Mr. Moses Crisp, Letheringham, the owner of the best gelding, for the general purposes of agriculture, bred in Suffolk .....             | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| 8. To Mr. Geo. Hare, Freston, the owner of the 2nd best ditto .....                                                                            | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 9. To Mr. Thomas Crisp, Gedgrave, the owner of the best Suffolk bull .....                                                                     | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| 10. To Mr. Robert Parker, Westleton, the owner of the best bull of any other breed .....                                                       | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| 11. To Mr. Henry Wright Bramfield, the owner of the best Suffolk cow, in milk or in calf .....                                                 | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| 12. To the owner of the best cow, in milk or in calf, of any other breed .....                                                                 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| [None of sufficient merit.]                                                                                                                    |   |   |   |
| 13. To the owner of the best two-shear tup, of the pure Southdown breed .....                                                                  | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| [None of sufficient merit.]                                                                                                                    |   |   |   |
| 14. To Mr. Bennett, Cheveley, the owner of the best shearing tup, of the Southdown breed .....                                                 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 15. To Mr. Edwards, Sutton, the owner of the best two-shear tup, of any other pure breed .....                                                 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 16. To the owner of the best shearing tup, of any other pure breed .....                                                                       | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| [None of sufficient merit.]                                                                                                                    |   |   |   |
| 17. To Mr. Bennett, Cheveley, the owner of the best pen of 3 Southdown Shearling ewes .....                                                    | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| 18. To the owner of the best pen of 5 shearling ewes of any other pure breed .....                                                             | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| [None of sufficient merit.]                                                                                                                    |   |   |   |
| 19. To Mr. Henry Wright, Bramfield, the owner of the best boar, bred in Suffolk .....                                                          | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 20. To Mr. Samuel Crisp, Easton, the owner of the best breeding sow, bred in Suffolk .....                                                     | 2 | 0 | 0 |

The SECRETARY then announced that the committee had resolved that the honorary silver medal of the society be presented to Mr. Edwards, of Sutton, as an acknowledgment of his improved system of management, and of the high condition of his large farm of light land. (*Applause.*) The medal was then presented by the Earl of Stradbroke, and Mr. Edwards said he was happy to receive such a token of their approbation at the hands of the noble lord.

The SECRETARY then announced that the committee had also resolved to present the honorary silver medal to Mr. James Hillen, of Blaxhall, for his extraordinary exertions in farming, and in the application of artificial manure. The medal being presented to Mr. Hillen, he said he was gratified by their favourable opinion of his exertions, and he trusted that he should always deserve it. A silver medal was next presented to Mr. Thomas Girling, of Wrentham, for his extraordinary exertions in agriculture. Mr. G. returned thanks. A silver medal was also presented to Ishmael Cutler, shepherd to the Earl of Stradbroke, as an ac-

knowledge for his having reared more lambs from a given number of ewes within the last four years, than any other shepherd within the limits of the association.

The Earl of STRADBROKE next proposed "The health of Mr. Shawe, and the Committee;" three times three.

R. N. SHAWE, Esq., rose amidst loud cheering. After returning thanks, the hon. gent. said he would take the present opportunity of making an observation upon something that fell from the noble lord, in proposing prosperity to the East Suffolk Agricultural Association. If he had understood his lordship correctly, he had said, that in future stock not bred in the county of Suffolk was to be excluded from the exhibition for premiums. Now, he would very respectfully suggest, that such a regulation might in some degree interfere materially with the objects of the association. The object they had in view, was to promote the breed of cattle, and if they excluded from the premiums, those cattle that were imported into the county, they would at the same time exclude themselves from that improvement in the breed, which could be gained only by competition, and from that excellence in quality which he hoped to see the stock of this county attain.—(*Loud applause.*) When the society was first proposed, it was generally supposed that it was to be conducted upon the principle of the one in existence at Thetford. At that time his own feelings were, that the Thetford Society had scarcely answered the purpose for which it was intended. It produced a great meeting certainly, but it was not a meeting for the sale of wool only; it had other purposes to answer, but to which he should not now particularly allude. He had lately been in Oxfordshire, where a society was established, in which he believed a gentleman, well known to Sir Thomas Gooch, Mr. Ashurst, took an active part. He had consulted that gentleman upon the mode in which sales of wool were conducted in that county. Mr. Ashurst told him that they did not fix a person to sell in the room or at the dinner; but they left it to the parties themselves. They provided a large barn for the wool belonging to those individuals who choose to bring it and deposit it, in bulk or in sample. Thither the buyers resorted, and made their selections as they thought fit. He did not see that they should confine themselves to the mere offer, by the gentlemen, of wool to any single buyer at their wool fair. He thought it would be a much better plan to have parties to bring their wool for sale, or to sell it by sample, or in bulk, just as they pleased. The principal of the Dorchester Wool Fair was this: two large barns were provided; in one the wool was exhibited in the morning, and in the other, the parties having dined, and the chairman having necessarily provided himself with all the information he had been able to procure, they then resorted again to the wool barn, where the sales took place. This was found to be completely successful, and the buyers were brought together, because they could meet with the article, and much better prices were obtained. (*Cheers.*) He would now throw it out as a suggestion, that they form a Committee to re-consider the principle on which the Suffolk Wool Fair was established, and he had no doubt, if he could prevail upon the noble lord to give his consideration to the question, and attend a meeting of the committee for that purpose, that they would be enabled to put the matter in so tangible a form, as to be really beneficial to the interests of the community at large.—

(*Applause.*) He was sorry he could not say there was an immediate prospect of relief for the depressed agriculturist; but amidst all the gloom and all the darkness by which they were unhappily surrounded, there was, nevertheless, a speck of light which had at length begun to make its appearance. He must say, and he had told the agriculturists over and over again, that the attainment of high prices was impossible. He cared not to which party they belonged; for he only quoted the opinion of the committee of which his hon. friend, Sir T. Gooch, was chairman, who have declared, that so long as the low price of corn arises from the growth of the country, no legislative enactment can interfere to make a rise. (*Loud cheers.*) He believed that doctrine to be sound. (*Continued cheers.*) There were many fallacious opinions abroad. If they could not raise the prices, they might take off those burthens which press upon agriculture—which relate to agriculture alone—(*cheers*)—which are imposed upon real property alone; and in which no other branch of the community bears a share. (*Cheers.*) He alluded to local burthens—to the poor rate and to the county rate. (*Applause.*) To be sure in the course of the present session something had been done. (*Laughter, and cries of "Nothing,"* from the upper part of the room, which were answered by loud cheering from the other end.) Well, then, suppose that nothing had been done in the shape of substantial and immediate relief, still a most important principle had been embraced, for an acknowledgment had been made that they were paying that which they ought not to pay, except in conjunction with other classes. When they applied that principle to the principle of the land-tax, he wanted to know why the land should pay a tax, to which no other interest is subject? And again, if they applied that principle to other things bearing on the interests of agriculture, it would be found equally important. He knew that in speaking upon this subject, he touched upon delicate ground; and he felt it to be his duty, in addressing a large agricultural community, composed of all classes, and entertaining opposite opinions, to leave party feeling out of the question. He had said, there was a light that had, at length, broken in upon them. They were now going to experience the effects of the provisions of one of the most important laws that had been passed within the limits of his recollection—he alluded to the important change, now about to take place in the administration of the poor laws. (*Laughter.*) He knew it had been abused by parties, who though they might have read it, yet had not given themselves time to understand its principles. It had been said that it would be oppressive towards the poor. If it were so, he (Mr. S.) for one would not support it. So far from its being calculated to injure the poor, and so far from its not being calculated to afford relief to agriculture, he believed it would be beneficial to the one, and a boon to the other. Let them look to the state of the labouring poor at the present moment. During the last year he found 44 poachers in Ipswich gaol, 33 of whom were receiving parochial relief at the time of their commitment. How, he would ask, did this arise? Why, simply from the old system of giving men money for doing nothing. (*Cheers.*) He would then say, if they had been wrong, let them seriously and earnestly endeavour to set themselves right. They had a correct principle before them, upon which they might proceed with safety. It was not contended, as it had been reported, to take the poor man out of his cottage,



and to place him in the workhouse. By no means. The man who from infirmity or casualty was compelled to come to his parish for relief, was not put into the poor-house, but was provided for on the authority of a magistrate, who upon his own view of the case, was authorized to order such relief as should be found necessary. The effects of the bill would be, to show that commerce and manufactures, and agriculture, go hand in hand—that the capital of the country is fully capable of supporting the labouring population—and that the latter has hitherto been in some measure prevented by the law of settlement. He quoted the statement from the mouth of a gentleman who made it, and he had investigated the subject, viz., that at the present moment there was room for placing in Lancashire, not less than 90,000 families. And what were the terms? It was purely voluntary on their part: an agreement was made with the labourer for three years, to receive so much for his own labour, so much for the labour of his wife, and so much for the labour of his children. A cottage was provided for his use, together with every necessary article of furniture, and he had to sign a contract engaging to remain in it for three years. It may be said that a change may occur, and that in consequence of any depression to the manufacturing interest, the labourer may be discharged. The ability to afford future employment is calculated by an extensive inquiry as to the number of orders given for machinery, which at the present moment amounted in value to more than four millions of money, and the use of this machinery and its application to the cotton trade, had been carried on at almost an unlimited extent. The removals into Lancashire had gradually increased of late years, viz., from 4 to 8, and from 10 to 20, and ultimately, to 40,000 individuals, and yet there was still room for 90,000 more. Surely then, here was at once some relief for the local burthens which press upon us, and for a rescue from the anomalous situation in which we stand. (*Loud cheers.*) But this was not all; if they, by the formation of the different unions, could provide for a considerable proportion of the surplus labourers who pressed down the energies of agriculture, and if they could manage the affairs of the unions properly and economically, he would turn round and say, that having during the present year, admitted the principle that half the cost of prosecutions was fairly chargeable to other branches of the community—he said, the commerce of the country, the funded—(*“And the currency,” from a voice*)—and the landed interest might then readily and cheerfully and easily bear the burthen and share it between them.—(*Loud cheers.*) The moment they establish the unions—the moment there was an economical distribution—the moment, he repeated, that these things came into full play, then the agriculturists were entitled to have the remaining portions of the community take a share in the general burthens. After some further observations, the hon. gentleman sat down amidst loud cheering.

The CHAIRMAN gave “The Members for the County,” and observed that he had been requested by Sir Charles Vere, to state that he deeply regretted his absence, but his health was such as to oblige him to go to Cheltenham. Three times three.

Lord HENNIKER returned thanks in behalf of himself and his hon. and gallant colleague. After congratulating the society on its prosperity, he said, were he to enter on one or two topics that had been adverted to by his friend Mr. Shawe, he

felt that he should be bound to enter into a discussion of greater length than perhaps upon an occasion like the present, it would be fitting for him to do. He should, therefore, abstain entirely from entering upon those topics. (*Cheers from the upper end of the room.*)

The CHAIRMAN gave “The health of Mr. Bennett and the successful competitors for the various prizes.” (*Cheers.*)

Mr. BENNETT returned thanks, and as the only remuneration he could give in return, would state some little experience which his bailiffs had derived in the flock of last year. They tried an experiment with the ewes, in a complaint called “*straining*,” from which they suffered much. A great number of ewes had been saved in consequence of the application of the recipe he had obtained, but which he regretted to say he was not allowed to make public. (*A laugh.*) He hoped to see the experiment tried generally, as it would be attended with great advantage to the flock masters.

The Rev. E. WADE begged pardon for interrupting, but how could the experiment be tried, if they were not told of what it was composed, and how to apply it. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. BENNETT replied that it might be ascertained from an application to Mr. Gall. He then concluded by stating, that he had proposed and contributed a prize of two sovereigns for the following year, to be given to the shepherd who shall have lived the longest time with any member of the association. (*Applause.*)

The CHAIRMAN, after a high eulogium, proposed “the health of Sir Thomas Gooch;” three times three, and one cheer more for ‘the good old English gentleman.’”

Sir Thomas GOOCH returned thanks. He was grieved to see the low state to which agriculture was reduced, but there was one comfort even in their affliction, viz., that their courage seemed to rise with their danger. (*Cheers.*) He did not wish to see manufacturers rise upon their ruin, though no one rejoiced more than himself at their prosperity. When he was told that it was impossible for any minister, let him be whom he would, Whig, Tory, Radical, to do any thing for the relief of the landed interest, he must at the same time say it was possible for a minister to abstain from putting words into the mouth of his sovereign at the opening of the session, saying that their distress should be taken into consideration, and yet do nothing at all. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. REVANS, in allusion to what had fallen from Mr. Shawe on the subject of the Suffolk Wool Fair, said he was of opinion if the fair was managed agreeably to the principles on which it was established, it would prove totally adequate to the purposes for which it was intended. Much had been said about a combination among the buyers. That was a fallacy, and he thought the buyers might with as much propriety say something about combination amongst the sellers.

“Success to the West Suffolk Association.”

Mr. AMYS (Rickinghall) returned thanks.

The health of “the Judges of the stock, and thanks to them for their exertions.”

Mr. ETHRIDGE returned thanks.

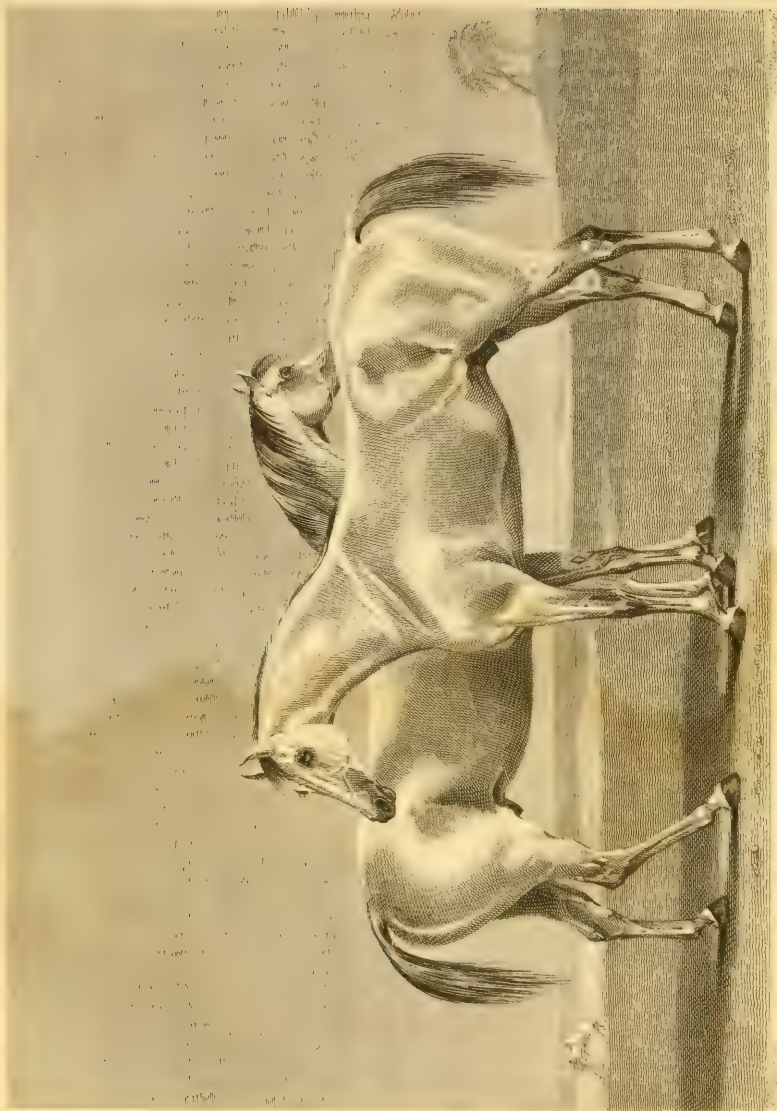
The CHAIRMAN proposed “The health of the Secretary, whose services were fully appreciated, and who he need not say was of the greatest utility to the society.”

Mr. C. WELTON returned thanks.

After some further discussion, the noble earl retired, and the meeting broke up soon afterwards,







THE ARABIAN HORSES PRESENTED BY THE KING OF OUDÉ TO HIS MAJESTY WILLIAM IV.

## THE KING'S ARABIAN HORSES.

(Plate.)

Amongst the presents lately sent from the Nabob of Oude to William IV. were two Arabian Horses; and through the polite attention of Colonel Wemyss his Majesty's gracious permission was obtained to view these interesting animals, and also to present their likenesses to our readers, which were sketched with the utmost fidelity and truth, by Mr. W. H. Davis, painter to the Queen.

On the 26th of August, I visited Hampton, where the King's breeding stud is kept, and to which place the Arabians in question had been sent, after remaining a few days in the stables at Pimlico, and was highly gratified with a sight of these beautiful animals, which I looked well over. In the first place I must observe, that these horses had left the vessel which conveyed them from India to this country only a fortnight, after having been closely confined for four months, during which they had evidently encountered the heavy gales so prevalent in the neighbourhood of the Cape. Under such circumstances their condition could not fail to be very much reduced; and, although they were thus presented under the greatest disadvantage, they appeared lively, playful, good-tempered, and manifested the light, elastic, elegant characteristics of the genuine Arabian horse.

The more prominent figure, whose complete lateral form is presented to the eye, is the finer animal of the two, and his height is greater than that of any Arabian which has hitherto fallen under my observation; on standing up to him, I judged his height to be at least fifteen hands, perhaps a trifle more, yet scarcely reaching fifteen hands and an inch. The true form of the animal is well represented in the engraving, which the reader will perceive, exhibits that well defined obliquity of shoulder, wide spread, well set-in quarter, and length of posterior sweep, so pre-eminently indicative of speed and power, and which, even at the present moment, distinguish the beautiful variety of the tribe under consideration from all ramifications of this most elegant quadruped in nature. In these essential principles or elements, our turf horses are inferior to the genuine Arabian, as well as in the fine form of the head, which is truly and well represented in the engraving. Were we disposed to criticise this splendid horse with fastidious nicety, we might say that his hocks were rather too straight; in this part he is inferior to his companion, as well as in that prominent development of the muscle of the thigh, which appears so conspicuous in the latter.

The second horse, whose figure is only partially seen, is not so large as the animal already described; but superior in the shape of the hock, and in the muscular development of the thigh; yet, on the whole, not so fine a horse.

I was unable to ascertain the distinctive appellatives of the animals under consideration, as the swarthy sons of the East (two in number) who attended them on their passage to this country, were either unable or unwilling to communicate this intelligence to those to whose care they resigned them at Pimlico. But, that the horses were regarded by the Indian grooms as creatures of a superior class was evident, from their manner of treating them, as the following incident sufficiently demonstrates. On surrendering their charge they washed their feet very carefully, and on one of the stable attendants offering them a sponge for the purpose of finishing the operation, they turned away contemptuously, and drawing from their pockets fine white muslin handkerchiefs, substituted them for the superior instrument which had been offered them for the purpose; their medium of oral communication to the horses was a sort of whistle, varied according to circumstances; they appeared much attached to their charge, and resigned the animals with a sigh.

In colour they are a light or silver grey, black mane and tail, the smaller of the two, presenting that appearance to a trifling extent which is well understood in the language of the school, by the term *flea-bitten*. Mr. Worley, the principal stud-groom (from whom we received every attention) was kind enough to let me see them move; they were very light, very corky, and playful; but after so long a voyage at sea, in the close confinement of a vessel, it could not be expected that, in so short a period, they had regained their wonted action: indeed, the smaller horse was evidently stiff behind, while the extremities of his hocks bore indubitable indications of the boisterous weather which had been encountered during the passage from India to this country.\*

I have no doubt that the strain of blood of which these Arabians are a specimen, is very highly prized by the Potentate who presented them to his Majesty; and I am inclined to think, from their appearance, that it has been continued too long without intermixture.

Those who have exercised their goose-quill on the subject of the Arabian horse, have been, for the most part egregiously ignorant of the doctrine which they professed to impart to others: and, as if to make up for lack of knowledge by extraneous ingenuity, they endeavoured to amuse their deluded readers by a fanciful classification which never had existence except in their own prolific brain; thus the hard, but unmeaning, terms, *Koch-lain*, *Nezdi*, &c. &c. are pompously, yet mysteriously, displayed, as if they contained a sort of magic which rendered the subject a matter of marvellous astonishment rather

\* In the same building which contained the Arabians, we saw the favourite hack of George IV., a powerful cob-like flea-bitten gray; the last horse crossed by this monarch, who was, perhaps, the quickest judge of horse-flesh that ever existed.



than of sober philosophical investigation. The superiority of the thorough-bred horse or courser is derived from the quality of his bone, tendon, muscle, and animal organization. He is originally from the tropical or hot climates; and may be said to offer a sort of contradiction to the general rule, since we find that, in the burning regions of the earth, animated nature attains the largest size. This is strikingly exemplified in the lion, and all the varieties of the cat kind, the elephant, &c. These animals uniformly decrease in stature and bulk according as the climate becomes milder where they are found. In the vegetable kingdom also, we perceive a similar rule; trees and plants attain an immense size near the equator, and decrease in proportion to the distance they are removed from it.

The horse, however, forms an exception to this rule; he attains superior qualities, it is true, in the torrid zone, but in bulk, he is left at a very great distance by the unwieldy animal of the same tribe found in Normandy and the Netherlands, in the marshes of Lincolnshire, and also in the county of Leicester. The cause of this difference in bulk and quality is easily ascertained. The Arabian or Eastern horse, whence our thorough-bred horses have been derived, is bred and reared under a burning sun. The climate, judging from the living example, would seem to be favourable to the production of that ivory-like bone, large tendon, and firm elastic muscle for which the thorough-bred horse is so eminently distinguished; while the food which he receives, being principally hard and dry, and containing the greatest portion of nutriment in the smallest compass, must very much assist the climate in producing the effects already mentioned. This supposition seems confirmed by the circumstance, that the little mountain horse of the Arabian desert is the smallest of the various ramifications of the Eastern horse, while the texture of his bone, tendon, and muscle is decidedly superior to that which is found in any other variety of his tribe: \* he is fed almost uniformly on dry food; which, with the scorching heat of the climate, checks his growth, but gives him uncommon strength and solidity. If we look at the Persian or the Turkish horse, which is regarded as thorough-bred, we shall find him much larger than the mountain Arabian; yet by comparison, neither so strong or so fleet; because, being fed upon more succulent food, and breathing a milder atmosphere, he attains a greater bulk, but experiences a depreciation in those valuable qualities already enumerated. These degrees or gradations are ren-

dered manifest, as we proceed to milder climates and softer food, till we at length come to the enormous draught horse, whose immense bulk is attained in the luxuriant marshes of Flanders and other places, where the very succulent herbage increases the size of the animal, but renders his bone more porous, his tendon softer, and his muscle less firm and less elastic.

Hence it will be perceived that the horse acquires his superior qualities beneath a tropical sun, while he attains his greatest bulk in the mild regions of the northern hemisphere; but, if we follow this animal to the higher northern latitudes, we are again presented with the striking influence of climate upon him. He becomes small in the Highlands of Scotland, smaller in the Shetland Isles, a complete dwarf in Iceland, and in regions still nearer the Pole, he ceases to exist altogether. His coat attains a glossy silky compactness beneath the African and the Asiatic sun, it is much coarser in the milder parts of Europe, longer and coarser as we proceed north, till in fact it assumes the outward appearance of bristles, with a soft lining close to the skin, in order to protect the animal from the rigours of the climate.

Yet it may be remarked, that the Arabian horse reaches much greater perfection in this country than in his own native and arid deserts: he attains a much larger size, becomes more fleet and more powerful, a consummation which is effected by the English system of breeding, rearing, and training the racer. The foal is supplied with milk in profuse abundance in addition to that of its mother, which is seldom deemed sufficient for the object in view. As soon as it is able to masticate corn, it is liberally supplied with the choicest that can be procured; and, indeed, in all the early stages of its existence, nothing is withheld which it is supposed will increase its strength, its vigour, and its growth. It is kept warm, groomed with the most laborious attention, fed as highly as possible, and exercised accordingly. The animal thus attains a superior size, more strength and greater speed, than the source whence it sprung, its original parent, the native Arabian. It must be admitted, however, that this system, where nature is assisted by art to the utmost possible extent, is by no means destitute of its attendant evils; as the animal, thus highly fed, is very liable to inflammatory action, and consequently very subject to disease. It would seem as if nature were unable to bear the burden thus forced upon her; and, as the ordinary channels are not sufficient to carry off or dissipate the superabundant juices, curbs, spavins and a train of diseases are often the consequence,—the modern racer may be said to be constantly liable to "*fly to pieces*."

As the racer receives much more food than ordinary, so he is subjected to much more exercise also; and hence we frequently find

\* Such, at least, seems to be the case, if a judgment is to be formed on the subject, from the experiments which have hitherto been made in this country; but these experiments and their results are very inconclusive, and by no means satisfactory to an inquiring mind. I shall further discuss this subject in the course of the present article.

his legs will not stand; and, as like produces like, so to this cause, I think, may be attributed the faulty or diseased fore legs which we so frequently perceive in horses with any pretensions to breeding, the disease or defect having been communicated from sire or dam to the progeny. This is strikingly exemplified in the stock of Champion, as well as in the stock of many more horses which might be enumerated; in fact, it is a rarity to meet with a racer of four or five years old whose legs are perfect. The food of the racer is administered in such abundance, (and that too of the most nutritious and invigorating quality) and his exercise is so severe, that none but a thorough-bred can consume the one, or endure the other. I am aware I shall be told, that many cocktails (not thorough-bred horses) have been trained; and I am ready to admit, many that have been called cocktails have endured the regular system of training, have consumed the requisite quantity of food, have gone through the regular exercise, and have been produced on the course in splendid condition: in the season of 1833, such was the case with Napoleon le Grand, Swing, and many others; all of which I have not the least doubt were as thorough-bred as Eclipse or Smolensko; in fact, the thorough-bred pedigree of several of these horses was afterwards incontestably demonstrated. Many acknowledged thorough-breds are unable to bear training; nor need a greater proof of genuine blood be necessary than the capacity for feeding, and the qualities requisite for enduring the exercise to which the racer is subjected.

We have increased the size, the strength, and the stride of the Arabian horse; but in many cases have lost his light, elastic, bounding, deer-like action. In fact, it rarely happens that the *action* of the genuine Arabian is continued many generations from the original stock: it is manifest in the first or perhaps second remove, but becomes, as we proceed, lost or swallowed up in greater length of stride, and more bulky powers of propulsion. Three or four years ago, I went early in the morning, a day or two preceding the races, to the Liverpool course for the purpose of witnessing the exercise of the horses. A little chestnut attracted my notice: I observed him walk for some time: he then took his gallop: I felt a conviction that he was not far removed from the original stock. On inquiry, I found the horse to be Mr. Atwood's Argantes, his sire a genuine Arabian. His action was beautiful, and he won several minor stakes, but he had no chance against the much greater stride, and much greater power, of our first-rate horses. It is not till several removes from the original stock that the length and power of the English race-horse can be attained, when his Arabian progenitor can no longer contend with him on the Turf. Where our racers unite the Arabian action with their own immense stride, their speed is wonderful, such was the case

with the celebrated Sir Peter Teazle, and the same remark will apply to Lottery, to Long-waist, to Fylde, to Fleur de Lis, to Signorina, &c. &c.

From the present mode of conducting the operations of the Turf, our splendid coursers seldom, if ever, attain a perfect maturity. The elegant quadruped under consideration thrives, the male till he is seven years old, the female till she has reached her sixth year; whereas, few of our racers continue on the Turf till they attain this age, being battered to pieces before they have acquired their natural growth and strength. Having already noticed the manner in which the racer, in early life, is forced forward by calling in the aid of every artificial mode of assisting the rising operations of nature, we shall here state, that, at the age of two years, he is brought upon the course; indeed, yearling races are not unknown. But, to put the contest of yearlings out of the question, let us view the racer at the age of two years. At this period, his bones cannot have acquired solidity, nor his tendon that firm elasticity so essentially necessary in the violent, and frequently overstrained, exertion of the course. Now if, under such circumstances, an animal is put to the greatest possible exertions, it follows, as a necessary consequence, that his joints, and the ligatures attached to them, must undergo so much distressing tension as to injure, if not totally to ruin him. It is true, our two-year old races are for short distances; but then considerable weight is placed upon the young animals. Two-years old are frequently troublesome to start and manage; and therefore, instead of boys being placed on their backs, they are ridden by more experienced jockeys: the weights for two-years old are, in general, colts 8st 6lb, fillies 8st 3lb, which, although they might be well enough where the animal had attained something like maturity, become a very heavy load for a creature whose bones and sinews have not received half their developement.

Fillies suffer less than colts from these premature exertions, because they arrive at maturity sooner. Even at three-years old there appears not only something injudicious, but cruel, in subjecting the animal to such severity as the race-course generally calls forth, particularly if he is *large for his years*, as the term is; that is, has attained more than ordinary height, presenting at the same time an incipient appearance of large bone and tendon; such an animal must necessarily be weak; he has overgrown his strength, and if put to the utmost severity of exertion, can scarcely fail to sustain serious, if not irreparable injury. An instance of this sort was presented to my observation in the month of July, 1833: it was at the Liverpool Aintree meeting of that year; when Satan, by Lottery, a very promising three-years old, ran a very severe race for, and won a sweepstakes. The same day he started for one of the plates, which he also won, after four very distressing



heats. This colt was large for his years, and the business just mentioned ruined him for any further successful running that year: in fact, it ruined him altogether as a racer. On endeavouring to train him the following year, first one leg and then the other gave way. I well recollect the *destruction* of this promising young horse. After he had won his first very severe race, and I perceived his trainer (Dawson) was preparing him to start for the plate, I was proceeding to expostulate with him on the impropriety of compelling a very promising young horse, but large for his years, and consequently weak, to a reiteration of such desperate exertion; but I found it was by the consent of the owner, and Dawson himself was of opinion no harm would result from it. The plate was won by Satan, after four very severe heats (as I have before observed), when it was found necessary to bleed him. Two days after, he seemed well; and his owner was weak enough to start him in less than ten days after at Lancaster; but he could not race. Nature had been overstrained. He was ultimately allowed to rest for a considerable time; to no purpose, as I have already stated. Can it be expected that the stock of such a horse will be sound. Like generally produces like; and though from good sound mares, a superior animal might be produced, in general the result would be otherwise: the defects of the sire would be communicated to the offspring.

It often happens that a good free-going creature is destroyed by too much running. This was rendered strikingly manifest in the case of that excellent mare Sarah. When a few years ago, she belonged to Chapman, she started about eighteen times one season, and did not lose more than two or three races. The next year she could do nothing, though she looked tolerably well. She passed into the hands of Sir John Gerard, was allowed rest, and was brought out again, but to no purpose: the outrageous severity of the work she had undergone in the season just mentioned had completely crippled her powers of speed and endurance: nor would she be at all calculated for a brood mare, as no animal with a diseased or a battered constitution is calculated to produce a vigorous or healthy stock.

Had I the means, and were anxious to produce superior horses, I would not allow them to be put to any distressing exercise or work in early life: before they are called upon for the display of their utmost power and speed, they ought to have attained something like maturity. By this means we should see fewer blemished horses, and should possess a much superior stock. But the operations of the Turf are opposed to such a mode of proceeding. The great stakes are principally for three-year olds, from which aged horses are debarred. Cups would be open to the latter; but as many of these are handicapped, the superiority of a horse no sooner becomes known, than he is weighted to re-

duce him to the level of a common plate-horse.

The celebrated horse, Dr. Syntax, furnishes an example of what may be accomplished by judicious treatment. He underwent no distressing trials in early life; and when at length his extraordinary powers became ascertained, his owner (the late Mr. Riddell, took care to place him well, and never allowed him to start more than a very moderate number of times in any one season. The consequence was, he won more cups than any horse that ever appeared on the turf, was rarely beaten, and did not finish his racing career till (if my memory be correct,) he was fourteen years old.

When the genuine blood was first imported into this country, it must have been mixed with that of the indigenous horse, or with something of the kind; and what number of generations it must pass through before the acknowledged thorough-breed is produced, has not been determined; nor is it likely that it ever can be ascertained with precision. Where a stain finds its way into the pedigree or blood, it is sometimes difficult to obliterate; while, in other cases, it may perhaps be easily washed out. This is a matter which will not admit of mathematical demonstration; but we may reasonably conclude that our thorough-bred horse is the Arabian steed, improved in size and strength by superior keep, superior grooming, and superior management.

It has been stated, that eight removes from the impure strain constitutes genuine blood; but such an assumption is vague, unphilosophical, and, in fact, amounts to nothing: no definite period can be fixed.

It will be necessary to remark, that what are called Arabian horses vary very much in size and quality, and I am of opinion the genuine mountain Arabian has seldom been seen in this country. I have met with a score, perhaps, which have been called Arabian horses, but not more than six of them impressed me with the idea of the genuine unalloyed stock. I have several times been invited to see what have been reputed Arabians, the owners of which have been displeased when I ventured to doubt the purity of their blood. The most palpable attempt at imposition in this way which ever fell under my observation, was that of a light, dirty coloured dun horse, offered for sale in Liverpool, about twelve years since, called Bellerophon: this animal, in form, resembled the Suffolk punch.

We are told there are various classes of Arabians, and that the Barb inherits the genuine blood. We are further told that the celebrated Godolphin Arabian was a Barb, of which, however, I am doubtful, as his immediate descendants proved racers. There may be Arabians of different classes for aught I know to the contrary; and Bruce, in his travels, tells us, that he met with a breed of these noble animals (in Nubia, or Dongola, if I mistake not,) which generally reached the height of sixteen hands, with form and action

superior to the mountain horse, or what, for the sake of distinction, I will call the genuine Arabian. If so, and a fresh supply of Eastern blood were deemed requisite by our breeders, by the importation of a few of these horses, the greatest obstacle in the way of the little horse would be removed—size and stride could be immediately obtained.

I never saw a *black* Arabian; and as very few black racers have made any figure on the Turf, I am inclined to think there are no genuine blacks. When, therefore, I have observed a black racer, I have always attributed his colour to a stain in the blood, however far distant. It is well known that animals will *breed backwards*, as it is called; and I have more than once been surprised, amongst a litter of pointer whelps, to find one a complete setter, without being able to trace the strain to either the sire or dam.

After all, the superior power and speed of the thorough-bred horse is the result of a superiority of animal organization, and a superiority of texture in the bone, the tendon, and the muscle; and at the same time that I unhesitatingly promulgate this doctrine, I candidly admit, that this animal organization, this texture of the parts enumerated, will be vainly sought in any variety of the tribe except the genuine blood, or thorough-bred horse.

The true Arabian seldom reaches much more than fourteen hands; but the same blood in this country becomes much larger: yet, there would seem to be a maximum beyond which it were useless to attempt to force the animal under consideration, at least for racing. When a horse reaches more than sixteen hands, he seldom possesses the requisite qualities for racing. Our best racers, generally speaking, have been under sixteen hands; while very large horses have seldom appeared to advantage on the turf. The largest thorough-bred horse I ever saw stood nearly seventeen hands, and was uncommonly powerful. I saw him at Melton, in the month of November, 1832. He was the property of Mr. Little Gilmour, and as a hunter was supposed to be inferior to no horse in England. He was called *Vignt-un*: and when I first saw him in the stable and stood up to him, I was astonished at his immense size: nor could I scarcely believe that his performance in the field was equal to the current report concerning him till I had convinced myself by actual observation. *Vignt-un* could not race, but, as a hunter, was very fleet, carrying, I should think, about fifteen stone. When I saw him, he was in splendid condition. He appeared in colour a sort of chestnut, which, perhaps, might be the effect of singeing, a process lately introduced, and which appears much superior to clipping.

In the next stall stood *Plunder*, a thorough-bred bay horse, nearly as high and as powerful as *Vignt-un*, and little, if any, inferior to him as a hunter; so that it would appear if these over-grown thorough-bred horses make no figure on the turf, as hunters they

are unrivalled. I am very well aware, that when sufficient bone and substance can be united with what is called blood, the horse becomes invaluable as a hunter: no half-bred, no horse, with even a trifling stain, ever can go with him, can go through dirt and heavy ground so well, or can struggle for so great a length of time; he is as superior to all others in the field as the thorough-bred is to the cock-tail on the race-course, for reasons previously given, namely, greater solidity of bone, greater firmness, strength, and elasticity of tendon and muscle, as well as a decided superiority of animal organization. But the difficulty is to meet with thorough-breds of sufficient bulk; yet, that they are to be obtained is evident, as Mr. Little Gilmour had in his stable, at the period before-mentioned, eight thorough-bred horses, every one of which was equal to fifteen stone up to the fleetest hounds in the kingdom.

Fylde, bred by the late Mr. Clifton, of Lytham, was a remarkable instance of a large horse being able to race: he was sixteen hands and a half high. Had he been trained to hounds instead of the course, he would have made the best hunter perhaps the world ever saw. In early life, his action was observed to be of a very superior order; and when put into training, it was perceived that he possessed superior speed. The Arabian action was continued in him in a great degree, and, in consequence he became a very superior horse. He was ultimately sold to go to the United States, where he was safely landed, and is by far the best horse ever imported by the Americans; being well bred, finely formed, action beautiful, legs perfectly sound.

I have heard it remarked that thorough-bred horses do not jump well, and am ready to admit that when a horse has been trained to the course, and has raced, perhaps, for several seasons, his stroke and mode of going have become very different from those which should characterise the perfect hunter; but let the blood-horse be trained to the field instead of the course, and it will be found that he will become a superior jumper.

Having already slightly noticed the qualities of the thorough-bred horse, it will be necessary to say a few more words on the subject, in order to shew, that the term *blood* is a misnomer, and that the superiority of the horse in question is derived from his superiority of form and texture; and which, as I have before observed, has never been found in any other variety of the tribe. The elucidation of this question brings us to the consideration of the philosophical

#### PRINCIPLES OF SPEED AND POWER.

That progressive motion is the result of mechanical organization every one will readily admit who has ever considered the subject, however slightly; and this motion will be found superior or otherwise, precisely in proportion to the form and quality of the mechanism by which it is produced. This is sufficiently ex-



emplified in the movements of the horse and the ox; the power of propulsion produced by the mechanical organization of the former being much greater than that of the latter, consequently the animal mechanism must be of a much superior form and quality. Similar reasoning will apply to the progressive motion of the thorough-bred, compared with the draught horse; and, indeed, we shall perceive these differences in quadrupedal movement gradually lessen as we approach what is called full blood; and the ratio, generally speaking, will be in proportion as the animal is allied to the thorough-bred; or as a groom would describe it, in proportion to his blood.

Having already observed that the superior organization of the thorough-bred horse is to be found in no other variety of the tribe, at least in the same perfection, it will naturally be expected that I should produce something like proof to demonstrate the truth of this assertion. As the most striking example of power and speed, applicable to the present case, by way of forcible illustration, we may instance the hare, which, taking her size and weight into consideration, is the fleetest quadruped in the world. The weight of this surprising little creature varies from six to eight pounds, yet she is fleetest than the generality of horses! Whence, then, is this extraordinary speed derived? From her peculiar formation, or superior mechanical organization. At the first glance, the hare presents an uncommon length of hind quarters and hind legs, which gives to her fore legs a shorter appearance than is in reality the case; she is thus enabled to bring her hind feet so forward as to increase her stride to an incredible extent. The stroke of the hare is equal to that of the greyhound, though she is not more than a quarter his size, if so much. According to generally received notions, the length of the hare's hind compared with her fore legs, is quite out of proportion; yet this is the most obvious cause of her amazing celerity. The hare is low before, and very high behind; and when we consider her more attentively we shall find the leading principle of speed just mentioned is very much assisted by the backward slope of the shoulder, aided by a great depth and expansion of chest, while the quarters reach an uncommon length into the back, as it were, which, added to the length of her thigh, give her a sweep superior to that which is observed in any other quadruped; at the same time, she is equally remarkable for the breadth of her loins, as well as for her firmness of muscle. Her feet, unlike those of the dog, are destitute of ball, which enables her to distance her pursuers on hard, flinty, or sharp stony ground: and her extreme length of toe essentially assists her extraordinary powers of progressive motion.

In the figure of our fleetest greyhounds, we may observe something of the hare-like form, viz., the low-dropping chest, the sweep of the hind quarters: a fleet greyhound, like the hare, though not to the same extent, will ap-

pear high behind and low before: at the same time, he will be remarkable for breadth of loin and large muscle.

A similar remark will apply to the fleet and powerful modern foxhound. Yet, for the sake of illustration, it will be necessary to notice an error, which Somerville was the first to promulgate, and which has been uniformly adopted by breeders of foxhounds ever since. Amongst the requisite qualifications for speed in the foxhound, Somerville particularly recommends the "round cat foot."

"his rush grown tail  
O'er his broad back bends in an ample arch;  
On shoulders clean, upright, and firm, he stands;  
His round cat foot, straight hams, and spreading thighs,  
And his low dropping chest, confess his speed.

The *round cat foot* is in direct opposition to the principles of speed. If we look at the hare, we shall find, that her foot is *remarkably long*, by which her speed, beyond all question, is much accelerated, as very trifling reflection will incontestibly present to the mind. The foot of the hare may be compared to the pastern of the horse, as the one and the other exercise much the same influence on progressive motion. It is well known that a horse with very short pasterns can never be remarkably fleet: his action, indeed, far from being light, elastic and easy, will offer the very reverse to the eye of the spectator, as well as to the feelings of the rider. Let it not, however, be supposed for a moment, that I recommend a *very long* pastern. A happy medium should be observed. But I will venture to state, that a short pastern in the horse amounts to much the same as a "round cat foot" in the foxhound: they are both opposed to speed.

Therefore, in considering the principles of speed and power in the horse, let us not lose sight of the form of the hare or the greyhound. The horse is very much slower, by comparison, than either of the animals just mentioned; but it will be found, the nearer he approaches the form of them, the greater will be his speed. The best horses that ever appeared on the turf must have exhibited the form just described. This was the case with Eclipse, as the portraits of him clearly indicate. As a modern specimen, I would take Lottery, whose low-dropping chest, uncommon strength and sweep behind are sufficient testimonials of extraordinary powers. Bessy Bedlam is another remarkable instance of the same kind. A similar observation will apply to that once charming racer, Longwaist, and to fifty others which have fallen under my observation. Birmingham, though his hind legs appeared rather awkward, was very highly raised behind. Plenipotentiary, who won the Derby, at Epsom, in 1834, is a remarkable illustration of the principles of power and speed here laid down. From certain whippers which were buzzed about, Plenipotentiary became one of the favourites long prior to the day of running: in fact, the trainer found the horse could easily beat every one

against which he was tried, and yet was so surprised at the circumstance, that he could scarcely believe the evidence of his own eyes, because the horse was formed differently from his notions of speed: *his hind quarters were uncommonly heavy*, which may be thus interpreted:—he possessed immense length and power in his hind quarters. Speaking to a veteran turfite on the subject, he advised me not to back Plenipotentiary, as no horse could go with such heavy hind quarters.

It is not an uncommon observation with the unreflecting, that "*horses will go in all forms*;" but nothing can be more erroneous. I will admit that an object may be accomplished in more ways than one, and that therefore horses may be fleet which present a different figure to the eye; but they must possess the leading principles—they must be low before and elevated behind. Let any person capable of reflection, consider the subject for some few seconds, and he will perceive that, as the power of impulsion, or rather propulsion, is derived from the hind quarters, these must possess great strength and great length and sweep, to enable the horse to be a fleet or fast galloper. If, on the contrary, the fore legs are long, and the hind quarters short, the horse cannot bring his hind feet sufficiently forward, he is rendered incapable of the requisite stride, and must be slow. We meet with what are called portraits of celebrated horses (as that of Flying Childers, for instance,) where the reverse of the requisite form is exhibited—where the animals are represented high before and low behind; but these said-to-be portraits cannot be otherwise than grossly incorrect, as they appear in direct violation of the essential principles of speed.

Where there is great speed there must be great strength, as one cannot exist without the other. As the hare is distinguished for speed, so she is remarkable for strength also: any person who has held a living hare in his hand will acknowledge the uncommon strength which she is capable of exerting. A similar remark, but in a less degree, will apply to the greyhound; a similar observation may be extended to the thorough-bred horse.

The term, *Daisy-cutter*, is frequently applied to the thorough-bred horse, to the true courser; and very correctly so: but the term requires explanation. *Daisy-cutting* very expressively signifies that a horse goes close to the ground; that, in fact, his stroke is so fine, or passes over the surface of the turf so closely, that daisies, were they to intervene, would be cut by his feet, or rather shoes. A horse going in this form makes the most of the matter; and the advantage of it will be clearly seen, when we compare it to the high or lofty goer. If the horse, in galloping, lifts his feet high, his stride will be shorter than that of the near-going horse, or daisy-cutter; it will be shorter precisely in proportion to the elevation of his feet. All very fleet horses, therefore, must be *daisy-*

*cutters*. But this mode of going does not proceed from the quality of the horse, or on account of his being thorough-bred, as is generally supposed; on the contrary, it is entirely the result of education. The young animal intended for the turf, in his exercise, from the mode in which he is ridden, is thrown forward, and taught to go as closely as possible; and whenever it so happens that a horse can be got into this mode of going, he cannot be very fleet. If, in defiance of education (training), the animal perseveres in high or lofty going, his action is *lumbering*, he cannot get over the ground so swiftly as the daisy-cutter, while his mode of going is more laborious and more fatiguing.

All true racers will be found to be daisy-cutters: further, they will be found to carry their heads very low, or, as an old turfite would say, "*like a pig*." This mode of going was strikingly manifested in Lottery, in Long-waist, in Fleur de Lis, in Dr. Syntax, and, indeed, in all the best horses that ever appeared on the turf.

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MR. COBBETT'S STARTING IN THE WORLD.—At eleven years of age my employment was clipping of box-edgings and weeding beds of flowers in the garden of the Bishop of Winchester, at the Castle of Farnham, my native town. I had always been fond of beautiful gardens; and a gardener, who had just come from the King's Gardens at Kew, gave such a description of them as made me instantly resolve to work in these gardens. The next morning, without saying a word to any one, off I set, with no clothes except those upon my back, and with thirteen halfpence in my pocket. I found that I must go to Richmond, and I accordingly went on, from place to place, inquiring my way thither. A long day (it was in June) brought me to Richmond, in the afternoon. Two-pennyworth of bread and cheese and a pennyworth of small beer, which I had on the road, and one-halfpenny that I had lost somehow or other, left three pence in my pocket. With this for my whole fortune, I was trudging through Richmond, in my blue smock-frock and my red garters tied under my knees, when, staring about me, my eye fell upon a little book, in a bookseller's window, on the outside of which was written: "*Tale of a Tub*; price 3d." The title was so odd, that my curiosity was excited. I had the 3d. but then I could have no supper. In I went, and got the little book, which I was so impatient to read, that I got over into a field, at the upper corner of Kew-garden, where there stood a hay-stack. On the shadowy side of this, I sat down to read. The book was so different from anything that I had ever read before: it was something so new to my mind, that, though I could not at all understand some of it, it delighted me beyond description and it produced what I have always considered a sort of birth of intellect. I read on till it was dark, without any thought of supper or bed. When I could see no longer, I put my little book in my pocket, and tumbled down by the side of the stack, where I slept till the birds in Kew-gardens awakened me in the morning; when off I started to Kew reading my little book. The singularity of my dress, the simplicity of my manner, my confident and lively air, and, doubtless, his own compassion besides, induced the gardener, who was a Scotsman, I remember, to give me victuals, find me lodgings, and set me to work. And it was during



the period that I was at Kew, the present King and two of his brothers laughed at the oddness of my dress, while I was sweeping the grass-plot round the foot of the pagoda. The gardener, seeing me fond of books, lent me some gardening books to read ; but these I could not relish after my Tale of a Tub, which I carried about with me wherever I went, and when I, at about twenty years old, lost it in a box that fell overboard, in the Bay of Fungay, in North America, the loss gave me greater pain than I have ever felt at losing thousands of pounds. This circumstance, trifling as it was, and childish as it may seem to relate it, has always endeared the recollection of Kew to me.—*Cobbett's Register*.

## THE NETHERLANDS.

(From Mr. Evans's valuable Work on Agriculture.)

The agriculture of the low countries, especially Flanders, has been celebrated by the rest of Europe for upwards of 600 years ; Holland, for its pasturage, and the Netherlands for tillage. The climate of Holland is cold and moist. The surface of the country towards the sea is low and marshy, and of the interior sandy, and naturally barren. The soil in the low districts is a rich, deep, sandy mud, sometimes alluvial, but more frequently silicious, and mixed with rotten shells. The soil of the inland provinces is, in general, a brown or black sand, naturally poor, and, for whatever it is productive is indebted entirely to art.

There are other parts of the country where the poverty of soil and abundance of produce bear ample testimony to the skill and perseverance of the Flemish farmers. In the fifteenth century this soil consisted of poor light sand, and barren gravel and heaths. This soil produces now, rye, flax, potatoes, oats, buck-wheat, rapeseed, clover, carrots and turnips, generally, and wheat in favourable spots.

The landed property of Holland is in moderate, or rather small divisions ; in the richer parts, generally in farms of from twenty to one hundred and fifty or two hundred acres ; often farmed by the proprietor. In the interior provinces, both estates and farms are much larger, some farms from five to seven hundred acres, partly in tillage, wood and pasture.

The marvellous improvement of soil in the Netherlands is owing to a combination of laborious industry and sedulous attention.

No crop is sown without two or three or four ploughings.

For wheat, two ploughings, with two harrowings.

|                                |         |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Rye, two or three              | do. do. |
| Oats, three                    | do. do. |
| Potatoes, four                 | do. do. |
| Carrots, four                  | do. do. |
| Flax, two                      | do. do. |
| Buck-wheat, four               | do. do. |
| Rape, three                    | do. do. |
| Barley, three                  | do. do. |
| Tobacco, four, two harrowings. |         |
| Hemp, four, two do.            |         |
| Turnips, three, three do.      |         |
| Spurry, do. do.                |         |
| Beans, two, two, do.           |         |

Fallow, four or five, and same of harrowing.

In this way the soil enjoys the full influence of the sun and the atmosphere, and is kept perfectly free from weeds. "To make a farm resemble a garden

as nearly as possible," says Mr. Evans, "was their principal idea of husbandry."

Every kind of manure is collected with the greatest care, and dispensed with the most judicious skill.

Urine cisterns are found in the field, to receive the purchased liquid manure ; but for that made in the farm yard, generally under the stables or in the yard. In the first case the urine is conducted from each stall to a common grating, through which it descends into the vault, whence it is taken up by a pump. In the best regulated farmeries, there is a partition in the cistern, with a valve to admit the contents of the first space into the second, to be preserved there from the more recent additions, age rendering it considerably more efficacious. This species of manure is relied on beyond any other, upon all the light soils throughout Flanders ; and even upon the stronglands, (originally so rich as to preclude the necessity of manure,) it is now coming into great esteem, being considered applicable to most crops, and to all the varieties of soil.

The frequent manuring given by the Flemish farmer astonishes a stranger ; the sources whence it is obtained in sufficient quantity form the difficulty, and this can only be resolved by referring to the practice of *soiling*, &c. the numerous towns and villages, and to the care with which every particle of vegetable or animal refuse is saved for this purpose. Manure in Flanders, as in China, is an article of trade. The selling price of each description is easily ascertained. The towns let the cleaning of streets, and the public retiring places, at great rents. Chaptal says there are in every townsworn brokers, expressly for the purpose of valuing night soil ; and that these brokers know the exact degree of fermentation in that manure which suits every kind of vegetable at the different periods of growth.

Every substance that constitutes, or is convertible to, manure, is sought after with avidity, which accounts for the extreme cleanliness of the Flemish towns and pavements, hourly resorted to with brooms and harrows, as a source of profit. Even the chips which accumulate in the formation of the wooden shoes, worn by the peasantry, are made to constitute a part of the compost dung heap ; and trees are frequently cultivated in barren lands, merely to remain till their deciduous leaves shall, in course of time, have formed an artificial surface for the purpose of cultivation. The manures in general use are—the farm-yard dung, which is a mixture of every matter that the farm-yard produces, formed into a compost, which consists of dung and litter from the stables, chaff, sweepings, straw, sludge, and rubbish, all collected in a hollow part of the yard, so prepared as to prevent the juices from being wasted.

**PLOUGHING MATCHES.**—From the great importance of good ploughing, every means should be adopted, to extend a practical knowledge of the art, in its greatest state of improvement ; and no plan has been found more effectual for that purpose, than the establishment of ploughing-matches, by which a spirit of competition among ploughmen is excited, by rewarding those who excel. At such meetings, farmers have been instructed, when they only came to be amused ; their prejudices have worn away ; and they have been induced to try new instruments of husbandry, and new modes of culture. Were it possible to impress upon the minds of farmers in general, the great importance of good ploughing, more especially the advantages of using ploughs with two horses, and without a driver, the expenses of cultivation would be greatly diminished, and several millions in value would be added, to the produce of the United Kingdom.—*Sinclair*.

## ON BLACK LEG IN CATTLE.

(FROM THE IRISH FARMER'S MAGAZINE.)

SIR,—Permit me to offer the following observations on the above disease. They were called for by the complaints in your valuable periodical, of the total neglect of medical men on this branch of the science and by a desire I have long felt to throw some light upon the maladies of the lower animals, and which, however simple to those who make the variations in function or in structure of man their study, are but too abstruse and complicated to the lay portion of the community.

The malady of which I shall now very briefly treat, carries with it in its very name, amongst those of your readers to whom a knowledge of it is of much importance, the idea of nothing but the certainty of death, and a sort of horrid mystery as to its cause—a mystery that seems to defy or scare away all efforts at investigation as to its cause, cure, or prevention. Nothing can prove this more strongly than the innumerable receipts or *cures* daily recommended towards effecting these objects, not any two of which agree in their action—nay, many containing substances completely neutralising the effects one of the other, and sometimes, and but too frequently, prepared from the worst acrid and deleterious articles to be found in the whole natural and chemical world.

Black-leg, mortification, gangrene, are synonymous words, and, to speak in precise terms, are the *consequence* of disease, which always exists either chronically—that is, spread over a long period of time—or acutely, running its course rapidly and violently to a termination. Mortification may also be the result of mismanagement of a naturally weak constitution, and is, I apprehend, the cause where it appears in animals which have shown no visible sign of previous disease. But of this I shall speak more at large hereafter, should the present paper prove acceptable to your readers.

As the principles for guiding the treatment are unalterably the same, whether applied to the animal (human or bestial), and whether old or young, perhaps if I take an individual case and describe the general primary appearance, course, and termination of the disease, it may strike more forcibly than would more generalised rules.

A calf, or young horned animal, is of very vascular structure, and of delicate muscular fibre, liable by the first, through over distension, to inflammatory action, and unable through the latter, to resist and throw off its attacks when seized upon. This delicacy of constitution, this liability to disease, is confirmed and increased by the breeder. In order to bring him in the shortest space of time to the greatest possible state of perfection, the animal is given access to the richest pastures, and tempted with the most stimulating diets. The manifest consequences of this are, an increase in the quantity and stimulating quality of the blood, a plethora, or fullness of body, a quickening of the pulse—in a word, such animal may be truly said to be living *faster* than is natural, and is by so many steps nearer to that condition where excitement terminates in inflammation, fever, and their direful consequences. At last this stimulation arrives at the point where nature can no longer withstand the wear and tear of constitution; some accidental impulse is given, say a slight change in atmospheric temperature, or a peculiarity in the nature of the pasture, when the already excited materials are blown into a flame. The hard and bounding pulse, the quickened breathing, the hot skin, the red, suffused, and languid eye, the parched tongue, the

limbs stuck out, props as it were, to support the labouring body, are all so many symptoms exquisitely marked, indicative of the fury of the fire that rages within; at last, the strength fails, the creature falls, the circulating system, unable to force its vital stream through every part, ceases in some; on these gangrene seizes. Just so we have seen many a gourmand, with red, and rounded cheek and bloated body, having undergone a precisely similar process of stimulation, hurried off by apoplexy, or seized with a brain fever, which if it cut him not off too suddenly, would assuredly terminate in mortification gangrene, or if you will, *black-leg*.

I am aware how loose and imperfect the above description is; it will answer, however, the purpose of this hurried notice, and will serve sufficiently to point out the only chance of cure.

In a disease which generally marks its span by *hours*, and of those but a few, on the prompt and judicious employment of *moments* safety alone depends. Lose not one instant; bled by a large orifice from the neck vein, and let your only stop be when you can get no more blood. In scientific language—remove the congestion, unstrain the distended vessels, and cut short inflammation, by inducing a new action. On recovering from the faintness (for on it depends your safety) and in a few hours, and should the pulse be still hard and jerking, bleed again, and in like circumstances and time, *again*, if the arterial action be not reduced, and the pulse low and soft. A solution of Epsom salts should be administered at the first bleeding, and an injection of the same with oil an hour after, and these should be repeated until the bowels are thoroughly freed.

Young animal whose immature strength are unable, like those of a coarse fibre, and with a poorer nourishment, to withstand the violence of disease, yet who still are exposed to the evils of high feeding and little exercise, should in some way be guarded against their injurious effects. "Prevention," says the proverb, "is better than cure."

To *prevent*, them.—Animals at all stages of growth should on being turned out into rich and luxuriant pasture, be moderately bled and physicked, and these should be repeated every three weeks or month. These precautions apply particularly to young cattle, which should be closely looked after, the last at night and the first in the morning; and, I may observe, instead of marring improvement they promote and secure it. Another excellent means is the seton, which inserted in the dewlap and carefully kept open and clean, establishes an admirable drain—a safety-valve in short, to the constitution.

Your correspondent in a former number who recommended his stimulating inoculation in the "*tails*," of stock, recommended upon the results of a practice of *twenty years*, nothing more than the successful treatment by *seton*. To the want of explanation in his notice of its mode of action, which possibly he, with others, might not understand, must I lay the blame in presuming to present you with this very imperfect essay. However, should it not be rejected, I propose returning to this subject, and to offer explanations in plain and comprehensible language of some of the more common diseases to which the inferior animals are liable; of their remedies; their mode of action; of the nature of the constitutions which they work; and to dispel according to my abilities, some of the clouds of ignorance which hang over this most interesting branch of medical science.

J. W. M'K.

[The insertion of seatons in the dewlap has been practised with much success by intelligent graziers, who do not altogether confine themselves to one pre-



cautionary measure. Mr. John Lawrence, who has published a very useful work on cattle, recommends short keep or an inferior piece of ground "as a digesting place," into which the cattle should be occasionally turned to empty and exercise themselves, but should the beasts be observed to advance rapidly, they may be bled monthly for some time; but as the disease appears to arise from over repletion, he (differing from our Correspondent), agrees with many other excellent authorities that occasional purges, or alternative medicines, should be also used.—ED.]

## PAROCHIAL GOVERNMENT.

(FROM THE ORIGINAL.)

In the article on government in my second number I have said that the only machinery by which the greatest moral improvement can be effected, must consist of local governments, so ordered that those who are most successful in the honourable conduct of their own concerns would be selected, and being selected, would be willing to give up time sufficient to superintend the affairs of their respective communities. By the most successful in the honourable conduct of their own concerns,—I mean those who by prudence, sagacity, integrity, and industry, attain independence at least, or being born to fortune, exhibit those moral qualities which make fortune a blessing to themselves and to those around them. Now in order to secure the selection of such persons, it is necessary that those who are to select, should have uppermost, or indeed solely in their minds, their own individual well-being; and that being the case, it must follow that they would choose the best qualified to serve their respective communities. This is a principle which, though probably in some degree anciently in force, has long since fallen into neglect; and the relation between the electors and the elected, in parishes as elsewhere, is now too slight to make the electors sufficiently careful in their choice. For instance, in any parish it is ordinarily matter of indifference, or nearly so, to the parishioners at large, whom they elect to govern them; and if they do interest themselves, it is only on some extraordinary occasion, or for some party purpose; but indifference is the rule. The reason is two-fold:—first, because the powers of government are much too small;—and secondly, because the elections are by too large masses. The remedy is also two-fold:—first, to divide every parish, if not already small enough, into such districts, that one individual, to be elected by each district, might be perfectly cognizant of its interests; and secondly, to give him such powers that those interests would be materially promoted or injured according to his qualifications for using the powers intrusted to him. Then each elector would have the strongest possible inducement to make a judicious choice:—first, because he would be one of a number sufficiently limited to make his vote of decided consequence;—and secondly, because he would personally and continually feel the good or ill effect of his selection. Now, the fittest persons to preside over the several districts would be also the fittest to be the governors of the whole parish, and therefore the self-interested feeling, which is the strongest and most constant, of each elector, would be made subservient to the interest of his community. This is what I mean, in my former article, by the words—"As the electors would come much into immediate contact with the objects of their choice, they would most likely—at least after a little experience—be more careful and discriminating than electors under other circumstances usually are. Mob-

flatterers, adventurers, and jobbers would be too nearly in view long to escape detection." Under such a system these characters must either mend their course, or sink into insignificance, to the great blessing of the country.

In the election of the heads of districts I should be inclined to give a vote to every man of competent age having anything like a settled inhabitancy, and I should make the elections annual. The elected should be the representatives of their districts, to all intents and purposes; the inhabitants delegating to them for the year the whole of their political power. Here would be the first step in a graduated system of representation—a principle absolutely necessary for the well-ordered government of a population so numerous as that of this country. The artificial system of electing electors is a false one; but here the soundest test is applied. The head of a district, besides being its representative in the parish, and its delegate every where, should be a peace officer with others under him elected like himself; should superintend the collection of rates; and should see to the enforcement of all laws relating to his charge—so that his attention to his duties, or his neglect or vexatious execution of them, would be felt by all within his jurisdiction. The evils arising from the present deficiencies of government might then be expected to vanish, and the effects of moral influence, the most powerful of all, would appear in their place. Division into organized districts would afford practicable fields for the well-disposed to work in, instead of the unmanageable and hopeless masses at present continually exposed to confusion and misrule. The consideration of the inducements to the most fitting persons to give up time sufficient to superintend the affairs of their respective communities, I shall defer till my next number. I will just add an observation of Dr. Johnson's as applicable to my doctrines. "I am a friend to subordination, as most conducive to the happiness of society. There is a reciprocal pleasure in governing and being governed."

## VICTORIA WHEAT.

The success of this wheat has been most complete in the island of Jamaica, and a prospect is thus opened of rendering our West India colonies less dependent than they have hitherto been upon the United States of America for that essential article of human sustenance, wheaten flour. By the Sheldrake Packet Dr. Hamilton has received an interesting letter from Dr. Bancroft, of which the following is an extract.:

KINGSTON, JAMAICA, July 9, 1835,—As you express in your late letters a desire to be informed as to the growth of various plants which you have been the means of introducing, I will now proceed to give you such particulars of several of them as I have been able to collect to the present moment.

VICTORIA WHEAT.—The Jamaica Society have received samples from three or four different places of the wheat produced there, all of which appeared to be of a favourable sort.

1st, From the mountains of St. Ann's, where the seed had been sown the latter end of January and the corn was ripe the latter end of April. In another part of the same district the dates of sowing differed from the above, but the wheat ripened in nearly the same period,

2nd, From the mountains of St. Andrews. On one property, Fair Hill, (2,000 feet above the level of the sea) the sowing and the ripening happened at the same dates as in the first mentioned case. Of this corn one grain produced twenty-eight ears, contain-

ing altogether fifteen hundred grains (being an average of fifty-three grains for each ear.) Notwithstanding this apparent success, the proprietor of the place thinks it unlikely that the planters would grow the Victoria wheat in preference to the great corn, as it is called here, that is the Zea Mayz.

On another plantation again, Charlottenburg (4,000 feet above the sea,) the seed was sown early in March, and received a top dressing, in the course of a few days it had already sprung up three inches above aground, and, as favourable and moderate rains continued to fall subsequently, the corn thrived well, and ripened in the early part of June, producing abundantly grain of a larger size than the parent seed: the ears being in general large and full. Six of these, for instance, yielded 336 grains, weighing three ounces, making an average of fifty-six grains, weighing half an ounce, to each ear.

The owner of this plantation, Mr. W. B. King, an Assistant Judge of Assize, and member of Assembly, has since sent me two bundles of the ears of his wheat, and I intend to inclose one or two of them as a specimen of the produce of the Victoria wheat here.

From the trial just made, Mr. King has no doubt that this grain could be cultivated in many parts of the island, and that it might become a profitable resource.

Such is the nature of Dr. Bancroft's highly important communication, which establishes beyond all possibility of dispute the practicability of cultivating wheat at elevations of from 2,000 to 4,000 feet above the sea, within the tropics—a fact of the first importance to our colonial interest, and not without its value as connected with our domestic wants. Now in those unfavourable seasons which have so often injured not only our English but our European harvests, generally producing the utmost severity of famine and distress, we may reasonably hope, by promoting the culture of this valuable grain in such parts of our West Indian settlements as admit of it, to have a source of supply within ourselves, placed beyond the dangers of injury from the capriciousness of European seasons. To Sir Robert Ker Porter, whose patriotic exertions have contributed so much to the solution of this important problem, a large debt of gratitude is due, not only by the inhabitants of our West India islands but of Europe generally; and we only hope his generous exertions may be appreciated as they deserve. We could have wished for information as to the mean temperature of the months during which the wheat was growing—the degree of atmospheric humidity during this period—and the number of inches of rain which fell. It would also have added to the interest of the account, had the previous days of sowing and reaping been specified; as it is, however, Dr. Bancroft's account strikingly confirms the truth of Baron Humboldt's statement of the shortness of the period required for the maturation of harvest. Wheat sown about the middle of October, ought, in favourable seasons, to be fit for reaping by the middle of January; the same ground re-sown immediately, and well limed and manured, would yield a second crop in the beginning of April, a third in the month of June, and a fourth (if the hurricane months did not interpose) in the month of September or beginning of October.

**PARISHES.**—Parishes are so many little commonwealths, capable in different degrees of being made by effective organization nurseries of useful ambition, manly intelligence, and social virtue. It is here that public men should begin their discipline, cultivate their sympathies, and learn to see their way. It is here that the lowliest citizen should proudly feel within the

reach of merit the first step to advancement. It is from this goal that all should have a fair start, and the State place her sons in their proper order. Then might representation be the extraction of the choicest of the land, legislation become something like the essence of wisdom and simplicity, and police an ever vigilant force having for its chief characteristic moral influence. —*The Original.*

## THE CORN LAWS.

(From the *New Statistical Account of Scotland*).

BY DR. SINGER, OF KIRKPATRICK JUNCTA.

The most threatening obstacle to agriculture in Britain is the dangerous and erroneous idea that poor soils ought not to be cultivated. Now, about three-fourths of the corn lands of Britain were poor soils at one time, and some of these have become rich by manures and culture; and to what subject is it possible to apply capital and industry to more advantage than the improvement of barren moor and moss, turning the former into cultivated fields, and the latter into meadow? The most useful employment is here conjoined with the means of obtaining subsistence for the labourers, as well as for the community; and the permanent returns from, and value of, land, are steadily advanced. The last corn law, by admitting grain at all times, and letting it out when the prices are high, has prevented all cause of alarm, and has also preserved the prices at a moderate and rather equal rate, allowing them even to fall too low. The rash project of abolishing this law, trusting to foreign supplies, and throwing the poor lands out of cultivation, is fraught with ruin to the capital, the industry, and the resources of the kingdom. Let the currency be made safe, but allowed to circulate in sufficient abundance, let the land produce, as well as the manufacturing produce, be duly protected, and let the corn laws encourage a liberal and extended cultivation; and, in the nature of all things, all classes will find the benefit. Then give a preference to home produce in the granaries and markets of the kingdom, and it will become plentiful and cheap also; but let foreign produce pay duty, when imported, and the merchants will purchase *home-grown*, as well as *foreign corn*. The dread of constant and speculative interference with that industry, which it requires long time to establish—indeed the very proposal of interference made by men in public office or station, and not discouraged, has a most pernicious effect on the public mind. It paralyzes industry, deranges improvement, withdraws capital, and renders experience and skill of little use.

The Annual Show of the Northamptonshire Farming and Grazing Society took place on Wednesday Sept. 9, at Brampton. The weather was fine, and the show of cattle extremely good. The sheep, in consequence of the long drought, were not so remarkable as in former years. Some variations from the former mode of conducting the business of the show it may be as well to mention. The Judges commenced their duties on Tuesday at eleven o'clock, and the awards, with the exception of those for extra stock, were all made on that day. No persons attended the examination of the cattle for this purpose but the President, the Stewards, and the Judges, and the awards were delivered to the President, and not declared to any person until one o'clock on Wednesday. Ample time was thus afforded for the speculations of the public. The Judges were wholly unacquainted with the ownership of the cattle, and their decisions were distinguished by numbers. The various ownerships were not declared till the following morning.



## LAW REPORT.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.—APPEAL.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL GORDON V. ANDERSON AND OTHERS.

The action in this case, which gave rise to the present appeal, originated in the Sheriffs' Court, at the instance of the appellant, against the respondents—he being landlord, and they tenants—to compel them to use the fodder of the away-going crop upon their farms, in conformity with this article in the lease—viz, “the whole fodder to be used upon the ground, and none sold or carried away at any time, hay only excepted, and all the dung to be laid on the farm the last year of the lease.” It was maintained by the landlord that the tenants were prohibited by that article from selling or carrying away, at their removal, the straw of the way-going crop; whilst on the other hand it was insisted for the tenant, that even if the conditions were binding upon them, which they disputed, the obligation did not extend to the straw, which they said it was never meant or understood to include. The Court below held that the respondents were justified, having disposed of the straw, and the landlord brought the case to the House of Lords.

Lord BROUGHAM recommended their Lordships to affirm the judgment pronounced below, and with costs.

Judgment affirmed with costs.

## LINCOLNSHIRE ASSIZES.

HUTTON (ROBERT) V. WARREN (REV. WM.)

Plaintiff is a farmer at Wroot, of which parish the defendant is Rector: the action was to recover 95*l* for tenant-rights on quitting the glebe farm belonging to the defendant. The declaration set forth that the plaintiff was tenant of the farm, which he undertook to cultivate according to the rules of good husbandry, and that on leaving he was entitled to his tenant-rights according to the custom of the country. The defendant put four pleas upon the record: 1st, that he had not promised to pay; 2dly, that the plaintiff was not tenant according to the terms set forth; 3dly, that he had not cultivated the farm according to the rules of good husbandry; and 4thly, that according to the custom of the country he was not entitled to the tenant-rights he claimed. In his replication, the plaintiff negated all these pleas, and upon this issue was joined.

Mr. Humfrey stated that the plaintiff had been tenant of the glebe farm for upwards of 20 years, under the Rectors of Wroot: until 1832 the Dean of Banger was Rector, but in that year his son, the present defendant, succeeded to the living; and at Michaelmas 1833 the plaintiff received notice to quit at the next Lady-day. He did quit then, and he now sought to recover compensation for seed and labour, and the value of the crops he left upon the farm, which he was bound, according to the rule of good husbandry, to sow. Mr. Warren thought fit to deny that the plaintiff was tenant upon the terms mentioned; and, to the learned counsel's astonishment, had put upon the record a plea that he was not entitled to anything for the value even of his seed and labour. According to honesty, he ought to be; and he should satisfy the Jury that, according to the custom of the country, he was. At the time of the notice being given, an interview took place between the plaintiff and Mr. Capes, attorney for the defendant, at which the reverend gentleman was present, when some discussion took place about the next year's crops, which the plaintiff refused to sow: Mr. Capes said, “Won't you? but according to the custom of the country you will be compelled to do so.”

So that the defendant first insisted that the plaintiff should sow the land, according to the course of good husbandry; and then he said, according to the custom of the country, you are not entitled to be paid for it! This, certainly, was not a very righteous proceeding. Although the defendant had denied by his plea that the plaintiff was entitled to be paid for his tenant-rights, he had actually applied to the valuer who was ultimately employed by the plaintiff, to value that right. The learned counsel, in conclusion, said he had no wish to enlist the prejudices of the jury in the cause—the claims of the clergyman or of the farmer were equally entitled to their impartial attention; but it was to be lamented that differences had arisen, and that this defendant had first distrained upon the plaintiff's property, and then commenced two actions which he had not ventured to proceed with.

George Hutton, son of the plaintiff, proved the defendant's hand-writing to the notice to quit, which was dated 11th Sept. 1833. The Rectory farm was under 100 acres of land; witness's father quitted it on the 25th of March, 1834, after having held it for 22 years. The defendant came to the living about three years ago. In October, 1833, my father and I went to Mr. Capes' office at Epworth; Mr. Warren also came. My father asked if they would allow him for the crop of the seven-acre close if he sowed it—it wanted sowing. Mr. Warren said he should have nothing to do with it, he left it all to Mr. Capes. Mr. Capes said, “the custom of the country will compel you to sow it, and keep the farm in a regular course.” A few days afterwards a letter came from Mr. Capes to my father. [The letter, which was dated 31st Oct. 1831, stated that the writer was authorised by Mr. Warren “particularly to caution the plaintiff against committing waste or injury, or neglecting to cultivate the land in due course of husbandry.”] The farm was cultivated according to due course of husbandry. The seven-acre piece was sown in November, the proper time, with blend-corn (wheat and rye mixed): if it had been delayed till after Lady-day there would have been no chance of a crop. A piece of six acres and a half was sown with barley in March, not long before we quitted; that is the time for sowing barley at Wroot. There were four and a half acres of clover which had been sown in March 1833; it is a two-years' crop, and would be fit to cut in July 1834. Mr. Charles Capes, brother to defendant's attorney, succeeded my father as tenant of the land, and reaped all the crops.—Cross-examined: The barley was sown not so much as a fortnight before we left: we quitted on the 25th March; my father did not hold over: he removed to a farm of his own in the parish, and to his own house. He quitted the parsonage-house in April, but I cannot say what time; but the land he gave up on the 25th March. My father gave up to Mr. Capes part of the house to put his furniture in, and only occupied it himself until he had time to remove his furniture: he gave up possession of the land to Mr. Capes and his brother on the 25th March: they came to demand possession of it. I remember an action of ejectment being brought against my father, and also that there was a distraint for rent.—Judge: A very unfortunate ending of a twenty-two year's tenancy.—Re-examined: I am sure all the corn was sown before the 25th March.

Wm. Simpson, land-valuer, of Loversall, near Doncaster, about 12 miles from Wroot: I know the custom of the country: on field land (old inclosure) the out-going tenant recovers his full tillages. I have been over the farm: was first employed by Mr. Hutton, sometime in the summer of 1833, to value his tenant-rights—his quitting claims: and some-

time afterwards Mr. Warren applied to me for the same purpose. The farm appeared to me to be cultivated and cropped according to due course of husbandry, and to have been managed very well. For the  $6\frac{1}{2}$  acres of barley I allowed 46l 4s 4d; the 7 acres of blend-corn, 41l 8s 8d; 4 acres of clover-seed (small seeds and sowing) 2l; seeds on the common 6l 4s 6d. I consider that a fair allowance from landlord to outgoing tenant. I have been employed by Mr. Warren to value tithes in Wroot, and have valued in that parish for 15 years. The custom upon which I have valued the tenant-right has prevailed for 20 years.—Cross-examined: My notions of the rights of outgoing tenants are governed by the terms on which they entered: I always valued a tenant out on the same terms as he entered, if the entry was sanctioned by the landlord or his agent. When the incoming tenant has paid nothing, he certainly is not entitled to be paid again. The tenant is bound to leave the manure, if the landlord will take it at a valuation: that is the custom of the country. 95l 17s 6d is the total claim according to my calculation.

The Judge asked whether this matter had not better be referred: the relation of landlord and tenant was at an end between these parties, but that of pastor and parishioner subsisted; and was it not advisable, on that account, to leave the decision of the matter to some indifferent person?

Mr. Balguy, for the defendant, said neither his client nor the attorney was here: Mr. Capes was ill, and another gentleman was conducting the cause for him: under these circumstances, he was not authorised to adopt his Lordship's suggestion.

Cross-examination resumed: I valued the tenant-right two ways: by one mode—that of "emblements"—I made it 99l 17s 6d. My first valuation was only 90l, but that was made immediately after the seed was sown; the valuation of 95l 17s 6d was made on a view of the crops in the following July.

Mr. Balguy here intimated that Mr. Warren had come into court, and would accede to his Lordship's suggestion: but Mr. Humfrey declined: the jury he thought were the very best arbitrators in a matter of this sort—it was one on which they had greater knowledge than any gentleman of the bar could have.

Mr. Richard Tilburn, land-valuer, of the neighbourhood of Wroot, confirmed the fairness of Mr. Simpson's valuation.—In cross-examination, he said there were cases in which an off-going tenant would be entitled to compensation for his tenant-right, even if he had not paid anything on entering.—Re-examined: If the tenant had been so long upon the farm that there was no evidence whether he had paid or not, he would be entitled by the custom of the country.

By the Judge: If there is a general custom that an out-going tenant should be paid, it would be presumed that he had paid on entry, unless that presumption was contradicted by evidence.

Mr. Balguy, for the defendant, complained of his learned friend's having forfeited his pledge of not endeavouring to enlist the prejudices of the jury in the cause, and said under those circumstances it was right that the jury should know on what terms the plaintiff had quitted this farm: the defendant had been obliged to bring an action of ejectment, because the plaintiff persisted in over holding; and he had also been obliged to distrain for rent: it was on that account, and that only, that the defendant had refused to continue him as tenant. It had been opened to them that Mr. Simpson had been employed by the defendant as well as by the plaintiff to value this tenant-right; and undoubtedly if the fact had been so, he should have felt it press heavily upon him,

because it would have been an admission by the defendant that the plaintiff had a claim for some tenant-right.

The Judge said the evidence certainly was to the effect that Mr. Simpson had been applied to by both parties.

Mr. Balguy said he had been employed by the defendant merely to value tithes.

The Judge repeated that the evidence was that Mr. Warren had also applied to Mr. Simpson to value this tenant-right.

This was confirmed by Mr. Simpson's being recalled; and by the production of a letter from Mr. Warren, in which he complained of Mr. Simpson's not having apprised him that he considered himself retained by Mr. Hutton.

Mr. Balguy: The case being so, I am bound to admit that Mr. Warren at that time appeared to believe Mr. Hutton had some claim; he had, however, only recently come into possession of the living, and was not acquainted with all the facts: but if he had since discovered that Mr. Hutton had no claim, he was of course at liberty to resist this action; and in the course of the proceedings he had discovered that Mr. Hutton was holding under a lease which had expired by time. It was dated 1811, and was for six years: at its expiration no fresh contract was entered into, and he (Mr. Balguy) took it to be a clear point of law, that where a tenant under a lease continued his tenancy after the lease had expired, without any fresh contract being entered into, he was considered as holding on the same terms as were imposed by the lease. That was an established principle of law; and therefore the custom of the country would in this instance be superseded by that lease. He admitted that ordinarily, where there were no specific terms imposed in a lease upon any particular matter, as to that matter the custom of the country would still prevail—where the lease was silent the custom of the country spoke: but in this case there was a specific condition imposed by the lease, which showed that the holding was not to be in any matter subject to the custom of the country. The lease expressly declared that the tenant was to consume three-fourths of the hay and straw upon the land, and convert it into manure; and that so much as should not have been put upon the land at the time of the tenant's quitting, should be left for the landlord's use. Now that was perfectly accordant with the custom of the country; and if the parties had intended to be governed by the custom, such a specific condition in the lease was unnecessary. The fair inference therefore was, that the parties intended in no instance to be governed by the custom, but only by the terms of the lease; and as that instrument was wholly silent upon the tenant-right, he contended that this action could not be supported: the parties had nothing to do with the custom of the country, but only with that written agreement. But even if it were otherwise, he should be able to show that the custom of the country was not as had been represented: the custom was that as a tenant entered so he should quit; if he had paid when he entered, he was entitled to receive when he quitted; and if he had not paid, he was not entitled to receive. The plaintiff had not proved that he had paid; he might have proved it, if he had; and as he had not done so, it must be presumed that he had paid for no tenant-right.

Thos. James, parish-clerk of Wroot, proved the signatures to the lease which Mr. Balguy had put in.

A question was raised as to the stamp on the lease, which was 1l 10s: the rent reserved was 350l, but the lease being under the 48th George III., the stamp was found to be correct.—A long argument



also took place upon the point whether this lease being silent upon the point of the tenant-right, the custom of the country was let in; or whether the lease was to be conclusive, and so leave no question for the jury.—The Judge said he should hold that the custom of the country was operative upon those points on which the lease was silent; but he would give leave to the defendant to move for a nonsuit, in case the court above were of a different opinion.—Mr. Humfrey said he must reserve his right to object that this lease was binding upon the plaintiff, it having been made with a previous landlord, and not with the present defendant.

Robert Bunby, of Wanworth, deposed that his uncle was tenant of the glebe farm at Wroot before the plaintiff; did not know that his uncle received for the tenant-right.

Mr. Humfrey here produced a receipt for 50*l* paid by the plaintiff "for manure, seeds, and wheat sown," dated in 1811, signed Mary Bunby, the widow of the witness' uncle, and whose signature the witness proved to be her writing.

Mr. Balfour, after a conversation with the defendant, who was in court, said this document came by surprise upon him—it had never been communicated to him before; and as far as the value of the seed and labour was involved, he was willing it should be so taken, subject to the question reserved as to the lease.

This reduced the point in dispute to a question of amount—the defendant valued the seed and labour at 27*l* 7*s* 6*d*, denying the right of the plaintiff to the value of the crop of wheat, which was included in Mr. Simpson's estimate of 95*l*.

Mr. Simpson being recalled, said the custom of the country was to give the full value of the outgoing crop, after deducting a year's rent, assessments, and the tithes (if any were payable): for seeds they only estimated the labour and the cost price of the seeds.

Mr. Peter East, farmer, of Epworth, had valued the seed and labour only, at 27*l*; but in cross-examination he admitted that it was customary to allow the value of the crop of wheat, and that Mr. Simpson had so valued for him (Mr. East) as outgoing tenant. A valuer named Winter made a similar admission.

Mr. Balfour addressed the jury upon the receipt that had been put in, and contended that it was clear from the sum that in 1811 (when corn was of high price) the plaintiff on entering had paid only for seed and labour.

Mr. Humfrey, in reply, said that he had no wish to excite prejudice as had been imputed to him, but it was quite clear that his poor client was by no means a match for the clergyman and the lawyer together, for the jury would remember that the brother of the defendant's attorney was the incoming tenant; and whatever the landlord allowed to the outgoing, the incoming tenant would have to refund. Great part of his friend's speech had been occupied in complaining what a wicked man Mr. Hutton was, in wishing to receive for a tenant-right when he had never paid anything. But when he produced a receipt proving a payment to the previous tenant, then it was said, "Oh, but it was only for seed and labour!" Why it was proved by the defendant's own witnesses that it was the universal custom at Wroot to pay for the crop; and he could not understand why this glebe farm was to be an exception to the rule, unless it was that the incoming tenant was the brother of the attorney. The argument as to the amount paid in 1811 was most fallacious; they had no evidence of the number of acres of corn, and they all knew that that number varied every year.

Mr. Simpson, being recalled, said he did not know

that any difference was made as to glebe farms; and Mr. Tilburn said he had valued between the outgoing tenant of the glebe farm in the adjoining parish, and had given the full value of the crop.

The Judge, in summing up, briefly remarked that the only question was whether the tenant was entitled to receive for the crop.

Verdict for Plaintiff, damages 95*l* 17*s* 6*d*, the Jury remarking that that was agreeably to Mr. Simpson's valuation.

Mr. Balfour signified that he should apply to the court above.

## OXFORD CIRCUIT.

### IMPORTANT TO LANDLORDS AND FARMERS.

PIGOT *v.* BIRTLES AND ANOTHER.

Mr. Sergeant TALFOURD (with whom was Mr. WHATELY) said, this was an action brought by an industrious pains-taking farmer, against his landlord, for a long continued series of oppressive, illegal, and most harassing and ruinous conduct. Mr. Pigot was a tenant of Bostock Hall Farm, near Wixall, in the parish of Prees, under a lease from a gentleman named Becket, at the yearly rent of 285*l*; payable half-yearly. He continued to pay his rent with the greatest punctuality, and to work his farm in a manner which did him honour. In 1833 Mr. Becket died, and was succeeded by the defendant and others as trustees of the farm in question. It would be proved that the rent due at Lady-day 1834 was paid on the 14th of the ensuing April; and that the half-year due on the 28th of September was paid on the 29th of the same month; yet all of a sudden, without any notice,—on the 27th March 1835—only two days after the Lady-day rent became due, a distress was put into the plaintiff's premises,—his whole stock and effects were taken in execution—the beasts at the plough were seized, although there was on the premises thrice more than would have satisfied the distress; and no remonstrance from the Plaintiff received any attention. But the prosecution did not cease here. On the very day after the sale took place, a second distress was made on the same premises, and every thing carried off, and sold under that distress at less than half its value, although there was twice as much taken under the first distress as would have satisfied all claims. The defendant, however, had become aware of the illegality of his proceedings, and had paid 60*l*. into Court to satisfy the plaintiff for the oppressive result of his second distress. But it would be proved that a much greater injury was inflicted than that sum would cover; and as the law gave to the sufferer double the value of all goods illegally distrained, the Plaintiff came before a jury of his country to claim their protection against such oppressive conduct. He complains that an excessive distress was levied on his premises; that the beasts of the plough were illegally taken under that distress, when there was enough besides to satisfy it; that the goods were not appraised before they were sold; and that they were sold at not the best market; that there was no rent due when the second distress was made; and therefore that double the value of all sold under it ought to be repaid to the Plaintiff.

The receipt for the half year's rent due on the 29th of September 1834 was put in; it was dated on the 30th.

J. Downes, servant to Mr. Pigot, proved his occupation of Bostock Hall, which consisted of 175 Acres.

On the 27th March last, a distress was made on the farm. There was a stack of hay on the farm of 20 tons, worth 4*l.* a ton. There was thirty acres of capital growing wheat, which would produce on an average twenty-five bushels an acre, at 6*s.* per bushel. The two plough mares were taken, worth 26*l.*; and other goods to the value of 17*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* The hay, which was worth 80*l.* was sold for 52*l.* to the Attorney's Clerk; and no account of the proceeds was rendered to Mr. Pigot. The day after the sale heard voices about the yard, and next morning found that the Bailiffs had again taken possession of the horses in the stable, and other things bought in at the previous sale. These were sold at Whitchurch. Their value was 74*l.*

Cross-examined.—Pigot owes me about 20*l.* of wages. The farm had been let out as a ley in 1834, and was advertised to be so let this year. There was a sale on the premises on the 14th of March 1835, a few days before the rent became due. There was upwards of 100 acres of the farm in grass. The Sheriff's officers were on the premises in 1834. He kept the officers out of the dwelling-house in 1835, by making all the doors and windows.

Re examined.—Taking in cattle to ley is a good thing for land. Mr. Pigot gave up dairying, and sold his dairy utensils. That was all the sale he made on the 14th of March.

Charles Pigot, son of the Plaintiff, gave similar evidence; as did his brothers. On their cross-examination it was admitted that in December 1833 a distress was put in for rent, owing to a great deal of expense plaintiff had been put to in conducting an action for his landlord, who dying in the mean time, his trustees refused to reimburse him one farthing. There were two sales on the farm in January 1834—one for rent and another under an execution from a Mrs. Cliff who had lent plaintiff the money to pay the costs of the action.

Thomas Hughes, apprentice to Plaintiff, proved being ordered by the officers to return the horses to the stable after they were geared for the plough on the 28th of March. In his cross-examination he said, this is the third year a white crop has been taken of the fields where the wheat is now growing. A wagon, a tumbril, and other things were sold on the 14th of March, as well as the dairy vessels. Pigot had no cattle of his own on the farm; formerly he used to have as many as 20 or 30, besides sheep. The cattle put in to ley, were all taken out on the 28th of September, the day before the Michaelmas rent became due. The doors of the house were all made whilst the officers were in possession; and a sort of basket was made of the cheese fillets, with which they wound the inmates up through the window.

Henry Pigott proved that the whole of the things taken under the second distress were worth 74*l.*, but were sold for 36*l.* That 17 acres of the farm had been drained, and seven irrigated at Pigot's own expense.

Mr. Sergeant LUDLOW, for the defence, was in a condition to prove that no illegality had been committed, except in the second distress, and for which 60*l.* had been paid into court. The facts were, the Plaintiff, who had been repeatedly distressed, both for rent and other debts, had turned the chief part of his property into money ten days before his rent became due, and never offered to pay one farthing of that money to his landlord. There was next to nothing left on the farm on which to make a distress,

except the growing crops, and these were on the 27th of March not in a condition to be sold. All that the goods taken under the first distress brought was 17*l.* 7*s.* besides the hay, making only 71*l.* 7*s.* towards 142*l.* 10*s.* If the defendant had been a cruel landlord, he had ample means of gratifying himself on a tenant who had for three years successively raised a wheat crop from the same land; but he was quite of an opposite character, and behaved generously and kindly till he found every thing going off the premises, and no attempt made even to conceal that the Plaintiff's object was to permit nothing to remain from which the rent could be raised.

Mr. Justice WILLIAMS.—The chief question for the Jury is, Have the defendants distrained more than was their due? for that question involves all the others; the answer to that question will mainly depend upon what value you put on the growing crops. Although the hay is valued at 4*l.* a ton, yet it is proved the auctioneer did his best in selling it; and in that case the defendants are not bound to make good the difference. If you think the value of growing wheat in April is much the same as it is in August, then you may take some sort of an average, say twenty-five bushels to the acre, and valuing the thirty acres at five shillings a bushel, you will have 220*l.*, which was considerably more than the rent due, and therefore rendered unnecessary and therefore illegal the taking of the beasts of the plough. But if you think the growing wheat a speculation, and that its value at the time the distress was made was less than, with the other things would make up the rent and expenses, then the defendants have done nothing wrong, and you will give them a verdict. Under the second distress it is proved the goods were sold for 36*l.*; they were valued by the plaintiff at 74*l.* Your verdict will say which sum is nearest their value. The defendants have paid 60*l.* into court, being 24*l.* more than the goods fetched. You will give your opinion if that is sufficient to reimburse the plaintiff for that distress, and if not, you will give him double the value of the goods thus taken under that distress. But your chief enquiry will be as to the value of the growing wheat, which decides all the other points.

The Jury retired for a considerable time, and returned into Court with the following verdict for Plaintiff:—

We find the value of the growing wheat on the 27th of March to be 190*l.*

We find 100*l.* damages for the excessive distress.

We give 10*l.* damages for taking the beasts of the plough.

We give 100*l.* damages, as double the value of the goods taken under the second distress.

We find that the goods were made the most of at the sales.

A Verdict was entered for the defendant on the other counts: and his Lordship gave the defendant leave to move the Courts above to enter a verdict for the defendant on all the counts, if it should be found that he had improperly left it to the Jury to put a value on the growing wheat.

A Verdict was then recorded for Plaintiff.—Damages £210.

#### IMPORTANT TO PURCHASERS OF HORSES.

Saturday se'nnight, at the Lewisham Petty Sessions, Mr. Marshall, proprietor of the Potteries, Tanner's-hill, Deptford, was summoned by Mrs. Martyn, of Chislehurst, for having in his possession a valuable bay gelding, her property. It had been stolen in May last



from the complainant, and no tidings were heard of it till a few days ago, when her coachman saw it grazing in a field of Mr. Marshall's. It appeared, from the evidence adduced, that Mr. Marshall had purchased it from Mr. May, a respectable horsedealer at Deptford, and that he (Mr. May) had bought it at Hertford fair in May last of a person whose name he did not know, but whom he had been in the habit of meeting at the different markets. The magistrates said that the horse having been proved to have been stolen, it must under these circumstances be given up to the owner. Mr. Parker, the magistrates' clerk, read several clauses in the Act of the 2d of William and Mary, in which it was enacted—"That it should not be lawful to purchase any horse, mare, or gelding, at any fair or statute market, unless such animal had been publicly paraded up and down such market or fair for one hour at least; and that the purchaser should require the seller to go before the clerk, or person appointed to take toll, who should there enter the name and address of the seller in a book to be kept for that purpose, and if such seller were not known to such clerk, the seller must produce one credible witness to speak to his knowledge of the seller; and the clerk should also take one special mark on such horse, so as to enable him to identify the same; and that the purchaser should take a certificate of the entry thereof from such clerk, under a penalty of 5*l*.; and in default of his producing the same, if the horse should be proved to have been stolen, a justice of the peace should be empowered to order the restoration of the animal." Mr. May said that none of these regulations were observed at horse-fairs, and that no registers were now kept. The magistrate replied, that, though the custom might be obsolete, the law was still in force.

### HOP PLANTING.

NORFOLK.—The inhabitants of this district are aware of the obligations they lie under to Richard Crawshaw, Esq. since his residence at Honingham, for the impulse his science and example have given to Horticulture in general, and especially to the cultivation of grapes both within and without doors. From his simple yet extraordinary application of the principle of growing single stems in a sufficient space of earth made permeable to air and water in the greatest possible degree, almost every vine-grower in Norfolk and Suffolk, gentle and simple, the possessor of the forcing house or of a garden wall, has learned to produce grapes with certainty and regularity—the vines look more like fruit hung by art than the natural product, so exactly do they spring from the spurs, while they reach a far greater perfection, and last not least, are become so plentiful that price is greatly reduced. Taking this special instance, together (we repeat) with the impulse given by his success to Horticulture generally, we have never known any public improvement so rapidly propagated over the entire district.

Mr. Crawshaw has now turned his attention to the introduction of the growth of Hops into Norfolk. This hardy though uncertain plant is now and then seen in the county upon the hedges of cottage gardeners, and there was within our recollection a plantation of some extent at Blofield Globe. This however, we believe, was given up when the original former of it died, and hops cannot be said to have made any part of the agriculture of Norfolk. The general belief has been that the soil is not adapted to their production. Mr. Crawshaw thinks otherwise, and he has selected, with his own hand, from the best grounds in Kent, both cuttings and plants sufficient for two acres. Nothing could be more unfortunate than the season. During their selection and transit, a cold drying wind did them serious injury, and the total failure of rain,

together with a blighting south-west wind, has materially impeded their growth, to speak in the most favourable terms. Notwithstanding all these evils, the bine is strong and has reached a height which the Kentish cultivators neither expect nor encourage during the same period of growth. Mr. Crawshaw, it is to be explained, proceeds upon his own plan, trusting to the general principles of vegetation rather than to the routine of the Kentish growers, and he feels so certain of success, even under the very disadvantageous circumstances that have attended the commencement of his experiment, that he has prepared about nine acres more ground for the enlargement of his hop garden next year.

The place selected is a valley sheltered on all sides except the south-west—the soil a sandy loam. We have visited the spot, and can confirm by our own observation the particulars above stated. We can but consider the experiment to be exceedingly important, not only to Norfolk but to the country, since if successful, it will have no slight effect eventually upon that almost monopoly which the hop-counties (as they are now called) enjoy, by introducing them into more general culture, and thus add to the means of the farmer by extending his views and objects. Mr. Crawshaw's indomitable energy and indefatigable attention to what he undertakes, his thorough acquaintance with the principles of vegetable nature and the science of gardening, may well lead to the most sanguine hopes that he will prosecute to perfection this new attempt, and lay another and more valuable obligation than he has already conferred upon his neighbourhood and the public.

TRAFFIC ALONG HOLBORN-HILL.—"I have ascertained (says Mr. Wishaw, in his pamphlet on the Holborn-hill improvements) from repeated observations which have been made for me, that the annual traffic along this line is upwards of 20,000,000 of pedestrians, 87,640 equestrians, 372,470 carts and waggons, 78,876 stages, 157,752 hackney-coaches, 82,258 carriages, 135,842 omnibuses, 460,110 chaises and taxed cabs, 354,942 cabriolets." Surely this immense traffic requires something for its improvement, such as Mr. Wishaw and others have recommended; such as a viaduct, to avoid the ups and downs of the way from Holborn to Cheapside.

PLYMOUTH. — SMUGGLED CORN. — The *Gulnare*, Laurens master, a Jersey trader to this port, is detained on account of having a quantity of tobacco, spirits, and tea on board. The master is out on bail; the crew are in confinement. To the uninitiated it has long been a matter of surprise that this vessel and others of her class should make a trade of fruit, &c., from Jersey, answer their purpose. It is said that foreign wheat has found its way to this port, contraband *via* Jersey, and it is not a little strange that the parties connected with the *Gulnare* are those who have been the loudest in condemning the evidence on this subject of a highly respectable gentleman in the corn trade at this port.

FREE TRADE.—"But how about the free trade cry?" Why, friend, 'tis beautiful in theory, but in practice, death! It means neither more nor less than "no dividends" to the fundholders—"no rents to the landlord"—"no profits" to the farmer, manufacturer, or shopkeeper—"no wages" to the labourer. It means "cheap corn," and no money to buy it with.—*Oastler's Letters to the Duke of Wellington.*

## VETERINARY COLLEGE, LONDON.

(Continued from page 194.)

## PRESIDENT:

His Grace the DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND,  
K.G.F.R.S.F.A.S.

## VICE-PRESIDENTS:

John, Duke of Athol, F.R.S.  
 Henry, Duke of Buccleugh, K.G.  
 Richard, Earl Grosvenor, F.R.S., L.L.D.  
 George, Earl of Morton, F.R.S., F.A.S.  
 George, Lord Rivers, L.L.D.  
 Francis, Lord Heathfield.  
 Hon. Major General Murray, M.P., F.R.S.  
 Sir Joseph Banks, Bart., P.R.S., F.A.S.  
 Sir George Baker, Bart., M.D., F.R.S., F.A.S.  
 Sir T. C. Bunbury, Bart., M.P.  
 Sir John Ingleby, Bart., M.P., F.R.S.  
 John Hunter, Esq., F.R.S.

## DIRECTORS:

|                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| J. J. Angerstein, Esq.    | Mr. W. Sone.              |
| G. M. Ascough, Esq.       | J. Smyth, Esq., M.P.      |
| J. Baker, Esq.            | Edward Topham, Esq.       |
| Mr. J. Baynes.            | W. Walcot, Esq.           |
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| Mr. J. Butt.              | J. Dent, Esq., M.P.       |
| J. Crane, Esq.            | J. Langston, Esq., M.P.   |
| F. Fane, Esq., M.P.       | T. B. Parkyns, Esq., M.P. |
| Mr. Leatham.              | F.R.S., F.A.S.            |
| Granville Penn, Esq.,     | L. Millington, Esq.       |
| F.A.S.                    | William Wilson, Esq.      |
| J. T. Stanley, Esq., M.P. | John Charrington, Esq.    |
| F.R.S., F.A.S.            | William Sheldon, Esq.     |
| Charles Scott, M.D.       |                           |

TREASURERS:—MESSRS. Ransom, Moreland, and  
Hammersley, Pall Mall.SOLICITOR:—Richard Wilson, Esq., Bartlett's Build-  
ings, Holborn.

PROFESSOR:—Mr. Vial de Sain Bell, } College.  
 SECRETARY:—Mr. William Mounsher, }

COLLECTOR:—Mr. Racben Smith, No. 27, Hay-  
market.

## REGULATIONS FOR THE VETERINARY COLLEGE.

1. The establishment shall consist of a society  
and school, to be called the Veterinary College.2. The business of the society shall be con-  
ducted by a president, twelve vice-presidents,  
twenty-four directors, and a treasurer, forming a  
a council; in whom shall be lodged the whole  
executive power of the college, subject to the con-  
trol of the members at large in general meetings.3. The president, vice-presidents, and treasurer,  
shall be chosen annually. The twenty-four direc-  
tors shall be divided into four classes; one class  
shall go out each year, and six directors be elected  
in their place. No director shall be re-elected till  
after the intervention of one year.4. Ten members shall form a quorum at a  
general meeting, five a quorum of the council, and  
three a quorum of the committee.5. Five auditors shall be annually chosen, three  
of whom shall not be of the council, nor on any  
committee.6. The 18th of February being the day on which  
it was resolved to establish a Veterinary College,  
shall be the anniversary; on which day the sever-  
al officers of the college shall be elected, and themembers invited to dine together, unless it shall  
happen on a Saturday or Sunday, and in that case  
the meeting shall be held on the Tuesday follow-  
ing.7. Four quarterly general meetings shall be  
held in the year: viz., on the first Tuesday in Fe-  
bruary, the first Tuesday in May, the first Tuesday  
in August, and the first Tuesday in November; at  
which meetings the minutes of the last quarterly,  
and all subsequent general meetings, shall be read.8. No regulation shall be altered or repealed,  
nor shall any new regulation be enacted, but by  
the consent of two-thirds of the members present  
at two successive quarterly meetings; and every  
proposed regulation, alteration, or repeal, shall,  
after the first meeting, be fairly written, and exhi-  
bited in the council room, for public perusal and  
consideration. This regulation shall extend also  
to the removal of any of the officers of the college,  
whose salary shall amount to £150 per annum or  
upwards.9. A discretionary power shall be lodged in the  
council, by which they may, in cases of emer-  
gency, or where the advantage of the institution is  
evidently concerned, make orders, which shall  
have the force of regulations, till the next quarterly  
meeting, when they shall be submitted to the de-  
termination of the meeting.10. Any sum, not less than two guineas, shall  
be a qualification for an annual member, and not  
less than twenty guineas for a perpetual member.11. No person shall be entitled to debate or  
vote at any meeting who has not been a member  
six calendar months, nor until his subscription for  
the current year and all his arrears are paid; and  
no person shall be entitled to be present at any  
meeting whose subscription shall be two years in  
arrear.12. At all elections, peers, and members of par-  
liament, and ladies, (having been subscribers six  
months,) shall be allowed to vote by proxy; such  
proxy being a member of the college.13. All elections shall be by ballot, and shall be  
determined in one day, between the hours of  
twelve and three o'clock. The president, vice-  
president, treasurer, or such other member as shall  
be in the chair at any general meeting, council, or  
committee, shall, in all cases of equality of votes  
or ballot, have a double or casting vote or ballot.14. No member who shall, in any manner, directly  
or indirectly, derive any advantage, profit, or emo-  
lument, from the funds of the college, or who shall  
be charged by the college, with any office whence  
such profit shall accrue, shall be elected into the  
council: and any member of the council so re-  
ceiving shall immediately vacate his place. Nor  
shall any member who receives any advantage or  
emolument from the college be chosen or continue  
on any committee.15. No officer or servant of the college shall  
presume, under any pretence whatever, to accept  
of any present or gratuity from any member, or  
from any tradesman or other person having deal-  
ings with the college, on penalty of dismissal.16. A volume of the transactions of the college  
and school shall be published annually, and de-  
livered to each subscriber or his order, at the  
college, gratis.



17. A medical experimental committee shall be chosen, who shall meet occasionally for the purpose of suggesting and making experiments, with a view to throw additional light on the animal economy, and to ascertain the effects of medicines upon different animals, to be procured for that particular purpose; and for inspecting the drugs and medicines bought for the use of the infirmary.

18. A professor of veterinary medicine shall be appointed, whose appointment shall be subject to rule No. 8.

19. A secretary shall be appointed, whose appointment shall be subject to rule the 8th.

20. A collector shall be appointed, whose appointment shall remain during the good conduct of the officer.

#### THE PRESIDENT

Shall preside at all meetings of the college, and shall have the power of convening a special general meeting, giving ten days notice to the members, by advertisement, in two or more morning papers.

#### THE VICE-PRESIDENTS,

In the absence of the president, shall preside at all the meetings of the college, in the rotation of the list; and any three of them are empowered to convene a special general meeting in the same manner as the president.

#### THE COUNCIL

Shall meet the first Tuesday in every month, and as much oftener as shall be found necessary.

A superintending committee shall be chosen, who shall meet every Tuesday to receive the reports of the officers, and to examine into the state of the college. This committee shall consist of three of the directors, who shall attend in rotation, and who shall receive notice thereof from the secretary on the preceding Monday. This committee shall be open to any member of the college.

Such directors as shall not attend, in one year, four councils, or shall not have attended in rotation the superintending committees, or engaged other directors to attend for them, shall vacate their places as directors, and, at the annual election, others shall be chosen in their stead into the classes they belong to.

Any six of the directors are empowered to convene a special general meeting, in the same manner as the president or three vice-presidents.

If a requisition for a special general meeting be signed by nine members entitled to vote, and the business declared in the requisition, the president, vice-presidents, or directors, shall convene the meeting, and, on refusal, the nine members are empowered in the same manner as the president, vice-presidents, or directors should have done.

#### THE TREASURER,

In the absence of the president and vice-presidents, shall preside at all meetings of the college, and shall report monthly to the council the state of the college accounts. He is to pay no bills exceeding twenty pounds without a written order signed by three of the council.

#### THE PROFESSOR

Shall have the arrangement and direction of the

studies and occupations of the pupils, of the distribution of his lectures, and of the number and nature of the subjects required for dissection. He shall likewise judge of the kind and quality of the forage provided for the infirmary, and of the regulation of the cattle therein, and of the remedies employed. He shall make a report every week to the committee of the state of the college: viz., the number and condition of the animals admitted into the college; the number and condition of the animals discharged from the college; the conduct of the pupils, the conduct of the servants, the different sorts of forage as well as of stores and materials wanted, including drugs, &c., except such articles as it shall be found necessary to provide between the meetings of the committee, which is to be reported at the next meeting of the committee. He shall have a copy of the several articles ordered from time to time by the committee, and he shall not receive any thing into the college but what is so ordered, (except as above,) nor without a bill of parcels.

#### THE SECRETARY

Shall reside at the college, and be present at all meetings, councils, and committees; he shall take minutes of all such meetings, and shall announce and read all letters, papers, communications, &c., and shall take care of the official books and papers belonging to the college. He shall write the letters directed to be sent on account of the college, by any meeting, council, or committee. He shall keep the accounts of the college which may arise as well from the general business as from the particular departments; this will include the superintending of the receipts, and delivery of what may be brought to or taken from the college, or any of the departments of shoeing, pharmacy, &c. He shall produce a state of his accounts every week to the committee.

#### THE COLLECTOR.

He shall within one calendar month, after notice is given him by the secretary, of the admission of any member, call on him for his subscription; and shall call on all annual members within one month of the date of their admission, for their subscriptions. He shall have receipt books provided, which receipts shall be signed by the treasurer, and countersigned by himself when he delivered them. He shall at no time retain more than £20 in his hands; and as soon as that sum is collected, he shall pay it to the treasurer. He shall produce his books to the committee every week, and make his report of members in arrear every month.

#### THE SCHOOL AND PUPILS.

1. Any person desirous of becoming a pupil on the foundation of the college, must be able to read and to write legibly; preference shall be given to those youths who shall have received the elements of a good education, and more especially to those who have some knowledge of surgery and pharmacy.

2. Candidates qualified according to the preceding article, and not being under the age of fifteen years, nor more than twenty-two, shall

apply to the secretary, to whom they shall deliver a paper, containing their names, age, and place of abode; and the secretary shall refer the same to the next meeting of the council or superintending committee. The limitation of the age is not extended to practitioners in medicine or surgery, or to persons having made some progress in those studies.

3. The pupils on the foundation of the college, shall be appointed by the council; and care shall be taken as much as possible to admit them from different counties, for the purpose of disseminating the science.

4. When a pupil is admitted on the foundation of the college, he shall engage to remain so long in the college as an assistant, as shall be required by the council, not exceeding two years, and shall give security to the college for that purpose; and for his proper conduct during that time; but he shall be at liberty to retire on paying to the college so much as he would have done not being on the foundation.

5. Persons qualified according to rules No. 1 and 2, will be admitted into the college on paying twenty guineas, which will constitute them perpetual pupils.

6. Pupils on the foundation who appear to have a taste for drawing, shall have a master to instruct them. The other pupils may also attend such master upon paying for such instruction.

#### OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE STUDIES.

Although the particular distribution of the studies shall be referred to the judgment of the professor, yet the general order of them shall be nearly as follows:—

The knowledge of the animal economy being indispensable to those who would make any progress in the art of healing, the pupils shall be first instructed in zootomy.

##### FIRST COURSE.

The study of zootomy shall begin on the 1st of November, and end on the 30th April of the following year.

##### SECOND COURSE.

The study of the exterior knowledge of the horse shall begin on the 1st of May, and end on the 30th of October. In this course the pupil shall be taught the good and bad conformation of the animal, as also the external diseases which affect his body and limbs.

##### THIRD COURSE.

The course of operations shall begin on the 1st of November, and end the 30th January of the following year. From the 1st of February to the 30th April, the pupils shall put in practice those surgical operations which they shall have been taught in the preceding course of lectures. This shall employ them the mornings only; in the evening they shall be instructed in the *materia medica*.

##### FOURTH COURSE.

The pupils shall attend a course of pharmacy, to obtain a knowledge of the different preparations; they shall divide their mornings between the dispensary and laboratory.

##### FIFTH COURSE.

A knowledge of the common plants and herbs being necessary to the veterinary physician, the pupils shall attend a course of botany relative to veterinary medicine. This course shall take place in the afternoon, and shall as well as the preceding continue during the summer.

##### SIXTH COURSE.

It being necessary that the shoeing of horses shall be perfectly understood, the pupils shall attend the forge in the morning. In the evening lectures shall be given in pathology, to prepare them for the practice of the infirmary.

##### SEVENTH COURSE.

The pupils, after having gone through every branch of the veterinary art, shall be obliged to attend the infirmary every day, when the professor shall employ them according to their respective abilities. He shall confide to their care, one, two, three, or more animals, whose symptoms they shall be obliged accurately to observe, and note down in a journal, and report the same daily to the professor. But the treatment of the patient shall always be directed by the professor, and strictly attended to by the pupil.

##### EIGHTH COURSE.

The design of the institution would fail in a great degree if the pupils were not to be instructed in the nature of epizootic diseases to which animals are liable. The veterinary physician having before him the table of symptoms which characterise diseases, will be enabled to discern the nature of the maladies which he has to encounter, and consequently to make a better choice of remedies proper to remove them. In this course, therefore, the pupils will be taught the method of distinguishing, preventing, and curing diseases as they occur in particular animals. The pupils, having completed their studies, shall undergo a public examination in the theory and practice of every branch of the veterinary art; and those who shall be considered as perfectly instructed therein, shall receive a certificate signed by the professor, and confirmed by the council.

It appears by the above division of the studies that a term of three years is sufficient for a complete education, provided the pupils are capable, assiduous, and well inclined.

#### OF THE INFIRMARY.

An infirmary shall be open for the reception of diseased animals belonging to the members of the college.

No horses or any animals shall, under any pretence whatever, be received into the college, but those actually the property of subscribers; and to prevent imposition by servants, no horse or other animal shall be received, unless accompanied with a cheque signed by the owner. Blank cheques are always to be had on application to the college.

When horses, &c., are taken from the college, the expenses either of keeping or shoeing shall be paid by the groom or other person taking the animal from thence, before it shall be delivered to him.

The price of shoeing shall be 1s. per shoe, and the price of keep for horses taken into the infirmary shall be 2s. per day.



Each subscriber shall have the privilege of sending one horse at a time to the infirmary, and when the stalls are occupied, the horses sent shall be taken in rotation as the stalls become vacant. A book shall be kept in which shall be inserted the applications for the admission of horses.

Eight stalls shall be kept vacant for the purpose of admitting horses in very acute or accidental cases, out of the plan of rotation.

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, shall be the only days of admission into the infirmary, (except in cases of accident,) and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday the only days of delivery from thence.

When the owner of a horse or other animal receives notice of his horse being ready to be discharged from the infirmary, he shall send for him on the day mentioned in the notice; and shall also send by the groom or other person, the amount of the keep, (which will be specified in the notice,) with the notice itself, to prevent any imposition on the college. On neglecting to send for the horse or other animal on receiving such notice, the price of keep will be advanced double from that time; and on continuance of such neglect, the committee shall either send the horse to a livery stable at the expense and risk of the owner, or sell it to pay the charges, as they may think proper; giving the proprietor a week's notice of such determination.

No person whatever, the members of the council excepted, shall be permitted to go into the infirmary without the permission of the professor, nor at any time but between the hours of eleven and two o'clock.

If any animal die in the infirmary, the body shall belong to the college, and the professor shall open it before the pupils for their particular instruction.

#### RULES CONCERNING THE GROOMS AND HELPERS.

No grooms, helpers, &c., shall be retained in the service of the college, but such as are sober and diligent, and approved of by the superintending committee.

As the food shall be ordered every day by the professor, according to the state of the patient, the groom shall not increase or lessen the portions ordered. This article must be observed with the most rigid exactness.

The infirmary shall be kept in the greatest degree of cleanliness.

An assistant shall be appointed, who will be charged with the care of the dispensary and laboratory, under the direction of the professor.

The most gentle treatment of the animals is strictly enjoined. The groom or assistant who shall be convicted of having abused a horse, &c., shall be instantly discharged.

A steward shall be appointed who will be charged with the care of the forage, &c., belonging to the college.

A smith shall be appointed, who will be charged with the care of the forge, subject to the professor, by whom he shall be appointed or dismissed, with the approbation of the committee.

Other servants shall be hereafter appointed as occasion may require.

#### REGULATIONS FOR THE INTERIOR DISCIPLINE OF THE RESIDENT PUPILS.

##### CONCERNING THE HOURS OF RISING, RETIRING TO BED, AND MEALS.

1. The pupils are to rise at six in the morning, from Ladyday to Michaelmas; and at seven, from Michaelmas till Ladyday.

2. The hour of breakfast is eight; of dinner, two; and of supper, in the summer, nine, and, in winter, eight o'clock.

3. Immediately after supper, the pupils are to retire to the common sitting-room till 10 o'clock, at which hour each is to retire to his bedchamber.

4. No pupils will be permitted to burn candle in the night, under pretence of study; the lights are to be extinguished before the pupils go to bed, and none are to remain up after 11 o'clock.

5. The pupils are to take their places at table according to the order of precedence in their several classes.

6. No commons are to be carried into any private room, but in case of sickness, and with leave of the professor.

7. No provisions but the commons are to be dressed in the kitchen for any of the pupils, nor to be introduced into their apartments from any other quarter. Wine and spirits are absolutely prohibited.

##### CONCERNING THE STUDIES.

1. Every pupil is required to attend his studies and the lectures regularly, according to the appointment of the professor.

2. The studies of the morning are to commence at nine o'clock, and conclude at one o'clock; and, in the afternoon, to commence at four o'clock, and conclude at 7; the afternoons of Thursday and Saturday excepted.

3. The professor is to keep a book in which he is to record the attendance or non-attendance of the pupils in their respective classes, which book is to be produced to the committee at their meetings.

4. There will be a vacation, commencing the 15th of August, and ending the 13th of September, except with those pupils who are in the third year of their studies.

##### CONCERNING THE LIBRARY.

1. Every pupil who takes a book out of the library for his private use, is to make an entry of it in the library book, and is to be accountable for it.

2. Every pupil is to return the books to their proper places in the library by four o'clock on Saturday afternoon.

3. No book belonging to the library is to be left in any public room or passage, but must be carefully kept in the possession of the pupil who takes it from the library.

4. No pupil shall take pens, ink, or paper, the library book, or the catalogue of books, out of the library, nor write in any book belonging to the library, except the entry of the books he takes from thence.

##### CONCERNING ABSENCE FROM COLLEGE, AND RETURN, AND OF TIME OF SHUTTING THE GATES.

1. Nothing but illness shall be admitted as an

excuse for any of the pupils absenting themselves from some place of public worship.

2. No pupil will be admitted to go to London, except by desire of a parent, guardian, or persons properly authorised by them, expressed by letter to the professor, unless on some particular emergency, of which the professor shall judge and report to the committee at their next meeting.

3. No pupil is to go beyond the boundaries of the college after the gates are closed in the evening, without permission from the professor; and every pupil who has leave of absence in the day is to return to the college before the gates are locked.

4. The gates are to be locked, from Ladyday to Midsummer, at eight o'clock, and from Michaelmas to Ladyday at seven.

5. Every pupil who leaves or enters the college premises, by any other way than the gates, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and if this offence be committed after the gates are locked, it will be considered as a high aggravation.

6. Every pupil who passes the night out of the college, without leave from the committee, (except as requested in No. 2.) will be expelled, or suffer such other punishment as the circumstances may require.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

1. There shall be no intercourse between the pupils and the domestic servants; nor shall they go into the kitchen, or those parts of the house where the servants are occupied in their necessary employments.

2. Whoever breaks, or in other respects injures, the utensils or furniture belonging to the college, shall pay for or replace the articles.

3. No visitors shall be admitted but in the intervals of study, and the pupils shall not be allowed to entertain them, or each other, with any thing but tea or coffee.

4. No pupil shall, on any pretence whatever, take from the college, or lend to any person, any copy of the professor's manuscripts, or any notes or memorandums of his lectures.

5. No pupil shall interrupt the studies of the other pupils, by quarrelling or playing, nor will any improper language or conversation be tolerated on any account, either in the hours of study or at any other time; and the only distinction in the college shall arise from regular behaviour and diligent application.

6. Every pupil shall punctually attend to the foregoing regulations, and also to the directions of the professor. Every act of disobedience will incur, on the first offence, the reprimand of the professor; on the second offence, the professor is required to make a report to the committee, who may either impose a fine, or, if they think proper, report the matter to the council at their first meeting, with whom remains the power of expulsion.

Payment of fines is not considered as in any degree an adequate compensation for an habitual breach of any of the laws; and, as the professor is expected to make a regular report to the committee with regard to the observance or violation of them, they will be strictly supported, as well for the reputation and improvement of the pupils as for the general credit and benefit of the institution.

## BONDED CORN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PUBLIC LEDGER.

Sir,—Seeing in your paper on Saturday last that you not only notice my petition which Sir Edward Codrington did me the favour to present to the House of Commons on the preceding day, on the subject of grinding bonded corn, but that you gave it at length, and although Sir Edward distinctly stated the object and difference of the present prayer of the petition from that of the last session and former years, in order to meet the anticipated objections alluded to in the speech of the right hon. the president of the board of trade, it was not noticed by him, as a set off, although I had previously proposed to the right hon. gentleman and his Majesty's ministers, that if bonded corn only should be permitted to be ground, the offal consisting of the bran and pollard, should become the property of the Crown, and which provision I considered would be a sure preventive against fraud, and that the whole of the flour, middlings &c., should be immediately transmitted to a bonded warehouse; and again, if my last proposition of using one-fourth of British corn with three-fourths of foreign should be attended to, I proposed that seven bushels of flour and middling out of eight bushels of the mixed wheat should be also immediately sent from the mills (which I propose also to be under lock) to a bonded warehouse, and that the remaining weight of offal, consisting of the bran, pollard, &c., only should be brought into the home market. With such provisions, therefore, by what possible contrivance can fraud be contemplated, or how can any be concocted under such restrictions? There can be no smuggling in either case, or connivance. The first is protected by government receiving the offal gratis, and the latter provides that one bushel weight in flour more than the whole of the foreign wheats used in every quarter should be exported.

As however, the right hon. president intimates that it would be better, in his opinion, to delay the consideration of this question until a more favourable opportunity presented itself, or, in other words, until an alteration of the corn laws is propounded, I take the liberty, as one of independent principles, humbly however, to say, that I differ with him in the main, because in the present depressed state of the agriculturists, I think that question cannot now be brought forward with any chance of successful termination. But as that idea has been thus hinted from the quarter it has, I consider myself now free to state, without arrogating too much, that I was the first proposer of the triple measure, for the consideration of the executive government, without considering party politics, and which I first did by letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, then Mr. Peel, March 1827, viz.:—The total repeal of the malt tax, as a direct boon to the agricultural interests, in exchange for, or extension of, a moderate standing duty on the importation of foreign corn for home consumption, with a drawback on grinding it for exportation. I also proposed and urged the same combined measures to Lord Althorp, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, with my reasons thereon, immediately on his lordship's accession to office, Dec. 1 and 30, 1830; also again to Sir Robert Peel, Feb. 2, 1835; and immediately to each Chancellor of Exchequer, whenever any agitation of the corn laws or malt tax was promised, all of which, however, was done privately from whom I have the honour to acknowledge a prompt reply. But as the public have so recently experienced a defeat of the two latter, I do now humbly consider that the prayer of my present petition ought not in justice to be fettered by any entail.



ment on the promised revision of the corn laws (as hinted) in the present state of excitement, but that it should now rest on its own basis and just foundation for the interest of all. And hence I have no doubt the gallant admiral will honour any aerial ship that may appear in the horizon with a grappling broadside, in his usual style of dexterity.

If you consider the subject worthy of your further notice, and that of the public and the interest you represent, I will, in another or succeeding letter, give my reasons at length for the proposed combination of the three measures, and in what manner, with such combination, the deficit of revenue caused by the demise of the malt tax could then have been mainly maintained.

I have the honour to remain,

Sir, your most obedient, humble servant,  
JAMES SURRY,

York House, Battesea, Sept. 3, 1835.

**ALDERBURY UNION.**—On Thursday, Aug. 27, a meeting of the churchwardens, overseers, and many gentlemen interested in the proposed Alderbury Union was held at the Council-house, Salisbury, when Col. A'Court, the Assistant Poor Law Commissioner, explained at some length his views on that important measure, and clearly demonstrated, from a variety of documents, the great advantages which had been experienced in the Unions already formed, both to the rate-payers, by a diminution of expense, arising from superior management, and also to the poor, themselves, by causing more wages to be given to the industrious independent labourer than could be afforded under the old system; and affording the increased comforts of well-regulated asylums to real objects of distress, for whom alone the poor laws were designed to provide. Amongst many other interesting subjects, a report was read of the migration, some time since, of fifty families from one parish into Lancashire—of their increased wages, comforts and advantages, and the mode was pointed out whereby many thousands of sober and industrious families might there obtain employment, and be well paid for their labour.—In the course of his address, Col. A'Court said he took it for granted that in the present day there was no one bold enough to stand up for the old system—a system under which the labourer must be demoralized—must be pauperized; a system under which the really industrious and independent labourer had no chance—which left no inducement to industry, no motive to exertion; but under which our peasantry were brought up from infancy to look for parochial relief, instead of trusting to their own conduct and activity, to make their way through the world. And so low had the rate of wages become, under the operation of this system, that a man with a family absolutely found himself better off when receiving parish relief than when supporting himself by his labour! Col. A'Court said, he had no hesitation in asserting, that had this state of affairs gone on much longer, not only would landlords have been compelled to lower their rents to a ruinous extent, but farmers would have been at length totally incapacitated from paying either rates or rent. In a word, the whole nation would have become a nation of shopkeepers.—The first union formed in Hampshire was at Alton, where, as in every other place, Col. A'Court encountered the strongest opposition, although the whole of Hampshire was now grouped into districts. After three week's trial of the new system at Alton, he sent to know the result of its operation, and was informed that the rates had decreased from fifty to seventy per cent.!! that a saving of two-thirds had been effected!! So far for the rate-payers: and now for the independent labourers. The farmers said if this was to be the effect of the new system, they could have no objection to raise the labourer to the station which he ought to occupy; and the farmers of that district actually came forward voluntarily, and raised the wages to ten shillings per week.

## BRITISH AGRICULTURE.

English farming is remarkable for a peculiar refinement in the distribution of employments, according to various circumstances of soil and climate. The county of Kent is somewhat more congenial to the growth of hops than the neighbouring county of Sussex; the Sussex farmer, therefore, abstains from growing hops, even for his own use; the beer which his family drink is made of hops grown in Kent. There are some districts especially fit for the growth of natural and artificial grasses for fattening cattle; and the farmer of such districts is seldom a cattle breeder, but purchases lean cattle from jobbers, who have purchased them from farmers in districts best suited to the breeding of cattle. Though the inhabitants of Norwich require a great deal of cheese, yet the farmers thereabouts do not attempt to supply that demand. Their land is less suited to dairy farming than the land in Cheshire, from which county comes great part of the cheese consumed in Norwich; while there are towns again in Cheshire which obtain the greater part of their flour from distant spots peculiarly suited to the growth of corn. Examples without end might be cited of this division of agricultural employments, which seems to be carried to a much higher pitch in England than in any other country. In France and the United States, though much greater differences of climate occasion a more marked separation of some agricultural employments,—such as the production of sugar in the southern states for the use of the northern states, and of oil in the south for the use of the north of France,—still a French or American cultivator generally seeks to raise whatever can be raised on his own land, which he either wants himself, or for which there is any demand in his own neighbourhood. The division of agricultural employments in England is all the more remarkable, because in England the differences of soil and climate are not very remarkable.

The advantage which England derives from confining her agriculturists to agricultural pursuits, and, in various parts of the country, to that particular mode of agriculture best suited to each district, becomes manifest in the superior skill of her farmers. The corn growers of Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk, the hop-growers of Kent and Worcestershire, the sheep farmers of Sussex and Hampshire, the dairy farmers of Gloucestershire and Cheshire, the cattle-breeders and cyder-growers of Devonshire and Herefordshire, the breeders of horses in Lincolnshire and Yorkshire; all these, and many more which it would be tedious to mention, apply to their several pursuits a wonderful degree of knowledge, forethought, and calculation. It is rather a science than an art which each of them pursues; storing up the facts which come to his knowledge, and from a knowledge of those facts, adopting, as a system, that mode of proceeding from which he expects the most beneficial results. Thinking of the pains which an English farmer takes in draining and manuring his fields, in the disposition of his land for various crops, in the selection of seeds, in the use of the best instruments, in keeping up or improving his fruit trees, in the management of his working cattle, in maintaining a peculiar and perfect race of cattle or sheep, and in subdividing the work performed by his united labourers, one might venture to call him a philosopher; though the term would excite ridicule in England, where science is almost as much despised in the abstract as in practice it is industriously cultivated.—*England and America.*

## TO THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF STRADBROKE.

MY LORD,—I feel assured that your lordship has an earnest desire to promote the agricultural interest of this county, and will, on that account permit a farmer to suggest to your lordship an improvement upon the Suffolk Wool Fair. Its establishment at present has not conferred much benefit upon the generality of wool growers, because it is impracticable for them to sell their wool by sample, and there is no common place at the fair to deposit the bulk. I therefore beg leave to suggest that a capacious building be procured in an eligible situation in Ipswich, and fitted up in compartments, each holding from 100 to 1,500 fleeces. Farmers and wool-dealers might, in these compartments, (each under lock), deposit their wool previously to the fair, which the following reasons induce me to think might then become a mart, advantageous to buyers and sellers. Ipswich being a port from whence much of this county's wool is sent, there would be no loss of carriage upon most of the wool sent there for sale. Farmers might then compare different qualities and conditions of wool, and obtain more knowledge of that important article than the generality of us at present possess. The buyers by one journey and in one day might look at and have the offer of many parcels, and sellers have the advantage of offering their wool to different purchasers without requesting them to take a journey to look at a single parcel. The growers of 100 fleeces and the large flock masters would have equal chances of a fair price. But they are both under a great disadvantage in offering to sell at a fair (if it can be so called) an article, without exhibiting either sample or bulk, and which they are unable to describe in a manner satisfactory to the buyers. From a wool hall in Ipswich buyers could pack and send off their several parcels with less trouble than from farm houses; and farmers could—with as little trouble as if it were sold—send their wool into such compartments of the buildings as might be adapted to the number of their fleeces; they might there remain until sold, in better preservation than on the generality of dusty granaries. It may be premature to suggest any details for carrying the proposed plan into execution, until it be known how far it meets the approbation of your lordship and the gentlemen who have established the fair. I shall, therefore, only further suggest that the money requisite for carrying the plan into execution be raised in 10% shares, transferable, and bearing interest to be paid by a moderate charge for each compartment, according to its size, where wool might be deposited; and also from whatever else can be made from such parts of the building as might not be wanted for wool. A competent responsible person, capable of packing and weighing wool, should have the care of the premises, and live upon or near the spot, who should hold himself engaged on certain days previous to and after the fair, to take in wool and deliver it from the hall. The chamber of the building might be exclusively devoted to wool compartments. The ground floor when wanted for wool should not be devoted to any thing else; but at other times might be let for a public auction mart, for furniture, or for any other purpose for which it might be adapted.

Thus, after a few years, the shares might become profitable, and those wool-growers who, to establish the fair, might pledge themselves to send their wool there, would be likely to reap the ad-

vantage of their exertions to forward the plan. I apologize for addressing this letter to your lordship, and subscribe myself, with every respect,  
Your lordship's humble servant, A FARMER.

BROMSGROVE. — At a meeting of the Select Vestry of the parish of Bromsgrove, held May 4, 1835, it was resolved:—"That it is the opinion of this vestry that all property held in trust applicable to the relief of the poor of this parish should be made *publicly* known; that the particulars of such trust property be ascertained, with the mode it is *appropriated*, and hung in a conspicuous place in this vestry-room; to be open to the inspection of the inhabitants of this parish." Application was made to obtain the necessary information, but without effect. In consequence of which, a communication has since been made to the Poor Law Commissioners by Mr. W. A. Greening, and the following is their reply:—

Poor Law Commission Office,  
Somerset House, 19th August, 1835.

Sir,—The Poor Law Commissioners for England and Wales have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th inst. With regard to the subject of Charities, the Commissioners are aware that they are entrusted with full powers, by the Poor Law Amendment Act, to compel the production of any documents, deeds, or accounts which may appear to them necessary to explain the administration or appropriation of any charitable funds applicable to the relief of the poor, and this power they are prepared to exercise in all cases where, after due inquiry, they are satisfied that there has existed malversation on the part of those who have the management or disposal of such funds or where the production of such accounts may in other respects be deemed necessary. In the case which you have brought under their notice, the proper course to be pursued, in the opinion of the Commissioners, would be for the Select Vestry of Bromsgrove to make a formal application, in writing to the Justices, for the information which is required respecting the appropriation of any such charitable estates applicable to the relief of the poor of your parish, reporting the result for the Board's information.

Signed by order of the Board,  
E. CHADWICK, Secretary.

MAIDSTONE. — NEW POOR LAW. — A meeting convened by Sir Francis Head, took place at the Star Inn, on Thursday se'nnight, to hear the Hon. Commissioner's statement respecting the introduction of the system into this part of the county. It was very numerously attended by farmers residing in the parishes in the neighbourhood of Maidstone. After explaining the mode adopted in East Kent, at considerable length, and the great reduction of rates it had effected, the Assistant Commissioner proceeded to detail the expenses attending the formation of unions of parishes. He states that it certainly was in the power of the board to form unions wherever they thought proper to do so, but he had always consulted the feelings and wishes of the rate-payers themselves, and uniformly found that they were willing to try the system. The officers of the unions were a clerk, whose average salary in East Kent was 42l, two relieving officers at 80l, an auditor at 32l, a medical officer at 160l, making a total of only 394l;—while, in one instance which had come under his notice, the medical expenses alone of the parishes forming the union had amounted to 420l. After communicating a great deal of information on the subject, Sir Francis left it to the meeting to say whether they were desirous that the system should be introduced. At the request of Lord Marsham, who acted as chairman, hands were held up *pro* and *con*, when out of 313 persons only fourteen were opposed to the measure. The meeting then separated.



TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORWICH  
MERCURY.

SIR,—The carriage which I use myself is on four wheels, and may more properly be termed a van than a waggon. For all purposes I consider four preferable to two-wheel carriages. How often are horses injured, and sometimes rendered useless, by the injuries they receive from the carriage bearing or hanging too much, and frequently from falling under a heavy load. In a four-wheeled carriage this is avoided—added to which two horses abreast will draw (if not as much as three) considerably more than when placed at length. I use a pole in my carriage, it being much cheaper and equally serviceable as shafts. But the principal advantages in using light vans instead of waggons will be, first, a great difference in the expence. My van cost me, on springs, 26*l*.; a good waggon cost, as I am informed, about 50*l*. Again, the bottom of my van is somewhat less than three feet from the ground and is from fourteen to twenty inches lower than waggons generally in use. The difference of labour in loading the two is immense; the difference in weight is also very great, and of course requires less labour in the draught of the horses. On mentioning these advantages to two farmers of my acquaintance, they stated as an objection, (the only one mentioned,) the difficulty of unloading in the harvest from the height of the stacks. I suggested that the stacks might be built lower, but that would increase the expence of thatching. I then suggested the erection of a stage, that would require the expence of an extra man.

It did not occur to me, Mr. Editor, to relate an anecdote which will at once remove the difficulty. A friend of mine, a public brewer, some time since, purchased a copper. In conveying it to its destination he had to pass a gate-way too narrow for his purpose. Do you think, Sir, that in order to remove the obstruction, he removed one or both of the posts? No, he raised the earth two feet, and his copper thus topped the posts.

Let these farmers go and do likewise, and thus reap advantages which I have pointed out from having low and light, instead of those high and cumbersome carriages now generally in use. Yours, truly,

A PRACTICAL AGRICULTURIST.

CLYDESDALE ORCHARDS.—The amount of the sales for large fruit this year is.....£4134 18 6  
For small fruit, including the parishes of Hamilton and Bothwell.....1000 0 0

Total for large and small fruit.....5134 18 6  
The large fruit in 1834 brought.....£2779 3 6  
We may add that the prices this year are less than half what they were at the same time last year. The fruit has sold this year from 3*s* to 5*s* per boll, according to quality, and the distance it is from the Glasgow market. In general the Orchardmen are content as something will be had this year for labour, after satisfying the landlord's claims.

MANURE EXEMPTED FROM TOLL.—It is not generally known that an act passed in July last, 5th and 6th Wm. 4th, ch. 18, entitled an "An Act to exempt carts carrying manure from toll," which exempts carts and carriages carrying manure, dung, compost, soil, and ashes for manuring land, (lime excepted) from toll, wherever they may have come from or be going to, unless they are specially charged by some local act.

## FOREIGN CORN.

Mr. Dillwyn, in moving for the following returns in the House of Commons, on the 20th inst., which were ordered,\* stated it to be his principal object to ascertain whether there were any grounds for a prevailing opinion, that foreign wheat in considerable quantities had been smuggled into the markets in this country from the bonded warehouses or elsewhere:—

Wheat and Flour.—Returns ordered, "of the quantities of wheat and flour sold in Mark-lane in each year since 1824;

"Of the quantities of wheat sold in each of the other 149 markets from which returns are made since 1828, and in the other towns which made returns prior to 1828, for each year since 1824;

"Of the quantities of wheat and flour imported into this country from Ireland, as the produce of that kingdom, in each year since 1824;

"Similar returns with regard to Scotland;

"Of the quantities of foreign wheat and flour entered for home consumption, and upon which duty has been paid, for each year of the same period;

"Of the quantities of wheat, flour, and biscuit imported into this country from Jersey, Guernsey, and the Isle of Man, in each year since 1824; distinguishing the ports at which they were entered;

"Of the quantities of wheat, flour, and biscuit exported from the same Islands in each year of the same period; specifying the places to which they were sent;

"Of the quantities of wheat and flour imported into this country from Canada, and entered for home consumption, in each year of the same period;

"Of the quantity of foreign wheat in bond on 1st Oct. 1824;

"Of the quantity of foreign wheat bonded since that date;

"Of the quantity of foreign wheat remaining in bond, at the time of making up the last return;

"Of the quantity of foreign wheat taken out of bond in each year since 1st October, 1824."

HINT TO AGRICULTURISTS.—Incalculable damage has been sustained this season from the ravages of a black caterpillar (provincially called "the Negro") which has appeared in myriads, and carried off most of the white round turnip crops in the western part of Sussex. The daily papers mention that in Devonshire the ravages of this insect have been also equally destructive there. Mr. Amore of Poling, near Arundel, hit upon the following novel and successful plan of ridding his turnip crop of the noxious insect: he drew over the ground a light bush harrow three mornings in succession which completely destroyed the troublesome visitors.—*Sussex Advertiser*.

RURAL FEAT. — Mr. William Mead, of North Petherton, farmer and butcher, cut, on the 19th of August last, six statute acres of barley, between the hours of two in the morning, and ten at night, for a wager of five pounds, which he accomplished easily, to the astonishment of all present. The quantity of barley was a fair average crop.

Two philanthropists of the town of Bar have just made an important discovery, copied into the *Journal de la Meuse*: they have with the greatest success employed the skin of the potatoe in place of tobacco; and further assure us that even competent judges in the art of "pulling a cloud," as well as amateurs who advocate the use of a pipe, have one and all been deceived by it.

\* The order has since been discharged, on the motion of Mr. P. Thompson.

## POOR LAWS IN IRELAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUSSEX ADVERTISER.

Sir,—Having trespassed so largely upon your paper for several weeks past, I will endeavour in bringing this subject to a conclusion, to be as brief as possible, trusting that while “labouring to be concise, I shall not become obscure.”

It is but little creditable to the vaunted humanity and wisdom of the age, that no effort has yet been made to improve the condition of the miserable peasantry of Ireland. The legislature have wasted session after session in discussing measures of relief for the wealthier classes; but it can scarcely waste one hour to search for means to remedy the misery in which the mass of the people is steeped. Never was the poor of any nation, either Heathen or Christian, left in so destitute, in so pitiable and forlorn a state as those of Ireland. In all other countries, some revenues have been set aside for the relief of the impotent pauper; but in Ireland the dreams of the economist have been realized, and the lame, the halt, the blind, the aged and the orphan poor have been left entirely to the unaided assistance of casual and individual charity. Idleness and vagrancy are the real impediments which stand in the way of the improvement and prosperity of Ireland. As things are now managed an enormous proportion of the whole population actually subsist, in a state of perfect idleness, upon the bounty of the remainder, which is seldom more than half employed. Hence it is that the naturally fertile soil of Ireland is but half tilled; and of the produce, which land imperfectly cultivated must yield, a considerable portion is daily wasted upon athletic and unoccupied vagabonds. The idleness thus fostered is the true cause of the misery of the Irish population:—this pernicious practice preys upon the vitals of the land; like a worm it secretly eats into the germ of her prosperity; and until the thousands and tens of thousands huge-limbed and long-backed vagabonds, now maintained in idleness, be employed productively, Ireland can never emerge from her poverty. All authorities, acquainted with the condition of Ireland, concur in stating that “Itinerant mendicacy has proceeded to an enormous and lamentable extent”;—“The number of people supported by charity in Ireland, is quite inconceivable.” General vagrancy is the unavoidable result of the want of a system to provide a maintenance for the poor: where no poor laws exist, persons unable to work must necessarily be allowed to ask for charity; the affluent are compelled to submit with patience to the inconvenience of being importuned and beset in the streets, on the roads, and at their houses. It must also be obvious that wherever the support of the indigent is left to private charity, the burden must fall unequally upon the members of the community possessing means to contribute. The benevolent, the feeling, and the religious are induced to bestow their property and their time, and even endanger their health in efforts to alleviate the afflictions of their fellow-creatures, but the proud and hard-hearted make no such sacrifices: they continue in the selfish enjoyment of their riches and their property remains undiminished by the calls of benevolence and by the tears of the wretched. An equal rate for the relief of the poor is therefore the only means of reaching the pockets of this class, and compelling them to bear their fair proportion of the burden of maintaining the poor.

In a former letter I stated that when this question is brought before the House of Parliament, it must be dealt with without consulting Irish Absentee Landlords on its propriety or impropriety, and I

think that the speech made by the Earl of Limerick, the other night, in the House of Lords, on the presentation of a petition by the Duke of Richmond, praying for the introduction of poor laws into Ireland, fully bears out my assertion. It was a speech most unjust, unfeeling, and illiberal, bounded by narrow views and petty prejudices, and wholly characteristic of the opinions entertained by the great body of these Irish land-proprietors. Let the people of England and Scotland look well to this. Could the wishes of these liberal absentees be realized the farmer might maintain the Irish poor; and unless some measures are speedily adopted to prevent such flagrant injustice, such will be the case. Two thousand of these Irish vagrants were landed at Liverpool during the last week from one steam-boat, and nearly every packet brings a fresh supply; surely these facts require no comment.

I now bring this subject to a conclusion. I am fully aware that I have not been able, through lack of ability, to do anything like justice to it, but I trust I have said quite enough to shew the absolute necessity which exists of governing Ireland with poor laws. I beg to thank you for your courtesy in inserting my former letters in your paper, and I trust that this will also have a place in it.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,  
JUSTITIA.

Lewes.

## CIDER.

Cider, which is the fermented juice of apples, is conjectured to have been originally known in Africa, it being noticed by the two African fathers, Tertullian and Augustine, and it was introduced by the Carthaginians into Biscay; where as well as in other countries uncongenial to the culture of the vine, it has been usefully adopted. It appears that the Normans obtained it from Biscay, and if *cicera* means cider, the mention of it occurs in Hengist's feast in Nennius, which is not improbable, because cyder is Anglo-Saxon. It is not known from whence we first received the cultivated apple, though in its wild state it is probably indigenous. In the time of Pliny upwards of twenty varieties were known, and Parkinson, in 1629, enumerates fifty-seven kinds: Gibson says, that Lord Scudamore, ambassador to the court of France in the reign of Charles I., obtained scions of cider-apple trees in Normandy, and encouraged the grafting of them in Herefordshire, which has since been so celebrated for its cider. Hartlib, in 1650, believes that there were 500 sorts in this country.

The fruit-catalogue of the London Horticultural Society of 1831 contains the names of 1400 varieties of apple, and it does not include many of the names known in the west of England, though perhaps some of them may be synonymous. Apple-trees were anciently sprinkled with a libation of cider and toast on Christmas day or Twelfth Eve, and this, which was probably a remain of the sacrifice to Pomona, was considered conducive to the production of an abundant crop, and on St. James's day (July 25,) the apples were blessed by the priest. The apples used for cider in the West of England are, among others, the Longney Russet—the Exel—the Duke—the Ansell—the Styre—the Redstreak—the Golden Harvey—the Devonshire Wilding, &c., &c., of which the Styre and some others are becoming extinct; but their loss is supplied by new apples of equal excellence. Generally speaking, those apples that are considerably astringent, and are unfit for the table or culinary



purposes, make the best cider; while the Ashmead Pippin, which is sweet, and perhaps one of the best table-apples that we have, is not at all adapted for cider. Different apples are sometimes advantageously used together for the production of cider, and almost every cider-maker has some favorite sort, and some peculiarity in the manufacture. Mr. Knight has ascertained that the specific gravity of the juice of an apple recently expressed denotes with very considerable certainty the strength of the future cider; and according to Mr. Brande's table, the highest average of spirit or alcohol per cent. in cider is 9.87.

The process of cider-making in the West of England is to have the apple-trees gently shaken at two or three different times, that only the ripest fruit may fall; the apples are then laid in heaps, which if circumstances permit, should be under cover, with a free admission of air. They are suffered to remain ten days or a fortnight, and some kinds even longer; and the good cider-maker takes care that the decayed apples and other impurities may be removed before they are taken to the cider-mill, where they are crushed by a large circular stone which is turned by a horse. When the apples are completely mashed, the must, as the crushed apples are then called, is placed in large square pieces of hair-cloth, each hair-cloth being folded over so that nothing but the juice can escape when they are put under the screw-press to which they are removed, and where they remain till the juice is all expressed. The juice is received into a large tub, from which it is conveyed to the casks. Those who do not rack their cider (about which there is a difference of opinion) cover the bung-hole of the cask with a tile, and let it stay till March or April, when to every cask of 100 gallons is put half a pound of hops, and a little colouring made of burnt sugar, and the cider is then stopped close, and is fit for drinking at the end of the year. It is doubtful whether the hops improve the cider, but they probably make it keep better: this method makes the strong cider, which is the principal beverage used in the cider countries: that consumed in London being prepared and sweetened by persons who purchase the cider from the maker.

In Devonshire the cider is racked (which is, drawing the clear cider from the dregs, and putting it into clean casks) as often as the fermentation comes on, a brimstone-match being burnt in each cask before the cider is put into it: this management preserves the sweetness but in an equal proportion diminishes the strength. Seven or eight sacks of apples will afford a hundred gallons of cider, the expense of making which does not exceed 10s. A cider-mill has been lately constructed in Gloucestershire, which is much superior to the old mill, it is driven by water, and makes from 300 to 400 gallons a-day. In this mill the apples are placed in a large box, with an aperture in the bottom, which drops the apples between two iron rollers; these break them in pieces, after which they fall between two stone rollers set so close to each other as to crush the kernels of the apples, which is essential to the flavour of the cider. The must is in this mill received into a large tub beneath the rollers, and from thence put into the press.

## A HINT TO AGRICULTURISTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HEREFORD JOURNAL.

Sir,—your two anonymous correspondents on the delinquency of our county member, puts me in mind of the pot-and-kettle story; I am glad, however, to find that Sir Robert has an advocate

among us, in hopes that he will have the kindness to enumerate the good deeds that gentleman has rendered to his constituents, as I fear that if brother farmers have no better representative, they must shortly go to the wall; I may be mistaken, and shall be very glad to find things better than expectation; but again to oppose our best friend Chandos, is really to bad! and much at variance with professions again and again repeated a few months ago. The Marquis, however, having declared perpetual war on the subject, the cause being so good, the minorities in our favour being so respectable, and the defences being so delapidated, that with half a legitimate share of support, he must succeed. (Put a spoke in the wheel Brother Farmers.)

As to the mode of attack in the house of late against the free-traders, I cannot say that I have been at all sanguine of success; it has been only by feelers, blank shells, to measure distances, &c, and these have so far succeeded as to expose the weakness as well as the foolhardihood of the defence. We are, it seems, gladly to embrace "practicable relief, from local taxation," as the "surplus revenue" is so very small. Truly, my friends, these are weighty considerations; about sixty millions a year is but a mere trifle to be raised when wheat is at 4s 10d a bushel! This excuse is now become very stale—we have been amused with it many years.

What then is to be done for "the foundation," the "source of all our greatness?" I would change the mode of attack. I have long proposed to increase the revenue and this "small surplus;" fix a permanent import duty of forty shillings a quarter on all foreign wheat imported. This is the old mode, the tried mode, the mode which has right-well succeeded; the mode under which our debts were chiefly contracted; the mode under which all parties have been well-doing, and paid astonishing sums with cheerfulness; and which, under still worse circumstances of greatly increased debts, must be again adopted.

I again publicly challenge Sir Robert, the farmer of 800 acres, Sir Robert the Spinner and manufacturer, (whose family are said to have thereby accumulated millions,)—and all the fraternity of free-traders, Whigs, and Tories, to point out a family or industrious individual, who would have just cause of complaint from the price of English wheat being ten shillings a bushel, or twopence a-day per individual; and if one mode of relief to the English farmer in the opinion of our wise men will not do, they who reject proposed methods, ought to prescribe some other which will do.

Every quarter of corn we import is hiring and paying foreign labour, while our own men are starving for want of employ.

Every labourer we banish as an emigrant, is improving foreign soils, while our own thirty millions of waste acres are sterile for want of labour only. Let them only tell us the value of any country without labour or inhabitant.

The hubbub of foreign trade is nothing new. The bubble has been often inflated, and as frequently burst, as it must and will do again, when our legislators come to their senses and can dismiss party and selfish motives, so far as to profit by the experience which they may find in history, and in the ruined condition of the soil and cultivators to be seen around them, in the country's best friends, "the foundation and source of all its greatness".

Something must be done, and they cannot mend

the old plan; all other expedients are weak and futile, mere fleabites, robbing Peter to pay Paul. It is a mere whim of the moment to suppose that the march of intellect and the march of machinery too is active here only, and asleep in other countries.

What if "local taxation" was removed, or agriculture relieved to the amount of a few millions (a few hundreds much more likely,) where will they fall? Every hundred increased to a thousand, must be paid by the lands of John Bull at last. The land must, and does pay all.

The lowering of rents too, is now a rather unpopular proposition, and if the landlords were thus mulct of a few millions (less than half, would be of no use, and that but a short time,) twenty millions would be given to foreigners, and they we may expect, would pay our taxes, but we should experience no such thing! Who would then benefit by this robbery?—not free-traders by any means.

A few sums may, and ought to be screwed out by economy, if our legislators were economists in earnest. A trifle of local taxation may be removed from one shoulder to the other, but what is that to do? a mere drop in the bucket, where hogsheds are wanting, and the absurdity of such chicanery is exposed by a knowledge of its simple amount, and the consideration of the fact, that every shilling per bushel advance in the price of bread-corn (although not perceivable by the consumer) is adding six millions sterling, to the "foundation and support of our own country." Sir Robert of late, is become the plumed advocate of public credit; will anybody believe that he and the sneering Chancellor are among the public creditors below 50*l*. a year? or will any body give them credit for real patriotism, in calling so loudly (not only for two pounds of flesh for one, which they at present obtain) but for the blood also of the deluded agriculturist!

Will they give us a fair statement of the sufferers in each case, the thousands of agriculturists with their dependants, to the scores of public creditors and foreign traders, who are rioting in luxury, and laughing in their sleeves at the nimble thousands they accumulate, while their supporters (and would-be customers) are wasting their property to starvation?

Whoever (brother farmers), either Whig or Tory are the advocates of such measures, they are no real friends to yourselves or the country, and by no means should have your support.

And whoever traduces and vilifies our established church, or encourages those who do (being not men of bible principles) are by no means worthy of public confidence.

The thirty-nine articles, liturgy and discipline of our protestant religion, are wholly founded upon the commands of our Maker, strictly conformable to scripture, and are part and parcel of the laws of the land, as you may find in the writings of many antient divines, and particularly in the commentary and practicable observations of the late Rev. Thomas Scott, who began with prejudice and ended in conviction, after 33 years study of the subject in his bible, are answered very moderately, every doubt and every cavil which has or can arise.

Innovators, therefore, who are continually contriving new plans and schemes, have as much and no more right to set up new doctrines than had Cain, the Sodomites, the Company of Koræ, the worshippers of Baal, or any other idolatrous sect, antient or modern. I remain, Sir, yours, &c.

J. B. TURNER.

## PLUMS.

The plum tree is a native, or naturalized in Britain, being frequently found in hedges; but, its original country is supposed to be Asia; and, according to Pliny, it was brought from Syria into Greece, and thence into Italy. The natural colour of the fruit is generally considered to be black; but the varieties in cultivation are of yellow, red, blue, and green, and of different forms and flavours. Tusser enumerates ten varieties of plums; Parkinson, 60; Miller, only 30 sorts. In the Luxembourg garden catalogue are 68. Professor Lindley enumerates no less than 150 varieties, a few of which it may be seasonably interesting to notice.

First, among the Black or Blue-fruited, is the Blue Gage, a small, round plum, about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches in circumference. It has a pale, blue bloom, and its juice is smart; but has little richness of flavour. The Blue Perdrigon has been a long time in our gardens. Hakluyt, in 1822, says, "Of late time, the plum, called the *Perdigevena*, was produced out of Italy, with two kinds more, by the Lord Cromwell after his travel." Kirke's Plum is a very handsome variety, and an excellent bearer; both as a standard, and upon a west wall. It was brought into notice a few years since, by Mr. Kirke, of Brompton, who found it by accident in a fruiterer's window. In the *Pomological Magazine*, it is stated to be "as hardy and prolific as the Orleans, as handsome as the Damask, and as handsome as the Green Gage." The Morocco is one of the very best of our early plums: it is very hardy, bears well as a standard, and ripens fully a month before the Orleans, coming in at the beginning of August. Of Damsons there are several sorts with black fruit, cultivated in England, such as the Common Black, with smooth, spiny branches; Prune Damson, of the smallest size among plums; Royal Damson, somewhat larger; and the Shropshire Damson, with smooth branches, but not spiny. Damsons raised from suckers, and planted in hedge-rows, and grown among nut-bushes, or crowded among and under other trees, can never be expected to produce such fine, thick-fleshed, high-flavoured fruit, as those which are grown upon sound, healthy standards, in proper situations, unincumbered with coarse, strong-growing trees. The Violet is an old plum, and was cultivated by John Tradescant, gardener to Charles I.: it is an excellent bearer, and Mr. Lindley thinks it ought to be planted in the garden of every poor cottager throughout the kingdom: it might then not unaptly be called the Cottager's Plum.

Foremost in the Green-fruited varieties is the Green Gage, without exception the best plum in England. When grown upon a healthy standard, and fully exposed to the sun, although not so large, it is much richer than when produced against a wall. The fruit is thus minutely described by Lindley:—"skin yellowish green, but when fully exposed to the sun of a purplish colour, marbled with russety, muddy red. Flesh yellowish green, very melting, juice abundant, saccharine, of the richest and most exquisite flavour." Sir Joseph Banks notes in the *Horticultural Transactions*, that a plant of this sort was sent from France by the Earl of Stair to the second Duke of Rutland, by the name of Green Spanish. The name of Green Gage is said to have originated from the following accident: the Gage family, in the last century, procured from the monks of the Chartreuse, at Paris, a collection of fruit-trees.



When they arrive in England, the ticket of the Reine Claude had been rubbed off in the passage. The gardener being, from this circumstance, ignorant of the name, called it, when it bore fruit, Green Gage. Lucombe's Nonesuch is a valuable variety, lately raised from seed by Messrs. Lucombe and Co., of Exeter: in the *Pomological Magazine*, it is described as "undoubtedly the nearest approach that has yet been made on the part of a seedling to the famous Green Gage of the English, Reine Claude of the French; and, although it cannot be said to equal, in all respects, that celebrated variety, it is, nevertheless, entitled to a character of very high excellence."

Of the Red or Purple-fruited is the Cherry Plum, somewhat like the Biggareau Cherry, except having a small, slender prickle at its summit. It is planted chiefly in shrubberies, and in the pleasure-ground, for its early flowering. The fruit, however, is very handsome in the dessert, and also makes very excellent tarts. The Fotheringham is a very useful and hardy plum, and has been in England many years, having been cultivated by Sir William Temple,\* at Sheen, near Richmond, before the year 1700; whence it was called the Sheen Plum. The German Prune, or Questrche Plum, is grown for the purpose of drying, and sold in the shops in this country under the name of Prunes. It is cultivated and well known throughout Germany, Thuringia, Saxony, Silesia, Moravia, Bohemia, and Hungary. On the Continent, prunes are stewed and served as a dessert-dish; but, in this country, they are mostly used in medicine: they are emollient and laxative, and are often taken by themselves as a gentle aperient, when there is a tendency to inflammation: the pulp is likewise employed in electuaries, and is an agreeable vehicle for senna. Prunes are chiefly prepared in France from the variety of plum called the St. Catherine; and, in Portugal, from a sort which derives its name from the village of Guimaraens, where they are principally dried. They contain so large a quantity of sugar, that brandy is distilled from them when fermented; and it has even been proposed to manufacture sugar from them.

The Goliath, as its name implies, is a very fine, handsome plum, with juice similar to that of the Orleans. The Imperatrice is an oblong plum, with a rich, deep, purple skin, covered with a thick bloom, which is more copious than on any other plum in Covent-Garden-Market; the flesh is somewhat rich, but exceedingly sweet and rich: it ripens in October, but may be kept till the middle of December. The Imperial Diadem is a very handsome plum, and was raised from seed near Manchester, a few years previous to 1819; it is very juicy, sugary, and highly perfumed when ripe. La Delicieuse was brought to this country from New Jersey, about ten years ago, and first

sold by Mr. Kirke, at a guinea per plant, in 1825: it is very rich and abundant. The Nectarine Plum is very like a nectarine in shape and size: it is much finer and richer than the Goliath, and decidedly the best plum yet known of its size. The Orleans is one of our most common plums, and known in every market through England: the date of its introduction here is uncertain; but it does not appear to have been known to Ray, who died in 1705. The Purple Gage, or Reine Claude Violette, is of very high quality, equal to the Green Gage in flavour, and having this superiority, that while the latter is apt to crack in wet summers, and will never keep after having been gathered, this, on the contrary, will endure, if kept in a dry room, through August and September, even till October. The Red Magnum Bonum is an old plum of our gardens, having been cultivated by John Tradescant. Cobbett says, in his usual knock-down phraseology, "the Magnum Bonums are fit for nothing but tarts and sweetmeats. Magnum is right enough; but as to Bonum, the word has seldom been so completely misapplied." The Violet Diaper is a fleshy, firm plum, very good in the dessert, and excellent when dried as a prune. The Wheat Plum is ripe about the time of the wheat harvest, and is also called the Harvest Plum; it is amber and bright red, and sugary and subacid. The Winesour is said to have originated in the neighbourhood of Rotherham, in Yorkshire, many years ago; "it is," says Lindley, "the most valuable of all our plums for preserving, and great quantities preserved are sent annually from Wakefield and Leeds to distant parts of England. As a preserve, they will keep one or two years, and are preferable to those imported from abroad."

Among the White or Yellow-fruited varieties are the Apricot Plum, considered by some, nearly equal to the Green Gage. The Brignole is named from Brignole, a town of France, famous for its prunes, of which this ranks amongst its best sorts: its colour is pale yellow, for all prunes are not blackish purple, as are those commonly distinguished as prunes. Coe's Plum will hang some time upon the tree after it is matured, and may be kept a long time after it is gathered, either by suspending it by the stalk upon a string, within a window facing the sun, or by wrapping it in soft paper, and keeping it in a dry room. By this latter method, it has been eaten exceedingly good in October, twelve months after it had been gathered. It was raised about thirty years since, by Jervaise Coe, a market-gardener, at Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk: he told Mr. Lindley it was from the stone of a Green Gage, the blossom of which, he supposed, had been fertilized by the White Magnum Bonum, the two trees of which grew nearly in contact with each other in his garden. The Drap d'Or Plum is the colour of cloth of gold, a bright yellow. The June Hative is the first plum that ripens,—on a south wall, in the middle of July: its flesh is yellow and melting, and its juice sweet; and it is as old as the time of Tradescant. The Washington Plum is a modern variety, of which it is related that the parent tree was purchased at New York, towards the end of the last century. It remained barren several years, till, during a violent thunderstorm, the whole trunk was struck to the earth and destroyed. The root afterwards threw up a number of vigorous shoots, all of which were allowed to remain, and finally produced fruit. It is, therefore, to be presumed, that the stock of the barren kind was the parent of this, trees of which were sent to Robert Barclay, Esq., of Bury Hill, in 1819. The Wentworth

\* The Moorpark Apricot, now so universally known throughout England, is said to have been brought into this country by Sir William Temple, and planted in his garden at Moorpark: if so, it must have been an inhabitant there more than 100 years, as Sir William died in 1700, at the age of 72. In 1830, an old workman was employed in the gardens at Moorpark, who remembered quite well what had always been considered as the original tree, and he used to point out the place where it stood; but this tree has been dead some years, and its place is now occupied by an Orange Apricot, which appears to have been planted ten or twelve years ago.—*Lindley's Guide to the Orchard and Kitchen Garden*, 1831.

is an old plum, and is said to have been named from its having been first planted in the gardens of Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford, at Twickenham: it resembles the Magnum Bonum, and, like that, is excellent for preserving. The White Bullace mostly abounds in Norfolk, and large quantities are brought into the market at Norwich; they are highly esteemed for tarts, and are by some preserved by boiling them in sugar, in which state they will keep twelve months.

Such are a few cultivated varieties of plums, with the names of which some interesting circumstances are connected. Among the neglected varieties, we should not forget the Sloe, which Mr. Knight and others consider as the parent of the bullace, and all the varieties of the common plum. When ripe, it forms an excellent preserve; unripe, the inspissated juice forms an almost indelible ink, used to mark linen. It is used in home-made wines, to communicate the colour and roughness of port; and sloe-juice is almost synonymous with low-priced port-wine. Its leaves have been employed as a substitute for tea, and are well known to afford one of the means used in Europe for adulterating the black tea of China. As a shrubby plant, the sloe is most ornamental, blossoming before all others of the Prunus tribe:—who does not remember “the white-blossomed sloe” of English song. Moreover, its very bark is useful, it being said to possess properties akin to those of Jesuit's Bark.

The wood of the plum is used in turnery, cabinet-work, and in making musical instruments. Its well-known gum is analogous to tragacanth, or gum-dragon: it does not readily dissolve in cold water; but, in other respects, its properties resemble those of gum-arabic.

## BRISTOL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The third show of this society took place at the Cattle Market on Monday, August, 31st, being the day preceding our autumnal fair. There were about 150 prime beasts exhibited, which called forth the approbation of all present. The pens of sheep and pigs were also good. After inspecting the show the members assembled in the large room of the Inn, when J. S. Harford, Esq., being appointed chairman, the business of the day was opened by that gentleman requesting the secretary to read the report of the committee, which was accordingly done by Mr. Marmont.

After stating that several new members were added to the society, the report alluded to the exhibition of sheep shearing, and announced that the work was performed in a masterly manner; it then proceeded to offer the following suggestion relative to the shows:—

“Your committee feeling anxious that nothing may be left undone to increase the prosperity of the society, and to give the best possible chance to competitors in every description of stock, respectfully beg to recommend that the society should hold only one exhibition in each year, at which premiums of higher value may be offered, and that the time of holding such meeting should be at a period when the animals to be shown shall have arrived very near maturity, and the farmers have a chance of showing them to advantage at other meetings.”

This recommendation, after some discussion respecting the time for holding such meeting, was adopted; and the Friday after the Bath annual

show was fixed as the best. A report of the special committee to inquire into Mr. Smith's claim for the society's premium for draining land was read and adopted, and 10/ voted to Mr. Smith accordingly. Mr. S. was then called upon to explain his mode of draining, and several questions were put to him by the members. The mode is to be communicated to the secretary, and a section of the drains to be laid before the society at the next meeting.

A communication from Mr. John Hobbs, of Stapleton, recommending a specific for the destruction of the fly in turnips, was read, and a vote of thanks passed to Mr. H.

It was resolved to offer a premium for the best method of curing the disease of scouring in cattle.

It was announced that Mr. D. Peters intends offering a premium of 5/ for wool; Messrs. Barber and Edwards 5/ for flax, to which Mr. John Hare's annual donation of 5/ is (by his request) to be added; Mr. Emery, of Banwell, 2 guineas for the best cultivated allotment by a poor person. The thanks of the society were severally voted to those gentlemen.

The judges of live stock (Messrs. Evan David and — (York) then declared the following—

## PREMIUMS AND BOUNTIES.

*Adjudged at the Cattle Show, August 31st, 1835.*

| LIVE STOCK.                                                                                                     |  | £. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|----|
| Mr. Wm. Gibbons, for the best bull, cow, and offspring, the premium of.....                                     |  | 13 |
| Mr. R. Jolliffe, for the best fat ox, the premium of .....                                                      |  | 5  |
| Ditto for a grey steer, a bounty of .....                                                                       |  | 1  |
| Ditto for three steers, a bounty of .....                                                                       |  | 2  |
| Mr. Thos. Smith, for the best fat steer, the premium of .....                                                   |  | 5  |
| Ditto for the best fat heifer, the premium of .....                                                             |  | 4  |
| Ditto for three heifers, a bounty of .....                                                                      |  | 2  |
| Mr. G. Limerick, for the best fat cow, the premium of .....                                                     |  | 4  |
| Ditto for a Durham bull, a bounty of .....                                                                      |  | 1  |
| Ditto for a heifer, a bounty of .....                                                                           |  | 1  |
| Ditto for the pen of five best long wool ewes (Premium given by William Miles, Esq., M.P.) the premium of ..... |  | 5  |
| Mr. Joel Baber, for the four best fat wethers, the premium of .....                                             |  | 3  |
| Ditto for the best fat pig, the premium of .....                                                                |  | 2  |
| Ditto for the best short-wool ram, the premium of .....                                                         |  | 3  |
| Ditto for a fat ox, a bounty of .....                                                                           |  | 2  |
| Mr. Frankcom, for the four second-best fat wethers, the premium of .....                                        |  | 2  |
| Mr. David Edwards, for the four best fat ewes, the premium of .....                                             |  | 2  |
| Mr. Henry Hewlett, for the three best heifers, the premium of .....                                             |  | 5  |
| Mr. C. Hardwick, for the pen of six best short-wool ewes, the premium of .....                                  |  | 3  |
| Ditto for a heifer, a bounty of .....                                                                           |  | 1  |
| Ditto for a pen of fat wethers, a bounty of .....                                                               |  | 1  |
| Mr. Edward Peters, for the best boar and sow, the premium of .....                                              |  | 2  |
| Mr. Thomas Hardwick, for the best yoke of oxen, the premium of .....                                            |  | 4  |
| John Haythorne, Esq., for three breeding heifers, a bounty of .....                                             |  | 2  |
| G. W. Hall, Esq., for three yearling heifers, a bounty of .....                                                 |  | 2  |



|                                                               |   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Mr. George Rich, for two fat ewes, a bounty of £1             |   |
| Ditto for a ram, a bounty of .....                            | 1 |
| Mr. B. C. Woolly, for a pen of seven sheep, a bounty of ..... | 1 |
| Mr. John Hembler, for a York bull, a bounty of .....          | 1 |
| Mr. T. Chilcott, for a cow and calf, a bounty of .....        | 1 |

#### PREMIUMS FOR INDUSTRY AND GOOD BEHAVIOUR.

|                                                                                                          |   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Wm. Flue, for 49 years' servitude with Sir John Smyth, Bart. and family .....                            | 4 |
| John Goding, for 26 years' servitude with George Emery, Esq. ....                                        | 3 |
| Thomas Felford, for 21 years' servitude with Mr. J. D. Pountney and 10 years' with his predecessor ..... | 2 |
| Geo. Parker, Whitechurch, for bringing up 8 children without parish relief .....                         | 3 |
| John Pike, of Leigh, for bringing up 6 children without parish relief .....                              | 3 |
| Mary Parmiter, for 50 years' servitude with Mr. Edward Smith and family .....                            | 4 |
| Ann Barratt, for 26 years' servitude with Sir John Smyth, Bart. and family .....                         | 3 |
| Elizabeth Hasell, for 23 years' servitude with P. Bower, Esq., and family .....                          | 2 |

After the business of the day was concluded, upwards of fifty gentlemen, members and friends of the society, assembled at the Montague Tavern, and sat down to an excellent dinner, provided by Mr. Marshall, to which Sir John Smyth had kindly contributed a very prime buck. J. S. Harford, Esq. presided at the head of the table, and was ably supported by E. Sampson, Esq. of Henbury, as Vice-President.—The evening passed off much to the satisfaction of all present.

#### NEW POOR LAWS.

The following humane and practical remarks on the evils of the old Poor Law, and the best mode of educating the good derivable from the new, are extracted from a pamphlet on this important subject written by Sir Culling Eardley Smith, Bart. :—

“The allowance system may be said to be confined to certain districts of the kingdom, but there is scarcely a parish in England where the labourer does not consider himself entitled (either in the first instance, or as a last resource) to wages of labour out of the parish funds, for work more or less profitable, as the case may be, to the employers. A principal object of the new poor law is ultimately to make the labour market entirely free, leaving it to every employer to make use of the workman who best answers his purpose, and to every workman to seek for occupation where his diligence and industry will be best rewarded. It was intended to free the occupiers of land from the necessity which has compelled them to employ on their farms, under the penalty of employing them still less profitably out of the rates, labourers whom they do not require, or who do not give them satisfaction; it was intended to free the honest labourer from that mysterious bondage which obliges him to work for an unwilling master, although many persons in other parts of the country would readily employ him at good wages, supposing that they themselves were not compelled to give the preference to the idle and the useless of their own parish. The question is, how much of this undoubtedly beneficial result do the commissioners contemplate effecting during the present year? I do not ask this from mere curiosity: it is important that their intention should be known, because it would

enable the friends of the labouring class to prepare them for the change, by pointing out to them the necessity of exerting themselves to earn an independent livelihood, and the best means of doing so. For instance, if it is intended that the rule shall be that no parish work shall be given during the winter of 1835-6, and that the exception shall be its temporary continuance in certain densely populated parts of the country; then I trust that the commissioners will enable the friends of the labourer to tell him so before his summer earnings begin, and to direct his attention to the best means of increasing and economising those earnings. Foremost among the resources of which the industrious labourer may be reminded, is the cultivation of small allotments, from a rood of land upwards. I do not hesitate to say, as the result of some experience and of a good deal of impartial inquiry, that a poor man with a garden proportioned to his means of cultivating it, and with a probability of earning wages for only two months of the winter, will be more comfortably provided for than if he were sure of private or public employment during the whole winter, but did not possess the advantage of a good garden. It is only those who have seen the increased comforts, and improved habits, and grateful demeanour of the tenants of the “garden field,”—the fattening pig and its “follower,” the store of meal, the cask of ale, the decent dress, in places where such luxuries were before unknown,—who can appreciate the full value of this excellent charity. If then the labourers have early notice that they must absolutely depend on their own exertions, they will become the more anxious to obtain this accommodation; and most landowners, some from kindness and others from policy, will be willing to meet their wishes.

“If when the labourer shall have lost the resource of parish work, he shall find that, in his own neighbourhood, the lowness of wages is such as to prevent his economising against the winter season, and that there are no facilities for obtaining small gardens, it will be in the power of his friends to inform him of other parts of the country better circumstanced in both these respects. I suggested to the commissioners last October the propriety of distributing information in the more distressed districts, as to the rate of wages elsewhere, and the cheapest and quickest means of transport. I am glad to see by the newspapers, that the commissioners have done more than this, and that they have negotiated with employers in or near Manchester, to receive labourers from poor agricultural districts; the result of which, I have no doubt, will be that these labourers will earn a comfortable livelihood, while their masters will receive a benefit in the reduction of the rate of wages at Manchester.

“If, indeed, the prices for the same description of labour in different parts of the country were to be reduced into a tabular form, I believe the public would be astonished at the inequality. During the autumn of 1834, in some parts of the marshes of Lincolnshire, the rate of wages was from 12s to 15s a week, and this after harvest was over: at the same time, nine shillings a week was the usual rate in parts of Hertfordshire; and I understand seven shillings a week was not unusual in Sussex. Now any spirited labourer in either of these low-rated counties, needed only to walk to London, and the next day he might be transported by steam, for five shillings, to the banks of the Humber, where he would be within reach of the higher-rated country. The inequality is so great between the two counties, that it has been found worth while, very recently, for an occupier of land on a considerable scale, to convey a

little colony of labourers from Hertfordshire, to farms on the Wolds of Lincolnshire. Such migration, however, cannot take place to any great extent without some organized assistance, on the part either of the commissioners, or of individuals desirous of the good of the labouring class; for a stranger making his appearance in a distant country might be looked upon with suspicion, unless he carried with him testimonials of character; and though he might succeed in getting high wages during the summer and autumn, yet in the winter months (so long as the occupiers of land are compelled to employ their own parishioners) he might fail in obtaining employment, even if he were the most desirable workman in the place. But first and foremost, a system of mutual information is needed. The farmer who is paying high wages, does not know that there are abundant labourers who would gladly accept a lower rate; and the labourer who is driven to desperation by an over-stocked labour market and scanty pay (as in Sussex), is not aware that a very trifling effort would make him comfortable and independent.

"To return, then, to my proposal: let it once be known that it is the intention of the commissioners that the able-bodied labourers shall, more or less, and *exceptis exceptendis*, depend on their own resources in the winter of 1835-6; and then it will either be competent to the commissioners themselves to assist in equalizing the distribution of labour over the country, or it will be in the power of unions, parishes, or individuals, to disseminate information with a view to the same result."

### LAND IN PORTUGAL.

The following letter was received a short time since from a British gentleman, who has been in the Portuguese military service for two or three years past, and on whose statements reliance may be placed:—

"I am very glad to see your hand writing again. I feel somewhat delicate as to answering your letter. I enclose you the Decree as to the Sale of Lands, by which you will see that if you buy 1,000*l.* worth of land, you must pay down 2,00*l.* and grant sixteen bills bearing interest, payable every year for sixteen years. I think it a most capital speculation, that is to say, I consider it far better than our own Colonies, and if a man is active and resolve to be satisfied without making a fortune in a year, he can live comfortably and indulge in luxuries which he must not think of at home. If a purchaser picks out a fit property, he must make a fortune. If he choose dry land, he must understand irrigation; if he choose wet soil he will get it for nothing, as no Portuguese understands draining, but always put seed into the ground, adapting the seed to the ground, not making the ground in a fit state to receive the seed. Do you understand me? I myself know what I mean, and so must hope that you do. There will be a decided improvement in the breeds of cattle and sheep. Baron de Sa being so aware of it, that he has lately improved ewes for 15*l.* each, and rams at 35*l.* His property is opposite Santarem. Mr. ——— told Mr. ——— his two last years have been very bad, he having made no profit, only being able to support his family comfortably without any loss. Can the ——— farmers do the same many of these bad years? If a purchaser would settle in a rich wine or grain country, and have beside him a few hundred pounds to speculate with, he may at certain seasons make immense profits, by purchasing from the poor peasantry on the spot their grain and wine, serve him-

self, and become a great favourite in the country, no one being his enemy except the merchant with whom he interferes and whose shop he shuts. You see I am favourable to your scheme, but there is one difficulty to overcome. If you bring your own countrymen, they will either quarrel with the neighbourhood or get dissipated and drunk: but if it could be arranged to have one foreman and one labourer, upon whom you could rely, and who must be bribed by getting a share of the profits, that may do; and let all your other labourers be Portuguese, the thing may go on, and then gradually break them in, but all British never will do. I understand the thing very slightly, but I consider all the seeds here very bad, and if you could show an improvement, I think you would have many followers and supporters, as, although they are a jealous crew, still they are a vain set and flattered by a foreigner preferring Portugal to his own country. As yet none of the English officers have settled in the country, but that, *entre nous*, is no criterion by which to judge, as they are now only beginning to find out that there is no more monthly pay or rations, poor and small though they be. You know I used to complain of want of exertion. As to myself I have by no means made up my mind, as I would rather *fight* than *farm*, and as I think old mother Liberty is stalking abroad, I should prefer backing her if it was only through curiosity to see how far the old lady can walk. The Hopes and Dundasses of Scotland instilled into me such a detestation of aristocracy, tyranny, and oppression, that when the feeling comes across me (which it often does) I forget every thing. I think the chances are that I shall invest some money in Portugal, but at present I have not the slightest intention of settling here; my first great wish is to get home among my family and friends, and do my endeavour to have a better opinion of human nature than I now have. As to the security of this country, there is not the slightest chance of Don Miguel or the priesthood coming back. If the Queen dies, to a certainty there would be a row, and at all events if France becomes a republic, Portugal will follow the example, but faith will be kept with the public purchaser—depend on that. This is just, in my opinion, the time to purchase (if you can lay out your money for two years), as there is an alarm about Spain and ridiculous talk about Miguelists. There are a few robberies and murders, but I think it safer than Ireland, and not worse than New South Wales, the Caffres, nor South America and the Canadas, which have their own troubles, and Portugal is near home. But of course there are difficulties to contend with, but none, in my opinion, insurmountable, and none that I would hesitate to encounter. Of course Church property is always the best, and is decidedly better to buy than rent, as by improvement before sixteen years are over, the land should be able to pay the three last instalments. ——— and ——— have been in Algarve looking at old ——— estate. He gave them a plan and rate of expense and return, leaving a clear balance of 1,754*l.* per annum, which he offered to ——— for an advance of 250*l.* I astonished old ——— by asking him if he was ———'s son that he should be so kind. They are not yet returned from their view, but I have a letter from ———. He says "——'s speculation is a decided failure. ——— says he would not have the land for nothing. It consists of a light sandy soil, without water or any house near it for several miles. The old fool has done the English here a deal of harm by taking land and then deserting it, thinking that we are to do the same. We have explored a variety of properties, of which we have taken notes for perusal."



If they return before the packet sails, I shall give you some of their information. I have now seen —and—who have examined many properties, and are so favourably inclined, that they go down in a short time to take farms. Upon a farm of 80 acres and 50l the outlay, they make 450l, with 230l. for living, being 600l, should leave a profit of 400l. I have told both to write to you scientifically, which they are to do. I shall let this go as it is.

### AMERICAN AGRICULTURE.

Mr. Sheriff reached New York in May 1833, and began exploring the agriculture of this portion of the Union, of which he gives the following account:—

"Grass crops are mown for hay five or six years in succession, without being top-dressed or manured in any way—the aftermath, which is seldom abundant, being depastured. Five pounds of red clover, and half a peck of Timothy seeds (*Phileum pratense*), are sown on an acre; and also occasionally, small quantities of herd-grass and red-top, two kinds of poa. I believe the red clover lives longer than it commonly does in the cultivated fields of Britain, having seen many plants after five successive crops of hay. The grass on being ploughed, is followed in the first year by Indian corn without manure, by potatoes with manure, in the second year, and, if early, they are followed with buck-wheat; barley is taken in the third year, and in the fourth, oats accompanied with grass seeds. Potatoes are grown in drills as in Britain, and sometimes in hills three or four feet distant, formed by the surface being marked into squares by the plough. A whole potatoe, or three cuttings, are placed above the manure, and both covered over with earth by the spade. Disease in the potatoe was said to be unknown. The fruit crop is often injured by spring frosts, and wheat by mildew. Swede turnip is sown in August, and stored before winter. Geese are plucked three times a year—live goose feathers being a general article of commerce.

"Farm labourers or helps, get from ten to twelve dollars a-month, with bed and board, including washing, and a deduction is made for sickness or voluntary absence. A married man is allowed from ninety-five to one hundred and twenty dollars a-year, instead of board; and pays from twenty to twenty-five dollars for house and garden rent. The hours of labour are from sunrise to sundown, without a specified time for meals, to which they are commonly summoned by sound of horn. Hired men do not consider themselves bound for any length of time, and occasionally absent themselves for a day or two without giving notice of their intention. Hired spademen get seventy-five cents, or three-quarters of a dollar per day, without board, all the year round."

In the adjoining state of New Jersey, Mr. S. remarked—

"The crops to consist chiefly of rye and Indian corn, and were uniformly bad. Clovers and Timothy grass are seldom seen. In several instances lime or gypsum had been applied where Indian corn was growing, having been carried to the fields in waggons, and spread thinly over the surface. In one instance farm yard manure was being applied in imperfectly formed drills, which, I suppose, were destined to receive potatoes. Women were seen hoeing Indian corn in the fields, and I could not discover whether they were white or coloured. Many orchards, consisting chiefly of peach trees, the fruit of which is dis-

tilled into brandy, had been lately formed, and seemed the only thriving thing on the face of the earth."

This is not the only instance where Mr. S. observed women at work in the fields—a thing which both Mr. Stuart and Mr. Fergusson state is unknown in America.

"In the neighbourhood of Philadelphia, land of fine quality, and in high condition, may be had from 100 to 120 dollars per acre. Produce of all kinds is high, and the straw of a wheat crop has been sold at thirty dollars per acre. Wheat is often mildewed."

The following passage will illustrate the favoured condition of the labourers in America:—

"Men assisting at farm work in the neighbourhood of Philadelphia, get from ten to twelve dollars, with maintenance, per month, and they are not easily obtained to attend regularly at work. Young men and women of the industrious classes in the country, dress in fashionable clothes of the finest fabrics before marriage, after which, the wife becomes a lady, and generally engages a hired girl or help. Thrashing machines are common, but not good; and when the flail is used, barley and oats cost three cents, rye seven cents, and wheat twelve and a half cents per bushel when found.—that is, food provided for the workmen. From the high price of human labour, compared with the price of food, Indian corn is often trod out by oxen. Cradlers generally mow round the field when the crop admits of doing so; and stop only when the scythe requires to be sharpened. Hay costs in cutting from one, to one and a half dollar per acre. Mr. W—— pointed out a field of ryewhich was a good crop, and which he had a few days before let to be cradled at seventy-five cents per acre, without board or any other etcetera. The cradler not being permitted to sit at table with the family, and disliking to eat in the kitchen, had agreed to board with one of Mr. W——'s labourers for forty-five cents per day, and would be thus fed, viz., breakfast at seven o'clock, on wheat-bread, rye bread, fish, cheese, butter and coffee; luncheon at ten o'clock on cold meat, pickled pork, cheese, butter, pickles, bread, and coffee; dine at twelve, on every thing that is good and substantial; at five is served coffee, with bread, butter, fruit, and fruit pie. Occasionally supper is taken at seven, but this meal is considered superfluous."—*Sheriff's Tour in America.*

A valuable discovery in the management of fruit trees has been made by Mr. Crozier, nurseryman, late of Alnwick, and now of Newcastle. The object is to obtain new wood where it may be wanted, and for this purpose a nick is made above the eye where it is wished to produce new shoots, and after many experiments Mr. Crozier has found the expedient completely successful. In a garden, at the Barras-bridge, is a pear tree which has sixteen shoots produced by the above means this season. It has been applied with equal success, to apple, pear, and plum trees, and to the cherry to a certain extent.

We are given to understand that two eminent wool dealers, who occasionally make large purchases in Breconshire, have entered into an arrangement, by virtue of which, low prices are shaped, and consequently little is sold. If this be a fact, more distant dealers will, no doubt, ere long, find their way into the county. To curtail the fair profits of farmers at this period of beggaring depression in other branches of their industry, would be, indeed "too bad."—*Cambrian.*

# FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE POOR LAW COMMISSIONERS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD JOHN RUSSELL,  
HIS MAJESTY'S PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR THE HOME DEPARTMENT.

Poor Law Commission Office, Somerset  
House, 8th August, 1835.

MY LORD,—We are required by the fifth section of the Poor Law Amendment Act, to submit annually to one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, a "general Report of our Proceedings," in order that it may be laid before both houses of parliament.

In discharging this duty for the first time, we consider that the extent and novelty of the powers created by the legislature, and confided to us by his Majesty, and the peculiar character and importance of the interests which we have been called upon to superintend, demand from us a full exposition of the measures we have adopted; of the reasons for adopting them; and, as far as they can be ascertained, of the effects they have produced.

On the day on which we were sworn into office, we received notifications that the officers of several extensive parishes in the metropolis had prepared to yield up their offices to new local officers, who, it was conceived, were to be immediately appointed by us for the administration of relief throughout England and Wales.

We were at the same early period informed, that in extensive districts great confusion and uncertainty prevailed, arising from an impression that not only had the administration of relief been subjected to our general superintendence and control, but that the whole of the immediate and direct management had devolved upon us, and that the churchwardens and overseers, and other local officers, were no longer authorized to act in any case, unless under our specific directions. We were also apprized that in other parishes under the control of select vestries or boards of guardians, the danger of sudden interruptions of relief to large numbers of paupers was incurred by the want of preparation, arising chiefly from the absence of precise and authentic information, on the part of most of those bodies, to enable them to comply with the enactments contained in the 54th section of the Poor Law Amendment Act, which provides that, after the passing of the act, all relief in any such place "shall appertain and belong exclusively to such guardians of the poor or select vestry."

In a large proportion of this class of parishes, the select vestries and boards of guardians had been accustomed to meet irregularly, at intervals of a fortnight or a month, or still less frequently, the great bulk of the out-door relief being dispensed weekly, wholly in money, by the overseers. So soon as the provisions of that section of the act became known, the overseers of these parishes found that they were prohibited from granting any relief whatever, except under the express directions of the select vestries or boards of guardians, and except also in cases of urgent necessity, in which they were limited to the administration of relief in kind. The overseers, in the instances to which we advert, were unprepared with arrangements for any extensive substitution of relief in kind for relief in money, and the boards of guardians

and select vestries were unprepared to meet frequently, or to enter upon the extensive charge which suddenly devolved upon them.

Our best information at the time of our first entrance on the duties of our office led us to believe that these states of management prevailed, together or separately, in numerous districts, comprising a large portion of the country. Our first proceedings were directed to dispel these various errors promptly by all the means in our power, by verbal explanations to deputations, and direct communications to as large a portion as possible of the officers of the parishes in and near the metropolis, and in the distant parishes by a circular address, advertised forthwith in all the daily papers.

Our chief object was, in all these communications, to impress upon the parish officers generally, that the legislature had not exonerated them from the performance of their duties; that they were still to continue to administer the existing laws for the relief of the poor of the parish or place for which they acted; and that, subject to the provisions of the Poor Law Amendment Act, the general transaction of parochial business should be continued (with strict attention to economy) in the accustomed course, until we should be enabled to take specific measures thereon.

In reference to the change of the law effected by the 54th section, we directed the immediate attention of the select vestries and of the boards of guardians throughout the country to the expediency of adopting measures either by establishing rotas or otherwise, for securing more frequent and regular attendances for the performance of their altered duties in the ordering and superintending the administration of the necessary relief of the paupers.

With a view to promulgate the most authentic explanations of the law, we forwarded to each parish or place in England and Wales, a copy of the act, with an explanatory analysis of its various provisions in the form of a copious index. We at the same time transmitted with the copy of the act the circular letter above adverted to. In this circular to the parish officers we included a set of queries preparatory to further inquiries, with the view of ascertaining accurately the amount of workhouse room, state of pauperism, and the administration of relief in each parish.

Notwithstanding these communications, which we believe had the effect of preventing much disorder, and of retaining in the performance of their duties a large proportion of the officers charged with the immediate distribution of relief, who were prepared to abandon them, we found that a conception had been extensively propagated amongst the overseers in the rural parishes, which yet remained as constituted by the 43d of Elizabeth, that by the operation of the Poor Law Amendment Act they were entirely released from the control of the magistrates. The consequences of this error were stated to us in complaints and appeals from paupers themselves, and in statements of many of the magistrates, who also entertained the belief that in such parishes their power was at an end. These consequences were represented to be, that those dependent on parochial relief were harshly treated, and subjected to privations unwarranted by the legislature.



At the commencement of the winter, the fall in the price of agricultural produce appeared to press heavily upon the farmer, and render necessary a reduction of the wages of the labourer. In those districts where the vicious system of making up the wages of labour from the poor-rates had been established, and where the farmer commonly acts in the incompatible relations of employer of labour in confined labour markets, and of distributor of relief, any alteration of wages, which would in a natural state of things be determined as a question between purchaser and seller, is commonly contested as between paupers with indefinite claims, and a niggardly administrator of a legal fund for relief, believed to be inexhaustible. The first disturbances brought to our cognizance were represented to us as arising out of the interruption of the accustomed administration of relief; but they appeared, on examination, to have originated mainly in questions as to the amount of wages, arising not from the change of the law, but from the alteration of the prices of corn.

Whatever might have been the opinion which we had entertained as to the policy of the law in continuing the power of the magistrates to regulate wages by determining the rate of allowance, we held ourselves bound to use our best exertions for the enforcement of the existing law, according to the manifest intentions of the legislature. In this instance we felt it our duty to exert ourselves to make it known, by a circular letter, and by other means of communication, that in all parishes in which there are no boards of guardians, no select vestries, nor other similar bodies constituted under any general or local act, inasmuch as the acts of the 3 Will. and Mary, c. 11, and the 9 Geo. 1, c. 7, are not repealed, those Acts still authorize justices of the peace to exercise a control over the overseers in the administration of relief. We endeavoured at the same time to make the conditions under which this control was required to be exercised by the existing statutes more completely known than they appeared to have been at any time since their enactment. We may observe, however, that the evidence presented to us in the course of our first experience seemed to prove, that considerable inconvenience would have been incurred had the control of the magistrates in such parishes been at once abrogated, previously, to the transference of their duties in the superintendence of relief, to the boards of guardians created under the new act.

As a consequence of these proceedings, we were immediately led into a widely extended correspondence, in answer to solicitations from all parts of the country for more detailed explanations of the law, and of its application to the peculiar cases of parishes, and even of individuals. Combined with these applications were others for instructions upon questions of administration. Applications of the nature of those which occasioned the circulars and correspondence adverted to, from magistrates, from parochial officers, from rate-payers, as well as paupers, collectively or individually, have from that period continued to increase. They now form a considerable portion of the business of the department, and of the demands upon our attention. The wants thus indicated, we have endeavoured to satisfy by all the means in our power. Being deeply impressed with the extent and importance of the interests affected by our answers, we have availed ourselves of the assistance of counsel upon legal questions, and have from time to time had recourse to the aid of the law officers of the crown. On questions of administration, we have resorted to the

best available sources of information. This information we have extensively disseminated. The varied circumstances under which cases of the like description have been presented to us, in the information we received from all parts of the country, form an increasing body of illustrative evidence, enabling us to meet these applications, and to act with greater confidence than could under any other circumstances have been warranted. The frequent necessity of such references as those to which we have adverted, we would mention as a cause of occasional delays in our proceedings; in addition to which cause, we may also allude to the fact, that as we had no precedent for our guidance, the department being entirely new, every arrangement was required to be made *de novo*, and on the exigency. Our earlier proceedings have also been frequently impeded by the necessity of settling new forms of procedure, and of making detailed arrangements, which rendered it difficult to act with that promptitude which we deem otherwise practicable and necessary.

On the approach of the late winter, when large bodies of the agricultural labourers were thrown out of employment, the applications for advice as to the course which should be taken, and for assistance in particular parishes, and in districts, became numerous and pressing, and difficult to answer satisfactorily in all cases. We found that however particular were the statements of the evils requiring correction, how trustworthy soever might be the applicants, we seldom could feel assured that some material circumstances were not inadvertently overlooked and omitted in the statements transmitted to us. The existing sources of information, independently of the information obtained by personal inquiries on the spot, we found extremely defective as a foundation for the local application of new measures.

Although the investigations of the late Commissioners of Inquiry were more extensive than any preceding, and were fully adequate to the purposes of legislation, (as all our subsequent experience has proved,) yet those investigations did not extend directly or specifically to more than about 5,000 out of the 15,635 parishes or places separately relieving their own paupers; and we are aware that it was an opinion entertained by that board that, for the purpose of the practical application of the new law, a renewed and more detailed inquiry was requisite. On obtaining the answers to the queries which we have mentioned as having forwarded with our first circular, we found that those answers were extremely defective; and that at the best they would only yield general indications with respect to the actual condition of any parish or district. Even where we could entertain no reasonable doubt of the completeness of the information as to the general condition of a parish, attainable by the old means, we could seldom feel assured of the adequacy of the local agency for carrying into execution any general and complete change of system we might require.

In a large proportion of the cases, moreover, there was obviously no agency existing in the single parishes to execute any elaborate change of system. Under these circumstances, and in those cases where applications were made for instructions for an immediate and entire change, we felt that until we could re-examine the parishes or districts in question by our assistant-commissioners, our instructions to the local officers must of necessity be general and discretionary, and could not be safely extended to numerous details.

The applications for directions, however, were too numerous and urgent to admit of our dealing with them separately or specifically by means of our

assistant-commissioners. This state of things, together with the occurrence of some cases of precipitate and violent change made by some of the overseers on their own responsibility, suggested the expediency of issuing another circular of the date of the 8th of November, setting forth, as general recommendations, some of the chief preparatory measures which it might be necessary to adopt. In the instances of voluntary change made by the parish officers, it was stated that the most severe alterations were too frequently adopted towards the aged and infirm persons, they being the least capable of opposing a powerful resistance. In this communication, as in most others relating to the first alterations of relief, we deemed it necessary to urge caution as regarded this class of paupers, and to endeavour to extend protection to them. With reference to the able-bodied paupers, we endeavoured to enforce the adoption of a more correct principle for their employment, namely, by task-work, at such wages as would render the condition of the independent labourer the most eligible.

Another measure, which we then urged in our recommendations, was a preparative to the final adoption of the system which it was the view of the legislature to carry into complete operation, was the gradual substitution of relief in kind, *i. e.* in bread, and other necessities, for relief in money. We have never failed to urge the adoption of this form of relief, whether in cases in which it was necessary to give relief accompanied by the exaction of a return of labour, or in cases in which it appeared that no parish labour could be enforced.

We have found that in parishes where there are no workhouses, or where there are classes of paupers under circumstances in which it might be inexpedient to proffer the workhouse, relief in kind in some degree operated as a self-acting test of the validity of the claim for relief. Advances in money, it should be always recollected, are advances only of the means of obtaining relief, which means the pauper is under constant temptations to misapply, and in a large proportion of cases is incompetent to apply properly. Relief in kind, if well adapted, may be considered as the relief itself; the object of the *bonâ fide* applicant being, not money, but bread, or the immediate means of sustenance. It has been a frequent source of complaint, that of relief in money only a small portion reached the wives and other members of the family for whose sustenance it was given; and that, in the rural districts, the greater portion was spent in the beer shops, and in the towns was expended in the gin shops. Relief in kind we found less liable to misapplication. If instead of giving to a pauper a weekly allowance in money, an allowance be given in food or other necessities of the same value, he can only obtain a reduced amount of his wonted description of indulgence by the misappropriation of the relief in kind. This misappropriation is necessarily attended with increased trouble, loss, and risks of detection. Under this form of relief, we find that the temptation to fraud is diminished to the extent of the additional trouble incurred in the misappropriation, and the reduction of the amount of beer, spirits, or other objects of desire obtained by it. Another advantage seldom noticed as connected with relief in kind, and which has presented itself to our consideration as a reason for bringing this form of relief as early as possible into general operation, is, that in the present condition of the country, it diminishes the fluctuations of allowances in the way of unintended and unwarranted increases.

Where money allowances had by custom remained unchanged in amount, we found the actual allow-

ances of the paupers to be increasing in proportion to the reduction of the price of agricultural and other produce. These incidents of money payment powerfully affected the rural parishes, which when examined, displayed an increase of pressure greatly beyond any nominal increase of the rates. The reports which we have received from a considerable number of parishes, show that the recommendation of this substitution of relief in kind has been extensively acted upon, and that the effects in every instance that has been presented to us, have been, to a greater or less extent beneficial. The letters from the parish of Hatfield Broad Oak will illustrate the nature of the applications made to us, and the effect produced by the measures recommended.

In some of the London parishes the adoption of this form of relief has occasioned a reduction of the burthen of the out-door pauperism to the extent of nearly one-third. In the rural parishes the change is marked by complaints on the part of the beer-shopkeepers, and in towns by the diminished consumption of gin, immediately following the adoption of this mode of relief.

But in many of the single parishes it was alleged, that there was scarcely the means of substituting, without preponderant inconvenience, even relief in kind for relief in money; the agency for effecting even a slight approximation to a correct system being entirely wanting. There are 6,681 parishes in which the population does not exceed 300; 1,907 parishes in which it does not exceed 100; 737 parishes in which the population does not exceed 50 persons. In such parishes, the difference between the worst management, and the best that could be expected, did not suffice to make up for the expense of an adequate system of management, that is, of engaging persons competent to the task of carrying on a better system. From these and other circumstances, in a large proportion of small parishes which were brought within our cognizance, the voluntary introduction of any extensive changes, having for their object the discontinuance of out-door relief, or relief in aid of wages, was found to be impracticable, or only practicable with an extent of trouble, and an expenditure of labour, which would not be compensated by any adequate probability of permanent benefit.

Under these circumstances we proceeded to direct our chief attention to the general introduction of the workhouse system, with as few delays and preparatory measures as might be consistent with the best interests of those of the labouring classes who are pauperized, and with the circumstances of the districts where the changes might be first introduced.

In reference to an objection which has been urged to the general adoption of the workhouse system, and to its application to the cases of large classes of able-bodied paupers, we would here observe, that it is true that in the evidence collected by the late commissioners of inquiry, as well as in the course of our subsequent investigations, instances have been presented to us of parishes which have been dispauperized apparently by means of out-door employment alone, and without the direct agency of a workhouse: but in reality, the use of the workhouse has in these instances been resorted to, though its employment was not manifested. To cite, in illustration, the well-known example of Cookham; that parish was dispauperized chiefly by offering the able-bodied paupers hard work by the piece, for lower wages than they could get elsewhere. The Rev. Thomas Whately, the gentleman who conducted that change, was asked, "You have spoken of the workhouse system as the only means of producing the desired effect, and yet



you appear to have dispauperized the parish without offering the able-bodied paupers the workhouse?—Yes. Although we got rid of the able-bodied paupers by giving them trenching, and without taking them into the workhouse, yet that was only a temporary expedient; and it would not have been possible to have effected this without having had the workhouse in the rear to fall back upon; nor will it be possible, as I conceive, to continue the beneficial arrangements in the parish without it. The first irruption of paupers were got rid of by specific labour; but the incidental paupers, who were continually coming as the *avant couriers* to a tribe of others, could not have been provided with work, especially in the time of frost or snow; and these were silenced by the offer of the workhouse. When a single pauper came in, we could not provide out-door work: we could not have employed a superintendent to superintend the work of one man, nor could we have got trenching for one man, or for two men. If we had not had the workhouse to retire upon, we should have had an influx of paupers applying for work during the winter, whenever the ground was closed by frost or snow. The workhouse, we have found, is the only means of stopping gaps of this kind; and I am persuaded that it is the only means by which the same results can be effected throughout the country."

Now, although in the choice of means for accomplishing the objects of the Legislature, we did not overlook such examples of the beneficial application of out-door relief, or fail to recommend their imitation under similar circumstances, yet the cases we found to be rare where the parishes were so circumstanced as to render the application of out-door relief available in the manner described in the example, instead of the direct offer of a reception in the workhouse.

The following difficulties incidental to this mode of relief by setting able-bodied paupers to work during the day, and allowing them to return to their own homes during the night, were presented to us in practice.

It was reported to us, in a large proportion of the cases where we recommended the employment of labourers at task-work, that no fitting land could be obtained at a reasonable expense within the bounds of the single parish.

Where land was offered, it was frequently perceived, that in providing for this mode of relief considerable danger of jobbing was incurred. The parish farms which have come within our knowledge have all failed of their objects, and have proved to be sources of malversation.

Next we had to encounter the difficulties in procuring agents, at any expense proportionate to the gain, to superintend the enforcement of labour within the smaller parishes. To these difficulties were added others in the enforcement of the performance of labour upon sound principles; difficulties usually arising from the erroneous notions of the parish officers as to the obtaining of a profit from the labour, and the erroneous notions of the labourers as to the amount of work which they are bound to give, and of the wages they are entitled to receive from the parish. And further, the mode of relief was beset by the difficulties adverted to in the instance we have cited, in providing for the necessary interruptions of out-door labour in winter and during bad weather.

Another practical inconvenience presented to us with relation to such labour of out-door paupers applied independently of any workhouse, is the difficulty of separating and distinguishing the out-door pauper from the independent labourer. The pauper

is not distinguished from other labourers when engaged at out-door work. He associates with the other labourers under circumstances to familiarize them with pauper feelings and habits. Out-door labour without the workhouse has also this great and generally insuperable disadvantage, that it is a form of relief which is peculiarly liable to be made subservient to plans for pauperizing the independent labourer, inasmuch as it is a form of relief presenting in some degree the aspect of his regular employment, to which he can least object when offered or suggested to him by any employer, who intends to obtain from the parish a contribution of rates in lieu of the wages he would otherwise be compelled to give. These and other circumstances often render this mode of relief the most dangerous in its consequences of any which it is our duty to control.

These obstacles to the use of out-door labour as a preparative or as an auxiliary to the workhouse, we found generally precluded the consideration of the expediency of providing the means of such labour as a substitute for the workhouse. Without therefore omitting to sanction or enforce the application of out-door labour in aid of or as preparatory to the use of the workhouse, wherever preponderant obstacles and inconveniences did not occur to prevent it, we have been led to the conclusion, that in the greater proportion of cases the public time and means are best economized by immediate proceedings for the earliest and most direct adoption of the workhouse system.

It was not until the 1st of December that we were enabled to complete the appointment of the nine assistant-commissioners, whom we were authorized to appoint in the first instance on our own authority. The considerations which mainly influenced our choice were the possession of sound practical knowledge and experience of the subject matter of this commission, or the possession of acknowledged talent and general aptitude for the dispatch of public business. Subsequently, as the need of further assistance grew with our labours, the consent of the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury has successively been obtained to the appointment of an additional number of assistant commissioners. The whole number of persons at this time acting in that capacity is fifteen.

The principle which we have adopted for the selection of the districts for our proceedings in the formation of unions, has been to commence with those in which vicious modes of administration had become the most deeply rooted, and where the pauperized classes were the most demoralized, and the burthens of the rate-payers were the heaviest. It was, however, soon perceived in practice that the amount of the pecuniary burthen beyond the general average of the amount of rates per head on the population of England and Wales, formed the most correct index of the relative amount of disorder arising in a district from mal-administration.

The deviations which we have allowed ourselves to make from the strict order of the relative pecuniary burthen of the districts proceeded with, have been chiefly occasioned by special applications or by the occurrence of particular exigencies. The selection of the part of Berks first visited was occasioned by a special application for the formation of an union. Our assistant-commissioner first visited West Sussex upon an application of the local authorities, in consequence of a commotion which had arisen, apparently on the approach of the change of system in the administration of relief, but really in consequence of the reduction of the ordinary wages of labour. Our first proceedings which led to the

formation of the Wycombe and other unions in the county of Buckingham, were taken in consequence of a forcible appeal to us for the exercise of our functions from the pauper labourers of the parish of Bledlow. Our early intervention in Wiltshire was occasioned by a demand for assistance, in consequence of acts of incendiarism and threatened disturbances, arising from the continuance of abusive modes of administration near Calne; and by an appeal from Colonel Napier and other gentlemen, for the protection of some aged paupers from cruelties or neglect in the parish of Freshford, now included in the Bradford union. The proceedings which led to the formation of the first union of parishes in the county of Middlesex, (the Hendon union), were occasioned by an appeal from the magistrates of the Hendon division to correct the mismanagement of paupers in the Harrow workhouse, for the abatement of which evils the powers of the magistrates under the old law were deemed inadequate. Our first direct intervention by the appointment of a Board of Guardians, in a metropolitan parish, was called for by a large proportion of the rate-payers, to restore peace and to ensure good management in the parish, which was torn by dissensions. The application of a similar description have been numerous beyond our power of immediate compliance.

In several instances, however, where we have so far complied with them that we have caused an assistant-commissioner to visit the district, it having been found upon examination that although evils of the kind complained of did exist, yet that in amount they were greatly below the evils in action, elsewhere, we directed a suspension of proceedings in favour of the most heavily burthened districts.

Having put our assistant-commissioners in possession of our views, and of the general information contained in the reports of the late Commissioners of Inquiry, and all the local information and statistics which our office could furnish relating to the parishes and districts assigned to them, they proceeded to re-examine every parish; 1st, with relation to the description and pressure of any existing evils in the administration of relief in the parish; 2dly, as to the means existing within the parish of remedying such evils; 3dly, as to the remedies available by means of a union with other parishes, and as to the extent of the union requisite and practicable for the most efficient and economical administration on sound principles. Upon this examination the assistant-commissioner is required to prepare a written report to the board, setting forth the measures which he recommends for adoption, and referring to the evidence on which the recommendation of each measure is founded. Where the formation of a union is recommended, a considerable portion of the data collected is reduced to a tabular form. In many instances we find it necessary to hold a personal conference with the assistant-commissioner before determining on the proposed, and as to his general course of proceedings.

It has been a general practice with each assistant-commissioner, before finally determining upon his recommendations with relation to any district, to convene a meeting of the parties the most deeply interested in the proposed arrangements, namely, the principal owners and rate-payers and parish-officers. At this meeting he has explained the measures which it was his intention to recommend to the Board for adoption, and has invited the exposition of any objections, and the suggestion of any additions, to those measures.

It is satisfactory to us to be enabled to state, that in scarcely any instance have the measures thus sub-

mitted for a change of system in any district failed of obtaining the concurrence of a large majority of the meeting. In the greater proportion of cases the measures proposed have met with almost unanimous approbation.

Where dissent has been expressed in regard to the measures finally recommended by the assistant-commissioner (and such cases which have hitherto occurred in some single parish dissenting from a union with adjacent parishes), we have made it a practice to hear the statements of the dissentient parties, and to weigh any evidence which they have adduced upon the arrangement in question.

In the course of the subsequent proceedings, we have admitted of modifications as to the time and mode of making the proposed changes: but in endeavouring to decide solely upon the evidence of the permanent good to be accomplished, and not upon the predilections and conclusions of individuals, commonly deduced from the narrow field of observation, their own parish, and warped by private interests, we have not as yet felt ourselves called upon, in consequence of such appeals, to reverse the main recommendations of any of our assistant-commissioners.

We have already stated, that in a considerable number of parishes we found the agency inadequate for the correct administration of even preparatory measures of relief. We have also stated that we generally found it bad economy of the public means and time to attempt to enforce the introduction of the out-door employment of able-bodied paupers at task-work, as a substitute to the adoption of the workhouse system. As the examinations for the advancement of that system proceeded, we perceived that, even in the cases of parishes possessing workhouses, or poorhouses capable of being converted into workhouses, it was almost an equally bad economy of the public time and means to re-organize separately the arrangements for the administration of relief in the single parishes. Only in three instances, and those under very peculiar circumstances, have we deemed it advisable to place single parishes under the controul of boards of guardians (under the provisions of the Poor Law Amendment Act) in preference to uniting them with other parishes.

As the Statute under which we act leaves to our option various modes of proceeding with any parish, and allows us either to permit the parish to remain as at present constituted, or to place it under a board of guardians, or to unite it with other parishes for the use of a common workhouse, or for other purposes, we consider it our duty to set forth to your Lordship an outline of the reasons on which we found it necessary, immediately after the first investigations of the assistant-commissioners, to direct our exertions almost exclusively to the extension of the area or district of management, by the formation of unions of a greater or less number of parishes.

We have already intimated that in the smaller parishes the attainment of the separate means of administering relief upon a correct system of administration was impracticable, except at an expense greater than any probable saving that would accrue. Even in the largest of the parishes which have been examined by the assistant-commissioners, it is found that the means of an efficient administration are obtainable at a cheaper rate by the union of parishes. It has been proved that by the union arrangements these, as well as the smaller class of parishes, may be provided with the permanent advantage of a well-regulated workhouse, at a ratio of expense which, if the workhouse were to continue empty, would, in our belief, be more than compensated by the saving



which would be effected during the first few years, or by its effects upon the character and condition of the labouring population.

It has also been proved that the expense and loss of time in building new workhouses may, in many cases, be saved, by a union of parishes and the combination of their existing workhouses and poor-houses, by assigning one or two classes of the paupers to one of the separate workhouses within the district, which house would be unsuitable to the more extended classification of paupers required even for a single parish.

The next circumstance by which we have been influenced in the general formation of unions is the evidence of the superior economy in providing the necessary establishment of paid officers, and in the purchase of the supplies of provisions. In several of the unions the expense of management by paid officers, giving the whole of their services to the parishes united, is found to be less than the personal expenses heretofore charged to the rate-payers by the unpaid annual officers. With relation to those parishes where paid officers are already engaged, we need not specify the means of reduction in a union of twenty parishes, by the substitution of one complete establishment of paid officers for the twenty incomplete establishments for the separate parishes.

The extension of the area of management has proportionately increased the facilities for obtaining fitting officers, inasmuch as it is proportionately easier to find one fitting man than twenty, or to find one fitting officer for a union of twenty parishes, than to find twenty fitting officers for twenty single parishes. The peculiar qualifications required, and the difficulties so frequently experienced in finding proper officers at the outset, even in the new unions, have to our minds increased the importance of the extension of management for this purpose. An object of still greater importance at the commencement of a change of a system is attained by this extension; namely, the increased facility of collecting and enlisting the services of gentlemen who are peculiarly qualified to superintend an improved administration of relief.

It results from the union of parishes, that by substituting for the purchase of goods in the separate parishes, at the instance of the parish officers or of the vestry, purchases of goods for the whole union, almost as many sources of inducement to mismanagement are abated as there are parishes united. The pecuniary saving in the purchase of provisions when the purchases are made by contract for the whole union, on open tender, we have found to bear almost a direct proportion to the extent of the contract.

Another advantage of extended management has been manifested in the course of our proceedings, namely, the abatement of the influence of local jealousies and animosities.

In the course of some of our earlier proceedings under this commission, it was found that parishes which entertained strong objections to a union with the parishes immediately adjacent, expressed to our assistant-commissioners a preference for a union with distant parishes; and on perceiving that, from the increased size of the union, the parishes objected to would not constitute a majority, the dissentient parishes withdrew all objection, and expressed a zealous acquiescence in the change of system. The extension of the field of management was not only viewed as a resource for abating the animosities generated by the old system, when parish was at war with parish, but as a resource also against pernicious animosities between class and class, and as a

protection to individuals against the imposition of undue burthens. In the single parish, and especially in the small parish, the whole management was frequently warped to serve individual or sinister purposes. The administration of relief and the collection of rates were often so managed as to charge or exempt unduly some particular individual or class. It was soon perceived that the new boards of guardians, comprehending the magistrates of a district and the leading proprietors, would constitute a tribunal which could not be swayed by the petty interests or feelings which were dominant in the smaller district.

In another part of the field of administration, of equal importance, so long as it may be expedient that out-door relief should be continued, the extension of the district of management is found to be equally efficient in abating the mischievous influence of local interests.

Where the districts are small, the dispensers of relief act more closely within the sphere of their own connexions; proprietors are more frequently called upon to decide upon applications from their smaller tenants or dependents, or from the connexions of their dependents; occupiers who serve parochial offices are exposed to solicitations from their own labourers; and all retail shopkeepers have too frequently to decide upon claims to relief preferred or supported by their own customers. Those officers who would not deviate from the strict path of duty are exposed to serious sacrifices, from giving offence to one or the other class of applicants by the rejection of their claims, whilst strong temptations are held out to other officers to obtain popularity or further their private interests at the expense of the great body of rate-payers. In the larger districts we have generally found a majority free from the undue interests prevalent in narrow localities. We may cite the following passages from the evidence of the Reverend Charles Turner, of Wendover, a county magistrate and a member of the Board of Guardians of the Wycombe union, as illustrative of the general testimony in favour of the extension of the districts for poor-law administration:

"Have you felt any inconvenience, or derived any benefit, from the circumstance of the Wycombe union being so large as to consist of thirty-three parishes, and to be sixty miles in circumference?—I think we have derived great benefit: there being so many guardians from distant parishes acting on so large a scale, the possibility of intimidation and of favouritism is entirely destroyed. The paupers of the several parishes finding that all around them are treated alike, more readily submit to the law than they did under the vestry system, where they could make comparisons between theirs and other parishes where they received more. It was a common thing to have complaints made to me that they were ill-treated, because in some adjoining parish more money and less work were found. I also find this consequence, that from the extent of district great experience and knowledge are brought together, and concentrated in one operation; so that if one parish is in error as to any point of management or fact, it is corrected by the superior intelligence and information of some other parish. There is much more intelligence in a Board of Guardians than in a vestry, the Board being composed of the gentry and most respectable inhabitants of this large district, whose attendance is regular and as close as can be expected. Besides, the Board of Guardians will be a continuing body, gathering information and storing it up as they go on, whereas the management by overseers was one of continual apprenticeship, each year having a

new man; and although one overseer might introduce a good system, the next appointed might entirely destroy it."

"Shall you find any inconvenience from the workhouse of the union being distant from your parish?—No other inconvenience than in sending the pauper to it. To counterbalance that, I think the distance will operate as a superior check upon application for relief from this distant part of the union; for though a pauper of idle habits may make an experiment and try the workhouse, if in his own parish, he will I think have great reluctance to be sent to such a distance. I think in fact the very distance will act as an incitement to industry. This is one of the reasons why I prefer the Wycombe union, although our parish is far distant from the workhouse."

It is unnecessary to enumerate or describe all the considerations which have influenced us in determining the extent of unions. The most convenient limits of unions which we have found has been that of a circle, taking a market town as a centre, and comprehending those surrounding parishes whose inhabitants are accustomed to resort to the same market. This arrangement was found highly convenient for the weekly attendances of the parish officers, and some portion of the guardians and other auxiliaries to good management were derived from the town itself.

A further cause of limitation regarded by us at the outset was, that the field of management should not be so large as to prevent the members of boards of guardians embracing the whole of the details, for the control of which they should be responsible. As the business becomes methodized, the smaller unions may admit of further extension. As a proof of the increasing perception of the value of the extension of the scale of management, we may mention the fact of the readiness with which boards of guardians, constituted under Gilbert's Act or different local Acts, have consented to the dissolution of the unions over which they presided, the consent of a majority of two-thirds of the whole body of guardians being made necessary in such cases. For examples, we may refer to the statements relating to the dissolution of incorporations in the Hundreds of Suffolk, given in Mr. Mott's report, and also to the statements with relation to the dissolution of the incorporations in Kent, given in Sir Francis Head's report.

The new unions established having been frequently supposed to be analogous in their principles to the older incorporations, we would here observe that the principles of poor law administration which are sanctioned by Gilbert's Act, and by most of the local acts of incorporation of the same period, have been so mischievous in their operation, and are so much at variance with the principles established under the Poor Law Amendment Act, that we have invariably felt it our duty, as an indispensable preliminary to any beneficial change of system, to advise the immediate dissolution of the unions formed under the authority of those acts.

By the 29th section of Gilbert's Act the use of the workhouse was confined to children, and "such as are become indigent by old age, sickness or infirmities, and are unable to acquire a maintenance by their labour;" thus it excluded from the operation of the workhouse system the chief class to whom it can be beneficially applied. Although by the 31st section of the Poor Law Amendment Act, this section, or so much of Gilbert's Act as "limits the class or description of persons who shall be sent to such poorhouse or workhouse," is repealed, the 32d section of that act yet remains in force,

By this last-mentioned section it is provided, that "if in any parish, township, or place, any poor person or persons who shall be able and willing to work," (which may properly be read, who shall "profess" himself willing to work, for there are no means provided of testing his willingness where he makes a fraudulent application in the prospect of no work being to be found for him), "but who cannot get employment" (which can rarely in practice under this act be ascertained,) "it shall and may be lawful for the guardian of the poor of such parish, township, or place, and he is hereby required, on application made to him by or on behalf of such poor person, to agree for the labour of such poor person or persons at any work or employment suited to his or her strength and capacity," not in the workhouse, but "in any parish, township or place near the place of his or her residence." Thus the person, in a natural state of things the most interested in finding work, and who is the best able to do so, and to judge of what is suited to his own strength and capacity, is exonerated from the necessity of seeking work, which is imposed upon a person less interested and usually possessed of the least means of finding it. In one case of a threatened tumult of able-bodied paupers, who were dissatisfied with the amount of wages which they received from the parish, our assistant-commissioner communicated to them offers of regular employment for themselves and families in a manufacturing district, at wages at least double the amount of those which they had at any time been accustomed to receive when in work; but they refused these offers, and determined to remain in the parish, (which was one under Gilbert's Act), and demanded that employment near their residences should be found for them by the guardians, in compliance with the section we have recited. But where, in the view of the provision in question, labour cannot be found "near the residence" of the pauper, and the guardian is called upon "to agree for the labour of such poor person," (and it is to be presumed the ordinary employer of labourers is intended as the person with whom the agreement is to be made), the agreement can only be made upon the terms of giving to him the labour at such a rate below the market price as shall serve as an inducement to take that of which he is not at the time in need. Under these circumstances, the employer of labourers is furnished with the most mischievous inducement to throw them upon the parish, in order that, as paupers, their labour may again be offered to him at a low rate. The provision requiring that the labour shall be found near the residence of the pauper, has a further tendency to ensure to the employers of labourers within the bounds of that vicinity the command of the labour market. The guardian (himself often an employer of labourers), being subjected by the 35th section to a penalty if he neglect or refuse to provide the labour, or, in the words of the 32d section, "agree for the labour of such poor person or persons," has usually no adequate inducement, and but little means, to exert himself against such proceedings, the pecuniary consequences of which are divided amongst the great body of the rate-payers. The discontent of the pauperized labourer is averted by the following words of the 32d section, by which the guardian is bound "to maintain or cause such person or persons to be properly maintained, lodged, and provided for, until such work can be procured," (no definition being given of what the proper maintenance, lodging and provision are :) "and, during the time of such work, to receive the money to be earned for such work or labour, and make up the deficiency, if any; and if the same shall happen to ex-



ceed the money expended in such maintenance, to account for the surplus, which shall afterwards, within one calendar month, be given to such poor person or persons who shall have earned such money, if no further expenses shall be then incurred on his or her account to exhaust the same."

No period is defined during which the guardian shall be compelled to do all these things for all the persons who, professing their willingness to work, and alleging their inability to procure it, may require them to be done. The incorporations under this act, and the other incorporations formed under acts embodying the same principles, we have generally found amongst the most deeply pauperized of the districts which our assistant-commissioners have examined. The provision of the nature of a tariff, or, as it is termed in the rural districts, the "rake up," is followed by the deterioration and discontent of the pauperized labourers, by the increased burthens of the rate-payers, and the train of disorders which have already been submitted to the consideration of the legislature.

The intervention of some fortunate circumstances, and especially of the provisions we have adverted to not being so well understood as the law in general operation, have averted in some incorporated districts, and mitigated in others, the consequences of the principles embodied in Gilbert's Act; but we feel it our duty to endeavour to arrest the vicious tendencies of those principles, by using our influence to accelerate, as much as possible, the dissolution of all such unions or incorporations.

As a proof of the increasing perception of the value of the extension of the scale of management, we may state that the cases are numerous in which single parishes have remonstrated against being excluded, or have expressed dissatisfaction at the unavoidable delays in uniting them with others, and extending to them what they perceived to be the benefits of the act. In the few instances in which any persevering opposition has been evinced to the arrangements on the part of any individual parishes, we have reason to believe that this opposition has resulted chiefly from misapprehension of the provisions of the act, and of the object of the proceedings which were taken under the authority of this commission.

It may be a point of importance here to state, as regards our future proceedings, that although in the districts comprehended in the new unions, we have met with several parishes where the general management is greatly in advance of any management which we could expect to enforce at once in the other parishes included within the same union, yet we have in no instance found adequate reason to omit the best-managed parish from an union, on account of its management being relatively superior to that of any parishes remaining under the old system.

In the first place, we have found, as was stated in the report of the late Commissioners of Inquiry, that the continuance of good management in such parishes is generally dependent on the continuance of the life or services of some one individual by whom the beneficial management was introduced. By uniting such parishes, and subjecting them to the improved rules, administered by efficient establishments of paid officers, we consider that we ensured comparative permanency to the good management already introduced. We were also assured, from the evidence presented to us, that the economical results and other benefits of that management might be extended, either by a reduction of expenditure for management, a smaller amount being paid as a contribution for the more efficient union establishment, or by the

cheaper supplies of the workhouses consequent upon contracts upon a larger scale.

To these considerations were added the inducements arising from the probability that the influence of those individuals who had effected improvements would continue to be exercised in carrying into effect the like improvements in the other parishes united. Within the unions already formed are included the parishes of Cookham, White Waltham and Swallowfield, in Berks; Hatfield, Sandridge, Welwyn, Berkhamstead, in Herts; and other parishes honourably distinguished for the lead which they have taken in improving the poor-law administration.

The advantages for the sake of which the best-managed parishes in the districts examined have been included in unions, do not comprehend other and more remote advantages which may be anticipated as derivable from the attainment of uniformity of system, namely, as a means of preventing the discontents which arise on the part of the paupers from a comparison of their own with other districts more profusely managed, or of diminishing the motives for shifting from places less profusely managed to places where the profusion is greater; neither do the advantages, on account of which the assent to unions has been given in such cases, include those advantages derivable from uniformity in bringing the whole management more completely within the control of the legislature.

We have great satisfaction in being able to state, that from the perception of the immediate advantages of the union to the parishes which were found to be the best managed, our determination to unite them has generally obtained the acquiescence and support of the individuals to whom the parishes in question, and the public at large, are so deeply indebted for originating and conducting the beneficial changes of system which served as guarantees of the correctness of the remedial measures adopted by the legislature.

That the immediate advantages to such parishes resulting from the formation of unions should be so generally perceived, and that the measure should be supported by individuals who have given the highest proof of practical acquaintance with sound principles of administration, we submit as evidence justificatory of the confidence we feel in our present course of proceeding, which aims at the general extension of the field of management under the control of boards of guardians. The soundness of the decision which includes in unions parishes standing the highest in point of management, and where the progress in amendment is the most rapid and complete, we submit decides *à fortiori* against the claims to exemption of any other parishes on the grounds of the voluntary adoption of the principles of management sanctioned by the legislature, and prescribed in detail under our rules and regulations.

Concurrently with the extension of the districts of management, we were called upon to fill up the outlines of the constitution of the board of guardians, and of their powers and duties as traced by the legislature.

The first subject of consideration presented to us in connexion with these functionaries created by the Poor Law Amendment Act, related to their mode of election.

Under the old law, as it is in force in most of the un-united parishes, a large proportion of the mismanagement, the profusion, and the proceedings at variance with the interests and feelings of the majority of rate-payers, is traceable to the difficulties thrown, by the mode of election, in the way of the control of the majority of persons the most deeply interested.

In the largest parishes, with the most numerous constituents, and with the greatest facilities hitherto offered to rate-payers to exercise a general control over the management, we usually find that the greatest number of voters by whom any election is determined constitute only a minority, and usually a small minority, of the whole body of rate-payers; and in the rural parishes, where the population is widely scattered, we frequently found the management in the hands of a very small knot of individuals, whose residences enabled them to attend without inconvenience the place for the transaction of parochial business. The larger rate payers and the persons the most deeply interested, those engaged in trade or otherwise occupied, could not abandon their occupations to attend to their interests in parochial management, without greater prejudice to their more immediate interests in the pursuit of their ordinary occupations. The results of these circumstances are too frequently found to be, that the most wanton profusion and jobbing were maintained in a state of notoriety to the whole of the rate-payers; and this profusion was accompanied by proportionate mismanagement of the paupers, and a prejudicial influence exercised upon the condition of the labouring classes.

Unless some remedy had been provided for this defect, it appeared clear that the parochial management must have continued subject to the evils to which we have adverted. We assume that it was with a view to abate them that the legislature provided that "the votes shall be given or taken in writing, collected and returned in such manner as the said commissioners shall direct."

The principle upon which we have endeavoured to follow up this important enactment has been, that it was our duty to extend to all on whom the legislature conferred the right of voting the greatest facility for the exercise of that right; and as one of the first regulations, with this view, we prescribed the means of taking the sense of the rate-payers and owners of property, set forth in the form of declaration of a union, under a board of guardians, which we have given in the appendix. By these regulations, it is provided that voting papers, in the form thereto annexed, (also given in the appendix), shall be left by parochial officers at the house of each rate-payer. This paper must be left with him one clear day. He must set forth in his own handwriting the name of the person or persons for whom he votes, and the vote thus certified is called for, after the lapse of a day, by the collecting officer.

We must observe upon the preceding statement, that by leaving the vote to be certified at the house of the voter, he is enabled to perform the act with more calmness and deliberation than we believe is obtainable by any mode of voting in ordinary practice. As the progress of the votes is unknown, so are the motives to use undue means to affect the result diminished, and the voter is proportionately shielded from the use of those means. Though the process required additional officers for the collection of the votes, we should nevertheless consider the arrangement economical; for, supposing one officer should be capable of collecting within the prescribed time three hundred votes, we deem it the best economy of the public time that one officer should be required to go to three hundred persons and collect their votes, in a form which at the same time serves for the formation of the most perfect register, than that three hundred persons should, in order to exercise their franchise, be taken from their business and to a distant place of election,

and lose their time amidst tumult and the liability to insult in attending to have their votes registered by one officer.

In a great majority of instances in which the new boards of guardians have been formed, the elections have been made unanimously. In the instances where contests have taken place, this mode of voting has been tried, and on trial has justified the anticipations with relation to it. We may cite as an example of a trial under somewhat adverse circumstances, a recent contested election of a board of guardians for the parish of St. Martin in the Fields. The number of rate-payers qualified to vote at that election was 1,500. The greatest number of persons who had voted at any previous contested election, when the most strenuous exertions were used, was 750. The number of persons whose voting papers were collected at the recent election was 1,522, including, however, 149 owners who voted for the first time under the authority of the act.

Experience has suggested some additional facilities, which we trust will render this method of election still more complete for its purposes. A very large proportion of the votes collected in the instance above mentioned was declared to be invalid for various other causes, in no way affecting the merits of the arrangement as affording the greatest facilities to the largest number of inhabitants to record their votes.

We trust that by the other election arrangements we have adopted, the inducements to pack meetings for the purpose of carrying elections will be prevented. By means of a nomination-paper any rate-payer may nominate a candidate, without the necessity of attending the meeting, and without the possibility of the nomination being defeated by a show of hands at a packed meeting. If there be no more candidates than the requisite number to fill the vacancies, the candidates thus nominated will, under the regulations be elected as matter of course. If there be more than the required number, no show of hands is taken, but the sense of the rate-payers is ascertained by the means above stated.

From the mode of election thus enabling us to ascertain in the most rapid, peaceful and certain manner the sense of the great majority of the owners and rate-payers of any district, as indicated in the choice of guardians, or on other occasions, we derive satisfactory assurances of extensive local concurrence in the proceedings under the act.

The regulations which we have made for settling the manner of proceeding by the boards of guardians in conducting their business, and the provisions for determining the powers and duties of the paid officers first appointed, together with the rules for administering relief first prescribed in the new unions, are set forth in the appendix.

The provision of proper workhouse accommodation, and where accommodation was available, the enforcement of proper workhouse regulations, were generally found to require extensive arrangements. The first regulations for the administration of relief by the boards of guardians were therefore confined to the gradual substitution of relief in kind for relief in money, and to a few simple rules for the regulation of out-door relief, which had been extensively tried and had operated beneficially; but which would not involve a sudden or violent transition from the usual practices in the parishes united.

We shall subsequently advert to these rules when we shall have to state the results of the new unions.

To make the transition still more easy, a distant day



has usually been fixed for the peremptory operation of the rules, leaving an interval for their gradual enforcement, according to the discretion of the guardians. In some cases this period has been further extended at the request of the boards. In many cases modifications of the rules, either as to their matter, or as to the time of their enforcement, appeared necessary to adapt them to the wants of the district; and as yet these regulations have not been promulgated as general rules. In districts, where the administration of relief is in advance of the pauperized districts, the rules have been modified to promote a further advance. In the Cookham union we have ordered that all out-door relief to the able-bodied shall be discontinued. We have established that in the parish of Sandridge no out-door relief whatsoever should be allowed.

The whole of these arrangements we contemplate as the subject matter of revision, for the purpose of making the most speedy advance to a sound system that the circumstances of each district will allow.

Immediately after our arrangements respecting the preparative alterations of the out-door relief were completed, the provision of workhouse accommodation was presented for our consideration.

We are aware of the objections frequently made to the erection of new workhouses, and have carefully resorted to the means which have occurred to us as alternatives; we are also aware of the danger of unnecessary expenditures in providing for the accommodation of out-door paupers, the extent of whose acceptance of relief in a workhouse could at the best only be conjectured.

It will be seen, on reference to the tabular forms for exhibiting the results of the Assistant-Commissioners' inquiries, that we directed them, in every parish containing a workhouse or poor-house, or cottages, to examine to what extent those houses were applicable. If they could not be considered useful for all classes of inmates, whether they might not be made useful for only one class of paupers, and to what extent? Whether they could be rendered useful by alterations at any reasonable expense? If there were no workhouses in the parish or district, we next directed their inquiries as to the practicability of hiring and adapting some convenient building, or of purchasing one, if none could be hired? In general, it is only in the absence of these several means of accommodation, that we entertain the question of building a new workhouse.

We found it necessary for the purposes of the act, to obtain, with professional aid, plans for the construction of workhouses of different sizes, capable of holding from one to five hundred paupers. These plans were adapted to the attainment of the classification and the enforcement of the principles of management which we deemed essential: we have not, however, prescribed the general adoption of these plans, believing that deviations from them might be necessary to meet local circumstances, as to the extent of ground and description of materials available; and that, although they had been prepared with great care, we could not assume that in any point they were incapable of further improvement. We have therefore left to the boards of guardians the adoption of these, or the preference of any other plan which contains the requisite provisions for the classification of the workhouse inmates, and for the enforcement of what we deemed essential regulations.

We have given in the appendix copies of the plans which differ in arrangement, together with a copy of

a plan devised by Sir Francis Head, which has been adopted by several of the unions in Kent.

We have great satisfaction in being able to report that in several extensive districts, we have been able to direct the change of system without incurring any considerable expense in the erection of new buildings. In the whole of West Sussex only one new workhouse has been found necessary. In the county of Berks three new workhouses have been found requisite. In Hampshire seven; in East Kent ten. In upwards of 2,000 parishes which we have formed into 112 unions, the total number of new workhouses at this time in preparation is thirty-seven.

Before we conclude this subject, we beg to advert to one addition to the act which we consider it important should be asked of the Legislature during the present session. In the course of our proceedings great inconvenience has been experienced from the terms of the 26th section of the act, in which it is enacted, "that it shall be lawful for the said commissioners, by order under their hands and seal, to declare so many parishes as they may think fit to be united for the administration of the laws for the relief of the poor; and such parishes shall thereupon be deemed a union for such purpose, and thereupon the workhouse or workhouses of such parishes shall be for their common use."

The parishes where expense has been incurred in the erection of a workhouse, not unreasonably consider that in the union arrangements they are entitled to an allowance proportioned to their greater contribution of the means of advancement. In unions where it is found necessary to build additional workhouses, the parishes whose workhouses have been appropriated to the use of the union have still stronger claims to be exempted from contributing to the expense of new workhouses. Legal doubts are entertained whether in such cases we have the means of adjusting those claims, or of allowing the parishes so situated any remuneration in consideration of the use of the workhouses.

We beg to state to your lordship, that it would greatly facilitate our future proceedings in the existing unions, and the formation of new unions, if before the close of the present session of parliament an enactment were passed to remove the existing doubts, and enable us to settle equitably the terms of the union to the satisfaction of the parishes in question.

We must not, however, omit to observe, that the claims in question are not correctly admissible as claims for exemption from increased charges; they are more properly claims for increased proportions of benefit. We are aware of no case in which it would not have been of advantage to the parish possessing a workhouse to have given up its workhouse, without any compensation whatever, rather than that it should be excluded from the union. The principle of the proposed adjustment is, that those who, by the erection of workhouses, have made the greatest exertions to abate the evils of pauperism, are entitled to a proportionate share of the advantages of the change, as compared with those who had made less exertions, or no exertions whatever. At the time of the passing of the act, the apparent difficulties of prescribing the terms and procedure for settling the claims in question, were supposed to more than counterbalance the claims themselves. We are assured, from our subsequent experience, that, with the additional powers sought for, the claims may be readily determined to the satisfaction of all parties, without litigation.

In addition to the preparatory rules for the admini-

nistration of the out-door relief in the new unions we have found it necessary to prescribe for those unions possessing workhouses regulations comprehending what appeared to us to be the essentials of workhouse management and classification. We have not, however, in the present state of our proceedings thought it expedient to promulgate these regulations as general rules and regulations. We have only applied them in particular cases, with local modifications suggested by local inquiries.

One of the regulations which we have introduced, as an essential to good workhouse management, is the separation of the sexes in separate apartments, usually of the same house. The enforcement of this regulation having occupied in some degree the public attention, and it having been contended that an exemption from the general rule should be made in favour of the married paupers, we beg to state the ground upon which we deem the strict enforcement of the rule to be essential.

The first point to which we claim your lordship's notice on this subject, is the fact that in nearly all the workhouses in the larger metropolitan parishes, and in the well-regulated and efficient workhouses throughout the country, the rule which we propose to continue has been acted upon for many years. In all those examples, which have illustrated and developed the success of an efficient workhouse system, whether those examples have existed previously or subsequently to the passing of the Poor Law Amendment Act, the rule has been enforced strictly, and without reservation, and in every instance with the best results.

Where all the labourers of a parish or of a district receive relief from the rates, and where large proportions of them are wholly dependent upon the parish during long periods, to those who, not having become acquainted with all the operations of the allowance system, and who believe relief in aid of wages to be absolutely necessary, the practicability of enforcing a measure for abolishing out-door relief, which is presented to their minds as one for separating man and wife, and placing the whole or the greater part of the population in a workhouse, will be as strongly doubted as its justice and policy. An examination of the proceedings under the commission would display the grounds of the error, to which we can here only advert. In the report to us from Mr. Power, will be found a full and distinct statement of the circumstances under which he found, within the districts assigned to him, that the apparent surplus was unreal and factitious. In the same report, and also in the reports from Messrs. Hall, Gulson, and Gilbert, will be found statements of the modes in which, under improved management, the apparent surplus is absorbed or dissipated.

All the past experience of well-managed workhouses proves that the continued residence in the workhouse of any considerable proportion of the usual out-door paupers would be but temporary.

In none of the new unions where the workhouse system has been applied have any considerable number of married couples, who were out-door paupers, accepted relief within the workhouse. The instances of the reception of married couples, even temporarily, into the workhouse, where the separation of the sexes is enforced, are extremely rare; we can only therefore contemplate the necessity of submitting to the rule as likely to occur in a small proportion of the cases of the out-door paupers, and in those cases only as occurring for a short time. Permanent domiciliation in a workhouse is the result we least of all contemplate as arising from the proposed arrangement. Should that result occur in any peculiar loca-

lities, we should consider that the cases called for the application of other remedies, and amongst them, of a migration to a field where the demand for labour is more extensive and certain. We therefore apprehend that it would be a most dangerous experiment were we to authorise such a new and extensive qualification of the recognized workhouse system, as might have the effect of domiciliating and reconciling to a habitation in a workhouse, a class which experience clearly proves, would not otherwise be induced to accept of this mode of relief.

All the efficient existing workhouses throughout the country are built with large sleeping wards, which are separately appropriated to inmates of each sex. An alteration of this arrangement, and a relaxation of the rule, could not, therefore, be complied with, without permitting, and even compelling, on the parts of married couples, the violation of all decency, without making extensive alterations in the construction of the whole of the existing workhouses throughout the kingdom, and without subjecting the inmates to more severe restrictions, in order to secure the observance of common decency and order. The details of the facts which have come to our knowledge respecting those places in which the ordinary rule has been violated, and the indulgence contended for has been granted, are such as it would be impossible to allow to appear in any public document. The consequences which followed, even in those instances where separate apartments have been provided for each couple, are such as to prove that the rules could not be relaxed in the manner proposed without making each establishment an asylum for the encouragement of improper intercourse between the sexes. Under these circumstances, we cannot admit that the charge of undue severity attaches to the continued and more complete enforcement of the rule for the separation of the sexes during the temporary residence in the workhouse, as a condition of being relieved from the danger of perishing for want. The temporary separation of married persons, it must be recollected, is an inconvenience which many thousands of the married, in every rank in society, undergo, not as the condition of an escape from any imminent evil, but for the purpose of sustaining or advancing their condition in society. Neither can we admit that a separation which has ever been endured without complaint of peculiar hardship by all who have served in the army or in the navy, can be justly regarded as too great a sacrifice for those who, as paupers, are relieved from the pressure of destitution.

It will be seen from the foreign communications to the late commissioners of inquiry, that the rule is adopted in the most efficient workhouses in the United States, and generally in every civilized country in Europe where a system of relief analogous to relief in a workhouse prevails.

These observations we have submitted apply to the cases of able-bodied married couples. The grounds for the application of the rule to the aged and infirm are, that such separation is requisite for their comfort and appropriate treatment. The detailed grounds in favour of the rule are similar to the grounds for the practice which has ever prevailed in the hospitals, of placing the sexes in separate wards. Some of these grounds are set forth in the following examination of the master of the workhouse at Aylesbury, from Mr. Gilbert's report:

*Evidence of Benjamin Quatermain Simons.*

"I am master of the workhouse at Aylesbury, and have been ever since the house was built, five years



last November. The rule of the house is to classify the inmates, and we always keep men and wives separate. In the old house the men and their wives used to live together. Amongst these there were John Evitt and his wife, James Hearn and his wife, the only married couples who were removed into this new house. After being in the new house, living together as they had done in the old house, for about six months, (the other married couples who had newly come into the new house being separated), Evitt and his wife, and Hearn and his wife, requested that they might be permitted also to live separate; and Hearn's wife also requested that she and her husband might live separate. The reason they gave was, that being old and afflicted people they disturbed one another at night, and could not be so well attended upon as if they were separate. The vestry consented to let Evitt and his wife live separate, but having no nurse that could wait upon Hearn, we were obliged to refuse their request. Evitt and his wife lived separate all the time they were in the house, up to the time of the wife's death, and Hearn and his wife continued together till the husband died. The wife of Hearn made many and frequent applications to the parish to be permitted to live separate, but we had no one that could attend upon him. She stated that her husband's infirmities soured his temper, and made them quarrel and disagree. Neither Evitt nor his wife ever requested, after they were separated, to be allowed to live together again.

"Another case of the same sort is a man and his wife belonging to our parish, who had been living in St. Margaret's parish, the man in the infirmary and the woman in the workhouse. Their names were Ironmonger; they are still in the workhouse. They requested to live separate, and still do so, with their own desire. The wife is bed-ridden, and requires nursing like a child. It is necessary to have a woman to nurse such a person. If her husband was with her, no woman could, in his presence, nurse, and she must either remain in a state of filth and neglect, or she must live separate from her husband.

"Do you conceive it possible, without separation of the sexes, to manage a workhouse consistently with the comfort of the aged and control of the able-bodied?—No, I am sure you cannot, Sir. If a man and his wife are together they must have a separate room to themselves, or there would be the gross indecency of many men and women sleeping, undressing, and doing the necessary offices of a bedroom in the presence of each other. The effect of a joint-room, too, would be that the paupers, men and women together, being reduced to a state of total want of decency, would soon have common and promiscuous intercourse.

"If one room was had for each man and his wife, it would be impossible to find room for them in the large parishes. We always find that paupers in separate rooms are dirty in the extreme, and a set of servants would be necessary to keep the house clean. I am clearly of opinion that all who try to manage a large workhouse without the division of the sexes, will fail in making the aged comfortable, the disorderly obedient, or keeping the house in a state of healthy cleanliness."

This evidence sets forth the common opinion of all other practical witnesses who have communicated upon the subject with the board.

We cite the following passage from the report of Mr. Hawley, as illustrative of the scenes not unfrequently presented to our assistant-commissioners. These scenes exhibit the cruelties and various evils

which would be incurred and maintained by yielding to the opinions of those ill-informed persons, who, without inquiring, declaim against that separation of paupers in different houses or in different apartments, required in the workhouse regulations, which forms the only means of preventing such evils:

"My time during the week has been engaged in visiting the workhouses of the proposed union, and it would afford me a pleasurable feeling could I send even a partially satisfactory report of their condition and management. Every visit paid to workhouses, as they are now constituted, confirms the necessity of interference by the powerful arm of the new law, to work a reformation in systems and habits which are a disgrace to civilization and humanity; and I would adduce the workhouse at Ewhurst as a sad example of the evil and misery which flow from neglect, self-interestedness, and want of feeling in those to whose hands the control of parish affairs has hitherto been confided. In the day-room I found a group of children sitting in listless idleness, uninstructed in either moral or useful duties. One of the bed-rooms was appropriated to the reception of an aged man and woman and three girls; a third room was the sleeping place of a young woman affected with a certain loathsome disease, and in company with her were several boys and girls; in another, a violent female maniac, fastened with cords to a chair, was disturbing all the inmates of the house by loud and obscene exclamations. In a low dark garret, hot to suffocation, I discovered eight beds closely packed together, on one of which was sitting a lame pauper, inhaling as much air as an aperture, intended for a window, would admit; on another was stretched a poor wretched being, in the last stage of a consumption, emaciated and exhausted by disease, but having his sufferings aggravated tenfold by the hot and pestiferous atmosphere which filled the apartment in which he was immured. An instant order for his removal to a more airy apartment was complied with, with evident reluctance on the part of the governor, who seemed totally reckless as to the comparative state of comfort in which vice and misfortune should have been placed in this ill-conducted receptacle of paupers.

"A system founded on a more humane attention to the wants of the really distressed, and a stricter discipline towards the idle and dissolute, will forthwith be established in this union, and the conduct of the guardians to-day gave every assurance of a ready co-operation in carrying it into effect."

In the course of the earlier proceedings for the enforcement of the measures preparatory to the discontinuance of the allowance system, our attention was directed to the expediency of facilitating the migration of families of labourers from the southern agricultural, to the northern manufacturing counties.

Shortly after our appointment, letters were submitted to us from some eminent manufacturers in Lancashire, representing that in that district there was an increasing demand for hands, and suggesting the expediency of our promoting a supply from the heavily burthened rural parishes of the southern counties.

We need only advert to the fact, that in the rural districts, where the allowance system prevails, it is common to represent the whole of those who are for any considerable period thrown upon the rates as a surplus population. Until the system of making allowances in aid of wages, or of making the parish the labour mart is completely eradicated; until relief is given only under circumstances rendering the acceptance of it conclusive evidence of entire des-

titution: until the acceptor of is taken completely upon the parish, and this change of system has been made, not only in the single parish but throughout the district, and has been for some time in operation, we should, as at present advised, scarcely feel warranted in pronouncing on the reality of the strongest cases of an apparent surplus of population which have at any time been presented to us. We have had instances of parishes which appeared, *prima facie*, to be burthened with a surplus population of more than one-third, which surplus has been absorbed almost entirely within the parish itself, by the operation of the workhouse system.

Admitting, however, that there are parishes containing a real surplus of able-bodied paupers, which could not be wholly absorbed within the parish as a consequence of the change of system of administering relief, our present information leads us to hope that the greater proportion, if not the whole, of this surplus will be absorbed when the district as well as the parish is dispauperized. Nevertheless, in most districts are found large families of children, widows with young families capable of labour, but for whom there appears to be no immediate employment within the rural districts.

In considering the communications made to us by the manufacturers, the fact was presented to us, as established by most extensive inquiries made under the late commission of poor law inquiry in the rural districts, and the factory commission in the manufacturing districts, of the striking difference of the rates of wages received by the labouring population within the two districts. The rate of wages for families comprehending three or four working hands in the manufacturing districts is at least double the amount of the best wages obtained by families of the same description within the agricultural districts; and, moreover, the demand for labour at such wages is steadily increasing. So far as any proceedings for influencing the direction of the circulation of labour come within our province, which we conceive they do only under the very peculiar circumstances of the change of system which we are charged to conduct, we feel it our duty to the pauperized labourers themselves to direct them to the sources of the highest wages; and we believe that this course of proceeding will be conducive to the most enlarged public interests.

On these grounds we directed a circular letter, of the date of 2nd of March, to be sent to certain of the manufacturers in Lancashire and other districts, where we were informed that there existed the greatest demand for labourers. In this letter we offered to those who had a demand for labourers, to make the circumstance known in rural parishes containing families willing to migrate, from whom such a selection could be made as might meet the wishes of the employer. We also offered, as the manufacturer might prefer, either to supply him with such information as would serve to direct his own inquiries, or direct inquiries to be made from the minister and the respectable inhabitants of the parish, on such points respecting the past conduct of the persons willing to migrate, as would serve to satisfy him as to their general character and trustworthiness as workpeople.

The first trial of the measure was made in the parish of Bledlow, Bucks, where it had been represented to us that numerous families were subsisting in extreme distress, and where it was threatened that the lands would be thrown out of cultivation in consequence of the increasing burthen of the rates.

We found greater reluctance on the parts of the labourers to accept offers of employment than we anticipated. It had been previously made known

within the district that our proceedings were preparatory to the gradual abolition of all out-door relief to the able-bodied, and the introduction of the workhouse system; but we were desirous that the migration should be voluntary on the parts of the pauperized labourers. We had not sanctioned the withdrawal of their accustomed allowance, or countenanced any intimation of such a reduction as being likely to follow their refusal. That this might not be done, we directed the assistant-commissioner to communicate the offers personally to the families who were dependent on the rates. He went from house to house of the labourers' families of that parish who had stated that they were the most deeply distressed, who had in their public memorial addressed to the board, declared that they were then living only on 7s per week wages, obtained by families consisting of several individuals. To these he successively offered engagements for constant employment on terms ensuring about 24s. per week per family of four working hands, for the first year of their service, and 30s. for the second. But not one family could in the first instance be induced to accept the offer. The majority intimated that they would in preference, in the coming spring, renounce their "parish pay" rather than remove. After this general refusal, one family was persuaded to accept; before their departure another family accepted employment on the terms proposed. After these had departed and had tried their new situations, a number of others accepted the offers, making in all 83 individuals who migrated from that parish. Subsequently, a large migration took place from the parish of Princess Risborough and the example was followed in other places without our intervention.

The results of this experimental measure are stated in detail in the letters of Henry Ashworth, Esq., R. H. Greg, Esq., (our first correspondents,) in a letter from R. Beard Esq., and also in a report from Dr. Kay, our assistant-commissioner, to which we would direct your lordship's special attention for the information it contains relating to the Lancashire cotton district.

These results are in substance, that nearly the whole of the individuals who have migrated are now in constant employment in Lancashire, and earning collectively as families three times the amount of wages which they had at any time earned in the districts which they had quitted. They have been provided with superior cottages, which they have been enabled to furnish by means of advances of money from their employers, to be repaid by instalments from their wages. They have abundant supplies of fuel, at such low rates as to be enabled to enjoy the luxury of a fire to an extent unknown to the labourers of the southern counties. The head of the first family who migrated declared that not all the horses in Buckinghamshire should draw himself and family back to his parish. Similar expressions of satisfaction at the change were made by others of the heads of families to Dr. Kay. The employers of the workpeople have expressed themselves well satisfied with the conduct of these southern families, and have declared their intention of seeking families from the same districts in the event of their requiring additional hands. On the other hand, the migrants have been cordially received by the established manufacturing operatives. This circumstance is accounted for partly by their natural preference for their own countrymen, and partly from the fact that the adult operatives participate in the advantages of a supply of young working hands, as the increase is requisite for the advancement of their own more skilled labour. It has been reported to us, that so sensible have been the adult



operatives of those districts of the necessity of an increased supply of hands, that although they have sometimes been guilty of acts of riot to prevent the introduction of new machinery, scarcely any instances are on record where they have taken steps to resist with violence the influx of new hands.

The effect of the migration upon the parishes has been a proportionate reduction of the rates. It has been reported to us that in the parish of Bledlow, where the experiment was first tried, the rates were reduced one-half, mainly in consequence of the migration.

It appears from the inquiries of Dr. Kay, that new mills are in the course of erection; that old mills are about to be extended and completed during the next two years, requiring altogether 7,000 horse-powers of steam-engines to put them in action. For the service of these mills, many thousand additional hands will be required during that period. Some portion of this prospective demand for labour will no doubt be supplied from within the county; the hand-loom weavers it is hoped will be induced to avail themselves of the new markets for their labour; but from the best information which we can collect, it appears that this increased demand can be completely supplied only by migration from some other parts of the country. The success of the experiments which we have just related leads to the expectation that further supplies of labour will be sought by the manufacturers from the southern counties. In the instances stated, the channel of communication being opened, a further migration has taken place without our intervention. The manufacturer to whom the first families were sent, states, for example, in a subsequent communication, "I can now, without any trouble, supply myself from Bledlow, by mentioning to my Bledlow hands that I am ready to take more."

Such a course of spontaneous migration, without

the intervention of this board, or of any public authority whatsoever, is the course which we are most desirous of seeing in action. But the pernicious habits engendered under the old law, which confined the labourers and their families to their parishes, will require in other districts some care and exertions to overcome. We do not perceive how, in the instances we have mentioned, the reluctance manifested by the labourers to quit their parishes could without our intervention have been overcome. The same beneficial course will probably be found requisite in other pauperized districts where the advantages of migration are yet unknown.

To whatever extent it may be found expedient to promote further migration, we should in no case promote a removal of any labourers to the manufacturing districts where there was not a clear and specific demand for the labourers to be removed; and in all cases we deem the gradual absorption, family by family, preferable to the removal of considerable numbers. The expenses of these removals have, in the first instance, mostly been defrayed by the parishes from which the families have been removed. These expenses have been considered as relief. The expense of removal of 113 persons from Princes Risborough was 16l. per head.

At the time of framing the regulations for the new unions, and of considering the subject of migration, we also considered the measures requisite for the diminishing any possible surplus of pauper labourers, by facilitating foreign or colonial emigration. To this end we prepared the instructions set forth in the Appendix, and we pointed out the mode in which parishes ought to proceed, under the authority of the 62d section of the Act, to procure loans either from the commissioners of exchequer bills, or from private individuals.

The following Table displays the very small extent to which parishes have resorted to this provision.

| NAME OF PARISH.             | COUNTY.           | Amount raised or borrowed, either from the Exchequer Loan Office, or from private individuals. | Number of persons who have emigrated. | To what part emigrated.                       |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Hambleton .....             | Hants .....       | £ 300                                                                                          | 28                                    | Upper Canada.                                 |
| Ingoldesthorpe .....        | Norfolk .....     | 32                                                                                             | 4                                     | Ditto                                         |
| Great Ringstead .....       | Ditto .....       | 200                                                                                            | 27                                    | Ditto                                         |
| Pewsey .....                | Wilts .....       | 130                                                                                            | 21                                    | Ditto                                         |
| Stalbridge .....            | Dorset .....      | 100                                                                                            | 23                                    | United States.                                |
| Sandcroft Southelmham ..... | Suffolk .....     | 35                                                                                             | 9                                     | Prince Edward's Island.                       |
| Wimbish .....               | Essex .....       | 80                                                                                             | 22                                    | Upper Canada.                                 |
| Great Hallingbury .....     | Ditto .....       | 50                                                                                             | 5                                     | Ditto                                         |
| Stansted Mountfitchet ..... | Ditto .....       | 30                                                                                             | 4                                     | Ditto                                         |
| Renwick .....               | Cumberland .....  | 25                                                                                             | 9                                     | Ditto                                         |
| Alington .....              | Kent .....        | 65                                                                                             | 9                                     | Ditto                                         |
| Chawton .....               | Southampton ..... | 100                                                                                            | 6                                     | Ditto                                         |
| Stanton St. John .....      | Oxford .....      | 40                                                                                             | 4                                     | Ditto                                         |
| Yapton .....                | Sussex .....      | 140                                                                                            | 12                                    | Ditto                                         |
| Wisborough Green .....      | Ditto .....       | 85                                                                                             | 9                                     | Ditto                                         |
| Heene .....                 | Ditto .....       | 100                                                                                            | 10                                    | Ditto                                         |
| Shipley .....               | Ditto .....       | 600                                                                                            | 63                                    | { 36 to Upper Canada.<br>27 to United States. |
| Felpham .....               | Ditto .....       | 250                                                                                            | 42                                    | Upper Canada.                                 |
| Bepton .....                | Ditto .....       | 111                                                                                            | 13                                    | —                                             |
| TOTAL .....                 |                   | £ 2,473                                                                                        | 320                                   |                                               |

Number of applications from parishes, 80.

It is a remarkable fact, that hitherto no demands for the sanction to emigration have been made to us from any of the parishes which have been wholly or partially dispauperized; nor have we at present any reason to expect that this cautionary provision of the legislature will be extensively used.

We have now to report, that at this period the total number of parishes which have been united by us since the 6th of December last, the date of the first union, and subjected to the progressive introduction of the new Act, is 2,066, constituting 112 unions. The population of the parishes united and placed under boards of guardians forms one-tenth of the population of England and Wales; but in consequence of the most heavily-burthened districts being selected for our earliest proceedings, the proportion of the rates affected by the change is one-sixth of the total amount of rates in England and Wales.

In the county of Kent eight old incorporations have been dissolved by consent; 211 parishes have been formed into 13 unions, which include the whole of East Kent.

In the county of Sussex five old incorporations have been dissolved, and 242 parishes, comprising nearly the whole of the county, have been formed into 16 unions.

Nearly the whole of Hants has been re-organized into 21 unions, comprising 275 parishes.

The whole of the county of Berks has now been united in 11 unions, comprising 176 parishes.

In the county of Oxford 185 parishes have been formed into five unions.

The greater proportion of the county of Bucks has been included in seven unions, comprising 162 parishes.

In the county of Suffolk three of the old incorporations have been dissolved, and 129 parishes have been united in four unions.

In the county of Northampton 153 parishes have been formed into seven unions.

In the county of Cambridge 61 parishes have been united into three unions.

In the county of Essex 91 parishes have been united into three unions.

Nearly the whole of the parishes in the county of Bedford have been united in four unions.

The whole of the parishes of the county of Hertford have been formed into 12 unions.

In the county of Norfolk, where proceedings have been recently commenced, 65 parishes have been included in two unions.

In Wilts two unions, comprising 45 parishes, have been formed.

In Middlesex one union has been formed.

In the county of Gloucester 37 parishes have been formed into one union.

The following return shows our progress in the number of parishes united during each month up to this period:—

| MONTHS.           | Number of Unions formed. | Number of Parishes united. |
|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1834, December .. | 1                        | 14                         |
| 1835, January ... | 2                        | 44                         |
| February ..       | 17                       | 268                        |
| March .....       | 24                       | 443                        |
| April .....       | 15                       | 217                        |
| May .....         | 18                       | 319                        |
| June .....        | 19                       | 423                        |
| July .....        | 18                       | 338                        |
|                   | 112                      | 2,066                      |

Sutton Courtney placed under a board of guardians, 10, December, 1834.

St. Martin in the Fields, ditto 29, April, 1835.

Battersea, ditto, 15, May, 1835.

The complete statement of the pecuniary results fairly ascribable to the new act, or to our proceedings under its authority, could scarcely be made within the time in which it is desirable to present our report. A considerable number of the present parish officers being unlettered men, their returns are, as might be expected, extensively defective. In requiring any return from the 15,635 places at present managing their own poor, a considerable proportion of errors must be anticipated.

For the completion of the return relative to the condition of the several parishes, which we first called for from the parish officers, several thousand letters were required to obtain more correct answers than were first sent. The time occupied, including the additional letters required to correct mistakes and remedy neglect, in obtaining the annual return of poor's-rates printed by the House of Commons, has been seldom less than 12 months, and the extra expense of clerks has generally been about 450*l.* for very return. It will perhaps be deemed important by the legislature that correct information of the condition of the country, as to this department of expenditure, should be more readily available.

To the statement of our reasons for the formation of unions, we might have added, that we consider that the difficulty, in point of time, in obtaining correct information relative to the progress of the system, constitutes of itself a strong reason for the formation of unions for the administration of relief. When 30 or 40 parishes are united, and the administration placed in the hands of an establishment of paid and responsible officers, acting upon a correct system of accounts, it will be much less difficult to obtain one correct return for the whole union than returns for the 30 or 40 separate parishes. In proportion as the country is formed into unions, it will therefore become less difficult to obtain for the legislature information respecting the progress of the administration of relief, and also, for the use of this commission, such accounts of the past occurrences as will serve for their future guidance.

The very recent formation of a large proportion of these unions, and the circumstance that in another large proportion the measures adopted are chiefly preparatory, preclude us from stating more than the results of those unions of earlier formation, and in which the machinery for conducting the change of system was the most advanced. We have given in the appendix the general reports made by the assistant-commissioners of their proceedings and of the operation of the act within the field of their operations, up to the time of the consideration of this report. We have also added a variety of communications received from magistrates and the officers of unions, containing statements of the operation of the act within their respective localities.

The following is a tabular abstract of the statements of the pecuniary results in the early-formed unions, which have been brought into partial operation; the periods compared are corresponding periods.



| Name of the Union. | PERIODS COMPARED.                           | Number of Parishes from which Returns have been obtained. | EXPENDITURE. |             | DIFFERENCE. |           |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
|                    |                                             |                                                           | 1834         | 1835        | Increase.   | Decrease. |
|                    |                                             |                                                           | £. s. d.     | £. s. d.    | £. s. d.    | £. s. d.  |
| Abingdon . . .     | Six weeks in May and June 1834-35 . . .     | 14                                                        | 502 14 5½    | 334 10 2    | 168 4 2½    |           |
| Faringdon . . .    | Six weeks in May and June 1834-35 . . .     | 29                                                        | 760 6 2½     | 367 2 8     | 393 3 6½    |           |
| Bradfield . . .    | The years ending 25 March 1834-35 . . .     | Township                                                  | 3079 17 5½   | 2487 14 9½  | 592 2 7½    |           |
| Calne . . .        | Midsummer quarter 1834-35 . . .             | 11                                                        | 1623 3 8½    | 1030        | 593 3 8½    |           |
| Eastbourne . . .   | Month of May and 1st week in June 1834-35   | 6                                                         | 800 6        | 438 11 5    | 361 14 7    |           |
| Westbourne . . .   | One week in May 1834-35 . . .               | 10                                                        | 111 2 5      | 51 14 11    | 59 7 6      |           |
| Milton . . .       | May 1834-35 . . .                           | 5                                                         | 347 13 2½    | 250 15 7½   | 96 17 7     |           |
| Bradford . . .     | Seven weeks in May and June 1834-35 . . .   | 8                                                         | 1609 18 1½   | 1096 16 8   | 513 1 5½    |           |
| Romsey . . .       | Midsummer quarter 1834-35 . . .             | 2                                                         | 793 3 11     | 567 19      | 225 4 11    |           |
| Uckfield . . .     | One week in 1834-35 . . .                   | 9                                                         | 71 18 9      | 34 17 6     | 44 11 3     |           |
| South Stoneham     | Ten weeks from 25 March 1834-35 . . .       | 3                                                         | 195 9 3      | 102 18 1    | 92 11 2     |           |
| Droxford . . .     | Weekly expense in May and June 1834-35      | 11                                                        | 119 1 10½    | 67 15 6½    | 51 6 3½     |           |
| Alresford . . .    | One month in 1834-35 . . .                  | 14                                                        | 218 9 9      | 173 16 8    | 74 13 1     |           |
| Alton . . .        | Four weeks of May 1834-35 . . .             | 15                                                        | 475 1 9      | 185 14 9½   | 288 6 11½   |           |
| Ditto, 2d Return   | Six weeks before and after April 1835 . . . | 3                                                         | 181 4 10½    | 98 15 5½    | 92 9 5½     |           |
| Hartley Wintney    | The first four weeks in May 1834 35 . . .   | 13                                                        | 410 4 4½     | 185 2 10½   | 225 1 6     |           |
| Hailsham . . .     | One quarter to 25 June 1834-35 . . .        | 5                                                         | 1506 18 7    | 1450 14 10½ | 56 3 8½     |           |
| Woburn . . .       | Two weeks in May and June 1834-35 . . .     | 6                                                         | 179 7 6      | 108 17 3    | 70 10 3     |           |
| Penshurst . . .    | May 1834-35 . . .                           | 5                                                         | 265 13       | 49 10 4     | 216 2 8     |           |
| Ware . . .         | 12 May to 24 June 1834-35 . . .             | 10                                                        | 560 6 4½     | 407 11 0½   | 152 15 4    |           |
| Hendon . . .       | Weekly expenditure . . .                    | 8                                                         | 47 ..        | 20 ..       | 27 ..       |           |
|                    |                                             | 187                                                       | 13889 1 5½   | 9511 19 8   | 4384 11 9½  |           |

In the populous and well-managed parishes of St. George Hanover-square, and St. Giles-in-the-Fields and St. George Bloomsbury, very considerable improvements in the administration of relief had been effected before the passing of the act. These and several other parishes were in a progressive state of improvement at the time we sent out our first circulars. In the returns from 172 parishes, the great majority state that they have to a considerable extent complied with the recommendations contained in the circular of the 8th of November. The results of the measures recommended, and chiefly of the substitution of relief in kind for relief in money: it appears that the poor rates have in the 172 parishes been reduced from the sum of 506,645*l.* in 1834, to 431,253*l.* in 1835. But the amount of weekly relief dispensed in these parishes in the last week of March 1834 was 8,280*l.*, whilst in the last week in March 1835 it was 6,214*l.*, showing an increasing ratio of reduction. It is observable that the greatest reductions have been made in the largest parishes. Whilst in 159 of the smallest parishes the reduction was only nine per cent. upon the previous amount of rates, the reduction in 13 of the largest parishes, comprehending a population of 787,000 persons, was 20 per cent. We believe that similar results will be found to have taken place in other districts.

So far as the change has proceeded in those districts which have workhouses, the reduction of the out-door relief has been accompanied not by an increase, but by a decided diminution, of the number of the in-door paupers.

We have directed our most anxious attention to the general effects produced by the change upon the condition of the able-bodied paupers, whose allowances in aid of wages have been discontinued. Careful inquiries have been made as to the subsequent condition of those who had refused to accept relief in a workhouse. In the Faringdon union, for example, all out-door relief was discontinued, and relief in the workhouse was offered to 240 able-bodied labourers. Of these, not more than about 20 entered the workhouse, and not one half remained there more than a few days; the diet in the workhouse being at the same time high as compared with the diet of

large classes of independent labourers. Mr. Gulson found, at the time of his inquiry, that the whole of these labourers had got into independent employment. On inquiry of some of the farmers who had previously represented to him that they had then no means of employing any additional labourers, he received for answer, that the additional employment was now given in consequence of the improved character of the labourer.

In these, as in other instances, the general results have in practice, been presented to us generally in the following order:—

When the allowance in aid of wages has been discontinued, and reception in a workhouse has been offered to the able-bodied labourers, the employer who had acquiesced in the system, or who still conceived that it was conducive to his narrow interests, perceives that all efforts to maintain it must be attended with the inconvenience of parting with labourers, some of whom probably are valuable to him for their skill, and others the most eligible as understanding his business and habits. He is frequently placed in a condition of uncertainty whether the chief part of his establishment may not be broken up. The hiring of strangers is the alternative presented to him. For illustrations of this first consequence to the employer, we beg to refer your lordship to the report of Mr. Hall.

On the other hand, the pauperized labourer finds that parochial relief is no longer eligible to him, except in case of absolute destitution. He finds that the discontinuance of the allowance severs the tie which bound him to his parish; and that at the same time the alteration of the law of settlement has diminished the probability of his being excluded as a foreigner from the disposal of his labour in the adjacent parishes, or in any part of the kingdom. But the distant employment is uncertain, and he finds it to his interest to make it worth the while of the employer to retain him in employment; not by offering his labour for reduced wages, but usually by offering to earn, by increased diligence, an increase of wages proportionate to the discontinued allowance. We refer your lordship, for illustrations of these effects, to the examinations of farmers and other employers

of labour, given in Mr. Gilbert's report, and also to the reports of Mr. Gulson, Mr. Hall, and Mr. Power. Some of the more liberal farmers have expressed, in their own way, their opinion of the change, by declaring that "it will make better masters as well as better men."

The connection of mutual interest between the employer and the labourer is thus restored and strengthened. The employer finds upon trial that the labourer considers him alone, and no longer the parish, as the superior employer. So soon as the labourer ceases to be dependent on the parish he labours more steadily and diligently, and this increased value of his labour enables his employer to use more labour profitably, and increase the return for it in wages. In all our more recent reports from the dispauperized parishes, it is stated that the wages are improved, and that the amount paid is greater than in the adjacent pauperized parishes. As an exemplification of the tenor of our information relating to the circumstances under which wages are affected by the change, we give the following portion of an examination of Mr. John Clark, a farmer of Bledlow, a parish in the Wycombe union, Bucks:—"If I have the free use on Saturday night of 5*l*. instead of paying it to the overseer, I shall be able to lay this out in labour on my land in the next week. Whilst the labourer was half pauper and half labourer, he was like a man with two masters, and could do justice to neither: but now he feels that he is only a labourer, he works hard and willingly. My 8*s*. wages will purchase for me labour sufficient to produce 10*s*. worth of crop; but with a pauper, my 5*s*. paid will be a loss; for all the labour such a man will do would not be worth half-a-crown. With independent labourers, the more I have in moderation the more I make; but for the paupers, the more I have the more I lose. I will employ as many of the former and as few of the latter as I can. Ten independent labourers would do me more good than five; whilst of paupers, five would be more desirable than ten."

When the indolence generated by the old system of parochial employment has been thus superseded by habits of industry, the train of vices generated by indolence are found to be gradually diminishing. The increase of sobriety is frequently denoted to us, in the progress of the change, by the complaints of the beer-shop keepers that the consumption of beer has diminished, and by their activity in opposing the progress of a further change. In the parish of Iwer, it was found that the change of system was marked by the almost immediate discontinuance of the poaching and pilfering, which had before that time prevailed to an unusual extent. Now that an external appearance of misery will no longer avail in the the dispauperized parishes as means of obtaining increased allowances, and that the bounties on filth and improvidence offered by the old system of out-door relief are removed, it is reported to us that an increased attention to cleanliness, neatness and comfort, is beginning to be observable in the cottages of the labourers.

A further moral result which is reported to us as being conspicuous in the dispauperized districts, is that the venal and improvident marriages, which were consequent upon the allowance system, have immediately been diminished.

We have reason to believe that the advantages of the change are becoming more extensively perceptible to the pauperized labourers. On the part of many of the smaller farmers, (excepting, too frequently, those who are tenants from year to year), who, as parish officers, commonly governed the fund applied in aid of

wages, an opinion appears to be advancing that their supposed immediate interests in making others contribute to the payment of their wages, and also in making a portion of their own payments quarterly as rates instead of weekly as wages, are now more than counterbalanced by the comparative worthlessness of the labour which they obtain, and the harassing contests and the vexations to which they are subject.

Considering how largely the return for any investments of capital in agricultural labour is dependent on the steadiness and general character of the labour applied, we are not surprised at the extent of the absorption of the apparent surplus of a pauperized parish in profitable employment, and we trust that we may anticipate the general diffusion of the advantages of the change amongst all who are connected with the agriculture of the dispauperized districts.

We are informed that many of those tradesmen who profited largely by the old system of parochial management have found that by the change of system their interests have not been injured to the extent which they anticipated, inasmuch as the purchases of the independent labourers have, to a considerable extent, made up for the diminished consumption of goods by the parish.

By one of the regulations of the new unions, it was provided that all goods for the use of the union should be purchased by contract, or open tender. From the following return from the Uckfield union, showing the difference in the amounts of the tenders when made for the whole union as compared with the supplies for the single parishes separately, an estimate may be made of the apparent amount of these interests affected by the change.

|                                 | Tender for a single Parish. |    | Tender for the whole Union. |    |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|----|-----------------------------|----|
|                                 | s.                          | d. | s.                          | d. |
| Flat Dutch cheese, per cwt      | 51                          | 4  | 51                          | 4  |
| Round ditto                     | 51                          | 4  | 51                          | 4  |
| Best London yellow soap         | 46                          | 0  | 56                          | 0  |
| Brown country ditto             | 42                          | 0  |                             |    |
| Good moist sugar                | 56                          | 0  | 56                          | 0  |
| Ditto                           |                             |    |                             |    |
| Rice                            | 32                          | 0  | 21                          | 0  |
| Best store candles, per doz lbs | 5                           | 3  | 5                           | 6  |
| Salt, per bushel                | 2                           | 6  | 2                           | 0  |

#### Tenders for Flour at per bag of four bushels.

| Small millers and tradesmen, tenders from. | For a single Parish. | Millers and Cornfactors. | Tenders for the whole Union. |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1st                                        | 25 4                 | 1st                      | 23 0                         |
| 2nd                                        | 25 4                 | 2nd                      | 23 11                        |
| 3d                                         | 26 0                 | 3d                       | 23 11                        |
| 4th                                        | 27 6                 | 4th                      | 24 0                         |
| 5th                                        | 27 6                 | 5th                      | 25 4                         |

George Tatham, Esq., the chairman of the board of guardians of the Wycombe union, in the course of an examination as to the operation of that union, states, in answer to an inquiry as to the effects of making contracts for provisions in the union,

"I learn that all the little tradesmen are violent in their opposition to the contract. It is clear that



under the old system they had an advantage in the number of paupers which they have not now. The more money there was paid to the paupers, the more there was to be spent amongst the tradesmen, but the reverse is now the case. And under the old system paupers were often encouraged to get into debt, in order that an increased price may be charged upon the several articles they bought, and their custom insured for the future.

"Is there a saving effected to the union by the system of contract?—Decidedly there is. We give one-half in kind (subject of course to exception under particular circumstances). The price of bread by contract being 4d. for the loaf, and the charge of the little tradesmen being generally 6d., there is a saving of one-third upon the quantity we give in kind; that is a saving of one-sixth upon the whole relief. The average cost of relief of all the parishes before the union was about 30,000*l.* a-year; therefore, by this contract alone 5,000*l.* a-year will be saved,—a sum more than sufficient to pay all the expenses of management of the whole union for 11 years to come, and a reduction alone of one-sixth of all the rates upon every parish in the union."

We cite another instance of the further effects of the change, as stated in the evidence of an overseer of a parish in the same union:—

"Do you find any other result from the payment in kind?—Yes; I do find that the little tradesmen, who had formerly an interest in the increase of pauperism, now persuade the paupers to find work. Formerly, the more paupers, the more money the little tradesmen made; but now that a contractor supplies the bread, the less pauperism and the more independent labour, the more money to the shopkeeper. One of these shopkeepers called and remonstrated with me that all the men were not employed, and I know that he and others do all they can to prevent the men being paupers, and encourage their becoming independent labourers."

We trust that these advantages will be extended by an imitation of the example set by the guardians of the unions in East Kent, who have under their consideration the supply of the whole of the unions already formed in that county with one article, for the use of the several union workhouses, by means of a single contract.

Amongst the evils we found ourselves called upon to remedy, were a large class connected with the administration of medical relief. In our present report we deem it necessary only to advert to some of the chief evils of this class, and to the measures we have adopted with relation to them.

We found it a practice, in the great majority of instances, for a medical man to contract with the parish for the supply, to the settled paupers of the parish, of medical attendance for a small fixed sum, on the expressed or implied condition that he should be allowed to make whatever charges he pleased for his attendance and treatment of non-parishioners, under suspended orders of removal, or an order of medical relief by the overseer. When the patient has recovered, he is sent home to a parish with a bill for medical attendance, including charges for medicines at the highest rates. Against these charges the distant parish to which the pauper belonged had no adequate protection. The pauper was exposed to the danger of being supplied with medicines considerably beyond what was required for his proper treatment. Instances have come to our knowledge where in large populous parishes the profits of attendance upon paupers under such circumstances has been upwards of 300*l.* per annum. The inferior officers have been fed by the medical officer to

search out and give him information of the cases of this description. As a further evil of this system, we may mention that paupers with their families have been removed from their parishes at a great expense, when each head of a family would otherwise have preferred remaining and seeking employment in the parish where his sickness occurred. By countenancing these practices parishes were in the habit of creating burthens for each other. As a check to this system and to the general expense of medical relief, we have generally required that medical services should be retained by contract and open tender, including as a condition, that the medical officers should attend at the same charge all patients on the order of the overseer, whether the patients were parishioners or non-parishioners.

In regulating the appointments of medical officers within the new unions, we have acted on the presumption that by the words of the act (that the medical officer shall be "a person duly licensed to practise as a medical man"), it was intended to include equally physicians, surgeons, or apothecaries duly licensed to practice as such. Applications have been made to us to prescribe, as the qualification of the medical officer of any union, that he should be a member of the College of Surgeons as well as of the Apothecaries' Company; but as at present informed, we do not think that the public interests would be advanced by confining the qualification within narrower limits than those traced by the words of the act, and which conform to the general practice. With respect to the general professional qualifications of the medical men who come within the words of the act, we have relied on the diplomas of those who are charged by the legislature with the duty of examining the qualifications of the candidates for practice, being assured that the recent improvements in medical practice and education are such as in general to render the later diplomas certificates of a degree of competency, equivalent to much practice on the parts of those who have had an earlier education. Under these circumstances we have considered that the interests of the public and of the profession itself were the best served by keeping the situations of medical officers in the new unions open to the competition of the whole body of medical practitioners. Instead of attempting to fix the price of the services of the medical practitioners for the union, we deemed it the most advantageous that each practitioner should fix the price of his own services, under competition. Amongst the inducements to accept these appointments, are the credit of the appointment of medical officer to an union by a board of guardians, the wider fields these appointments offer for the display of care and skill, and for obtaining reputation leading to more profitable practice; inducements, differing in degree, but similar in kind to those upon which men of the most eminent skill find it to their interest to give their services to the chief medical institutions of the country. We may be sure that the medical practitioner will, in fixing upon his terms, do nothing which he considers will not on the whole be advantageous to himself; and next, that he will consider the interests and advantage of his own profession. We have found it necessary, as a security against undue charges even under competition, to adopt as a rule that the aggregate charges for medical relief within the new unions shall not exceed the aggregate of the former expenditure for medical relief in the separate parishes now included in the unions. Instances have occurred where the local medical practitioners have combined to prevent a competition. The course taken in these in-

stances for the protection of the rate-payers, and to secure the best treatment to the paupers, has been to suspend our sanction to the appointments, and to cause advertisements to be made to throw open the office to the competition of practitioners from a distance, or of the profession at large.

In some unions, as in the Wycombe union, it has been provided that the terms of the contract should be a remuneration at a given sum per head on the number who receive medical relief, but with the proviso that the gross charge should not exceed a given amount. It is stated to us in evidence that this mode of proceeding, though adopted reluctantly by the medical profession, has operated very beneficially. The surgeon of the Amersham union states, in the course of an examination,

"I approve of the system; but the amount in the present contract is inadequate; I think I shall lose a guinea a week by it. In some of the parishes it is at present only one-third of what I have received in former years for the same time. But I approve of the system, for these reasons: it is a self-acting check upon the relieving officer in giving improper orders or withholding proper orders; upon the applicant for medical relief, in making him feel that in receiving it he is a pauper, and causing the parish a specific charge for him; and upon the medical man, by causing an inquiry into each case, so that none can escape attention; and by that means also secures proper attendance to the patient. Indeed the mode of contract forms a complete system of check and security in cases of pauper medical relief, the want of which was so much felt under the old system.

"Has it tended to curtail the evil of sending all parties to the parish doctor for medical relief, which was so prevalent under the cases of contract in gross?—Yes, it has; I have many cases now that I am attending as independent patients who used always before to come to me as paupers. One case is that of a woman of Penn; her son is a master bricklayer, with whom she resides, the cottage and garden their own. She has a daughter about thirty, a sempstress, who gets a very good living. This woman was, with her daughter, always attended by the parish. On my telling this woman that the parish paid a specific sum for her, she refused to be attended, and now pays for herself. There are many cases which evidence this effect of the system.

"Of course, the new independent patients pay you?—Yes, they do; they pay us at the time they have the medicine.

"Now, although you do not receive so much from the parish contract, will not the amount by these new independent patients more than make up the difference?—No, I think not; but it will go towards it."

We anticipate that the introduction of a better system will be beneficial for the destitute sick as well as beneficial to the labouring classes generally; and that it will be found conducive to all proper interests of the respectable portion of the medical profession.

It will, however, be observed that the change in the system has not in many instances been so long in operation as to develop the whole of the effects which may be anticipated from it, in promoting voluntary and independent associations to provide for the casualties of sickness and mortality.

But even now the reports made to us of the very satisfactory effects of the operation of the rule are becoming daily apparent. We cite the following passage from a recent report made to us by our assistant-commissioner Mr. Hall, as illustrative of the

tenor of other incidental communications on the subject:

"The good effects of your arrangements as respects medical relief are showing themselves in the shape of medical clubs among the labourers. One of the surgeons of the Wallingford union told me that several were in process of formation in his district; and I have heard that elsewhere the labouring class has evinced the same degree of foresight and providence; has given the same proof that when thrown upon his own resources, and taught to rely upon his own exertions, the independent labourer can and will adopt measures answering to the necessity of the case."

Mr. Gulson states, in a recent report from Oxfordshire:

"Medical clubs are starting up in all directions. The proceedings of the Board as regards the medical department have already been productive of the best results. Highly respectable medical men are undertaking to attend all cases for an annual subscription of 2s. for a single person; and for 4s. 4d. they engage to attend a whole family, however large, so that it does not include children above 16 years of age. At Witney, Benson, and other places, the labourers are subscribing in considerable numbers to independent medical clubs."

Mr. Gilbert reports to us, that in several parts of Buckinghamshire the similar effects resulting directly from change of the medical relief, have been developed in a striking manner.

The increase of provident institutions, as arising from the general influence of the change of system, was confidently anticipated from the marked increase of deposits in the savings' banks, deposits by labourers who had previously been paupers, observed in several of the parishes which were the earliest dispauperized. The anticipation has been justified by the fact of the increase of the prosperity of the existing provident institutions, and by the increase of new institutions coincidently with the change of the law. Mr. Tidd Pratt, the barrister appointed to certify the rules of savings' banks and benefit societies, states to us "that the increase in the number of friendly societies since the passing of the Poor Law Amendment Act, has been very considerable as compared with the year previous thereto. From the month of August 1833 to August 1834, the number certified by me was 360; but from August 1834 to the present time, I have certified nearly 750, being an increase of 390, or more than double the number certified in the previous year. Independently of which, I am happy to say that these societies appear to be founded on calculations more likely to enable them to fulfil their engagements with the members than those which were heretofore in existence; and this I attribute in a great measure to the rules and tables which have been printed by order of the Lords of the Treasury, and gratuitously distributed.

"With respect to depositors in savings' banks, the increase during the last year has been very considerable. The accounts are made up annually to the 20th November; and although from November 1831 to November 1833, (being a period of two years), the number of depositors increased during that period 44,750, yet from November 1833 to November 1834, the increase in the number of depositors has been nearly 33,000, and in the money deposited, nearly a million: and in each of the following counties, viz. Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Bucks, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Norfolk, and Sussex, a marked increase has taken place in the number of the small depositors."



It is stated to us, that the effect of the general practice of sending to the workhouse for 21 days paupers who require to be removed, has been greatly to diminish the number of cases of removal. The general testimony as to the operation of the provision requiring that previously to any removal being made, the grounds upon which the order is granted should be stated to the parish to which the pauper is removed, has been, that it has to a considerable extent diminished the amount of litigation, and we are informed that in some districts it has nearly extinguished that branch of business at the sessions.

From the reports of our assistant-commissioners, as well as from the communications made to us from all parts of the country, we can state that the testimony as to the operation of the clauses of the Act which relate to cases of bastardy strongly preponderates in favour of the principles adopted on that subject by the legislature. For some time after the passing of the act a popular impression appeared to be extensively prevalent that the law had been changed in the mode proposed by the late commissioners of inquiry, and that the mother of a bastard child requiring relief was placed in the same condition as if no father of the child was in existence, but that she was entitled, nevertheless, to relief as for herself, in case of her inability from destitution to maintain the child. The evidence as to the effect of this impression leads us to believe that the enactment itself would have produced all the beneficial effects wished and intended by the promoters of the measure. The operation of the modified clauses of the act as they now stand is reported to us to be proportionately beneficial.

The following extracts from the report of Mr. Gulson, display the general tenor of the incidental information which we receive on this subject:

"The assistant-overseer of St. Giles', Oxford, is sure that there are not so many unmarried women pregnant in the parish now, as was usual heretofore. He knows no other cause for this but the 'fear of the new law,' which makes the girls cautious."

"Mr. Clarke, master of the union workhouse, Oxford, states that previously to the passing of the Poor Law Amendment Act, the average number of the orders of affiliation made in the united parishes annually was fourteen, and there were usually eight or nine cases on the book for relief, without an order. Up to the present date, August 5, there have been three orders made, and five cases are relieved without order."

"Andrew Richardson, assistant-overseer of St. Clement's, Oxford, feels certain that there are not now so many unmarried women pregnant in that parish as has been usual hitherto. He constantly hears the females of the lower order complaining of the new law, and proving that they understand its intention."

"The assistant-overseer of St. Mary's, Reading, says he is certain the new law has had considerable effect in that town in stopping the progress of bastardy. Fewer cases of pregnant single women have come under his notice than at any former period."

Information is constantly brought to us, that in the more populous parishes the number of new cases of claims for relief on account of bastardy are greatly diminishing; whilst from the rural districts we receive similar testimony, accompanied by statements showing that as incontinency is a less certain passport to marriage, and the virtuous females of the labouring classes are no longer placed at the same disadvantage as they were previously to the passing of the law, the improvement of morality amongst this class of females is daily becoming more perceptible.

The following is an instance of the testimony as to the operation of the act, given in a letter from the overseer of Llanasa, in the county of Flint, in answer to an inquiry from the board, "Why the bastards in the parish are now so few?"

I can only observe, that in the first place, we never force the putative father to marry the mother, and we compel the mother as well as the father to pay her quota towards the maintenance of the child. This was our simple mode of treating the business.

"One thing I must observe, and it tells well for the new Poor Law Act: that in our parish we have from fifteen to twenty weddings in the year, and it seldom happened that, at the ceremony the bride did not think it decent and requisite—I am now speaking of the lower order of persons—to conceal her shape under a cloak. But in the eighteen marriages which we have had since last August, all the ladies, except one, retained their virgin shape, and appeared without their mantle."

In several of the more populous parishes the reduction of the cases of bastardy has been to the extent of one order made now, where ten were made before the passing of the act.

Serious objections, however, to which we feel it our duty to advert, have been made to the operation of this part of the act.

It is to be presumed, that in sending the cases of bastardy from the petty to the quarter sessions, it was foreseen that the proceedings against the putative father would be expensive, and that they were intended to be so; that, in giving full costs to the person charged, and none against him; in requiring evidence corroborative of the testimony of the mother; in providing that fourteen days notice of proceedings should be given to the putative father, who might, during that time, abscond; and in exempting the putative father from imprisonment, and confining the security for the repayment of the charges to the attachment of wages or goods, where he has any; it was foreseen that the process would be uncertain as well as expensive, and was intended that it should be so, in order to discourage as much as possible proceedings against the putative father, which could not otherwise be divested of the evils inherent to any such proceedings on the part of the parish.

It has been made matter of extensive complaint to us, that the remedy is expensive and uncertain. In numerous communications made to us by parish officers, they have declared, in complaining of the process, that as they were convinced the parish could only lose by it, they intended to abandon the pursuit of the father. Since the passing of the act, a considerable number of cases have been brought before the quarter sessions; but we have not been able to ascertain, in time for insertion in this report, the progress of these cases, or the extent of the indications that the presumed intentions of the legislature will be accomplished, and the remedy against the father fall into desuetude.

In the statement transmitted to us by your lordship, with a request that we would report upon it, with a view to determining upon the propriety of calling upon the legislature to interfere, a serious complaint was made against the provisions of the act as they now stand, on the ground of the disgusting nature of the details of the cases developed before crowded courts of the quarter sessions, in consequence of that court being now the only tribunal of appeal. If this objection were urged with a view to the return to the provisions of the old law, in respect of the proof required, we should submit that, in considering the admitted evil of such an investigation, the evil must not be overlooked which was formerly so prevalent,

of the perjury committed when the oath of the mother was conclusive evidence of the fact of paternity.

But whilst stating our impressions, as derived from the evidence presented to us, of the great improvement which the provisions of the existing act have produced, we must state our apprehensions that they are in some respect open to objection, as not being entirely divested of the evils of the old law, in offering a means (though much diminished) of intimidation, by the threat of lengthened proceedings if compliance be not made. The process, we are apprehensive, is still in some degree available against the putative father who may have goods or wages liable to attachment.

As unions are extensively formed, and the administration of relief is gradually placed in the hands of paid and responsible officers; as the ignorance which prevails upon this subject is dispelled by the evidence which daily arises of the beneficial effects of the alteration of the old system, we consider it highly probable that the number of cases brought to the sessions will be diminished. But the pursuit of the father is still considered a matter of duty by the parish officers, and there are so many interests in support of the continual practice, (amongst which must be noticed the interests in encouraging litigation,) that we must expect that it will to a considerable extent be continued. As an illustration of the force of habit, we may mention that, although the law requires that the order upon the father should be made with relation to the actual cost of the necessities for the maintenance of the child, we find that the magistrates at various quarter sessions still continue the practice of making the order, not with reference to the proper actual cost, which varies little, but with reference to the condition of the father; thus giving bounties for the maintenance of the abuses of the old system.

Whenever it shall be deemed requisite that application be made to the legislature on this subject, we should venture to submit that the most effectual course of abating the remaining evils would be by an entire repeal of the statutory provisions under which proceedings can be taken by the parish against the putative father.

We would observe that, by the existing law, the whole of the money recovered from the father must be given to the parish, and the mother is entitled to no part of it. She cannot, therefore, by the proposed repeal, become a loser of anything but the power of causing the putative father to be proceeded against by the parish. It is acknowledged that, considered with reference to a class of cases, the remedy is of no value as a means of obtaining indemnification to the parish. The ground most strongly urged for the process against the father, is founded on the notion that it may serve as a means of punishing the seducer. We participate in the feelings of detestation of the crime of seduction; but the principle, that poor law administration should be the administration of relief alone, cannot be departed from by the introduction of anything having a view to punishment, without at the same time creating far greater evils than those which it is intended to repress. Neither can any existing authority for the dispensation of relief be safely considered as properly constituted as a judicatory for the award of private satisfaction for wrongs, or for the infliction of punishment. It appears to be commonly overlooked in the complaints on this subject, that for the injury of seduction the courts of law afford a remedy; and to any objection which might be made that this remedy is too costly, or is otherwise out of the reach of the poor, we submit that the proper re-

medial course of legislation would be to render justice, dispensed by proper judicial functionaries, accessible to the poorest classes of the community.

The evidence of the benefits now daily becoming manifest from the approximation to a sound principle in the administration of relief in this class of cases, has not been accompanied by any countervailing statements of evils or injuries traceable as consequences of the alteration of the law. Cases of hardship might have been expected to occur; cases of the desertion of children and of infanticide always formed a large class of cases in the returns of the statistics of crime during the existence of the old law; but we have seen no evidence of the increase of such cases subsequently to the passing of the Poor Law Amendment Act, nor amidst all the complaints unreservedly made to us, with claims for our aid to provide remedies for any real or supposed evil or inconvenience, have we received any authenticated cases of hardship. Some alleged cases of this description have been displayed before the public, but on investigation, in every instance which came to our knowledge, they were found to be fraudulent.

Amongst the preparatory regulations prescribed to the boards of guardians, was one ordering the discontinuance of relief to all able-bodied paupers between the ages of 16 and 60, who are not resident within their own parishes.

The reasons for the early adoption of this rule were, that, whilst the paupers remain in distant parishes, the grounds on which they found their claim to continued relief, are generally out of the reach of adequate investigation, and of the constant revision which is necessary to stem the influx of fraudulent claims. In such cases, moreover, there always appears to be some weighty advantage to the pauper, either in the constancy of employment, or the local aid of relatives or friends, which constitutes the motive for non-residence.

A further inducement to the application of the rule to these cases, was created by the circumstance that the change would not affect considerable numbers living together, but would come into operation with separate individuals, with relation to whom separate arrangements might commonly be made.

The operation of this rule has fully justified our anticipations. In the cases where it has been carried into effect, the instances are extremely rare of a non-resident parishioner returning from any distant parish in consequence of the discontinuance of relief. By some employers of labour, indeed, the continuance of this mode of relief has been defended as an out-post of the allowance system, as it was perceived that if in these instances it was proved that the allowance might be safely discontinued, the success of the discontinuance would afford a strong presumption of the practicability of the immediate discontinuance of the out-door allowance in aid of wages to the resident able-bodied paupers. The rule has been promptly acquiesced in, in all parts except Sussex.

Urgent applications have been made to us from some parts of that county for the relaxation of the rule, and the applications have been supported by statements of the strong claims of the non-resident paupers, and of the hardships which would be inflicted upon them by the change. These statements have, on examination, been found to be greatly exaggerated. We, therefore, refused to relax the rule, and the hardships and inconveniences so confidently anticipated have not occurred.

The first operation of the rules and orders for the administration of relief in the new unions was met



in several unions by riotous proceedings on the part of bodies of paupers.

An opinion of the character of these riots, and of the state of the paupers in the districts where the riots occurred, may be formed from the fact, that in nearly the whole of the cases the riots were occasioned by the rule which requires that one half of the relief should be in bread or other necessities.

Money is applied for as a means of obtaining bread. Bread the families require as a primary article of necessity. The supplies of bread given in the new unions were always as good as those attainable from the shopkeepers, and were frequently declared to be much better. There could not, therefore, be any reasonable pretext for objection on the part of the paupers, even on the ground of inconvenience, if inconvenience were admissible as a ground of objection.

It is to be observed, that the introduction of these changes, and especially of the regulations for the substitution of relief in kind for relief in money, were preceded by complaints, not from the labourers whom alone the change alone could legitimately effect, but from the shopkeepers and others engaged in furnishing supplies of goods for the use of parishes. As instances of the character of the complaints which have come to our knowledge, we refer to the memorials from certain rate-payers in the town and parish of Sittingbourne, and also to the memorials of the parishes of Doddington and Newnham in the county of Kent, and from the town and parish of Potton in Bedfordshire. We have not the slightest reason to suppose that these particular memorialists were concerned in any of the breaches of the peace which subsequently occurred. We cite the documents as authentic expositions of the feelings prevalent amongst the classes who consider their interests affected by the change. In the course of the subsequent inquiries into the causes of these disturbances, the connexion with them of persons of these classes has been manifest, although it is difficult to establish the fact by technical proof. In most instances, the means of incitement have been violent expressions of hostility to the measure, denunciations of its principles, always incorrectly stated, and expressions, couched in the form of predictions, suggesting the probable occurrence of riotous proceedings, and how the acts of violence might or would happen.

In East Kent the riots were promptly suppressed by the civil authorities, with the aid of two sergeants of police, and the presence of a party of military. Some disturbances were threatened at Eastbourne, but were prevented by the energy and vigilance of the magistrates. A riot occurred in the Amptill union, but was quelled by the active aid of a party of 20 of the metropolitan police, the yeomanry being ready to act, if required. One riot which occurred at Chesham, Bucks, was suppressed by the energy of the local authorities, who were afterwards aided in apprehending some of the ringleaders, and in maintaining the peace, by a body of the same number of the metropolitan police and a party of yeomanry. In a few other instances the relieving officers have been assaulted in the execution of their duty.

When we recollect the extent of erroneous impressions respecting the principles and provisions of the Act which have prevailed, even amongst the educated and better-informed classes, and the persevering misrepresentations with which the public mind has to the last been assailed on this subject, we cannot but consider that the obstructions which have been attempted to be created on the part of the

labouring classes are, on the whole, much less than might have been expected.

We have great satisfaction in being able to state, that we have received information that a considerable portion of the labouring classes in some of the agricultural districts are not adverse to the change. We have learned that a few weeks since several persons in the character of delegates from some trades' unions in the manufacturing districts, went amongst the agricultural labourers of Sussex, using violent language, and representing to them that the Act was intended to depress their condition, urged them to join the other unions, and take measures for resisting the law. In consequence of these proceedings, conferences were held amongst the agricultural labourers, who ultimately declined connecting themselves in any way with the alleged delegates, and stated "that although they were apprehensive that they should have to endure much suffering in making the change, yet that they were satisfied it would be the best for them at last to be freed from the parish."

Mr. Pilkington also states, with reference to another district of the same county, that "at the time of the formation of the Thakeham union, which is situated in one of the worst regulated parts of West Sussex, the greatest efforts were made by interested persons to get up disturbances, without effect. A gentleman resident in a parish in Sussex, who was a great sufferer in the riots of 1830, stated to me that the same men, four of whom he knew and had marked, who were the ringleaders in the disturbances of that time, had again been attempting to excite the labourers to acts of insubordination, but without effect. They even," the gentleman further stated, "passed through his parish, well known as one of the worst parishes in the union, with a few deluded persons whom they had collected together, and actually hissed the labourers as cowards and slaves because they would not join them. In the Rogate and Harting districts, well known as amongst the most pauperized in Sussex, delegates from the Eastbourne rioters have been doing their utmost to excite the labourers to acts of violence, but hitherto, except in the instance of a few women and children, without effect."

The persons engaged in the riots have been generally found to be the worst characters within the district, and commonly distinguishable from the general body of the labouring population by their conduct.

We feel bound to bear testimony to the excellent conduct and discipline of the metropolitan police, on every occasion where their services have been required for the suppression of the riots to which we have adverted. Having no local interest or connexions, their intervention excited the least possible degree of hostility. They invariably acted with perfect coolness, and under the best discipline, and left impressions highly favourable to them.

Before we close our report, we feel it our duty to represent to your lordship that from the magistrates of the several counties with which we have hitherto been chiefly engaged we have received highly valuable assistance in carrying the act into operation. As *ex-officio* guardians, they have attended sedulously to their new and highly important duties, and have given cordial and efficient assistance in carrying the act into execution. As conservators of the peace, they have in every instance where resistance has been attempted enforced the law with vigour, and brought the offenders to justice.

Out of the 2,000 parishes united we have had a very small number of instances of parishes omitting to make due elections of guardians. In most of these

cases the parish officers, who had incurred the suspicion of negligence or contumacy, anticipated any proceedings against them, by pleading ignorance, and requesting to be permitted, under a new order of election, to supply the omission; and the permission has generally been granted. These irregularities could not have interrupted the proceedings for the execution of the act.

At the boards of guardians there has been a constant attendance of the members, who have generally been exceedingly laborious in the performance of their duties. In many of the new unions, the guardians, after having travelled several miles to the place of meeting, have frequently been engaged from ten or eleven in the morning until eight or nine in the evening, in the performance of their gratuitous services. As the business of the unions becomes more systematized, and further advances are made in the execution of the act, we trust that less frequent attendances and less severe exertions will be found necessary; and as the paid officers are tried and found competent, a greater proportion of the labour and responsibility of the executive duties may devolve upon them, and the guardians be relieved from the labour of the performance of more severe duties than those of superintendence and control.

From many of the magistrates and members of the boards of guardians we have received valuable communications.

It also gives us great pleasure to be enabled to state, that by a considerable number of overseers and parish officers great exertions have been made to carry into execution whatever regulations we have suggested. In cases where formal orders might have been required, they have acted promptly upon our recommendations. To this circumstance the extensive substitution of relief in kind for relief in money, which has taken place in conformity to our circular of the 8th of November, is to be attributed.

We see nothing in the present situation of the unvisited counties which will be likely to induce us to deviate materially from the course of proceeding we have hitherto adopted. The system which it has been found advantageous to apply to the best managed parishes included in the new unions, will, for similar reasons, and under certain modifications, be found equally advantageous in its application to the least burthened of the counties that are yet unvisited. We shall from time to time revise our past orders and arrangements, with a view to a closer, and ultimately to a complete adoption of the workhouse system, and the extinction of all out-door relief to the able-bodied.

We cannot, under the varied circumstances of the different districts, and the certainty that in many of the new unions a considerable expenditure of the time of our Assistant-Commissioners will be required in superintending their initiatory proceedings, form an accurate estimate of the future rate of progress in our labours; but we trust that with the advantages of increased experience and improved arrangements, together with the aid derivable in each district from an increasing perception on the part of the inhabitants, of the real character of the measure, we shall be enabled to proceed in the formation of unions at least as rapidly as hitherto.

We have prepared for the new unions, and the parishes comprehended within them, one uniform system of accounts, with instructions for keeping and auditing them. We propose also to prescribe a general form of accounts for the ununited parishes, together with such general rules for the administration of re-

lief within them, as have on trial proved successful, or as may prove applicable, until the time shall arrive for including each parish in a union.

In concluding this our First Annual Report, we beg to assure your Lordship that our labours are sustained by an entire conviction that the act in every main provision will fulfil the beneficent intentions of the legislature, and will conduce to elevate the moral and social condition of the labouring classes, and promote the welfare of all.

We have the honour to be, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient Servants,

T. FRANKLAND LEWIS.

(L.S.)

JOHN GEORGE SHAW FEFEVRE.

GEORGE NICHOLLS.

## DORSETSHIRE.

FROM KENNEDY'S AND GRAINGER'S PRACTICE OF  
TENANCY IN THE GRAZING DISTRICTS OF GREAT  
BRITAIN.

The whitest fleeces here, are those which are produced upon the Downs, where the land is not heavy, nor are the sheep liable to have the drifted soil mixed with the wool: where they are exposed to elevated situations, and reduced to harder feeding, the wool becomes harsh: the finest wool in this county, is that which grows the fastest upon rich pastures, that is to say, not a rank or marshy soil, but good pasture land. It has been remarked here, as well as in other districts, that the first growth of the wool, after shearing, feels harsh to the touch, which is considered to be, as it were, a natural consequence of what is generally the case, exposure to the weather, very soon after that operation has been performed.

With regard to smearing or covering the sheep with any unguent, it is thought here, that if any oily preparation were mixed with the wool, it would render the cleansing of it very difficult, especially as it would serve, as it were, as a harbour for dirt, and that the expense, in that case, would not be repaid by means of any increase or superiority of wool; neither is it thought that any advantage would be derived to the wool by a slight greasing after clipping, though it might be beneficial to the sheep. The maxim acted upon here, is, that good food makes good wool; and that the better the feed, the better and more healthy become both the carcase and the wool. It is admitted, however, that in order to cure cutaneous diseases and those arising from the effects of the fly, it is necessary to have recourse to unguents soon after clipping; but whilst the full fleece is on the back of the animal, it is thought that clearing away the wool from the parts affected, is sufficient to prevent the further spread of disease. It is, nevertheless, not denied, that sheep smeared with unctuous preparations, throw off snow and rain sooner than those which are ungreaed; but sheltering them in unfavourable weather is thought to be a better practice, an equal temperature and a regular supply of good food being considered the most likely means to secure a good fleece.

With respect to the washing of sheep, that operation is performed in this county either in a running stream, or in water fetched for the purpose, and the wool is considered to be much benefited and rendered more saleable by it.

It is not believed here, that the housing or coting of sheep would be beneficial, but, on the contrary, that the confinement would be injurious; but, it is



acknowledged, as just before mentioned, that shelter would be highly advantageous, and be productive of a saving of expense, as the sheep would be less liable to disease.

The opinion entertained in Dorsetshire is, that the removal of sheep to a luxuriant pasture does not tend to render the wool coarser, but, on the contrary, that such a pasture produces the best wool. This, however, must be understood, with the limitation before specified, namely, that such pastures are really good ones, and not rank. The change from a poorer soil to a richer pasture, is supposed to have an effect upon some breeds more rapidly than others; but the opinion entertained by the farmers here, is, that the most healthy sheep feel and display the influence of such a change the soonest, without much regard to breed: neither are they favorably disposed towards the Merinos, which they consider to be very tender, requiring a fine climate to fatten, being worth nothing (as to carcass) when they are fat, and that their wool, the only valuable part of them, does not repay the expense of growing it.

Another opinion entertained here, is, that the fleece is not increased in bulk after a mild winter, and that dry cold does not injure sheep, but that it is rain and sleet which deteriorate the animal and check the growth of the wool, and that the short and sound food produced in dry weather, is more nutritive for the sheep than all the washy produce (though more abundant in quantity) of a mild and wet season. It is, however, admitted, as an indisputable fact, that a deficiency of food is very injurious to the growth of wool. Shelter in bad weather, or when very hot, being considered very advantageous, it is thought that open sheds would be highly desirable on sheep farms.\*

The greater proportion of the sheep farms in this county, consist of arable land. The having winter or summer pasture depends upon the various circumstances of the respective farms. Where the sheep are put out to keep during the winter, an agreement is in some cases made for a certain rent per acre, and in others for a specified charge per head during a given time. The flocks also, according to circumstances, are sometimes divided and classed, but frequently allowed to run altogether. They consist of both ewe and wedder flocks. The ewes have their first lamb at about two years of age, when they are called two toots.

It is believed here, that the wool produced in this county may undoubtedly be rendered of finer quality, by means of the introduction of superior breeds: this improvement has, as already stated, commenced, and is making a rapid progress, the wool having evidently greatly improved, in consequence of this change of system.

**SETTLEMENT LAW.**—A material alteration has been made herein, by the late poor law amendment act. As the law formerly stood, the settlement of a second husband was not communicated to the family of the wife by a former husband; but under the 57th section of the new act it is otherwise, during the continuance of the marriage—as will appear by the following communication from

the poor law commissioners, which has been received by our neighbouring magistrates:—

“Poor Law Commission Office, Somerset House,  
18th August, 1835.

“Gentlemen,—The Poor Law Commissioners for England and Wales have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd ult.

“In reply, the Commissioners desire to state to you their opinions that the settlement of the second husband is communicated, during the continuance of the marriage, to the family of the first, until one of the contingencies pointed out by the 57th section of the Poor Law Amendment Act occurs, viz,—‘until such child or children shall respectively attain the age of sixteen, or until the death of the mother of such child or children.’

“In either of these cases occurring, it is the opinion of the Commissioners that such children revert to their former, that is, their father's settlement, which has been suspended whilst they formed a part of the second husband's family.

(Signed) “By order of the Board,  
“E. CHADWICK, Secretary.”

“Addressed to the Magistrates clerks of the  
Division of Chewton.”

We give publicity to the above, as it is important that the Board's instruction on this section of the act should be known by all magistrates and parish officers.

**THE MOVING PLANT.**—The following interesting notice of the Moving Plant appears in No. 122 of Maund's Botanic Garden, a work replete with information on such subjects:—“This plant was formerly called *Hedysarum gyrans*; and the peculiar property of continual motion which its ternate leaves possess, has interested naturalists ever since it was noticed by the younger Linnæus. In a letter to his friend Mutis, he says, ‘I have raised a very wonderful plant this year in my garden. It is a new species of *Hedysarum* from Bengal. This plant has a spontaneous motion in its foliage, which seems almost voluntary. You are aware that various parts of the vegetable body, especially those subservient to impregnation, can be so stimulated by the touch as to exhibit some kind of movement. You know also the motions of some kinds of *Mimosa* and *Oxalis*, as well as of the *Dionææ muscipula*, arising from the touch of any extraneous body, or from the agitation of the wind. But the plant in question is not affected by either of these causes. Whether in the open air or in a close room, it spontaneously moves its leaflets, now one way, now another, one, two, or more at a time; not all at once, nor all in one direction; and this takes place whether the air be serene, cloudy, or rainy. It has not yet flowered, but I expect that event in the course of the autumn. The plant requires great heat.’ Instances of incomprehensible action like this can but awaken the attention of the most apathetic. The irritability of some plants is better known, especially that of *mimosa pudica*, or humble plant, whose leaves shrink from the touch, the culture of which may be recommended to the curious among our young friends. Seeds are easily obtained, and an efficient hot-bed during summer, in which the plants should be constantly kept, will sufficiently mature them for the purpose of showing their sensitive peculiarities. This is a property which advances the vegetable towards the animal kingdom, just as instinct advances the brute towards the human species.”

\* We should therefore propose sheds formed in the shape of a cross, open on one side and closed on the other, that shelter might be found by the sheep from whatever quarter the storm or wind might blow, or from the too great heat of the sun.

## AN ACT FOR THE MORE EASY RECOVERY OF TITHES.

[PASSED 9TH SEPTEMBER 1835.]

Whereas an act was passed in the seventh and eighth years of the reign of King William the Third, [7 & 8 W. 3 c. 6.] intituled *An act for the more easy recovery of small tithes*, whereby it was amongst other things enacted, that two or more of his Majesty's justices of the peace were authorized and required to hear and determine complaints touching small tithes, oblations, and compositions substracted or withheld, not exceeding forty shillings: and whereas an act was passed in the fifty-third year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the Third, [53 G. 3. c. 127.] intituled *An act for the better regulation of ecclesiastical courts in England, and for the more easy recovery of church rates and tithes*, whereby the jurisdiction of the said justices was extended to all tithes, oblations, and compositions substracted or withheld, where the same should not exceed ten pounds in amount from any one person: and whereas by an act of the seventh and eighth years of the reign of King William the Third, chapter thirty-four, provision is made for the recovery of great and small tithes (not exceeding the amount of ten pounds) due from Quakers, by distress and sale, under the warrant of two justices: and whereas by an act of the first year of the reign of King George the First, chapter six, the provisions of the said last-mentioned act were extended, in the case of quakers, to all tithes or rates, and customary rights, dues, and payments belonging to any church or chapel: and whereas by the said recited act of the fifty-third year of the reign of King George the Third the aforesaid provisions in relation to quakers were amended, and were also made applicable to any amount not exceeding fifty pounds: And whereas by an act of the parliament of Ireland of the seventh year of the reign of King George the Third, chapter twenty-one, amended and extended by an act of the parliament of the United Kingdom of the fifty-fourth year of the reign of King George the Third, chapter sixty-eight, similar provisions are in force in Ireland for the recovery from Quakers, of great and small tithes, and customary and other rights, dues and payments belonging to any church or chapel, not exceeding the amount of fifty pounds: And whereas it is highly expedient and would further tend to prevent litigation, if, in the cases and with the exceptions hereinafter mentioned, all claimants were restricted to the respective remedies provided by the said recited acts: Be it therefore enacted by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that from and after the passing of this act no suit or other proceeding shall be had or instituted in any of his Majesty's courts in England now having cognizance of such matter for or in respect of any tithes oblations, or compositions, withheld, of or under the yearly value of ten pounds (save and except in the cases provided for in the two first-recited acts,) but that all complaints touching the same shall, except in the case of Quakers, be heard and determined only under the powers and provisions contained in the said two first-recited acts of parliament in such and the same manner as if the same were herein set forth and re-enacted; and that no suit or other proceeding shall be had or instituted in any of his Majesty's courts either in England or Ireland now having cognizance of such matter, for or in respect of any great or small tithes, modulus, com-

positions, rates, or other ecclesiastical dues or demands whatsoever, of or under the value of fifty pounds, withheld by any Quaker either in England or Ireland: but that all complaints touching the same if in England, shall be heard and determined only under the powers and provisions contained in the said recited acts of the seventh and eighth years of King William the Third, chapter thirty-four, and the fifty-third year of King George the Third; and if in Ireland under the said recited act of the parliament of Ireland, of the seventh year of King George the Third, and the said recited act of the fifty-fourth year of King George the Third, in the same manner as if the same were herein set forth and re-enacted: Provided always, that nothing herein before contained shall extend to any case in which the actual title to any tithe, oblation, composition, modulus, due or demand, or the rate of such composition or modulus, or the actual liability or exemption of the property to or from any such tithe, oblation, composition, modulus, due or demand shall be *bona fide* in question, nor to any case in which any suit or other proceeding shall have been actually instituted before the passing of this act.

II. And be it enacted, that in case any suit or other proceeding has been prosecuted or commenced or shall hereafter be prosecuted or commenced, in any of his Majesty's courts in England or Ireland, for recovering any great or small tithes, modulus, or composition for tithes rate, or other ecclesiastical demand, substracted, unpaid, or withheld by or due from any Quaker, no execution or decree or order shall issue or be made against the person or persons of the defendant or defendants, but the plaintiff or plaintiffs shall and may have his execution or decree against the goods or other property of the defendant or defendants; and in case any person now is detained in custody in England or Ireland under any execution or decree in such suit or proceeding, the Sheriff or other officer having such person in his custody shall forthwith discharge him therefrom; and the plaintiff or plaintiffs in such suit or proceeding shall and may, notwithstanding such discharge, issue any other execution or take any other proceeding for recovering his demand and his costs out of the property, real or personal, of the person so discharged.

## AN ACT FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE LAW AS TO THE TITHING OF TURNIPS IN CERTAIN CASES.

[PASSED 9TH SEPTEMBER 1835.]

Whereas it is frequently convenient and necessary in the agistment of turnips by sheep or cattle, to sever the turnips from the ground, in order that they may be the more easily and completely consumed, and thereby to prevent waste, and it is not reasonable that such severance should vary or affect the payment of tithe: Be it therefore enacted by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that from and after the passing of this act, in all cases where turnips shall be severed in the manner aforesaid, and shall be eaten on the ground by sheep or cattle, and not otherwise removed, the same shall be subject to the payment of tithe in the same manner and to the same extent as if they had been eaten by such sheep or cattle without having been so severed as aforesaid, and no farther or otherwise.



## MALT LIQUOR.

Mr. Editor.—Being well aware that the interest of the great bulk of society is ever predominant in the conduct of your valuable journal, I send you the following brief sketch of a lecture on malt liquors, delivered in London, on Thursday last, by Mr. Livesey, of Preston; by giving publicity to which you will confer the greatest benefit on society.

The lecturer commenced by stating that a great delusion existed with regard to the nutritious quality of ale, in a gallon of which he proved to demonstration there is only a simple pennyworth of nutriment, and that not equal in quality to wheaten bread. The following is his argument:—

|                                   |          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Cost of a gallon of ale - - - - - | 2s. 0d.  |
| For barley - - - - -              | 0s. 5d.  |
| To the maltster - - - - -         | 0s. 1½d. |
| To Government - - - - -           | 0s. 3¾d. |
| To the brewer - - - - -           | 0s. 8d.  |
| To the retailer - - - - -         | 0s. 6d.  |
|                                   | 2s. 0d.  |

Having stated this, Mr. Livesey thus proceeded—“From this you perceive, that ale is five times the price of the barley,—which is the only nourishment in it. The price given for hops is fully met by the sale of the table beer. The man who would pay 2s 6d for a pound of beef instead of 6d is a parallel case. But further it is to be considered, that the nutritious parts are reduced one quarter in malting, one-third in brewing, which as grains become food for cattle; and at least one-third in fermentation; so that when you drink the ale, you have not more than 1d worth of barley.

If any doubt this, let them convince themselves by boiling a quart of ale, and the solid matter remaining after the evaporation of the spirit and the water will be about two ounces, or eight ounces to a gallon, the weight of a penny loaf.

|                                                   |         |
|---------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 30lb. of barley - - - - -                         | 2s. 0d. |
| 1 gal. of ale, containing 1½lb. of barley 2s. 0d. |         |
| Buying this amount of ale is equal to giving      | lb.     |
| To the maltster - - - - -                         | 1½      |
| To the Government - - - - -                       | 4¾      |
| To the brewer - - - - -                           | 10      |
| To the retailer - - - - -                         | 7½      |
| Allowing for loss in malting - - - - -            | 1½      |
| Ditto in brewing - - - - -                        | 2       |
| Ditto in fermenting and keeping - - - - -         | 1½      |
| Reserving for myself, as the fool's portion       | 1½      |

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I beg leave to remain, Sir, your most obedient servant,  
AN OBSERVER.

PAPER MADE FROM TURF.—A cheap and yet good substitute for hemp-rags, for the purpose of affording a pulp fit for paper-making has long been a desideratum with the manufacturer. Many attempts have been made to procure one, but the difficulties of finding one such as would suit the required condition, and the duty and cost of hemp-rags, have induced adulteration to a vast extent in the paper-manufacture. It is generally known that a peat-bog, and especially those of Ireland, consists of various strata, varying in density and other properties in proportion to their depth. The top surface of the bog is usually covered with living plants, chiefly mosses, heaths, and certain aquatic or paludose plants; immediately beneath this lies a stratum, varying from only two or three inches to four or five feet, according to the state of drainage of the bog, of a spongy, reddish brown, fibrous substance, consisting of the remains of vegetables similar usually to those living on its surface in the first stage of decomposition. The chemical state of this stratum is nearly that of some of the papyri found in moist

places in Herculeaneum; that is to say, having long been exposed to the action of water, at nearly a mean temperature, the vegetable juices have nearly all been converted into ulmin-geine, or impure extractive matter, and the fibres remain nearly untouched, together, probably, with some of the essential oils of the original plants. It, therefore, seemed that if these fibres, which were apparently sufficiently fine for the purpose, could be separated from their colouring matters, that the object would be nearly, if not entirely, attained; to this, therefore, attention was directed, and it was attended with success. We examined specimens of the pulp, described as being yielded from peat, at the rate of 18 per cent, and have no hesitation in saying, that it appeared to be white, pure, and perfectly suited to the manufacture of paper. We should like to print a *Literary Gazette* upon it, after it had undergone the needful concoction from Mr. Dickinson's beautiful mills. Ireland, we believe, is blessed with two millions of acres of bog (of which 1,300,000 are susceptible of drainage and cultivation); and if it should be convertible into so many useful articles of consumption, how prodigious must be the sources of employment and improvement which it will open to the view of the Statesman and philanthropist.—From the *Literary Gazette Report of the Proceedings of the British Association at Dublin.*

EXTRACT FROM A PRIVATE LETTER, DATED KINGSTON, CANADA, AUG. 13.—The weather, although exceedingly hot, has been favourable for getting in the harvest, and the crops, I am happy to say are, in general, abundant. The increased demand from the American market, and the failure in your province is likely to keep up the price of wheat to 5s, a consumption devoutly to be wished for by the farmers as well as the merchants.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER, RECEIVED FROM ST. CATHERINES, U. C.—I have now ready to ship to your market two hundred barrels of flour made of the finest new wheat, I have ever seen; all of it first rate seed wheat, and raised by myself. I, as well as my neighbours, are at present busy harvesting, and we have great reason to thank Providence for the bountiful crops we are reaping, and the favourable state of the weather. Our expectations have been more than realised. Knowing that it will be interesting to you, I will, in as few words as possible, inform you of my progress in harvesting:—We have been but a few days engaged, and have cut and put up two thousand five hundred bushels, have thrashed and cleaned 1760, and ground about a thousand; if the weather continues good, we shall thrash about 250 bushels a day during this week. I shall have in all about 3,500 bushels on my farm, which is a very fair quantity for one individual, and all of it the cleanest and most plump looking wheat I have ever seen. I do not recollect to have seen a kernel of chaff in all we have thrashed, and but little cockle, and not a shrunk grain in the whole of it.

I have upwards of forty men at work, and I do not allow them to taste either rum, whisky, wine, beer, cider, or cordial—nothing but pure cold water and good wholesome food; and I can assure you we get on with surprising celerity and cheerfulness. In one word, the crops in this vicinity are far beyond what was anticipated in the spring, and all are taken up with the business of securing the fruit of their labour.

PLOUGHING MATCH.—The annual Ploughing Match for the premiums offered by the Bath and West of England Society took place on Tuesday, the 8th Sept. on a piece of clover ley belonging to Sir Richard Hoare, bart, about half a mile from Stourton. At half-past nine o'clock there were thirty-one candidates in the field, all of whom had ploughs drawn by two horses abreast and (with the exception of 4) without a driver. The weather was very unfavourable, it having rained hard during the whole of the match, or there would no doubt have been a vast concourse of spectators, as very great interest was excited. The Committee who acted on this occasion were Captain Scobell, R. N., V. P.,

Thomas Davis, Esq., George Webb Hall, Esq., and Benjamin, Gray, Esq., who selected as umpires the following practical farmers, not having any interest whatever in either of the ploughs:—Mr. Robert Cross, of Mere, Mr. Andrew Bland, of Melbury, and Mr. Jos. Burbidge Sharp, of Moorhays, Somerset, who decided that the furrows should be eight inches wide and four deep, and that the work should be gathered in.

As soon as the competition was over, the Committee and a large party of agriculturists proceeded to the Stourton Inn, where an excellent dinner was served by Mr. Scammel; the Marquess of Bath having kindly presented a fine fat buck for the occasion. The party sat down at half-past 4 o'clock; Captain Scobell, V. P., in the chair. As soon as the cloth was removed, the Chairman gave "the King," as patron of the society, and reminded the company that this was the anniversary of his Majesty's coronation; he therefore called upon them to drink the toast with three times three hearty cheers, which call was most cordially responded to, and never was his Majesty's health drunk with more enthusiasm. Several loyal and appropriate toasts followed. The Secretary read two letters which he had received from Mr. Benett, expressing his sincere regret that his parliamentary duties prevented his being present, and taking the chair as announced in the bills.

#### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ABBEY HOLME AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

[The following speech of Mr. Farrer is deserving of attention.]—Mr. FARRER returned thanks, and said, I can hardly take the compliment to myself, for I conceive that I am no longer a stranger here; it is true I might be so designated last year, as that was the first time of my attendance. But whether I am designated a stranger or not, I can say that I do not intend to remain so. (*Cheers.*) I have derived great pleasure from examining the farms in the district this morning, and I must say that the crops, if the weather had been altogether suitable, would have been very superior indeed. But it was impossible to overlook the effects of the drought, which here, as elsewhere, has operated against the corn. I will say also that I fear the harvest will not turn out so productive as it promises to the eye of a common observer. The corn generally, but the oats particularly, have not that rich golden hue, which distinguishes the most productive crops, but have a dark, livid, deadly appearance, which betokens that they will not yield so well as they might be expected. The crops of turnips are positively remarkable; we have not yet seen a single failure, and the produce must be most abundant. It is, I know, difficult to speak when all are so nearly alike in cultivation, but I may allude to one farm which does not come within the scope of our view this day. I had yesterday the pleasure of seeing my friend Mr. Samuel Rigg's crop, and as you all know what he has hitherto done, I can only impress you with an idea of what his crop is, by saying that it is as usual. (*Laughter.*) As regard potatoes, we all know that a progressive failure has been regularly going on in that valuable esculent, and it would be desirable to collect information which might check the failure, because it has now really become very serious. (*Hear, hear.*) And I have no doubt that if the failure goes on increasing in the ratio it has hitherto done, potatoes will almost cease to be worth the farmers cultivating. Whether that failure is owing to a disease in the seed, to the quality degenerating, to heat from their being piled together, and thus destroying the germinating power, or from what other cause, it would be advisable to learn. I can mention something resulting from my own experience, about potatoes; I last year got

some of Taylor's forty-fold, a very valuable kind, from Lancashire; I sowed them, and a better crop never grew. I gave some of them as seed to some neighbours, and afterwards heaped them together; and this year sowed them again, but there were no signs of potatoes; at last I beheld here and there, a thin wiry stalk something about the size of a knitting-needle peeping above the ground, and eventually it became a complete failure. But, Gentlemen, the principal thing to which I wish to call your attention is, that those of my neighbours who took seed from the heap, also experienced a failure, while those who took them before they were heaped, had a plentiful crop. (*Hear, hear.*) I do not say this amounts to a proof, certainly, but I contend that it furnishes a strong presumption that the vegetating power was destroyed in the heap. Having made a few other observations on the same subject, he concluded by again returning thanks.

MR. ELLMAN'S SALE.—The auction sale at Beddington, of Mr. T. Ellman's southdown sheep, on Friday, September 18, brought together a good sprinkle of buyers, many of them from distant counties, and a spirited competition was evinced. The 150 full mouthed ewes brought from 23s to 88s, average price, 44½s; the 50 six tooth ewes averaged at 45s. The 50 four tooth averaged at 42s 6d. The 100 ewe tegs sold from 35s to 84s, average, 47s. The 100 ewe lambs sold from 21s to 32s, average, 26s 6d. The 13 rams sold from 10 guineas to 28 guineas, average, 18l. The six ram lambs averaged 5l each.—On the day following Mr. J. Ellman's annual sale took place at Glynde, and was likewise well attended, and many of the lots were smartly contested for. The 100 yearling ewes sold from 40s to 105s, average, 52s 9d. The 170 aged ewes sold from 30s to 115s, average, 45s 6d. The 12 rams were let from 10 guineas to 20½, average, 12 guineas.—At the show of ram lambs the silver tankard was won by Mr. H. Boys, of Kent, beating nine others. A gentleman by the name of Raven was a purchaser of several lots of the young ewes, who stated that a ewe he bought at the Glynde sale two years back, produced a ram, now a tag, whose fleece weighed the extraordinary weight of 11lbs, and of the very first quality, and that no money would now purchase this ram.

ABYSSINIAN WHEAT.—This description of wheat was introduced to the neighbourhood of Dunbar by Lord Lauderdale, and sown in his experimental park on the 13th of November last, after a crop of clover of an Italian species. Although the wheat was sown of common thickness, not above one-half of it braided, but the plants tillered out very much, and it came into ear with the other descriptions of wheat generally sown in this country. The ear is bearded, and consists of one principal and many smaller ears growing out from its sides at irregular distances. Should the pickles all come to maturity the number must be very great, and the crop productive. The straw is large, and not tubular, as in other wheat, but filled with pith, and is strong and solid. From its thickness and inflexibility, it will not answer for bedding.

The annual demand of timber for the Royal Navy in England, in war, is 60,000 load, or 40,000 full grown trees, a ton each, of which 35 will stand on an acre. In peace 32,000 tons, or 48,000 loads. A 74-gun ship consumes 3,000 loads, or 2,000 tons of trees, the produce of 57 acres in a century. Hence the whole navy may consume 102,600 acres, and 1,026 per annum



## THE HOP.

This crack place for the growth of that aromatic bitter the *Lupuline*, is proceeding with rapidity in bringing them to a marketable state; most growers will, by this time, have begun their picking, and although the quantity in general, will not exceed one-third of the last year's growth, still the cultivators calculate, that this deficiency and the superior quality (as evinced by the quantity of seed and golden like appearance of the condition,) that they will be able to realize a third more price at the next Weyhill fair. The luxuriant growth of last year made many king hops, as they are locally called, and consequently depreciated their pungent bittering quality; this year all is compactness and weight, and not the least cause thereof is the increasing culture of the male plant in the neighbourhood, as recommended by *Lance in Baxter's Library of Agricultural knowledge*, and in the *Golden Farmer*. The deficiency of the crop in this corner of Surrey and throughout Hampshire, as now so fully proven in the drying-house, does not at all agree with the high quotation of the duty, and a visitor through the hop districts would soon be convinced that the estimation now set at 30,000*l* above the growth of last year, is quite fallacious; indeed there must be some sinister motive on the part of the buyers and speculators, thus to keep up the estimate of the duty; what is now quoted would make the average of the whole 51,000 acres in culture to exceed  $8\frac{1}{2}$  cwt per acre, this is next to impossible this year, from what we know, from the pulling of the bine and the talleymen's account.

A visitor to the hop gardens at this season cannot help reflecting on the primitive method of keeping accounts, by wooden talley, and associating therewith the destruction of our houses of Parliament; we may now see strutting about our hop gardens, a "Teller of the Erchequer" in all the arrogance of power, but to think that our late Tory government should have retained this primitive mode of keeping accounts until within these few years, is truly astonishing, but what will not the prejudices of peculiar education retain, we know it has scarcely any bounds, either in ecclesiastical or civil legislature, or commercial transactions.—Farnham, Sept 5.

BRISTOL, Sep. 12.—We have now the pleasure to wait upon you, as usual, at this season, with a report on the state of the late harvest in this and the adjoining counties; founded on the accounts we have received from a large number of intelligent correspondents—and we trust it may prove interesting. The wheat crop in the early part of the year wore a most luxuriant appearance, and promised the greatest abundance; towards the latter end of June, however, we were visited with some extremely heavy storms of wind and rain, which so much beat down the crop, that it never recovered. The weather since then has been almost uninterceptedly fine, and has had the effect of bringing to maturity, what was laid, to an extent that could not have been anticipated. The bulk of the straw is very great, and though, where the flail has been in use, we hear some complaints of the yield, yet we incline to the opinion that in quantity it will be found to be a full average produce; and though there will be some thin samples, the generality will prove of fine quality. It has all been secured in the best possible condition. Some few samples have appeared at market, and been selling at 4*s* 3*d* to 4*s* 6*d* per bushel. The crop of barley is said to be superior both in quality and quantity, to any that we have had for some years past, and the samples we have seen fully corroborate this opinion. Owing to the extreme dryness of the weather, it is somewhat flinty, and will not work freely, until it has been some time in the mow. There are but few oats grown in this neigh-

bourhood; the crop is, however, a good one; though in some districts, the quality is not so fine as was anticipated. Beans and peas are both spoken well of: the latter especially are reported to be abundant, and the samples of very fine quality. Owing to the extreme drought the potatoe crop has been a very general failure. The crop of hay was abundant, and secured in the finest order; but owing to the scarcity of grass it has already, in many places, been extensively used for foddering the cattle."

EFFECT OF RAILWAYS ON ESTATES IN ENGLAND. An opinion has been entertained by some that the value of an estate is depreciated by a public railway passing through it, and that a reduction in the rental must take place in consequence. With the exception of cases where a railway approaches near a country mansion, or goes through a gentleman's park, the reverse of this is the general result: and in nine cases out of ten the estate is considerably enhanced in value. The truth of this proposition cannot be better evinced than by the facts, that on the line of the intended Liverpool and Leeds railway some of the occupiers of lands and mines in its vicinity have voluntarily proposed to pay an increased rent in the event of the railway being established; and that a very considerable increase has actually been offered by the tenant of a nobleman through whose property it is to pass for several miles.—*Railway Magazine*.

THE BLACK CATERPILLAR.—Letter from Mr. Frederick Hotham, of Dennington Suffolk:—"As myriads of small black caterpillars (called by the labourers 'Black Jack') are devouring whole fields of turnips in this neighbourhood, it may be interesting to your agricultural readers to know that they may easily be destroyed by a cart-rope drawn over the stretches six or seven times a-day by two men or a man and a boy, who walk in the furrows, and sweep four stretches at a time. By this mode I have every prospect of saving a field of very fine white turnips (too large to be rolled according to the Norfolk plan,) which was covered with black caterpillars, after I had ineffectually tried the use of soot, 7 bushels of which had been sown per acre at day-break, when a strong dew was on the turnips, with very little apparent benefit. The caterpillars thrown off the leaves of the turnip by the action of the rope endeavour to regain their former station, and many of them succeed in doing so; but after the stretches have been swept several times they diminish very much in number probably some are destroyed by the rope itself; and many more are bruised and injured by repeated falls, and are languid from the interruption occasioned to their gaining food. In two days I have destroyed the greatest part of the caterpillars, and in two or three days more I flatter myself the remainder will entirely disappear."

Mr. Teverson's twenty-fourth Annual Sale of sheep, consisting of 2,400 of the purest Sussex breed, took place on Tuesday, at the Valley Farm, opposite the 51st mile stone on the London road. The celebrity Mr. Teverson has obtained in selecting the purest South-down ewes for the purpose of breeding, drew a large and most respectable assemblage of gentlemen and agriculturists from the adjoining counties. The result of the sale must have been highly satisfactory to Mr. Teverson. The Shearing ewes averaged 29*s* per head, some of them fetching 41*s*. The sale part off most pleasantly. Upwards of 100 gentlemen sat down to dinner, who were highly pleased with this hospitality they received, as well as delighted with the singing of several gentlemen present. The healths of the buyers were proposed by Mr. Nockolds, Mr. Clutton, and other gentlemen, who expressed thanks to Mr. Teverson for the improvement which had been introduced into the flocks of Cambridgeshire and the adjoining counties by his great exertions. The company did not leave till a late hour.

## AGRICULTURAL REPORTS.

### OXFORDSHIRE.

We are now enabled to report the important labours of the harvest as all but finished, a few beans, and but a few, remaining in the fields. It may without fear of contradiction be asserted, that within the memory of man the corn was never harvested in a better condition, and but very rarely so good. Nor can we be sufficiently thankful to the bountiful Giver of all good, who has, through "the appointed weeks of harvest," favoured us with such suitable weather for gathering the grain; and, when most of it is safely housed, has sent us a fine rain, sufficient to set the ploughs going, and to renovate the parched herbage, which has again assumed a verdant appearance.

We can now speak more correctly as to the yield of the wheats from the straw, and hesitate not to affirm, that on all the best and most highly cultivated land an unprecedented quantity of straw must be beat over to produce a bushel of wheat. We are aware there are some exceptions as to yield, where, owing to a cold bad soil or to bad management, in either case causing the crop to be too weak to be lodged; in those cases a fair quantity may be produced from a given portion of straw and of good quality; but this forms the exception, and not the rule. The worst farmers will this season be able to produce by far the heaviest and best samples of Wheat, perhaps the acreable produce may not prove below an average, yet we are not to expect any thing like the product of the two last years, especially the crop of 1833, or, if we do, we shall certainly be disappointed. As it respects the former of these years, we will venture to say that so great a bulk of flour was never produced in England in any one year since the creation as that of 1833; this may be deemed a bold assertion, but we are confident it can be proved.

On inquiry, we learn that the labourers' plots of wheat upon some of the best corn land in the county yield, on an average, about 3 imp. bushels to the chain, and this (be it remembered) on land cultivated by spade labour, consequently no weeds allowed to injure the crop, and every ear of wheat secured. We have extended our observations on this article, because it is all important to the sustenance of man, and because we are persuaded a great deal of misconception and exaggeration has gone abroad relative to the wheat crop just gathered.

Barley, oats, beans, and, we may add, peas, particularly the latter, are undoubtedly of superior quality, and heavy in bulk; but little barley has been shown at markets, complaints being made of the new barley not working well, being steely. The price of barley cannot be said to be fixed, so little new has yet been sold, but harvest being ended, we shall soon have an increased supply in the markets; at the same time we are aware that many maltsters are *entirely* out of stock, and are now being supplied by the *few* who are considerable holders of old malt: added this, the potatoe crop is likely to prove so deficient that this article already bears a very high price, other things considered. We noticed in our last, the extraordinary quantity of beer consumed in gathering the harvest, all these things must tell and have an effect upon the markets.

Perhaps in wheat it might not operate so forcibly, because if markets are likely to advance here, in comes the heavy stock in bond, and soon depresses the markets: but we conceive it will be difficult to find foreign barleys *equal* to, or likely to compete with those of English growth in a season such as this.

The complaints of the ravages of the black caterpillar, grub, and wire-worm, are universal, and thousands of acres have been entirely swept off, to the great loss and disappointment of the owners. The Swedes have in a great degree escaped the destruction, but they were beginning to mildew; we hope the fine rain will tend to recover them. The trifolium incarnatum has fluctuated greatly in price; for several weeks it was scarcely saleable, and when sold it was as low as 20s to 21s per cwt; the same seed would now bring from 36s to 40s and upwards wholesale.

The markets for wheat are most sadly depressed, wheat selling under 4s per bushel; ruin staring the farmers in the face, and yet our county members have allowed the session to pass over without making one single effort to obtain any relief whatsoever; surely they will not dare to look their constituents in the face again. A very heavy charge of broken promises and empty professions await them ere long. There does not appear to be much doing in wool just now. Men's wages for the month have been three pounds and beer, or two bushels of malt per man.—Sept. 9.

### BERKSHIRE.

Such a harvest as the present one has not occurred for many years, and never do we recollect the corn put together in better condition or with such little trouble. During the principal part of the time there has been neither wind or rain, dew, fog, or mist; so that the corn has been nearly as dry by night as by day; it has required such little judgment, that even a cockney could scarcely have done wrong. In the south and east parts of this county the harvest is quite completed, and in the other parts of the county it will be mostly finished before this account is printed. The crop of straw is in general a bulky one, and the show of ricks is certainly greater than it has been for many years; every piece of corn filled up more room than the owner expected, and to look at the rick-yards there is certainly a flattering, but we fear a fallacious appearance. It is, in our opinion a good sign when the show is great in the field, and when carried together makes but few ricks, as in such a case there is always a considerable weight of grain that presses it down so as to make it lay close together. This was the case last year, and the yield proved most abundant, every stack producing more than was expected. On the contrary, at the present time, the corn was beaten down with the wind, the straw became very crooked, the sheaves were in general light, and it lay very hollow and filled up amazingly, but the produce, in our opinion, will be far from satisfactory. Many farmers have already begun thrashing with the machines and with the flail, and we can scarcely hear of an instance but that the quantity was considerably less than was anticipated. The wheat when thrashed is uncommonly heavy and pretty good in the sample, and in excel-



lent condition for hoarding, and although the markets are at the present time extremely depressed, yet it is our firm opinion that if other counties are no better off than this wheat ere long will be dearer. At this time last year the wheat was in a damp state and much sprouted, and totally unfit for keeping; the harvest was also very early, and the farmer had nothing but wheat to sell; this grain yielded well, and it was hurried in so as to stagnate the market before any was required for seed; the potato crop was also an exceedingly good one. This year every thing is different, the quality is good and sound and fit for keeping, the yield out of the straw is very bad, and it cannot be brought but about half so fast to market as it was last year; the farmers have also barley, oats, peas, and beans to dispose of, a part of which they can thrash to make a little money to pay the way, and much of the wheat that can be got ready will in the course of a few weeks be wanted for seed, and, from every information we can at present collect, the produce per acre will fall short about a fourth of last year's crop, and the crop of potatoes is also a very deficient one. New wheat is selling at from 35s to 45s per qr, and, considering both the quantity and the quality, the speculation in wheat at the present time to all who have capital is certainly most inviting. The barley crop also fills up more room than we expected, and we are fearful that the yield will not be so good as we anticipated. The Chevalier barley appears almost every where most excellent, and the quality very fine, and it weighs between eleven and twelve score per sack. The produce of wheat that has been thrashed is about two-quarters per acre less than we expected, and it is supposed after all that the old sort of barley will produce as much per acre where the crop did not look near so good. The price of the Chevalier at present is about 32s per qr, but the maltsters are not very eager to purchase even at that price, having an idea that it will be lower. The late sown barley is bad in quality, and very much blighted; but the early sown being good, it is calculated that altogether the crop will be nearly an average one. The stock of malt in hand is short, and we know not of one parcel of old barley left, so that there is every probability of there being a good trade for this grain as soon as ever it will work for malting. The bean and peas crops are both better than they have been for many years; they are exceedingly good in quality, and there being but few old beans in the country, the new ones can now be readily sold at 9l per load. The oat crop is not so great in bulk of straw as the other sorts of corn, but will, we think, yield better out of the mow than either barley or wheat. There are scarcely any old oats in hand, and good new ones are worth about 25s per qr. Winter vetches are small, and do not yield very well; they are uncommonly dry, and worth from 6s to 7s per bushel. Apples are a fair crop, but, the summer having been so dry, they are small in size. The potatoes are very much dried up for want of rain, and there will be scarcely half a crop; they are selling as high as 8s per sack.

This has been a most excellent year for honey; the hives of bees are every where uncommonly rich, and we hardly ever remember such a year before. The length of the wheat enable the reapers to pick it up clean, so that there is but very little left behind this year for the gleaners; many of the poor refused to go a gleaning, and even let the rooks and other birds devour what was left behind, saying that the price of bread was low, that the wheat was not worth picking up, and that they could do a great deal better at other work. Last year a majority of the poor

obtained enough at gleanings to keep them in bread until Christmas, but this year they have not procured enough to serve them until Michaelmas; this neglect, with the deficiency in their potato crop will we think, be hereafter severely felt by the poor.

A deal of mischief has been done to our turnip crop by the black maggot, some thousands of acres in this county alone having been entirely eaten up as bare as a fallow field. About the 1st day of August there was observed buzzing about amongst the turnips a large shining yellow fly, who at that time was no doubt busy laying its eggs on the leaves of the turnips, for in about a week afterwards there were observed crawling about on the same an immense number of small black maggots or caterpillars about a quarter of an inch long and about the size of a small needle; they eat and grew at a most rapid rate, and in the course of a few days they were an inch long and the size of a wheat straw, and carried destruction and devastation wherever they went. When touched they instantly rolled themselves into a ball like a hedgehog and fell on the ground. Many and various were the schemes that were tried to put a stop to their devastations; some persons sowed lime, and when applied very hot it certainly destroyed many, but as the lime soon lost its virtue, and numbers were sheltered on the undersides of the leaves where the lime could not reach them, the remedy did not prevent the evil; other persons tried salt, but that was of no service, for a sufficiency to destroy the insect destroyed also the turnips; others rolled them, and where the ground was very smooth it killed a vast number, but still it did not kill them all, and when the turnips were small there was enough left to destroy them, and if large the turnips were so bruised as nearly to spoil them; others dragged cart lines a cross their fields, and pulled them off the leaves, but it did no good for they were up and eating again in the course of an hour or two. Some persons rode about the country to purchase ducks to eat them, and they did some good, but all the ducks in the country would not have been sufficient to have eaten the maggots that were in one village; others tried to tread them to death with sheep, but we are sorry to say that all the schemes and all the plans were but of little avail, and it is probable that had there not come a few showers of rain and a frosty night or two, there would not have been by this time a turnip left in the country. Since the showers we have observed but very few of the maggots, and we are in hopes the most of the mischief is over, but the damage done is immense, and sheep and lambs are already fallen five shillings per head in the course of the month. Many persons have been ploughing and sowing the land again, but it is doubtful whether it is not too late to obtain any sort of a crop; other people are anxiously waiting to see whether the rain will enable the plant to put out fresh leaves. It is remarkable that it is more than thirty years ago when these insects appeared the last time in numbers sufficient to do any damage, and it is probable that the calm warm sultry nights and days, with the total absence of all dew, fog, or mist, has been the cause at the present time of bringing every egg to perfection and made them so numerous, whereas in other years most of the eggs were probably destroyed by cold or damp, and proved abortive; and it appears also that the eggs were laid only on the leaves of the turnips and not on rape or Swedes; but they have eaten both of the latter plants after they had devoured the turnips if they grew amongst them or very near. The turnips that were just hoed out are all destroyed, but the early sown turnips which were large and thick on

the ground, will we hope, somewhat recover. The grass is all dried up in the stubbles—the latter mowth clover is all gone—the meadows and pastures have no feed—and there is scarcely any sheep keep in the country, with the exception of a little feed on the sanfoin, and that is not half so much as usual. The brooks are drying up very fast, many of the fish are dying, and the springs are lower than they have been known for these fifty years in the month of August, and in a very short time the wells will become empty, and but few of the mills on village streams will be able to do much work. It is a most excellent time for carting manure, but scarcely any of the land can be ploughed for wheat, it being so dry.

#### EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

The drought in the early part of this month was excessive: on the 12th a fine rain occurred, which, though partial in its influence, extended over the greatest part of the Riding, and afforded much benefit. This was succeeded by 12 days of considerable heat, when the full sun, with often a free air, greatly parched the soil; though at the same time it rapidly ripened the grain. On the 24th and the two following days, we were again blessed with refreshing showers; the rain which then fell, was sufficient in quantity to penetrate the earth to a considerable depth, and yet did no injury of moment to the wheat, either in the sheaf or still uncut. The last 5 days have been highly favourable.

Harvest may be stated to have commenced on the 10th, in Holderness on the 17th, and upon the Wolds on the 20th: in point of date, it can neither be termed a late nor an early harvest. Wheat is a full crop, and the grain is good, with trifling exceptions of a very partial deficiency arising from "deaf ears," probably occasioned by a severe frost when in bloom. A great quantity of this grain has been already secured in excellent condition. Barley, though not a heavy crop, is considerably better than it was last year, and the same may be said of Oats and Beans: the latter have not entirely escaped the destructive attack of the Aphis, but those insects appear too late to do any extensive injury. The report of the state of corn-crops, may, therefore, on the whole, be termed favourable.

Turnips were drooping much, and by no means promising, until they were refreshed by the late rains; since then they have resumed a vigorous growth, and the failures are only partial. The value of Swedes is every year more acknowledged, by the increased quantity sown; and we are glad to notice that the attention which has been paid to them this season, is likely to be fully rewarded.

Potatoes will be small, and the crop from this cause, in addition to the original failure from the dry rot, will be unproductive; but so greatly has the cultivation of that root been extended throughout the kingdom, that there is no doubt but the supply will fully equal the demand.

The pastures have been greatly burnt up, the "fog" has been completely at a stand, and a consequent failure of food for cattle of all descriptions has occurred; the change given to the verdure of grass by the recent rain, affords promise of relief from that inconvenience. The rain has, indeed, been most beneficial to all vegetation.

We would remind our brother farmers, that when deficiencies now appear in the young plants of red clover, this is the proper period for sowing the vacancies with the "*trifolium incarnatum*" or scarlet clover, and that the best method is to harrow it in upon the stubble. We would also again urge the sowing—

and early sowing—of the winter tare, as decidedly the most productive and useful crop for soiling. There is no situation in which the omission of this is not attended with loss. As food for draught cattle, and for pigs, through May, June, July, and August, it is invaluable, and therefore, a small quantity should be put into the ground, at different periods, the first of which has now fully arrived. The holders of sheep on the plains ought to remember, that so soon as the autumnal rains commence, the flock should be provided with salt, to promote their health and ward off the rot. Let them have constant access to it, in a covered trough, and they will soon learn to avail themselves of the medicine that nature dictates the use of;—a little corn over it will hasten the tuition, and be of good use in hot weather. The manufacturers have borne a great reduction in prices, by a yet greater improvement of their machinery, and skill in the execution of their work; and thus, we can only hope to bear up under the present low prices by the greatest attention to the first principles of agriculture, and the minutiae of good management in all rural affairs.

Wheat has advanced a little in value through the month, and other grain has not receded. There has been a considerable depression in the price of live stock generally; but perhaps, this may be partly attributed to a scarcity of grass.—Sept. 1.

#### SUFFOLK.

The month of August brought to a close the finest harvest we ever witnessed, and all kinds of produce are secured in the best possible condition, and from what we can learn by those who have commenced thrashing, our former anticipations will be realized, viz., that the yield will prove a fair average; we hear of here and there a farmer getting prodigious crops, but we always regard such statements with suspicion, believing there is some sinister end in view in raising such reports, as its accompanying effect is not apparent (the realization of an independence) sooner than their less fortunate neighbours. Some parts of this county have experienced refreshing showers, in a few places unusual and alarmingly heavy storms, whilst others have had barely sufficient to lay the dust in twenty-four hours. From the 15th ult. to the end of the month the black caterpillar, or "Black Jack," made shocking ravages amongst the common and Scotch turnip. Various were the plans contrived to check their destructive powers, dragging a cart rope, rolling, harrowing, sowing lime, salt, &c., &c.; but no experiment has saved effectually a single piece when once attacked. It is upwards of thirty years since we last were visited by such gentry, and we hope it may be ten times thirty ere they again make their appearance amongst us. We would further remark, we see no chance, even should the most favourable weather ensue, for turnips, which have been attacked by them, to be even a moderate crop. Swedes have not suffered from the Black Jack, but from the great want of rain at convenient intervals, they are very much injured by grub. Mangel wurzel are promising to be a fair crop, and will prove the only stay for the grazier this year. We are happy to state great preparations, and a larger breadth of land will be sown with rye, vetches, and trifolium incarnatum this year than heretofore, and we would earnestly recommend that all lands intended for summer fallow (not wanted for mangel wurzel or early turnips) be sown with some kind of artificial feed, either to be fed on the land, or for soiling cattle in the rack yard, or to be made into stover hay for winter provender, as by that means double the



quantity of stock may be kept, and in consequence of more stock being kept, more manure will be made, and ultimately more corn grown, as, from the low price of agricultural produce, double the quantity of stock wants to be reared and fattened, and an extra quantity of corn grown in any way, to compensate the agriculturist. The provincial papers begin to give striking proof of the ruined condition of the farmers; would that our legislators would devise some more immediate remedy than the Poor Law Amendment Act; that may be an ultimate benefit, but we fear its effects are too distant, and that many who ought to have been the guardians of the poor will be now found amongst the inmates of the workhouse.—Sept. 18.

#### CUMBERLAND.

The past month was highly favourable for finishing the hay harvest, and also for perfecting the ripening of the grain crop, particularly in the early districts. Wheat is now all cut, and nearly all secured, and in the best possible condition; it has taken much better off, than was at one time expected. A strong gale of wind accompanied with heavy rain on the 22d June broke down the straw at the time of its coming into ear, and it was then considered that the produce would be affected, but the weather since has been so favourable that it may now be estimated to be a fair average crop in quantity, the quality not so fine as we have had for the last three years. Barley is a full crop and good in quality, particularly in the chevalier. Oats upon light lands are a light crop, but upon heavy soils generally productive and fine in quality. Potatoes, where well planted will be a fine crop. Turnips in many situations made bad progress for a long time, but now they are improving; and upon well tilled land will produce a good crop. Pastures are short in grass, but stock is doing well upon them. Our cattle markets are very dull on account of the heavy complaints of want of grass in the south.—Sept. 7.

#### NORTHUMBERLAND.

The harvest commenced here about the 7th ult. and the following week became general in this district, and is now near a conclusion, that is the cutting part. The latter part of last week, and the beginning of this, has been very tedious, for, owing to the showery unsettled weather, the reapers could scarcely ever get a whole day; and the process of leading has been equally slow, having scarcely ever had a breeze of wind to dry the heart of the sheaves, and, in consequence, there has been some corn rather heated in the stacks. There is full one-half of the corn standing out yet, and which, if the weather continue in this moist damp state, must soon take harm.

The crops have cut up much better than was anticipated at one time, although the samples upon all light dry soils will be small and lean in the pickle, owing to the severe drought, but they vary much according to the quality of the soils; upon the whole it is considered a full average crop.

The turnips are a good crop in general, scarce ever better, and the aftermaths very much improved since the rains commenced. Potatoes are a failing crop in this district, which will be a great loss to the poor labourer.

Our corn markets keep in a very depressed state; old wheat scarcely saleable, prices from 4s 6d to 5s per bushel for the very best; new from 4s to 4s 4d if good—but a great deal comes raw to market. New oats from 2s 6d to 3s, barley 3s to 3s 4d per bushel.—Sept. 16.

#### KILKENNY.

We never had a more propitious harvest, the greater art of its labours having been accomplished in this month, and nothing can exceed the dry curing and saving of every description of corn and hay; and they are in most wholesome state.—Even now, commencing a new month, there is every prospect of a continuance of fine weather, which, we trust, will not only bring to maturity the late mountain crops, but will enable to be saved in a manner the most agreeable. Many farmers are now collecting wheat into the stack-yard; and as that process brings it under the immediate inspection of many, it renders it a critical period for remark. We shall commence ours with wheat.

Wheats are variable—all appear better to the eye than otherwise, and in the field stacks and even in the stack-yard, there appears the most trifling shedding of grain. At other seasons barrels in an extensive stack-yard have been collected on the sheets, caused by the plumpness of the corn, a matter that does not now occur; and, we fear, is a proof, an unerring proof, that the grain has not filled sufficiently. There has been little or none yet at market, and those that have thrashed complain loudly of the deficiency, as also the toughness they experienced in thrashing. Notwithstanding this deficiency, (if it should turn out so), it will be remedied by the great breadth. The prices are from 15s. to 19s. a barrel, a price, even if the land was rent free, could not nor would not remunerate the farmer. This circumstance would induce a question—how are rents, taxes, tithes, police charges, farming utensils, and manuring to be made out? They cannot; and what evidently must follow?—a further and more alarming description of lands in tillage, as the great bulk of farmers cannot afford to manure them.

Barleys are good and in a forward state of being reaped and saved. They have opened, too, at a better price 12s. to 13s. a barrel. We think there is an average breadth, with a full average produce.

Oats are excellent in every respect—they promise to be abundant and good. We don't perceive any thing to interfere with our hopes, save the latter or poor man's harvest turning out wet.

Potatoes are a large breadth. They are for the most part good; but we must calculate on some exceptions, particularly in light thin soils. There has been an abundant supply of old potatoes, which providentially rendered it unnecessary to interfere with the growing crop.

Hay is abundant and good, and selling low. Dairies would do well this season, as pastures are abundantly supplied with grass, but the demand for butter sinks the price. Beasts are feeding well. The pastures are luxuriant and full of grass,—price of beef moderate. Sheep are also feeding well, gradually declining in value, which value had been enhanced by the one year's unprecedented price of wool; an article now selling at a more prudent price.

The impoverished state of the farmer is now but too visible, and will evidently produce (at no distant period) a shock, by which a mischief will very generally be felt; and why? He has no means, and consequently his expenditure must be next to nothing. This interferes with the shopkeeper, merchant, and tradesman, who can sell but little, and for that little in most instances will be unpaid. True, we have a large loaf and cheap, but the means to purchase is wanting; and will not this state of things interfere with landlords, whose expenditure must of necessity, correspond with their curtailed rental.—Aug. 31.

# AGRICULTURAL INTELLIGENCE, FAIRS, &c.

## COTTESMORE PLOUGHING MEETING.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 17, 1835.

We are happy to say, that this was the most interesting meeting that has yet taken place on any similar occasion. It is supposed that there were near three thousand persons assembled to witness the interesting proceedings of the day; amongst whom were Sir G. N. Noel, the Hon. and Rev. Leland Noel, Rev. Henry Neville, E. W. Wilnot, Esq., and a large party of gentlemen. The above-named gentlemen and their friends afterwards dined at the house of R. W. Baker, Esq., and were highly gratified with the hospitality of that gentleman, to whom the county of Rutland owes so much for its improvement and rapid progression in agriculture. The various prizes were awarded by the judges as follows:—

### PLOUGHING.

**CLASS 1.**—A Silver Cup, value Ten Sovereigns, given by Sir Gerard Noel, Bart., M.P., to a Farmer's Son of Rutlandshire, not in business for himself, who shall plough in the best manner half an acre of land in three hours and a half, not less than four inches deep, (horses abreast,) without a driver.—No Winner of the First Prize in any former year to Plough for this Cup.

To. No. 4, Richard Hack, of Brooke.

**CLASS 2.**—Five Sovereigns, given by the Right Hon. the Earl of Lonsdale, Sir Gerard Noel, Bart., M.P., G. J. Heathcote, Esq., M.P., Hon. C. Lowther, M.P., Revs. Neville, Baker, and Ellicott; Baker, Bury, Willmott, Neale, Ransome, Esqrs., and others, to the Ploughman of any county who shall plough in the best manner half an acre of land as in class 1.—Second best, three sovereigns; third best, two sovereigns; fourth best, one sovereign; fifth best, half sovereign.

**A Silver Cup**, value Five Sovereigns, given by Sir Gilbert Heathcote, Bart., M.P., to the owner of the first Prize Plough in class 2.

1st Prize, five sovereigns, to No. 13, James Goodger, servant to Mr. J. L. Arden, of Morton, near Bourn; 2d., three sovs., to No. 15, Wm. Busby, servant to Mr. Matthew Laxton, of Greetham; 3d., two sovs., to No. 5, John Adams, servant to James Rice, of Cotten End, near Northampton; 4th, one sov., to No. 27, John Townsend, servant to R. W. Baker, of Cottesmore; 5th, half a sovereign, to No. 21, John Downs, servant to Mr. Rowland Buckworth, of Pickworth.

All the Ploughing good, and particularly the second Class, which, almost without any exception, was excellent work,—better than had ever been seen upon any similar occasion.

**CLASS 3.**—To the Ploughboy of Rutlandshire, under 18 years of age, who shall plough half an acre as in class 2.—First prize, three sovereigns; second prize, two sovereigns; third prize, one sovereign; fourth prize, half a sovereign; fifth prize, a crown.—A silver medal given by William Leake, Esq., to the owner of the first prize plough.

1st Prize, three sovs., to No. 7, John Thorell, servant to George Hilbett, of Exton; 2d, two sovs., to No. 2, James Hare, servant to Matthew Laxton, of Greetham; 3d, one sov. to No. 4, John Allen, servant to John Dalby, of Exton; 4th, half a sov. to No. 3, Thomas Retcher, servant to Mr. William Hammond, of Barrow; 5th, a crown,—not sufficient merit.

The Match which was to have been ploughed at this Meeting, between two farmers' sons of Rutland, against two farmers' sons of Northamptonshire, stands over for 1836.

## SHEPHERDS.

First Prize, one sovereign, given by R. W. Baker, to the shepherd who has reared on the 1st of June, 1835, the greatest number of Lambs from Ewes put to Rams hired of him in 1834, not less than eighty Ewes. Second prize, half a sovereign; third prize, a crown.

1st Prize to Aaron Crowson, shepherd to Mr. Bagley, of Wing, who reared 90 lambs from 80 ewes.

2nd Prize to John Freeman, shepherd to Mr. Beridge, of Barrow, who reared 210 lambs from 200 ewes.

The Sheep of R. W. Baker, Esq., were universally admired by a very large company. Fifty were shown, and 49 let for the season, from 6l to 16l each.

## HUSBANDRY.

A Silver Cup, value ten sovereigns, given by Sir Gilbert Heathcote, Bart., M. P., to the Tenant Occupier of the best cultivated Farm in Rutlandshire, not less in quantity than Eighty Acres of Arable Land, the neatest and most exact manner of cropping, fences, water-courses, gates, stiles, farm-yards, &c., &c.; and also the land drained in the best manner, and clearest from weeds.

To Mr. John Christian, of Barrow, tenant to the Rev. Henry Neville, who filled it with crown pieces, amounting to 33l.

One or more Premiums, according to merit, given for good Stacking and Thatching in the county.

1st Prize to John Bott, servant to Mr. Henry Stimson, of Oakham.

2nd Prize to William Clements, servant to Mr. Bagley, of Wing.

A Match between two Ploughs, for five sovereigns did not come off. In all 48 Ploughs entered, and 46 started.

One Prize was won by Ransome's Bedfordshire Plough; one prize by a Northamptonshire Plough; one prize by a Casterton Plough, by Bird. The remaining prizes were all won by Ransome's Rutland Ploughs, which were made at the suggestion of Mr. Baker.

(Signed)

DANIEL LARRATT.  
SAMUEL CHEETHAM.  
ROBERT BUNNING.

**IPSWICH LAMB FAIR.**—The annual mart commenced this day with a short supply compared with the two former years, there being from 40 to 50,000 short of sheep and lambs, and the hurdles delivered being about 55 dozen short of last year. The business of the day was very confined, few sales having been effected, and many of the flock-masters were scarcely asked the price of their lambs. The company was by no means numerous, which was accounted for by the markets of Norwich and Colchester falling upon the same day. The lambs were in good condition considering the drought during the summer season. There were but a few stands of beasts, and no business done that can be quoted for this kind of stock, the turnips having every appearance of being consumed by the great drought and black jack insect, which is at this time very prevalent upon the plant, and which to all appearance will destroy them should the rain hold off for many days longer.

## DOWNES.

|                                        | W. | E.    |
|----------------------------------------|----|-------|
|                                        | s. | s. d. |
| Mr. Clover, Kirtling, Cambridgeshire.. |    | 20 0  |
| Mr. G. Garnham, Rougham.....           | 18 | 18 6  |
| Mr. Philips, Barton.....               | 22 |       |
| Mr. Webb, Hildersham.....              |    | 26 0  |
| Mr. Webb, Gazeley.....                 |    | 22 6  |

Y



MONDAY.—The fair this day was well supplied with both sheep and lambs, and the business was much more improved upon the trade of Saturday, as far as sales being effected, but the prices were short from 4s to 5s upon the last year's return, and in many instances the flocks are turned out unsold, having scarcely been asked their price. Mr. James Munnings, of Haughey, showed two excellent pens of half-bred Downs, which were much admired by the breeders of this stock, and which brought 27s 6d and 26s 6d per head. Down shearling ewes and wethers fetched from 26s to 36s per head. Mr. Ransome's show of agricultural implements were much admired by the gentlemen interested in agricultural pursuits, and they received the usual patronage by receiving orders to a great extent for their ploughs, dressing machines, chaff and turnip cutters, which latter they have considerably improved upon. The following were some of the highest prices obtained:—

|                                            | DOWNS |    | W. |    | E. |    |
|--------------------------------------------|-------|----|----|----|----|----|
|                                            | s.    | d. | s. | d. | s. | d. |
| J. M. Rodwell, Esq., Livermere ....        | 21    | 6  |    |    |    |    |
| Mr. Adams, Barton .....                    | 19    | 0  |    |    | 20 | 0  |
| Mr. Clover, Kirtling, Cambridgeshire ..... |       |    |    |    | 20 | 0  |
| Mr. Fyson, Higham .....                    | 21    | 0  |    |    |    |    |
| Mr. Philips, Barton .....                  | 20    | 0  |    |    | 22 | 6  |
| Mr. Pawsey, Lidgate .....                  |       |    |    |    | 20 | 6  |
| Mr. Shillito, Barrow .....                 | 21    | 0  |    |    |    |    |
| Mr. Webb, Haildersham .....                | 20    | 0  |    |    | 26 | 0  |
| Mr. Webb, Gazely .....                     | 20    | 0  |    |    | 22 | 6  |
| HALF-LEICESTER LAMBS.                      |       |    |    |    |    |    |
| Mr. Roper, Lackford .....                  | 20    | 6  |    |    | 17 | 0  |
| Mr. G. Cooper, Rendlesham .....            | 21    | 6  |    |    |    |    |
| DOWN CRONES.                               |       |    |    |    |    |    |
| J. M. Rodwell, Esq., Livermere ....        |       |    |    |    | 21 | 0  |

SECOND FALKIRK TRYST.—This great leading market for sheep, was held on Monday the 7th inst. The number on the ground was computed at from 20,000 to 25,000, being about 10,000 less than last year. The state of the pastures in England prevented the usual number of dealers coming forward, consequently, all descriptions of stock suffered a severe depression in prices, and the result of this day's market was a fall of 5s to 6s a-head, compared to last year, and a good many unsold. Prices as follow: best white-faced wethers, top price, 26s a-head; next best 24s; current, 21s to 23s. Black-faced wethers, 22s; current 18s to 20s; some small lots, 12 to 14s. Cheviot ewes, top, 18s; current, 15s to 17s. Black-faced ewes, top, 13s; current, 8s to 12s. Most of the ewes sold, but wethers met with a very dull sale, and a good many left unsold the first day, but it is probable that nearly the whole would be moved off the following days, before the final close of the market. On Tuesday the 8th inst, the cattle market commenced, the number exhibited was supposed to be from 20,000 to 23,000, being about 5,000 less than last year. Cattle also, from the same cause, the universal barren state of the pastures, met with a very heavy sale, and the result of this day's market, compared to last year, was a fall in prices equal to 20s to 25s a-head, or ten per cent on the average value, with the exception of superior fat cattle, which readily brought equal to 7s per Dutch stone. Prices as follows:—The best Aberdeen and Angus-shires, four-years-old, fat, 17l and supposed to weigh 50 stone Dutch; four-years-old do for feeding, 11l to 13l; three-years-old do, 7l 10s to 10l. Best Highland four-years-old, 7l to 7l 9s; three-years-old do, 5l to 6l 15s; two-years-old do, 4l 10s to 5l. West Highland Queys, best, 5l to 7l; three-years-old do, 4l 10s to 5l; two-years-old do, 3l 10s to 4l 4s. Milch cows, 7l to 11l. A considerable number of cattle unsold, but it is anticipated that, should the weather continue favourable, much better prices will be obtained at the October Tryst.

LINCOLN FAIR, Friday last. The supply of horned cattle was very large, which sold well. Early in the morning the jobbers seemed anxious of purchasing and a great deal of business was done. There were several horses offering, but nothing of a description worth noticing, however many exchanged owners.

## MEETINGS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES, ASSOCIATIONS, CATTLE SHOWS, &c. TO COME.

[We shall feel obliged to some of our readers as will forward to us any local newspaper containing the announcement of annual meetings, for insertion as below.]

Teviotdale Agricultural Society, Hawick, Oct. 8.  
Lauderdale Agricultural Society, Lauder, Oct. 8.  
Brampton Cattle Show, Brampton, October 30.  
Chippenham Cattle Show, Chippenham, December 11th.  
Smithfield Club, Dec. 11.

## BONES.

Since the 5th of September there have passed the SOUND, or by ELSINORE, and the GREAT BELT, 5 ships loaded with Bones, bound for Hull; for other ports of England not known, 1; for Scotland, 1.

DONCASTER.—On Wednesday morning the yearling fillies from Mr. Nowell's stud (Underley, near Kirby Lonsdale) were sold by auction, and knocked down at the following prices:—

|                                                                    | gs. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Bay, by Longwaist, out of Miss Orville .....                       | 10  |
| Bay, by Bustard, out of Lauretta .....                             | 30  |
| Brown, by Muley, out of Young Caprice .....                        | 30  |
| Brown, by Muley, out of Longwaist's dam .....                      | 210 |
| Chees, by Muley, dam by Conus, out of Margrave's dam ..            | 150 |
| Bay, by Muley, out of Prima Donna .....                            | 61  |
| Brown, by Muley, out of Lucinda .....                              | 30  |
| Brown, by Bustard, out of Camelina .....                           | 67  |
| Bay, by Longwaist, out of Rosamel .....                            | 25  |
| Bay, by Longwaist, out of Eliza .....                              | 30  |
| Bay, by Longwaist, out of Brown Duchess .....                      | 39  |
| All in the Oaks, except the first three; two lots were not put up. |     |

Also, the following draft from Mr. Walker's stud:

|                                                          |     |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| My Lady, by Conus, out of the Colonel's dam .....        | 50  |
| Conrad, 6 yrs, by Whisker, dam by Blacklock .....        | 110 |
| Gladiator, 2 yrs, by Partisan, out of Pauline .....      | 100 |
| Capulet, yearling, by Young Phantom, out of Quadrille .. | 50  |
| Jereed, yearling, by Sultan, out of My Lady .....        | 120 |
| Six other colts bought in.                               |     |

On Thursday morning Mr. Nowell's yearling colts were brought to the hammer.

|                                                          |     |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Brown, by Muley, d by Bustard—Mignonette .....           | 51  |
| Brown, by Longwaist, d by Muley—Lady Emma .....          | 50  |
| Brown, by Bustard, d by Orville—Rosanne .....            | 52  |
| Bay, Brother to Margrave, by Muley .....                 | 260 |
| Bay, by Muley, out of Clare (Marpessa's dam) .....       | 200 |
| Bay, by Muley, out of Young Sweet Pea (Tarick's d) ..... | 155 |
| Black, by Muley, out of Rosalie, by Walton .....         | 260 |
| Bay, by Muley, out of Bequet, by Election .....          | 140 |
| Bay, by Muley, dam by D. Andrews (Mufti's d) .....       | 65  |
| Bay, by Muley, d by Orville or Walton .....              | 80  |
| Brown, by Muley, d by Walton—Johanna Southcote .....     | 58  |
| Bay, by Longwaist, dam by Cato—Omphale .....             | 50  |
| All but the first three are in the Derby, 1937.          |     |

Also, from Lord Fitzwilliam's stud.

|                                                                   |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Bay yearling filly, by Puss, dam by Ardrossan .....               | 71  |
| Chestnut yearling by Velocipede, out of Lady Fulford ..           | 24  |
| Bay colt, 2 yrs, by Langar, dam by Partisan .....                 | 80  |
| Black f, 2 yrs, by Waverley, dam by Rubens .....                  | 60  |
| Novelty, by Blacklock .....                                       | 150 |
| Bay mare, by Capt. Candid, out of Pauline—stinted to Langar ..... | 47  |
| Mr. Watt's Mamel Otz, by Blacklock .....                          | 86  |

Lord Chesterfield has purchased Hornsea for 1,700 guineas.

Mr. Gully has sold Margrave, to go abroad.

Lord Lichfield has recently purchased Brother to Stockport and El Pastor of Mr. Greville.

## LIVERPOOL, August 31, 1835.

Waiting upon you, as usual, with our monthly report of the Corn trade, we have esteemed the present month a proper period for extending the scale of imports to a series of years, and have, accordingly, given in the following table the annual importation of each article of the trade, taking the 12 months ending 31st August, 1829, as the first of the series. In it is also shown the value of each description of free Grain, &c. at the several periods, assuming for the standard the price of Irish produce, which constitutes the great bulk of our supplies.

|                                              | WHEAT.          |                 | OATS.           |                 | BARLEY.         |                 | BEANS.          |                 | PEAS.           |                 | FLOUR.            |                  |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
|                                              | British<br>Qrs. | Foreign<br>Qrs. | British<br>Qrs. | Foreign<br>Qrs. | British<br>Qrs. | Foreign<br>Qrs. | British<br>Qrs. | Foreign<br>Qrs. | British<br>Qrs. | Foreign<br>Qrs. | British<br>Sacks. | Foreign<br>Bbls. |
| Total Imports 12 months ending Aug. 31, 1829 | 332,432         | ..              | 57,737          | 43,149          | 32,316          | 22,293          | 15,533          | 8,621           | 7,000           | 5,589           | 94,190            | 11,521           |
| Prices on ditto                              | 10s             | ..              | ..              | ..              | 3s 3d           | 4s 3d           | 3s 3d           | ..              | 4s 3d           | 4s 3d           | ..                | ..               |
| Total Imports 12 months ending Aug. 31, 1830 | 267,280         | 99,21           | 193,164         | 40,021          | 48,080          | 20,972          | 27,637          | 32,11           | 5,311           | 5,311           | 56,150            | 6,018            |
| Prices on ditto                              | 10s             | ..              | ..              | ..              | 3s 10d          | ..              | ..              | ..              | ..              | ..              | ..                | ..               |
| Total Imports 12 months ending Aug. 31, 1831 | 266,649         | 93,422          | 336,026         | 30,175          | 55,449          | 18,164          | 24,331          | 5,276           | 4,170           | 10,172          | 80,226            | 20,285           |
| Prices on ditto                              | 7s 5d           | ..              | ..              | ..              | 3s 10d          | ..              | 40s             | ..              | 4s 3d           | ..              | 44s               | 67,584           |
| Total Imports 12 months ending Aug. 31, 1832 | 418,154         | 49,958          | 413,37          | 40,023          | 48,225          | 5,612           | 17,866          | 5,150           | 17,11           | 6,17            | 164,007           | 33,001           |
| Prices on ditto                              | 8s              | ..              | ..              | ..              | 4s 4d           | ..              | 38s             | ..              | 38s             | ..              | ..                | 66,102           |
| Total Imports 12 months ending Aug. 31, 1833 | 459,802         | 45,728          | 307,8           | 36,835          | 55,354          | 110             | 21,655          | ..              | 5,127           | 6,12            | 288,938           | 25,598           |
| Prices on ditto                              | 7s 10d          | ..              | ..              | ..              | 4s              | ..              | 38s             | ..              | 44s             | ..              | 43s               | 129,40           |
| Total Imports 12 months ending Aug. 31, 1834 | 339,812         | 31,454          | 47,652          | 31,176          | 55,064          | 3,193           | 23,434          | 17,921          | 2,637           | 47,86           | 250,902           | 27,333           |
| Prices on ditto                              | ..              | ..              | ..              | ..              | 4s              | ..              | 38s             | ..              | 44s             | ..              | 47s               | 30,133           |
| Total Imports 12 months ending Aug. 31, 1835 | 297,775         | 116,830         | 227,53          | 28,104          | 67,903          | ..              | 17,901          | 61,92           | 2,202           | 4,301           | 27,322            | 5,608            |
| Prices on ditto                              | 8s 6d           | ..              | ..              | ..              | 4s              | ..              | 36s             | ..              | 39s             | ..              | 38s               | 7,911            |

The most striking features exhibited by the above statement, are, the continued and not inconsiderable

reduction, which, during the last three years, has been going on in the supplies, and, the decline which has at the same time taken place in prices of the leading articles of consumption. Of the former it will be noticed that for the season ending August, 1833, the deliveries of Wheat were 460,000 quarters, last year they were 394,000, and this only 297,000 quarters; of Oats there were imported in 1833, 368,000, in 1834, 312,000, and this year 228,000 quarters; nor on reference to the manufactured articles, Flour and Oatmeal, do we find any increase to account for the falling off in the supplies of the raw material. It is perhaps out of our province to endeavour to assign the cause of this great reduction, but it may be proper to remark that the superabundant growth of Wheat in this country has, by keeping the interior markets constantly supplied, so curtailed the sale of Irish produce that we have never, throughout the season, been able to force a trade beyond the immediate neighbourhood, and our granary stocks of free Wheat are still upwards of 130,000 quarters. Those of Oats amount to a mere trifle, which is also the case as regards almost every other article of the trade. At the close of August, 1833, Irish Wheat was considered unusually low at 7s 10d per 70lbs, at the same period of 1834 it was reduced to 5s 9d, and at this moment the best samples of last year's growth would not exceed 5s 6d per 70lbs.

## MONTHLY REPORT OF THE WOOLLEN TRADE.

LEEDS, Sept. 1.—In our last month's report we hazarded the opinion that the autumn trade would be good; and so far as the transactions of August may be considered a fair criterion of what the ensuing months of the season are likely to be, that opinion has been verified. As proofs, we may state, that notwithstanding the occurrence of two or three very flat markets, the purchases in the Cloth Halls have been extensive; whilst the mills in and around Leeds have been well employed. The stock of balk goods in the Halls is low, and it would be still lower if a considerable portion of it were not unsuitable to the tastes of the merchants,—its unsuitableness arising mainly from the circumstance of its being fabricated from the lean and poor wools, which constitute almost the only choice for the clothier in the months immediately preceding the clip. The influx of buyers of finished goods has been quite an average one for August, though the purchases made by some of them have not been on so large a scale as usual. We allude to the wholesale buyers, and of them, principally to the larger London houses. Their comparatively limited purchasers are, however, to be accounted for, without supposing that they are jealous of the state of trade generally, or apprehensive of any immediate or serious change in prices. The key to their conduct is to be found partly in the increasing resort of the retail buyers to this market,—partly in the deficient assortment of winter goods,—and partly in the general adoption, by all classes of buyers, of a very cautious system of buying, ever since the price of wool rose to its present high level. The extent of purchases is, besides, greatly curtailed, in consequence of the merchants in general holding smaller stocks than was the practice before the rise; their policy in so doing being obviously akin, in its motive and object, to that of the buyers, viz. to be prepared for a fall of prices, and to be able to command a profit, by keeping the supply of goods within the demand. It must, how-



ever, be owned that, looking at the total amount of transactions for the month, it is not an average one; but we do not thence infer that the autumn sales will be less than usual, because we anticipate, as was the case in the spring, a longer continuance of active demand, and a more equal diffusion of business throughout the four months which constitute the season, than has been common in former years. The slightest consideration of the policy of both buyers and sellers to which we have adverted, will show that this must be the character of the trade,—there being no large accumulations of stock, as were formerly common, and the buyers being of necessity, therefore, obliged to purchase less at once, and to purchase oftener. The whole trade is, in fact, conducted on the system of “hand to mouth,”—and the practice is, under existing circumstances, wise; it is, indeed, the only one that is safe.

In wools, the assortment is good, and in price there is a slight reduction, accompanied by symptoms of greater steadiness. The manufacturers seem to consider the present range of prices more fixed and permanent than they have done for the last eighteen months; whilst the wool dealers appear less prepared or less anxious for a *start* in price, on any appearance of brisk demand. We rejoice at these indications of confidence in one party and sobriety in the other,—because we hold it to be an incontrovertible truth in commerce, that next to a falling market, the most dangerous and hazardous one is that which is unsteady and fluctuating; and of this evil species, we are quite sure the manufacturers have had “*quantum suf.*”—if their good friends, the stables, think so too, it is to be hoped that both will now try to make money together, and not each to enrich themselves by the other's loss.

We have stated, as one indication of a good trade, the diminished stock of balk cloth in the Halls; but this fact is not alone a decisive indication,—it may even be questioned if it be the principle evidence of the state of demand for raw goods, so large is that proportion of the cloth made by the country manufacturers which is delivered to the merchants by order. This mode of transacting business is become so general, and it appears to involve so much benefit to the woollen trade,—as it is alike calculated to improve the art of fabricating woollens, and to foster a more confidential and honourable system of dealing betwixt the clothier and the merchant,—that we shall offer no apology for appending to our month's report some condensed remarks on the system; premising, that as this system is, in most respects, the very opposite of the system of buying and selling in a public market, the superiority of the one over the other will best be exhibited by placing in juxtaposition their respective advantages and disadvantages.

First, as to the system of buying in the Cloth Halls. Its great advantage seems to consist in the ease with which the merchant can inspect a large and varied assortment of goods;—in the absence of any obligation to buy goods, except just when he wants them;—and in the facility and quickness with which he can adapt his offers of price to the alterations of supply and demand. As a reverse side of the picture, it must be acknowledged that the buyer has not a sufficient guarantee for the genuineness and honesty of the article, because the seller in a great many instances regards only the gain of a present transaction, and is comparatively careless about the satisfaction or *proof* which his goods may give to the merchant. Hence a system of manufacturing for show, and not for use, and a corresponding mode of bargaining and chaffering, more resembling, in too many cases, the jockeying of the horse fair, than the fair dealing of the straightforward tradesman. The goods are, in one word, like Peter Pindar's razors—*made to sell*, and if they don't deliver length and width,

why that is the buyer's business, not the seller's. The fault of this state of things must not be laid entirely on the clothier. If he always gives his cloths a little, *only a little*, dew, and a little clean soap, and occasionally a mess of porridge, and if he uses stout tenters to get width, and now and then a good galloway to get length,—he has his excuse—for he knows thumbs are abroad, and eyes are keen; and he calculates the yardwand will drop soon enough: nor is he mistaken, for the chance is about even that he will be beaten, spite of tenters and galloways, dew, and soap. It follows that honest manufacturing will not pay—that dealings are conducted on a vicious and annoying principle of mutual suspicion and fencing; that the character of the manufacture is depreciated, and our credit especially injured in the foreign market.

On the other hand, the system of manufacturing to order, secures to the merchant (provided the manufacturer possess ordinary skill) such goods as he wants, as to weight, width, and colour; such as he can depend upon in the operations subsequent to the completion of the balk article. The goods so produced will be cheaper at the *same price*, weight for weight, and quality for quality, than market cloth; because they are better manufactured; but they will be actually cheaper in price, because steady custom and confidential and honourable dealing, which are necessary elements of the system, will always command the highest skill, and the largest resources. There will also be a reciprocation of knowledge, whereby each party will become more adept in his separate department, and there will be a greater steadiness and safety in their operations, arising out of the comparison and combination of their respective observations and views as to the state of prices and of demand and supply. The disadvantages of the system, consist principally in the obligation of the merchant to take goods in a falling market, at prices above their present value, and *vice versa*, of the manufacturer to deliver goods in a rising market, at less than they cost him. We apprehend when ordinary foresight and prudence are exercised, this disadvantage is of very little moment, and seldom causes any serious loss to either party.

As bearing upon the improvement of the arts of manufacturing and finishing woollens, the latter system has unquestionably the advantage. These two great departments of the trade, although occupied by distinct classes of operators, each ignorant of the other's craft, are parts of a system which can only exist in its perfect form, when the processes of the one are conducted in subordination and with reference to the other. This subordination can have little existence when cloths are made for sale at a public market; it will exist, in a considerable degree, when the merchant and clothier co-operate, so to speak, in the production of the finished article, as under the system of manufacturing to order; it will be the highest when the whole business of fabrication is conducted on a principle, combining perfect skill in the detail of each department, with a comprehensive and profound adaptation of the raw material to its final uses, and of each successive step of the whole art of manufacturing woollens, to all which are to follow, or which have preceded it. The art has for some time been stationary to Yorkshire; at the least, it has not made such decided and palpable progress as would mark the present, as an epoch of great mechanical invention and scientific discovery in the history of the manufacture. This lethargy must not continue. The West is making great efforts to compete with us in middle qualities, and with no mean success; whilst in the original seat of the trade—Flanders—the manufacturers, under the fostering influence of peace, are exerting themselves to wrest the palm of supremacy from the British manufacturer—if, indeed, they have it not already; and the competition of Flemish and French, with British woollens in the foreign market, is close and severe. Are not these reasons weighty enough, and numerous enough to convince our merchants and manufacturers, that they have no mean rivalry to sustain, and no easy task to accomplish? We will venture to tell them, in all friendliness—“they must be up and doing.”

## REVIEW OF THE CORN TRADE IN MARK LANE, DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER.

The weather throughout the month of August has been wet and unsettled, and though unfavourable to the farmers in the northern districts of England and particularly in Scotland, has yet been highly beneficial to those agriculturists who have been more fortunate in having been enabled to clear their ground at an earlier period. The earth has become *mellowed* and friable, turning up free from heavy clods, and well adapted to receive the seed. Turnips have, however, been too far injured by the drought and caterpillar, to be revived by the genial rains, proving in many places nearly a total failure; and the seed which was sown on the first appearance of change in the weather, requires a mild temperature during the ensuing month to give any hopes of even half a crop being saved; at present the plant is only putting forth its rougher leaves. Potatoes are much complained of, besides being deficient in produce; taking the average growth of the kingdom, the tubers are extremely small in size. The growth of *Trifolium Incarnatum* is fast increasing, and where seed has been sown, which has become habituated to the climate, has turned out tolerably favourable, and will in time become a valuable addition to the farmer; this season it is likely more particularly to prove so, as the second growth of hay has generally failed; and owing to the scarcity of grass, the first crop is being now extensively used for foddering the cattle. In Scotland the complaints are general, as to the injury likely to be sustained from the heavy rains; in the southern districts of the kingdom, wheat is for the most part secured; but in the more northern portions, at least three-fifths of the oats and barley are still outstanding, and in the extreme north, much not even cut. In Ireland the weather has been more favourable, and though the wheat samples are in very many instances damp, the crop is moderately good. Barley is well spoken of, and the cultivation of Chevalier qualities has been much increased. Oats will, it is believed, be found an average growth and the quality fine.

Mark Lane, as well as the leading country markets are very liberally supplied with new samples of wheat, which though they exhibit in some instances fine heavy descriptions of corn, yet generally from the unevenness and disparity of the quality, varying in weight from 54lbs to 65lbs per bushel, afford a corroborative proof of the injury the plant sustained in the month of June from the sudden alteration of the weather; smut also prevails to some extent and the shortness of the yield continues to form the grounds of just apprehension to the farmer, that the produce of the crop estimated from the standing grain has been much over-rated. The deficiency in

the return, as compared with the superabundance of straw will, it is calculated by some, reduce the aggregate growth much below an average, even to the extent of *two millions* of quarters, while on the other hand, others who fully acknowledge the falling off in the produce on thrashing out the sheaves, are yet of opinion, that from the increased number of ears the yield will turn out much nearer an average growth. The fact, as to the probable deficiency of the crop, though it admits of speculative opinion, has had no effect at present on the prices in counteracting their depression, the general averages of the kingdom continuing to decline. The abundance of the previous harvest enabled the farmer in some measure to rally from the paralyzing effect, consequent on the low rates paid for his produce, as he possessed the means of bringing to market an additional quantity of corn in order to realise the amount requisite to meet his disbursements, now however, he is deprived even of this alternative, with the accumulated misery of receiving less for a given quantity, than most of the agriculturists have been ever forced to accept, and as barley and oats turn out a plentiful crop, these articles will recede in price and no longer bear a higher relative value than wheat, as they did last year, affording the grower some chance of recovering the loss he experienced in the depreciated currency of the more staple commodity.

The accumulation of water in the rivers and increase of wind, has, towards the close of the month, caused the trade to rally from the dulness which pervaded it, as the previous inability of the millers to work their mills, had prevented their coming on the market, and in consequence during the early portion of September, a slow heavy sale was experienced at a decline of 3s to 4s per qr; but though the sale was much improved, yet prices have not sustained more than 1s per qr advance on the better descriptions. The distillers have taken off several parcels of wheat, and as the appearance of smut is no detriment to their operations, samples infected with this blight, so fatal to the miller, have thus moved off hand. In some instances however, they have purchased the better descriptions at the top quotations. A few purchases have been made during the month, of wheat for shipment to the northern parts of England, principally to Wakefield. At Liverpool the new wheats at market have been generally of fine quality, and though prices have ruled low and been declining, yet there exists in the minds of many well informed on the subject, a strong conviction that the crops, especially of wheat, will this year prove very inferior both in quality and quantity, to the produce of any of the three last years. With the exception



of the sale of from 2,000 to 3,000 qrs of red Ham-bury wheat at 21s in bond, there have been few transactions in foreign wheat.

The mills having been prevented from working owing to the want of wind and water, has caused the flour trade to remain steady throughout the month; and the receipts coastways having been limited and the trade extremely short of stock, ship's qualities have been saleable at the previous quotations; though it is most probable, that during the current month, the increase of the supplies will depress the quotations.

The receipts of barley throughout the month have continued limited; and as the mildness of the weather has prevented maltsters from coming generally into the market, the trade has ruled dull, until the close of September, when more disposition being evinced to get into stock, the few samples of new quality offering, have moved readily off hand, the finer descriptions of Chevalier realising 1s per qr more money. The new qualities have of late proved more kindly, but though heavy and fine in colour, the samples are not stout, having been deprived by drought of sufficient moisture to swell the kernel, and give that plumpness, which is the characteristic of the better qualities of English barley. The average shipping weight of the article promises to be heavier this season than for many year's past, as 55 lbs per bushel will be by no means an unusual weight in our barley counties for the finest qualities. The few parcels that have been already converted into malt have for the most part worked well. Chevalier descriptions have been sold at 31s to 32s, and latterly 33s and even 34s has been obtained for extra fine sorts. Common runs of malting 30s to 31s, fine 32s; distillers have also purchased, and paid from 28s to 30s per qr the better qualities. Grinding barley has been difficult of disposal; and good old heavy parcels have hung on hand at 24s to 25s. Some purchases have been made in Bond of Danish old samples, principally for shipment to Christiania, to which destination about 3400 qrs have been exported, having found buyers at about 12s to 12s 6d per qr.

As few maltsters have commenced working this season, the trade in malt has been languid; fine qualities realising fully the previous quotations, but inferior sorts being difficult of disposal.

The supply of oats from all parts of the kingdom has been on a very moderate scale, but as dealers and consumers have been anticipating the release of a large quantity of foreign qualities, the business in the early part of August was confined to needy customers, who only purchased from "hand to mouth." The duty on the admission of foreign oats advanced on the 10th ult. to 12s. 3d., and on the 24th to 13s. 9d. per qr., thus precluding further import for the home consumption, and which towards the middle and close of the month produced more steadiness in the market, the extent as to the quantity of foreign oats having been so far ascertained. From the 6th August, the date when the duty on the article declined to 10s. 9d. to the end of the month, only a

small proportion of the stocks was liberated, many speculators having anticipated a further reduction in the duties; however, in consequence of the supplies from Ireland being more liberal than expected, and many of the cargoes being light and inferior, added to the fact of the new qualities appearing at so early a period on the market, and in such excellent condition as to render the article fit for immediate consumption, the trade became depressed, with a limited sale; the averages therefore rapidly declined, and from the 1st to the 10th of September there were entered 102,380 qrs, making an aggregate, which has paid the duty of 10s. 9d. at our port of 124,360 qrs. At Liverpool, 4,300 qrs have been entered; at Bristol 1,680 qrs, and at Hull 10,608 qrs, making a total of 140,948 qrs, and leaving in London in bond, including the arrivals since the advance of the duties, upwards of 79,000 qrs, composed chiefly of good Friesland and heavy qualities for export, besides inferior and stale Swedish, Danish, and Prussian feed. The market, though there has not any briskness been exhibited in it, has continued steady in price, and fine fresh heavy qualities having been scarce, particularly Scotch potato descriptions have realized 6d. to 1s. per qr more money. Foreign feed have obtained low rates, if quite fresh, and even then, have brought rates far from remunerating, most parcels having lost 5s per qr, and many granaried samples, as much as 7s 6d to 10s. Good foreign feed have not been worth more than 20s to 22s. Petersburg, Riga, and Archangel qualities 18s. to 21s.; Danish and Pomeranian old, 17s. to 19s. Those remaining in bond are quite nominal in value, and few offers have been made above 7s to 7s 6d for the better descriptions of feed. Brew are noted at 13s to 15s.

The receipts of new beans have been large, and having exceeded the demand, the article has weekly declined in value, until the reduction amounts to from 5s to 6s. per qr. as compared with the rates obtained at the close of August. Old Beans have been scarce, and sustained little alteration in price. The new qualities are generally dry and handsome. The duty on the article having advanced to 12s. 6d. has prevented any further admission of foreign samples. Longpods have declined 1s per qr., being noted at 31s. to 35s., and Windsor beans have risen 2s. per qr., and are held at from 38s. to 44s.

Few new peas have appeared at market, and as an inquiry has existed for the article, 1s per qr. more money has been obtained for fine descriptions; grey peas advanced, in the early part of the month, 1s per qr., but have again declined to the same amount; Maples have improved 1s per qr. The duties on all articles during the month have advanced: viz., 2s per qr. on Wheat, making the duty 40s 8d; 1s 6d per qr on Barley, the duty being 21s 4d; 3s on Oats, duty now 10s 9d; 1s 6d per qr on Rye, 3s on Beans, leaving the duty 12s 6d, and 4s 3d on Peas, the duty being 18s 3d. Thus the duties on the import of all foreign grain may be now considered prohibitory.

During the month of September, the following quantity of grain and flour has arrived in the port of London:—

|             | Wheat. | Barley. | Malt.    | Oats.  |
|-------------|--------|---------|----------|--------|
|             | qrs.   | qrs.    | qrs.     | qrs.   |
| English ... | 38,381 | 3,029   | ...      | 4,373  |
| Scotch ...  | 74     | 220     | ...      | 1,058  |
| Irish ...   | 35     | 35      | ...      | 34,436 |
| Foreign ... | 1,650  | ...     | ...      | 10,883 |
|             | Beans. | Peas.   | Linseed. | Flour. |
|             | qrs.   | qrs.    | qrs.     | sacks. |
| English ... | 5,402  | 4,293   | ...      | 16,377 |
| Scotch ...  | ...    | ...     | ...      | ...    |
| Irish ...   | ...    | ...     | ...      | 50     |
| Foreign ... | 657    | 2,013   | ...      | 3,665  |
|             |        |         |          | sacks. |
|             |        |         |          | 300    |

In France the harvest is now concluded; and it may be stated generally that wheat, on the middling and inferior soils, will produce better, in many places, than the heavy rich lands, as the straw, which is generally abundant, has been much lodged on these latter descriptions of ground; the quality, however, for the most part, is good, and the quantity exceeds an average return. Rye does not yield in proportion to the sheaves, but is a good crop. Oats vary considerably; where rain has fallen in time, the harvest is productive, but for want of moisture in many districts, the yield will be very moderate, and, on the light and sandy soils, very deficient. Old oats are extremely scarce, and recourse is obliged to be had immediately to the new growth. The first cut of lucerne, clover, and hay has turned out favourable, but the after-growth has partly failed for seed, or been fed off by the cattle, owing to the want of fodder. Prices are ruling low, and as rain has been experienced in most of the departments, flour is becoming cheaper. At Paris, new wheat is coming freely to market, weighing from about 60 to 64 lbs., and obtains from 29s 9d to 34s 6d per qr.; many of the samples are, however, infected with smut. Rye experiences a very limited demand, at 14s 6d to 16s 2d. The supplies of flour are augmented, the mills being enabled more generally to work, by the increase of water in the different rivers. Oats are declining in value, in consequence of the appearance of the new crops at market; but old are still scarce. In the Southern Departments, the appearance of the cholera in some of the principal towns has caused business to become quite stagnant, and prices, at Toulouse and Marseille, are nominal, and the sales confined to the immediate wants.

The Italian markets have become nearly paralyzed in their operations by the virulent breaking out of the cholera; nor are the quotations likely to rally, as the crops of the new quality of wheat are abundant, the stocks of old large, and the shipments from the Black Sea likely to be considerable. In Sicily, the crops being plentiful, quotations range low, wheat being noted at Messina at 25s; barley and beans, at 19s per qr.

At Odessa some speculative sales of soft wheat had been made at 19s 8d, but the opinion prevailed that at the termination of the rainy season, and when the cold weather had rendered the roads passable, that the supplies from the interior would cause a further depression of prices.

The market at St. Petersburg had become firmer, in consequence of the improvement in the price of

Rye meal. Rye was obtaining 25s 8d to 27s. Wheat dull at 32s; foreign qualities are selling at 27s 6d to 30s 8d. Linseed met with less inquiry; Morschansky, however, of best quality, was held at 42s 1d to 42s 9d. The operations of Government have checked the disposition to speculate to any extent, as merchants are again liable to the ruinous results arising to the trade, from having the Government stores forced on the market, which suddenly depress the currency even below a remunerating price. This system, though beneficial to the consumer when prices are high, are deeply injurious and prejudicial to legitimate trade, and has been attended with distressing consequences. At Riga the weather was extremely favourable for securing the crops of linseed, and arrivals of new crushing qualities were shortly expected, prices ruling from 33s 9d to 42s. Hempseed was selling at about 28s. In grain little doing, and rye noted at 22s 8d. Oats as high as 14s. At Danzig the supplies continued moderate, and the trade languid; fine high mixed qualities of 62 lbs, had been bought at 28s, and fine mixed at 25s. The stocks of wheat were reckoned at 260,000 qrs, and the supplies previous to the harvest of 1836, would not, it was calculated, exceed 150,000 qrs. The crop of wheat in the higher parts of Poland were stated as deficient in weight, but in the Prussian provinces, and the adjacent districts of Poland, sound and heavy; smut, however, forms the subject of much complaint. In Mecklenburg wheat and barley were for the most part secured, and though it was calculated the storm at the commencement of the month had destroyed about one-fifth of the produce of wheat, not only in the Duchy, but likewise that of Holstein and the Danish Islands, yet the trade was extremely dull at 22s for wheat; barley, 14s to 15s; oats, 13s to 14s. In Denmark the crops will prove deficient, owing to the loss sustained by the hurricane; prices were in consequence firm, wheat being held at 22s to 23s 6d. Barley was scarce, and old qualities noted as high as 17s, the produce of 1834 being quite exhausted. Peas are a good crop, but oats are expected to yield badly. Rapeseed, both in the Islands, Holstein and Mecklenburg, owing to increased demands from Belgium, Holland and England, added to unfavourable reports of the new sown seed, have advanced prices from 25l 10s to 29l and 30l 5s per last. At Hamburg the Wheat trade was languid; the new parcels of Marks quality proved inferior in quality, and were difficult of disposal, but new Lower Elbe white samples were saleable for local consumption. In barley and oats no alteration; prices of the former remained steady, but of the latter were declining, and noted as low as 9s 6d in the interior. Linseed was saleable at 45s per 416lbs. Cloverseed less animated, though white qualities have been sold as high as 56s 4d per cwt, and red, 40s 2d to 45s 2d. In Holland the new Zealand wheat varies much in quality, though the quantity is satisfactory, and prices were ruling low.

In the United States the prices of flour are gradually receding; Western Canal brands are selling at 28s 1d per barrel, and a few parcels even under that price; Pennsylvanian, 27s to 28s 1d; Richmond City Mills, particular brands, 30s 11d per barrel. Several new samples of wheat have been received at New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore. North Carolina qualities have been sold at New York at 46s 2d to 46s 6d, which is a decline of fully 2s per qr; other qualities in proportion. Northern oats are held at 25s, with a dull sale. Yellow Indian corn has obtained 36s 8d to 38s 2d; good North Carolina and Maryland, 33s.



## CURRENCY PER IMPERIAL MEASURE.

|                                          | BRITISH.         |    | SEPT. 1.         |    | OCT. 1. |    |
|------------------------------------------|------------------|----|------------------|----|---------|----|
|                                          | s.               | s. | s.               | s. | s.      | s. |
| Wheat, red, Essex, Kent, Suffolk.....    | 34               | 40 | 32               | 40 | 32      | 38 |
| White.....                               | 40               | 45 | 33               | 44 |         |    |
| Norfolk, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire..... | 39               | 38 | 31               | 35 |         |    |
| White, do. do.....                       | 34               | 40 | 32               | 37 |         |    |
| West Country Red.....                    | 32               | 36 | 31               | 35 |         |    |
| White, ditto.....                        | 34               | 40 | 32               | 39 |         |    |
| Northumberland and Berwickshire Red..... | 32               | 35 | 30               | 34 |         |    |
| White, ditto.....                        | 32               | 38 | 32               | 36 |         |    |
| Irish Red.....                           | 30               | 32 | 27               | 30 |         |    |
| Ditto White.....                         | 31               | 33 | 30               | 00 |         |    |
| Barley, Malting, new.....                | 30               | 32 | 30               | 31 |         |    |
| Chevalier, new.....                      | 31               | 33 | 31               | 34 |         |    |
| Distilling.....                          | 28               | 30 | 28               | 30 |         |    |
| Grinding.....                            | 26               | 27 | 24               | 26 |         |    |
| Irish.....                               | 24               | 25 | 24               | 25 |         |    |
| Malt, Brown.....                         | 35               | 40 | 35               | 40 |         |    |
| Ditto, Chevalier.....                    | 60               | 62 | 60               | 62 |         |    |
| Ditto, Norfolk and Suffolk Pale.....     | 46               | 54 | 46               | 54 |         |    |
| Ditto Ware.....                          | 60               | 65 | 58               | 61 |         |    |
| Peas, Hog and Grey.....                  | 28               | 32 | 28               | 32 |         |    |
| Maple.....                               | 30               | 34 | 30               | 35 |         |    |
| White Boilers.....                       | 32               | 34 | 32               | 36 |         |    |
| Beans, small.....                        | 37               | 39 | 34               | 38 |         |    |
| Harrow.....                              | 34               | 37 | 31               | 36 |         |    |
| Ticks.....                               | 32               | 36 | 29               | 32 |         |    |
| Mazarian.....                            | 32               | 35 | 30               | 33 |         |    |
| Oats, ENGLISH feed.....                  | 20               | 23 | 20               | 22 |         |    |
| Short small.....                         | 22               | 24 | 22               | 24 |         |    |
| Poland.....                              | 22               | 25 | 22               | 26 |         |    |
| Scotch, Common.....                      | 25               | 26 | 25               | 26 |         |    |
| Berwick, &c.....                         | 25               | 27 | 26               | 28 |         |    |
| Potatoes, &c.....                        | 25               | 28 | 27               | 29 |         |    |
| Irish, Feed.....                         | 16s 0d to 18s 0d |    | 16s 0d to 17s 0d |    |         |    |
| Ditto Potatoes.....                      | 20s 0d to 24s 0d |    | 20s 0d to 22s 0d |    |         |    |
| Ditto Black.....                         | 16s 0d to 22s 0d |    | 16s 0d to 18s 0d |    |         |    |
| Bras.....                                | 8s 0d to 10s 0d  |    | per bushel.      |    |         |    |

## PRICES OF FLOUR,

|                                            | Per Sack of 280 lbs. |    | SEPT. 1. |    | OCT. 1. |    |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------|----|----------|----|---------|----|
|                                            | s.                   | s. | s.       | s. | s.      | s. |
| Town-made.....                             | 33                   | 38 | 33       | 38 |         |    |
| Norfolk, Suffolk, Kent, and Essex.....     | 27                   | 30 | 27       | 30 |         |    |
| Sussex and Hampshire.....                  | 27                   | 30 | 27       | 30 |         |    |
| Superfine.....                             | 32                   | —  | 32       | —  |         |    |
| Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and Stockton..... | 27                   | 29 | 27       | 29 |         |    |
| Northumberland, Berwick, and Scotch.....   | 27                   | 29 | 27       | 29 |         |    |
| Irish.....                                 | 27                   | 29 | 27       | 29 |         |    |
| Extra.....                                 | 30                   | —  | 30       | —  |         |    |

## STOCK OF GRAIN AND FLOUR IN BOND IN THE PORT OF LONDON ON THE 5TH SEPTEMBER.

| Wheat.  | Barley. | Oats.   | Rye. | Beans. | Peas. | Flour. |
|---------|---------|---------|------|--------|-------|--------|
| qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs. | qrs.   | qrs.  | cwt.   |
| 268,792 | 23,602  | 152,554 | 28   | 127    | 1,252 | 75,824 |

## IMPERIAL AVERAGES

|                      | Wheat. | Barley. | Oats. | Rye. | Beans. | Peas. |
|----------------------|--------|---------|-------|------|--------|-------|
|                      | qrs.   | qrs.    | qrs.  | qrs. | qrs.   | cwt.  |
| Weekending 14th Aug. | 42 6   | 27 9    | 25 3  | 30 4 | 39 7   | 32 6  |
| 21st ..              | 41 1   | 27 8    | 24 0  | 30 4 | 39 1   | 32 6  |
| 28th ..              | 40 4   | 26 10   | 22 3  | 29 8 | 39 7   | 33 1  |
| 4th Sept.            | 39 5   | 28 4    | 21 6  | 30 8 | 38 2   | 35 3  |
| 11th ..              | 38 10  | 27 6    | 20 7  | 29 5 | 36 8   | 35 9  |
| 18th ..              | 38 0   | 27 8    | 20 5  | 31 5 | 35 2   | 36 9  |

|                                                                                                                                       |      |      |      |      |       |      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|
| Aggregate Average of the six weeks which regulates the duty.....                                                                      | 40 0 | 27 8 | 22 4 | 30 4 | 38 11 | 34 4 |
| Duties payable in London till Wednesday next inclusive, and at the Outports till the arrival of the Mail of that day from London..... | 46 8 | 21 4 | 13 9 | 24 3 | 31 2  | 18 3 |
| Do, on grain from British possessions out of Europe.....                                                                              | 5 0  | 2 6  | 2 6  | 3 0  | 3 0   | 3 0  |
| Foreign Flour, 28s 8d per 296lbs. British Possession do., 3s per 186 lbs.                                                             |      |      |      |      |       |      |

## BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS MARKETS.

OCTOBER 1.

In these markets, Potatoes are still in good supply and steady demand, at stationary prices. Ware Potatoes, from 3s to 5s; middling ditto, 2s to 2s 6d; and Chat ditto, 1s to 1s 6d per cwt.

An Account of the Quantity of Grain and Flour imported into the United Kingdom during the month ending the 5th Sept. 1835; the Quantity on which the Duty has been paid for Home Consumption, and the quantity remaining in Warehouse.

|                                       | Wheat.  | Barley. | Oats.   | Rye.    |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                       | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    |
| Quantity imported.....                | 17,165  | 7       | 27,811  | ..      |
| Do. entered for home consumption..... | 1,711   | 17      | 68,119  | 3       |
| Do. remaining in warehouse.....       | 628,754 | 79,465  | 342,749 | 3,476   |
|                                       | Peas.   | Beans.  | qrs.    | Flour   |
|                                       | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | cwts.   |
| Quantity imported.....                | 2,274   | 6,952   | 104     | 14,515  |
| Do. entered for consumption.....      | 8,066   | 22,858  | 338     | 6,129   |
| Do. remaining in warehouse.....       | 4,932   | 1,622   | 826     | 313,059 |

## PRICES OF HOPS IN THE BOROUGH.

|                            | SEPTEMBER 1. |        | OCTOBER 1. |         |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------|------------|---------|
|                            | £ s.         | £ s.   | £ s.       | £ s.    |
| East Kent Pockets.....     | 5 0          | to 6 2 | 4 15       | to 5 10 |
| Mid-Kent Pockets.....      | 4 15         | 6 0    | 3 15       | 4 15    |
| Weald of Kent Pockets..... | 4 0          | 5 2    | 3 3        | 4 8     |
| Sussex Pockets.....        | 3 10         | 4 10   | 3 3        | 4 0     |
| Yearlings, Bags.....       | 3 0          | 3 15   | 3 0        | 4 4     |
| Old Olds.....              | 0 18         | 1 5    | 0 18       | 1 10    |

## SMITHFIELD MARKET.

Per stone of 8lbs. to sink the offals.

|                    | SEPTEMBER 1. |        | OCTOBER 1. |        |
|--------------------|--------------|--------|------------|--------|
|                    | s. d.        | s. d.  | s. d.      | s. d.  |
| Inferior Beef..... | 2 0          | to 2 2 | 2 0        | to 2 2 |
| Do. Mutton.....    | 2 2          | 2 4    | 2 2        | 2 4    |
| Middling Beef..... | 2 6          | 3 2    | 2 6        | 2 10   |
| Do. Mutton.....    | 2 6          | 2 10   | 2 4        | 2 10   |
| Prime Beef.....    | 3 4          | 3 10   | 3 2        | 3 10   |
| Do. Mutton.....    | 3 2          | 4 0    | 3 4        | 4 0    |
| Veal.....          | 3 2          | 4 8    | 3 2        | 4 8    |
| Lamb.....          | 3 0          | 3 10   | 4 0        | 4 10   |
| k.....             | 4 0          | 5 0    | 3 0        | 4 0    |

## WOOL MARKETS.

## BRITISH.

|                       | SEPTEMBER 1. |        | OCTOBER 1. |        |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------|------------|--------|
|                       | Per lb.      | s. d.  | s. d.      | s. d.  |
| Down Tegs.....        | 1 7½         | to 1 8 | 1 7½       | to 1 8 |
| Half-bred do.....     | 1 8½         | 1 9½   | 1 8½       | 1 9½   |
| Ewes and Wethers..... | 0 0          | 0 0    | 0 0        | 0 0    |
| Leicester Hogs.....   | 1 7½         | 1 8    | 1 7½       | 1 8    |
| Do. Wethers.....      | 1 3          | 1 3½   | 1 3        | 1 3½   |
| Blanket Wool.....     | 0 10         | 1 2    | 0 10       | 1 2    |
| Flannel.....          | 1 0          | 1 5    | 1 0        | 1 5    |
| Skin Combing.....     | 1 2          | 1 3    | 1 2        | 1 3    |

## SCOTCH.

Per Stone of 24 lbs.

|                                            | SEPTEMBER 1. |         | OCTOBER 1. |         |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------|---------|------------|---------|
|                                            | s. d.        | s. d.   | s. d.      | s. d.   |
| Laid Highland Wool, from 10 3 to 10 9..... | 10 3         | to 10 9 | 10 0       | to 10 6 |
| White Do. Do.....                          | 13 6         | 11 0    | 13 9       | 14 3    |
| Laid Crossed Do.....                       | 13 0         | 14 0    | 13 0       | 14 0    |
| Washed Do. Do.....                         | 14 0         | 16 0    | 14 6       | 16 0    |
| Laid Cheviots.....                         | 14 0         | 16 0    | 14 0       | 16 0    |
| Washed Do.....                             | 18 6         | 20 0    | 18 6       | 20 6    |
| White Do.....                              | 24 0         | 26 0    | 24 0       | 26 0    |

## FOREIGN.

OCTOBER 1.

Electoral Saxony Wool from 4s 6d to 5s 6d; first Austrian, Bohemian, and other German Wools, 4s to 4s 4d; second ditto, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; inferior ditto, in locks and pieces, 2s to 2s 4d; ditto lamb's ditto, 3s to 4s; Hungarian sheep's ditto, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; Leonesa sheep's ditto, 2s 6d to 4s 6d; Segovia ditto, 2s 8d to 3s 2d; Soria ditto, 2s 4d to 3s; Cacaris ditto, 2s 1d to 2s 6d; Spanish lamb's wool, 1s 6d to 2s 10d; German and Spanish cross ditto, 1s 8d to 3s; Portuguese sheep's ditto, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; ditto lambs' ditto, 1s 3d to 2s 6d; Australian fine crossed ditto, 2s 9d to 4s 9d; ditto native sheep's ditto, 1s 8d to 2s 7d; and Van Dieman's Land native sheep's ditto, 1s 6d to 2s 7d per lb.

# THE POLITICAL COMPANION

TO

## THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

### THE IRISH CHURCH BILL.

(From the Herald.)

The principle of the Irish Church Bill, as far as it relates to the confiscation of Church property, was placed in the proper light by the Earl of Haddington, when he showed that it was as capable of being applied to England as to the country in which the experiment of Church spoliation is first to be tried. "What," said the noble lord, "is the principle of the bill? That upon expediency shown you might alienate the property of the Established Church, and apply it to other purposes. That principle was stated in another way, as connected with numbers and confined to particular places; but if their lordships once sanctioned this principle, who could say that the time might not arrive when it would be applied to England also? Might not parishes be found where was a great majority of Dissenters and Roman Catholics, the members of the Established Church being in a minority? Here was a principle ready made to the hands of those who might wish hereafter to take the property of the Church of England. This bill confined the operation of the principle pro hac vice to parishes where there were not above 50 Protestants. What was there magical in that number? Was not the principle as applicable to a larger number than 50? Was it not just as applicable to a parish where there were 100 Protestants, and 4,000 or 5,000 Roman Catholics? This bill promised a surplus which it could not find: but there would be a desire to make a surplus—there would be the same arguments used—the same appeal to the necessity of conciliating the Catholics of Ireland, and extending for that purpose the operation of this bill."

There can be no doubt that lord Haddington rightly prefigured the consequences of passing a bill containing such a principle, under the pretence of conciliating those enemies of the Protestant Church who can never be conciliated by any thing short of its total subversion. The bill is only the first experiment to O'Connellize the Church—the first application of the principle of destruction. It supplies the fulcrum wherewith the lever of Popery may eventually raze the Church from its foundations. If the Lords had once sanctioned the principle, though confined within certain limits in the first instance, the same reasons would be urged hereafter for extending those limits. It would be shown that the Roman Catholics of Ireland were still dissatisfied—that the democrats of this country were still far from being propitiated—that greater sacrifices must be made to prevent those which had already been made from going as nothing—that it was unreasonable and unsound to make confiscation or non-confiscation of church property depend upon the arbitrary number of 50—that, in order effectually to conciliate the enemies of the Church, whether Roman Catholics or infidels, the number ought to extend to 100. That conceded,

the next demand would be to raise it to 200, then 300, and so on, until conciliation reached its last stage, and the final sacrifice demanded of an apostate Protestant legislature was performed to the Popish Baal.

In making any allusion to the debate upon this bill, it would be gross injustice to omit the opportunity of recommending to the particular attention of the Protestants of the empire the admirably reasoned—the truly scriptural and eloquent speech of the Bishop of London. Having widely differed from the learned prelate on another great question of domestic policy, we are not the less ready to bear our testimony, such as it is, to the powerful and splendid manner in which he advocated the cause of the Protestant Reformed faith of Ireland, and exposed the fallacies with which its implacable but crafty assailants endeavoured to co-er the deep-laid design to extinguish for ever the pure light of its altars in the land. Truly did his lordship say, "It seemed to be a peculiarity in Irish legislation that there never was in any of its acts a character of finality. Every thing was to be tried, and each succeeding experiment, like the last, was found to fail. He was wrong, however. In this measure there was a principle of finality—there was a germ of something conclusive—there was the seed of destruction and extermination. He spoke in the fullest conviction of his heart, when he told their lordships that if they were to pass that bill, they might as well embody a clause in it, that in the year 1840, at all events at no distant period, the Protestant Church of Ireland shall for ever cease." If our whig ministers, in that subserviency to the Popish agitators, succeeded in bring that event about, we should like to know how long the union of the two countries would continue?—how long such English proprietors of Irish acres as the duke of Devonshire and the Marquis of Lansdowne would continue to receive the large incomes which they extract from that impoverished country?—how long the forbearance of the descendants of the Milesian chiefs would be exercised before the forfeited estates were reclaimed?

The hopeless folly of attempting to conciliate the Roman Catholic clergy by any sacrifice short of the destruction of the church was well exposed by the Bishop of London. "Observe the Roman Catholic," he said, "from Gandolfi down to McHale, who out-heroded Herod in the virulence and vehemence of his hatred to the Protestant Church. If he and others of the Roman Catholic priesthood had contented themselves with giving expression, he cared not in what terms, to the asperity of their feelings towards the church, they might talk of it as blood-sucking, anti-national, heretical, what they pleased; but they had described it as a badge of conquest and a token of slavery. Well, if it were so, when government should have stripped it of some 800 parishes, would it not still remain as much as a badge of conquest and token of slavery as before? Would it not continue to be so until it was utterly exterminated from



the land? Undoubtedly it would, and the course would be this:—To-morrow a little more of the ornamental foliage (as it would be styled) would be torn from the tree; then there would next be an incision or two in the stem; then the bark would be stripped off, and at the last the enemy would come with the deadly axe to strike at the root, and cast down the trunk and throw it on the fire. Did their lordships then suppose it possible to pacify the Roman Catholics? or if their lordships did, were they, for experiment's sake, prepared to sacrifice on their ambitious altars the holocaust of the Protestant Church? The popish bigots of Ireland have often predicted the approaching downfall of the Protestant Church, and it would seem as if our present ministers were anxious to realize that prediction.

### THE PEERS AND THE COMMONS.

*(From the Morning Post.)*

We repeat that the House of Commons is not the representative of the people, any more than is the House of Lords. The House of Commons is the representative of the Commons. The Commons of England (and the Commons in the original, genuine, and legal signification of the term is a title confined to those, and those only, who have a right to sit, or to vote for representatives, in that estate of the realm)—the Commons of England, like the Peers of England, formed, and still form a favoured section or order of the people, enjoying, for the advantage of the nation in general, certain powers and privileges of a very eminent and exalted character. The number of the commons, like the number of the peers, is purely conventional. The King can increase the number of the peers, and the King, and the peers, and the representatives of the commons, can by convention increase the number of the commons. During the last half century the number of the peers has been greatly increased; and during the last five years the number of the commons has been greatly increased; yet the commons, although far outnumbering the peers, still bear a very small relative proportion to the number of the people. Nevertheless, the commons are so numerous and so scattered that it is not possible for them to assemble together for the purposes of legislation; therefore they meet in the persons of their representatives. There is no other apparent reason why the commons should not in their own persons exercise legislative power. Before the Reform Act they might have met in Spafelds, and now they might meet on Salisbury Plain. It would be possible for all the Commons of England to encamp within five miles of Stonehenge. So much for these two sections or bodies of the people, the Peers and the Commons, alike privileged orders, and alike exercising irresponsible power. And the only material difference between them is, that the qualification of one is purely hereditary, while, in addition to the hereditary qualification which is enjoyed by that portion of the Commons who are landowners, they have also the advantage of a qualification by tenure. If the peers, therefore, in voting for laws, exercise a power for which they are not responsible, so also do the Commons in voting for lawmakers; and if it be a blot in our constitution that the peers should be invested with the function of hereditary legislation, so it must be an equal blot that the Commons should be invested with the function of hereditary election. Thus much in answer to the ignorant fools and superficial knaves who pretend to write now-a-days on political subjects, and criticize, forsooth, our ancient constitution, of the

principles of which, as of everything else, they are absolutely and profoundly ignorant. The constitution of England consists of King, Lords, and Commons; not King, Lords, and people; and the member of the House of Commons who talks of "the people's house," is either a gross blockhead or an insolent usurper.

Now will the people of England be governed by the Commons alone? That is the question which we shall soon be called upon to decide. Will the people of England permit the whole power of the state to be monopolized by one favoured class? For our part we will not trust the Commons of England with despotic power one jot more than the Peers of England or the Monarch of England. The Monarch of England has at times exercised despotic power, and we found it hard enough. The Peers of England have never exercised despotic power, and we hope never will. But the Commons of England have exercised despotic power before this, and, compared with their infamous tyranny, the recollection of the rule of the stoutest tyrant that ever waved in this island a solitary sceptre, is a dream of bliss. Let us not, in God's name, try them again; but, if we are mad enough, the republic of jobbers will not last long. Some brawny arm will soon be extended to "take away this bauble."

### THE MINISTERS.

*(From the Globe.)*

After the scene in the House of Peers on Tuesday night the Tories can scarcely sustain their pretensions to support from the Dissenters of England on the ground of friendship to their cause. A more gross and gratuitous insult, we venture to say has never been offered to that body since the Test and Corporation Acts were first enacted. In a few words we shall make good our assertion.

By law, Dissenters, in their proper persons, are entitled to hold church patronage. Advowsons, by one of those beautiful provisions which tend so much to the advancement of true religion, are a marketable commodity; and a Catholic, Infidel or Heretic, for aught we know to prevent it, a Mahomedan or a Hindoo, can purchase the legal right of presentation to a church living with the same facility he can purchase a bill of exchange. Such persons cannot it is true—and this is the important distinction—themselves enjoy, in any of these religious characters, the fruits of such living. Their power does not extend beyond bestowing it upon a member of the established church, first duly examined and licensed by the dignitaries of the church itself. The presenter of the advowson, be he Dissenter or Infidel, has nothing whatever to do with the training or formation of the clergyman of the church to whom alone it can be given. That individual must be taken ready made, fashioned and formed by the bishop himself, on whom devolves the right to admit or reject applicants for holy orders, according to his own view of their orthodoxy or fitness. Thus rendering it altogether impossible for the Dissenter or any one else, if these functionaries do their duty, and ordain only proper persons to the sacred office, to impose as their presentee an unqualified or unworthy person. With this security and *вето* it is altogether indifferent to the church to whom belong its advowsons, while the professors only of the state religion can reap their benefits. Indeed, when we consider these facts, and remember to have seen Presbyterian chancellors disposing, without remark or objection, the immense church patronage of their office, we

are astonished that Lord Lyndhurst's attempt to revive the hateful and invidious distinctions of the Test and Corporation Acts, and to exclude from the exercise of corporation church patronage dissenting councillors, was not met and put down, even in the House of Lords, with one universal hiss of scorn and indignation. But no! the Peers, the Tories, "the best friends of religious liberty," declare that the sole connection Dissenters shall be permitted to hold with the church is to contribute their means to its support. Is it not, then, true, as we have said, that the Lyndhurst insult to the Dissenters of England is as gross as it gratuitous?

### COUNTY RATES.

(From the *Mark Lane Express*.)

We stated last week that the appropriation of £110,000 in aid of the county rates was the only measure during the present session which could afford the slightest relief to the agriculturists. The increase of the county rates during the last few years has been so rapid as to become excessively burdensome, and forms a very considerable item in the poor-rates of every parish. A commission was formed by Lord Duncannon during Lord Melbourne's first administration to enquire into the county rates and other matters connected therewith. From the first report made by the commission, it appears that the vast increase in the county rates may be ascribed in a great measure to the costs of prosecutions which have been gradually increasing during the last forty years. It not only appears that the cost of each individual prosecution has increased, but also that the number of prosecutions has increased in a much more rapid ratio than the advance of the population. In the West Riding of Yorkshire, the sum expended in prosecutions in 1814 was 2,823*l.* 14*s.*, in 1824 10,500*l.*, and in 1834, 13,727*l.* The expenses of assize prosecutions vary from 15*l.* to 50*l.* in different counties, but the average seems to be about 19*l.* each, whilst the cost of quarter sessions prosecutions varies from 3*l.* to 13*l.*, and averages about 7*l.* 10*s.* each. In examining the items of which the charges for prosecutions is composed, it seems that the cost of carrying witnesses to the place of trial, with the loss of time, maintenance, and expenses there, form by far the largest portion of the expenditure. In those towns which are privileged to try ordinary offences, but which send the capital offences to be tried at the assizes, it appears that a prosecution of the former class costs upon an average about 5*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.*, and one of the latter about 19*l.* The same difference may be noticed between trials at the ordinary quarter sessions, and those which are disposed of at adjourned sessions held in different large towns. Thus, a prosecution at Sheffield costs but 4*l.* 4*s.*, which at Pontefract would average nearly 10*l.* Without going further into the details of the evidence produced before the commissioners, it is abundantly clear that the holding of courts in different places so as to preclude the necessity of convey-

ing witnesses a long distance, and maintaining them for some days, would materially decrease the amount of the county rate, and moreover possesses this advantage, that it may be carried into effect without delay or difficulty. This would naturally bring us to the consideration of a question which has already been much discussed, but which has with many other measures of practical utility been overlooked amid the contention and turmoil of the present session, we mean the establishment of local courts. However they may differ in the details, the leading legal luminaries of both political parties are agreed upon the principle, Lord Lyndhurst having announced when in office, his intention of bringing in a Bill for their establishment, and we have no doubt that when the knotty points of Church and Corporation Reform are settled, the establishment of local courts will be amongst one of the first measures. The commissioners upon the county rates advert to the subject, and it is suggested in the report that an ambulatory judge of criminal jurisdiction should be sent round to hold a court in every large town for the trial of such offences as now come under the jurisdiction of the sessions. So far as regards holding courts in such places, and upon more frequent occasions, we entirely concur, but it seems to us that the cost of a judge's salary, even though it were not paid out of the county rate, would, in a great measure neutralize the pecuniary advantage which might be derived from the adoption of the proposed plan. Admitting the present mode of conducting business at sessions to be satisfactory, we see no difficulty in making such arrangements as would enable the magistrates to hold sessions in any number of places which the circumstances of the particular case might require. On the moral advantages which must result from the holding frequent sessions, it is almost unnecessary to dilate. The evil consequences of mixing with the usual inmates of a goal, more especially to juvenile offenders, are too little considered by those whose duty it is to superintend the public morals. The magistrates, most of them country gentlemen deeply interested in the social condition of the people by whom they are surrounded, have it in their power, without any additional legislation, to lighten much the burthen of the county rates, and at the same time to check the contamination which uniformly affects the mind even of the adult who has, although for a short time, been compelled to associate with the usual occupants of a prison.

### THE POOR LAWS.

(From the *Globe*.)

Major Beauclerk, it appears, asked Lord J. Russell on Monday "if he was aware that orders had been issued by the poor law commissioners to stop all out-door relief in the present season. Such orders had come down to Sussex three days ago, to a place where he (Major Beauclerk) was stopping at



the time. He dined in that neighbourhood on Sunday last with a clergyman, and met on that occasion a large body of magistrates. They were all guardians of the poor, and all friendly to the bill; but they were all against enforcing such orders at this season of the year. Their universal opinion was, that the enforcement of such orders would spread misery and want in the agricultural districts, and that the old, the sick, and the infirm, had not anticipated such a thing, and who had laid by nothing to meet such an emergency, would be consigned to starvation."

This passage is from the report as repeated in the *Times* of this morning. In the first place we would observe that it is an untrue representation, that to withdraw any portion of out-door relief is to consign any paupers to starvation: as such withdrawal is invariably coupled with an offer of the workhouse.

What, however, will the public think of the character of the attacks upon the measure, when we assure them that having made inquiries upon the subject, we find that no orders whatsoever connected with the out-door relief had been sent down to Sussex three days ago, and that no orders "for stopping all out-door relief in the present season" are in operation in Sussex, or have at any time been issued by the commissioners to that county! We doubt the truth of the report. We shall not believe, until we see it confirmed by himself, that Major Beauclerk, virulent enemy as he was to the poor law amendment bill, and strongly disposed as he doubtless is to justify his former opposition, made the statements attributed to him.

On the same night on which he spoke, several members of the same order got up and made complaints with respect to the proceedings under the act—complaints involving mis-statements almost as gross; every one of which was answered, as it were, by anticipation in the report delivered to the hon. members on the very morning of the day on which they made their speeches. One hon. member, for example, is reported to have disclaimed against an union of agricultural parishes with the city of Gloucester, and the tyranny of the commissioners in forcing parishes which were lightly burdened to contribute to the burdens of the more heavily burdened. Now, if the hon. member had read the act, he would have seen that the commissioners have no power whatever to do the tyrannous things imputed to them, or to equalize the parochial burdens in the manner stated.

#### THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION BILL.

(From the *Times*.)

Having ourselves already expressed with entire frankness our respect for the temperate and conciliatory spirit which had appeared to actuate the House of Commons in the latter stages of their proceedings upon this bill, that is to say, after it had been returned to them from the Lords, with all its amendments on its back, we with equal readiness renew our approbation of the discreet promptitude manifested by the representatives of the people on the receipt of the lords' *ultimatum* yesterday, when the bill, as amended, was accepted by them as a preferable alternative to that of leaving the old corporations altogether untouched, and the whole mass of acknowledged municipal grievances in full force for an undefined duration.

Nor can we let the occasion pass without calling to public notice for an instant the admirable wisdom with which the usages and regulations of our legislative bodies, whether as regards their separate transactions, or their intercourse with, and

operation upon, each other, have been contrived by our cautious and clear-sighted ancestors, for the avoidance of precipitancy, the defeat of passion, and the eventual triumph of reason and judgment over all the obstacles to sound legislation, interposed by prejudice, impetuosity, and partial and one-sided views of public questions. The repeated readings, the committals, the recommittals, the conferences, the successive opportunities thus afforded for considering measures both in principle and detail, under every imaginable shape and aspect for men of practice, men of theory, men with personal and conflicting interests on all sides to set the flail to work vigorously and skilfully, to thrash out the substance from the husk, and ascertain by frequent examination what ought to be kept and what delivered over to the winds; these are portions of our constitutional machinery little thought of in ordinary times, but at all times of inestimable value, and never susceptible of an illustration more gratifying or more striking than that which they have received from the complex discussions and various intercommunications between the houses to which this most important and most beneficial bill has given rise, while from them we trust, and are conscientiously satisfied, it has gained the most solid improvements.

One extraordinary advantage which has arisen from the comparatively long period during which the bill from first to last has been before one or other of the houses of parliament, has been the gradual evaporation of violence and progressive increase of calmness and good temper so observable in both houses as the deliberations went on. The earlier debates in both were of a somewhat menacing and acrimonious character, which disappeared with the continuance of discussion. The last, which took place in each house respectively, was, on the part of the chiefs on both sides, a model of moderation and senatorial temper, and the once alarming scene has closed in cheerfulness and peace.

Lord John Russell, we see—but it neither surprises nor at all offends us—felt himself under the necessity, good-humouredly hinted at by Sir Robert Peel in his speech on the 24th ult., of articulating a "hard word or two," just to smooth down the rising bristles of some of his ultra-Radical supporters. His lordship talked of his conviction that the bill could not be regarded as a "final measure." His lordship, of course, did not mean to stir up with one hand those embers of disagreement which, with the other, he had just been so laudably extinguishing; and therefore we shall say no more than that it will be the part of prudence as well as patriotism in those who are charged with the maintenance of the public peace, to abstain from pledging themselves so long beforehand to the incompleteness of an experimental measure, but rather to watch its workings, and be determined by the results of an experience which does not yet exist, in pronouncing whether it shall hereafter be considered to fulfil or disappoint those hopes of public benefit, on the strength of which it has so recently won its way through parliament. In our opinion, without at all pretending to affirm that the bill is perfect, it would *not* be wise to meddle with its provisions (at least with any of the more important ones) until after a full and attentive trial of their efficacy. The measure must be tested in all its parts, before it can be safely wrought upon in any, if we wish to be secure of the harmonious adjustments of our alterations to those portions of the frame which shall be left un-

altered. In the mean time let us congratulate the country that the law has passed—and we pray that those who come after us may have reason to add —“*sit perpetua.*” And let us not forget, that the bill owes many of its best qualities—those qualities which can alone ensure its permanency—to the House of Lords, who, under the guidance of Lord Lyndhurst, purged it of its unconstitutional matter, and controlled its original recklessness by the limits of law and reason.

### THE LAST SESSION.

(From the Herald.)

No session of parliament probably ever began, progressed, or ended, in a manner so little satisfactory to the country as that which has just terminated. The factious dismissal of the Speaker universally acknowledged to be fitter than any other man to preside over the Commons' debates, gave a sure earnest and foretaste of what the country has since so woefully experienced; of which the subsequent overthrow of Sir Robert Peel's administration left no doubt. The *Standard* has placed the “Is” and “The might have been” in a very obvious and intelligible shape—that of a balance sheet, which we cannot do better than lay before our readers:—

| SIR R. PEELE'S MEASURES FOR 1835. | LORD MELBOURNE'S PERFORMANCES IN 1835. |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| English Church Reform.            |                                        |
| English Tithe Commutation.        |                                        |
| Irish Tithe Commutation.          |                                        |
| Irish Church Reform.              |                                        |
| Dissenters' Relief Bill.          |                                        |
| Ecclesiastical Law Reform.        |                                        |
| Civil Law Reform.                 |                                        |
| Military Law Reform.              |                                        |
| Church Rates' Bill.               |                                        |
| Municipal Corporations' Reform.   | Municipal Corporations' Reform.        |

We ask any honest reformer to look on this picture and on that, and then tell us whether the resignation of Sir Robert Peel has not turned out as we foreboded that it would, a great loss and calamity to the country, especially in the cause of Reform? and how it is that those from whom that cause had a right to expect so much, have done so little? We know it will be said (but with what truth?) that the House of Lords have been the obstacle, and that but for them the cause of reform would have been in a more thriving condition. In answer to this, we again request every honest reformer to cast his eye over the above balance sheet, and ask himself how many of Sir Robert Peel's plans of reform have been so much as mooted by his successors, and whether he does not find that only one of them, besides the corporate reform bill, ever so much as found its way to the House of Commons, still less to the House of Lords? In short such a do-nothing session never emanated from a do-little ministry. Even the budget, the principal business of the session, which when out of office the Whigs declared ought never to be postponed beyond the 5th of April, did not make its appearance till the end of August, accompanied by

a silly threat of stopping the supplies, when more than one-half of them were actually expended.

### IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

(From the Herald.)

The good people of Scotland have at all times had the credit of being much more wary, worldly-wise, and prudent than their brethren of the south. This quality they do not seem to have lost, and it extends, as might be expected, to their representatives in parliament, of which we have recent proof in a fact we believe at present but little known—that while in England the harsh laws authorising imprisonment for debt remain in force in all their rigour and deformity, an act was past during the late session, and received the royal assent on the 9th inst., intitled “An Act for abolishing in Scotland [why in Scotland alone?] imprisonment for debts of small amount.” The preamble to this act which is as remarkable for its brevity as its humanity—states that the law commissioners in Scotland “have made a report, from which it appears that great hardship is frequently suffered by poor persons, in consequence of imprisonment for civil debts to a small amount, without producing thereby any adequate benefit to their creditors.” It goes on to enact “That from and after the 1st day of January, 1836, it shall not be lawful to imprison any person or persons on account of any civil debt which shall not exceed the sum of 8l 6s 8d, exclusive of interest and expenses thereon.” There are several other useful clauses in the act, especially one to prohibit the buying up of small debts, so as to render the debtor by their accumulation liable to imprisonment. This then is now the law of Scotland, of one part of the *United Kingdom*—how united, while such discrepancies take place in its legislature, we are at a loss to understand. In a running commentary upon the preamble we have already asked the question which we now repeat, “Why is this the law of Scotland alone?” Why are English small debtors to continue to linger in prison, and suffer what this act justly describes to be “great hardship,” while on the other side of the Tweed such hardship has thus ceased by law to exist? Where were our English representatives—where the metropolitan and other borough members—where our professing patriots and spouters of humanity at Exeter Hall—when this humane law is allowed to pass for one part of the empire, while the other is excluded from it? Where, may we not ask, were the noble persons who have during the whole session been paying such laborious attention to prison discipline, when they let pass this opportunity of doing for England what its representatives have done for Scotland, and by so doing unload our gaols, especially those of the metropolis, of a host of their most pitiable inmates? Can any of the persons we have alluded to be ignorant of the number of persons annually incarcerated for debts less than one-half, nay one quarter, of the minimum named in this act? If they are, let them inquire in Whitecross-street, the Borough Compter, or any of the many other receptacles of wretchedness, and they will there learn that more persons are in one year imprisoned on judgments from our Small Debt Courts alone than are incarcerated in all Scotland for debts of all amounts in five. Have not, then, the people of England, we repeat, ample reason to complain of the supineness of their representatives, especially of those who, with humanity and patriotism constantly on their lips, let pass the best opportunities of reducing their professions to practice?



MR. O'CONNELL.

*(From the Standard.)*

We confess unfeigned pleasure in witnessing the commencement of Mr. O'Connell's agitation circuit. It is a fine commentary upon the good old English proverb, "hungry dogs eat dirty pudding," which the respectable people of England of all classes will know how to apply to those persons who are willing to hold office under this person's patronage. Of the public character of the man—with his private history we have nothing to do, though we are entitled to say that we have never heard any traits of generosity, or tenderness, or fidelity in friendship, in his private practice, to compensate his public crimes—of the public character of the man, it is perfectly impossible to speak in terms adequately expressive of the disgust and indignation which it ought to provoke. History and fiction have been in vain ransacked to find his parallel. Catiline has been spoken of; but Catiline was accomplished and brave, and if rapacious, he was not a niggard. The *alieni appetens* was qualified by the *sui profusus*. Thersites has been named; but we do not find that the vices of Thersites were otherwise than disinterested. Catiline and Thersites in one, could their characters be reconciled, would be libelled in a comparison with Mr. Daniel O'Connell. There is no opinion, and we repeat it advisedly, which this man has ever pronounced, that he has not, upon the slightest temptation of advantage, retracted and reversed. Take, for example, the case of the 40s freeholders in Ireland. In 1825, after having lived, as he tells us, 50 years among these 40s freeholders, Mr. O'Connell did upon his oath declare that "they ought to be disfranchised, because persons in their rank of life could not be free agents." At Manchester, the other day, this person appeared the advocate of "universal suffrage."

We speak not of his *chasse-ing* upon the poor law question, or upon the question of the "repeal of the union," though his eternal shuffling upon both is matter of notoriety. We speak not of these, because upon matter of mere speculation it is lawful, and it may be honourable to change one's opinion; but in the case of the elective franchise, the assertion of 1825 was an assertion of fact—of fact of which Mr. O'Connell must have been cognizant. This assertion then was, consequently, perjury, if his statement at Manchester was not wilful falsehood. Again, there is no class or description of the people upon whom he has not, by turns, hypocritically fawned, and malignantly flung dirt. But three or four years ago, the Orangemen of Ireland, when Mr. O'Connell hoped to entrap them into a treasonable alliance against the British connexion, were, in his professed opinion, the noblest specimens of the human race. They loyally rejected the treacherous advances of the Apostle of Separation, from that forward they became something worse than demons. But we need not pass the sea for an illustration of the traducer's alterations of the foulest slander of the same object whom he does not blush to adulate while it suits his purpose. For 20 years the people of England supplied the butt for all the filthiest shifts in Mr. O'Connell's ribald vocabulary. They were mean, selfish, gluttonous, greedy—stupid, decrepit in body and mind—feeble in their frame—cowards in their temperament, so profligate and so lost to shame, that 19 out of every 20 English women were convicted strumpets before marriage: affording ground for a very charitable surmise as to the virtue of the unconvicted 20th, and as to the married life of all.

And yet this fellow presumes to pass the public ways of England without fear of being spit upon by

every Englishman, and every son of an Englishwoman, who meets him! Nay more, he has the incredible effrontery to pour upon an English assembly the odious slaver of his eulogy. And this is the person, people of England, by whose favour Lord Melbourne and his colleagues exercise the right of governing you, despite of your King—despite of the ancient blood of England—despite of the descendants and the worthy representatives of those who led your fathers to victory at Cressy and Agincourt. This is the person to propitiate whom his miserable slaves would sacrifice a Christian Church, and devote nearly two millions of your Christian fellow-subjects in Ireland to exile, or to massacre—for that is the end of "appropriation," these are the means whereby only the coveted surplus can be created. Here is the champion, then, of the Whig administration—trumpeted by their organs, and acknowledged even by the head of the government himself.

## THE TOWN CLERKS.

*(From the Morning Post.)*

The circumstances under which the House of Lords resigned their amendment on town clerks are not generally known. As the bill was sent up by the Commons the town clerks were only retained during pleasure. Lord Lyndhurst and the peers were prepared to support their original amendment, which retained the services of the town clerks during life; but when the clause establishing aldermen for life was given up, the town clerks expressed their desire to obtain compensation instead of their appointments. A negotiation was immediately commenced during the debate, in consequence of which Lord Melbourne more than once left the house, and communicated with several of the principal town clerks in a neighbouring committee-room. His lordship offered to guarantee them "a most liberal compensation," and the clause for retaining the services of the town clerks for life was given up by the peers at the direct request of those officers.

## ORANGE LODGES.

## GENERAL ORDER.

"Horse Guards, August 31, 1835.

"Lord Hill has reason to apprehend, that the orders prohibiting the introduction of Orange lodges into the army have not been duly communicated to the non-commissioned officers and privates, or, if communicated, that they have not been sufficiently explained and understood.

"His lordship now refers commanding officers of regiments to the confidential circular letters of the 1st of July, 1822, and 14th of November, 1829, upon the foregoing subject; and declares that any officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, who shall hereafter institute or countenance an Orange lodge, or any other meeting or society whatsoever for party purposes, in barracks, quarters, or camps, shall be brought to trial before a general court martial for disobedience of orders.

"His lordship, moreover, peremptorily forbids the attendance of either officer or soldier at Orange lodges, by whomsoever or wheresoever held.

"The present order is to be read to the troops periodically on the parade with the articles of war.

"By command of the Right Honourable

"GENERAL LORD HILL,

"Commanding-in-Chief,

"JOHN MACDONALD, Adjutant-General."

## TURF INTELLIGENCE.

During the month which has just passed away, Doncaster has constituted the grand focus of attraction for the frequenters of the Turf, as well as for those who embrace an occasional opportunity of enjoying the elegant recreation which it affords. The St. Leger was this year more than ordinarily attractive, not so much on account of the number as from the extraordinary position of the quadrupedal candidates for this highly important stake, as well as from the circumstance of the meeting being graced with the presence of feminine Royalty. The intention of the Duchess of Kent to honor Doncaster Races with her attendance, in company with the Princess Victoria, was generously and judiciously announced in sufficient time to attract public attention; and, in consequence, one of the most numerous and most brilliant assemblages was drawn together which had ever appeared on a similar occasion. In the company on Monday (Sept. 14th, the day on which the races commenced) was included many of the most distinguished characters in the country; while, on the following day, about one o'clock, the arrival of their Royal Highnesses, above mentioned, was greeted with the most lively pleasure and welcomed by the most respectful attention.

The view which we have uniformly taken of the leading nags and principal favorites for the St. Leger, will be fresh in the recollection of our readers; they will be well aware our argument was to the following effect: that, inasmuch as Mundig had been overmarked in his successful race for the Derby, his chance for the Doncaster St. Leger had completely vanished. Ascot we regarded as the best horse that started for the Derby, and yet it was very evident that he possessed no claim to eminent superiority. Preserve gave the most incontestible proof that she was unable to go one yard with Queen of Trumps, and yet she had proved herself superior to Ascot; therefore, we unhesitatingly and unceasingly maintained, that the Cambrian Queen had nothing to fear except from a dark horse; while, from her acknowledged powers of speed and endurance, it became manifest that none but an extraordinary animal could successfully rival her. Our predictions were verified even to mathematical precision. However, in defiance of common sense and reason, in direct opposition to the self-evident facts above enumerated, Mundig took the lead on the betting list, and was kept in that position by "*The London Sporting Reporter*," frequently in disunion with the operations at Hyde Park Corner, and the betting circles throughout the kingdom. Through the medium of these delusive "*Sporting Reports*" in all the London papers, a false notion is spread through the country, from which there cannot fail to result the most erroneous calculations, the most unsatisfactory, if not ruinous, conclusions. As soon might we expect a crop of red clover in Blackfriars Road as reasonable probability from the elegantly fugacious pen of "*The London Sporting Reporter*." A person who possesses exactly that well-balanced modicum of sagacity to distinguish a horse from an elephant, is but ill-calculated to teach or illustrate the doctrine of progressive motion. However, "*The London Sporting Reporter*" can lay unqualified claim to the merit of playful imagination, if not to extraordinary genius,

as his contrivance for the removal of General Chasse from Liverpool to Goodwood by steam, and other extraordinary inventions, sufficiently testify.

On Thursday, Sept. 10, the betting circle became conscious that they had acted under the most flimsy and inconsiderate delusion, and Her Majesty rose to that brilliant distinction to which she had been pre-eminently entitled from the moment she reached the winning post for the Oaks: on arriving at Doncaster, they became further enlightened on the subject; they found this splendid filly freely backed at 2 to 1 the field against her. Further, Hornsea, a dark horse, had crept into favour, as will be seen by the adjoining list, while Ascot had made that sort of decided retrocession which clearly indicated the opinion entertained of him by those who were acquainted with the true state of affairs; and Mundig was scarcely recognised or acknowledged in the betting. The following was the state of the odds immediately before starting:—

|      |    |   |      |                 |
|------|----|---|------|-----------------|
| 11   | to | 8 | agst | Queen of Trumps |
| 7    | —  | 1 | —    | Preserve        |
| 12   | —  | 1 | —    | Hornsea         |
| 12   | —  | 1 | —    | Jupiter         |
| 12   | —  | 1 | —    | Ascot           |
| 25   | —  | 1 | —    | Brother to Hope |
| 33   | —  | 1 | —    | Trim            |
| 40   | —  | 1 | —    | Mamsel Otz      |
| 40   | —  | 1 | —    | Turban          |
| 1900 | —  | 1 | —    | Mundig          |

Tuesday, the 15th, was ushered in by heavy rain, which ceased, however, as the time of starting for the Leger approached, and recommenced as soon as this important stake was decided.

Mundig and Hornsea were in the hands of the same trainer (Scott), and in all probability the former was started to make play for the latter, which, however, he was utterly unable to effect. Mundig gave up in good time, reserving himself for the following day, when he won the foal stakes, having only three very inferior horses against him.

The following ran for the St. Leger:—

|                                    |       |    |
|------------------------------------|-------|----|
| Mr. Mostyn's Queen of Trumps ..... | (Lye) | 1  |
| Mr. Richardson's Hornsea .....     |       | 2  |
| Mr. Golden's Brother to Hope ..... |       | 3  |
| Mr. Greville's Preserve .....      |       | 4  |
| Lord Orford's Ascot .....          |       | 5  |
| Mr. Powlett's c by Langar .....    |       | 6  |
| Mr. Houldsworth's Turban .....     |       | 7  |
| Mr. Johnson's Jupiter .....        |       | 8  |
| Mr. Bowes's Mundig .....           |       | 9  |
| Mr. Watt's Mamsel Otz .....        |       | 10 |
| Mr. J. Peel's Trim .....           |       | 11 |

At starting, Tommy Lye and the Cambrian Queen got locked in the middle, but confidence smiled upon the countenance of the venerable little jockey—he well knew he could win. Powlett's colt jumped off at a rattling pace, with Jupiter, Turban, Mamsel Otz, Ascot, and Preserve, clustered at his heels, Queen of Trumps in the centre, followed by Brother to Hope, Hornsea, and Mundig. The pace was good, and no sooner had they got over the hill than it became evident Mamsel Otz and Jupiter had lost all chance of success; Trim shortly afterwards declined, while Brother to Hope and Hornsea advanced towards the front, and the latter took the lead—the Queen all the time going quite within herself. At length, Her Majesty collared Hornsea, something



more than a distance from home, played with him for a few seconds, and cantered in with as much ease as she did for the Oaks on Epsom Downs; thus winning the Oaks and the St. Leger, a feat never before accomplished.

The St. Leger Stakes amounted to £1,800: the race was run in three minutes and twenty seconds.

Queen of Trumps is by Velocipede, out of Prince's Royal, by Castrel, out of Queen of Diamonds, by Diamond, her dam by Sir Peter, out of Lucy, by Florizel, out of Frenzy, by Eclipse, her dam by Engineer, Lass of the Mill by Traveller, Miss Makeless, &c.

PERFORMANCES OF QUEEN OF TRUMPS.—1834. Won the Champagne Stakes at Holywell Hunt, beating Sir T. Stanley's Peter Simple, Sir R. Bulkeley's Borghese, and Mr. Price's The Juggler, very easily. 1835. Won the Oaks at Epsom, beating Mr. Greville's Preserve, Lord Orford's Bodice, and seven others, in a canter. Won the Knowsley Dinner Stakes, at Liverpool, beating Mr. Houldsworth's Hectic, Mr. Turner's Equator, and Lord Westminster's b c by Conductor, out of Bertha. Won the St. Leger, at Doncaster, but lost her race for the Scarborough Stakes owing to extra weight and accident.

She is a dark brown, with three out of the four legs white; a white star and stripe down the face. She has what is termed in Yorkshire the Blacklock head; her cheeks large, but tapering small towards the mouth; her neck is very light, the head well set on; her shoulders strong and oblique; expansive chest, with fine arms and good legs; rather hog-backed; very sweeping quarters; her thighs muscular and long, very short from the hock to the ground. When extended, her action, particularly that of her hind quarters, is of the finest description; added to which, she possesses an excellent temper.

Considerable anxiety was manifested on Thursday previous to Doncaster Races, by the betting circle, to make up their books; but, as the *mistified* deception had been dissipated, this was found impossible of accomplishment to the desired extent, and some of the regular Turfites have become losers to a tolerable extent in consequence. The Manchester and Liverpool betting men were winners to a considerable amount, and would have backed Queen of Trumps to a much greater extent, had it not been for the fictitious "*Sporting Reports of the London Papers*." Some money has also been won by a few choice spirits of the good old city of Chester. Several gentlemen from the metropolis stood heavily on the Queen, and have therefore won large sums. Her owner, Mr. Mostyn, is, like Mr. Batson, a breeder of racers, and much attached to the Turf, but never bets heavily; and though on the present occasion, he must have felt the utmost confidence of success, his betting book contained no heavy sums.

The estimation of Velocipede as a stallion, will be much enhanced by the pre-eminent success of his daughter. Velocipede was every inch a racer, though inclined to "speedy cutting;" we saw him run his most severe, (and, we believe, his last) race, when the Liverpool Cup was awarded to him, though the decision of the judge was unhesitatingly called in question—the *balance of a betting-book might cause defective sight*. Though a successful racer, Velocipede left the course at an early period of life, in consequence of "going all to pieces before."

The Turf may boast of having, at the present moment, the best colt and filly, perhaps, that ever

appeared, namely, Plenipo and Queen of Trumps; a race between the two would be interesting in the highest degree. What stock might not be reasonably anticipated from them, possessing as they do, not only the finest forms, but the most robust constitutions, if they came together before severe work or age, or both, had reduced their vigor!

The following specimen of "sublime and beautiful" ignorance has made the round of the papers, furnished by "the Gentleman who reports for the London press:" Speaking of the race for the Scarborough Stakes, he observes:—"The General took the lead, followed by Ainderby, the mare, who had an indifferent start, lying about two lengths behind him; in this order they ran till about half way between the gravel-road and the distance, where they closed, and travelled in company half way up the distance; here the General was beaten and the others left together, *the mare, perhaps, a trifle in advance*; at this moment a dog rushed from the opposite side of the course almost under the legs of the mare, who had the whip band; *she flinched and changed her leg, but that she lost any ground by it, we will not take upon ourselves to assert!!*" It is not possible that such an assertion could have been advanced by any person who possessed the most trifling knowledge of the operations of the Turf! Here, however, it is pushed forward with the most presumptuous and the most unblushing ignorance, that, though from a dog rushing at her, Queen of Trumps *swerved, and changed her leg*, she lost no ground by it! What may we not expect after this? The most wretched noodle in such matters is very well aware that the Cambrian Queen could not lose less than twenty yards by it, while leading with the wrong leg must necessarily have the effect of reducing her speed at least one mile in four. He thus accounts for the defeat of the Queen: "The mare had not taken a *gallop* since the St. Leger!" From which it is evident, he is utterly unacquainted with the meaning of a *gallop* in the sense in which it is understood by trainers. A *gallop*, indeed! what an egregious simpleton!

The following is the state of the case. In the first place, let it be borne in mind, that for winning the St. Leger, Queen of Trumps had 71b extra placed on her back; and that as 51b extra is calculated to be equal to a distance (240 yards), 71b on the back of a three-years old would be nearly equal to double that length. Yet, under such an overwhelming disadvantage, the filly in question had beaten off one opponent, and was fast leaving the other, when a dog flies at her (we hope not intentionally placed for the purpose?) she swerves (or "*flinches*," according to the literary didactics of the *Sporting Reporter*) changes her leg, but, nevertheless, runs her antagonist to half a head! Nothing can be more ignorantly preposterous than to talk about the defeat of the Queen in the manner of the "*Sporting Reporter*." Further, that those who understand Turf affairs entertained a similar opinion of the powers of the Queen of Trumps as that which we have expressed, is evident from the circumstance of her being allowed, *the same day*, to walk over the course for the Three-Years-Old Stakes.

It is lamentable, that the London papers are unwittingly lending themselves to a system of quackery so calculated to mislead, and altogether so contemptible!

# THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

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[VOL. III.]

## ORIGINAL LETTERS.

No. VIII.

### POOR LAW AMENDMENT BILL.

Let us appear nor rash nor diffident;—ADDISON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

SIR,—From the time of the above bill becoming the law of the land, it has been obvious to every thinking man, that great opposition and difficulty would occur in bringing it into effect, and in the prospect of this opposition and difficulty, the more humane and the wiser part of the community have strenuously urged not only the policy, but also the justice of bringing gradually and with all due consideration for the necessities of the poor, *and those necessities to be admitted from the present circumstances of society, brought about by the abuses which have crept into the late poor law system, and not by the too strict principles of political economy,* those clauses into active operation, which in the hands of hasty and inconsiderate men might be made the instruments of oppression, and consequently the cause of violence and rebellion. To do unto others as we would they should do unto us, is the great and fundamental duty of man towards his fellow men, and I know of no relative situation in society, where this christian principle can more fully distinguish the upright feeling of men in power, or more fully illustrate the grateful minds of those on whom benefits have been conferred, than the present situation of the several boards of guardians throughout the country affords in connection with the applicants for relief at their meetings. That the maxim of doing unto others as we would they should do unto us, may be much perverted in reducing it to active principle, will, I think, be easily admitted, and as it is peculiarly liable to this perversion in the performance of our moral obligations to our poorer brethren, I shall perhaps be excused if I endeavour to explain what I consider to be the real spirit of this axiom in its application, especially to the new work-house system. I have always thought the best test whereby to try the merits of any civil institution to be the law delivered by God himself to his servant Moses, for the regulations of the society of the Jews when they had obtained the promised Lord, and although the vast lapse of time and revolution of men and manners from that period is undoubtedly extreme, still there will not even now be found to exist much difficulty in trying every institution for the well being of society of the present day, *as far as principle is concerned, although certainly not exactly in the letter,* by that divine

ordinance, let us then examine by this test what may fairly be required of us as a duty in respect of extending the means of support to those who have not the means to support themselves, and then let us enquire how far the modern rigid theorist in political economy, and the stern and uncompromising advocate for the work-house test may each fall short in charitable feeling. A deliberative and conscientious mind, may possibly experience some difficulty to satisfy itself in drawing the precise line of boundary in extending relief to those who may require assistance. "To do unto others as we would be done unto," would perhaps at first sight, appear to require of us, to give all our goods to feed the poor; but this is far from being the case, and, if we refer to the original law of God to men, we shall find that when the harvest was to be reaped, the corners of the fields and the gleanings, were to be left to the poor and the stranger.\* This divine mandate must, I think, at once set at rest the nature and extent of the relief required at our hands, and consequently we have only now to consider how this assistance may be charitably administered.

That the workhouse system is the only practicable means of general relief does not appear to me to admit of a doubt. Many humane persons I am aware—led more by their strong feelings, than by their cool judgment—are apt to condemn this "imprisonment of the poor," as it is sometimes styled, as an arbitrary and unnecessary stretch of power, and contend that the same funds applied towards assisting paupers out of the house, would ensure to them equal comforts and far more content. A very little experience in the administration of the poor laws, would have the effect of convincing these good people of their error; and although reluctantly perhaps, they could speedily be induced to acknowledge the melancholy truth which has often been wrung from many a philanthropic theorist, when become practically engaged in poor law matters, viz:—That a degradation of pursuit and taste usually follows the conduct of a man, who will willingly submit to be dependent on the means of others, when by exertion and prudence his own resources would be found to be sufficient for his support, and consequently that he is seldom qualified for, nor entitled to the controul of the fund so raised for his assistance. Now it does not follow because the workhouse plan is by far the best principle of provision for the superfluous and impotent poor, that in every instance directly a pauper becomes chargeable, he should be hurried off

\* Leviticus, chap. 23, v. 22.



to the workhouse without consideration of the particular circumstances of the particular case; but I do think the extending of out-door relief should be the exception only, and that rather cause should be shown why a pauper should not be sent to the workhouse, than that any reason should be given why he should be sent, beyond the fact of the application for relief.

A person inclined to dispute this principle I am aware might easily instance many cases of hardship, which will necessarily occur in carrying it into effect. However, if good order and a due respect for property is to be maintained, the workhouse system must be the foundation stone of the future relief to the poor, and the foundation being so constructed, a due regard must be paid to humanity and discretion in the application of all new rules, to the very turret stone of the edifice. How far these attributes have shown themselves in the adoption of the dietary tables at some of the new workhouses, is in my mind at least a questionable matter, and I believe I could mention an union where a dietary table has been applied, so insufficient on the face of it, that many of the guardians of this board would not attempt to defend it, or to incur the responsibility of acknowledging it as any act of their own, but would rather be inclined to compromise the matter with themselves, under the assurance that it must be sufficient, because it was sent to them from the workhouse of St. George's, Hanover Square, where it had undergone a test of some months. Now I have no hesitation in saying, if I was a member of a board of Guardians, and the dietary table from St. George's, Hanover Square, was submitted to me for my signature, with the intimation that it was to be applied in the case of all paupers who owed their introduction into the house from habits of dissipation and idleness, that I would immediately sign it as a provision exactly suited to the willing and vicious pauper; but on the other hand, if I found it was to be used in the case of the afflicted and unfortunate—the pauper from circumstance, and not from misconduct or from a degraded choice—I could not have been a party to have dealt a like hard measure to the one that I would willingly have inflicted on the other. It may be said the difficulty of distinguishing between the paupers in the same establishment, in reference to their diet, would be so great as to render it quite impracticable to attempt. I will admit it would occasion a great deal of trouble, and that it would require no trifling share of discretion on the part of the person authorized to decide which of the inmates might be entitled to partake of the *plain, but substantial and wholesome provision* made for the poor and impotent; and which of the inmates should be condemned to the coarser food, provided for the idle, the profligate, and the vicious; but at the same time I deny that it is impossible to effect this object, so obviously desirable and just.

Here I quite anticipate the answer of the rigid political economist—in fact here applies especially the drift of Lord Brougham's doctrine, laid down in his famous speech on the Poor Law Amendment Bill, and which principles the reader will find reiterated in Miss Martineau's tale of 'Cousin Marshall,' to the effect that if too much comfort and consideration of the feelings be extended to the pauper part of the community, we shall in a few years become a nation of paupers. I will here take the liberty to recommend to every person at all interested in the present state of society, as regards the Poor Laws, to read the pamphlet of Miss Mar-

tineau's, which I have mentioned above; and although the errors and dangers of the old system are there truly and forcibly illustrated, I confess nothing therein contained, nor anything I have read, seen, or heard elsewhere, would prevent me—had I the power of doing so—allowing a small quantity of tea to the old women, and an occasional mug of fresh beer to the old men; and neither, I hope, would it prevent me supplying generally, to those wants necessarily attendant on the aged, from a due consideration of the feelings of the unfortunate, doomed from circumstances, to a workhouse regimen.

No part of the new workhouse system has excited so much general attention, and at the same time such universal disapprobation as that regulation which separates man and wife. It has been denied by very high authority, that the Poor Law Amendment Bill gives any additional power in this respect; and on the contrary it is said that the power to separate the pauper and his wife was formerly invested in the parish officers. Be this as it may, if the power did formerly exist, it was seldom exerted, and consequently this regulation will naturally enough be attributed to the new law. Therefore let us consider how far it may be applied, and at the same time supported by those *moral laws* which ought always to form part and parcel of every legislative enactment. Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder! Now this solemn injunction of our church appears *prima facie* to condemn the proceeding; but I think this injunction will admit of considerable qualification, in partially applying it to any state of society. As for instance in case of transportation of a married felon, it will not I apprehend be thought a breach of any law, divine or moral, to separate under such circumstances, such a man from his wife. It would be a step required for the protection and well being of society, and quite in accordance with those prudent and temperate precautions which are necessary to secure the quiet enjoyment to the well regulated and virtuous part of the community, of those blessings bestowed by an all wise and bountiful Providence. Now the principle which justifies the separation of a felon (in case of transportation,) from his wife is, that he has offended the laws of the society of which he has heretofore been a member, and consequently he has brought down upon himself the violation of that solemn injunction from the altar, "whom God hath joined let no man separate." And thus although in a less degree does the *voluntary pauper* offend the laws of society, by omitting either to do all he is able to do, to support those whom he has sworn to cherish, or by committing acts of disorder and dissipation, which have rendered him incapable of the strength and exertion necessary to earn the support of himself and his family, or which in effect amounts to the same thing—the destruction of his character and reputation in the world. Under such circumstances the husband himself is the man who has violated the injunction of the priest, and the law in such case is no more to be questioned than it is in the case of a man who commits felony. But how under other and very different circumstances from the above, the reputation of a man and his wife is to be justified, I am at loss to imagine. The unfortunate poor! paupers from circumstances—from unavoidable circumstances and not from any want of industry or human prudence and foresight. *Many such* truly are not to be found, a *few* such there ever will be, and I

should be sorry to incur the responsibility of being instrumental to destroy, or even to suspend—which indeed it may, in such case be termed—the *holy bond of matrimony*.

Perhaps I may here be charged with being uxorious—the charge falls to the ground, because I am not a married man, but I have other social feelings which revolt at so wicked a proposition. Lord Brougham in the late session of parliament in alluding to this subject, pointed out the propriety of separating man and wife immediately they became inmates of a workhouse on account of the great breach of decency which would otherwise occur from several married couples sleeping in the same apartment, which would be quite unavoidable from the limited accommodation afforded in these establishments, and he then said it had been estimated that it would cost the country a million of money to make arrangements in the different workhouses sufficiently commodious for this purpose. I well know the country is not in a situation to incur an expence of a million, and I also know that we were not in a situation which rendered it a very easy matter to spare the twenty millions which were granted as a compensation to the slave owners, still in this case, the mind of every humane man was so satisfied with the quid pro quo obtained by this grant, that on the whole I think it may fairly be considered to have been a popular proceeding on the part of the House of Commons, and I sincerely believe the present House of Commons would obtain favour with the constituency of the country by taking some decided step on the subject of separating man and wife, which in its present state is a matter of general interest and regret. There is a strong objection made to another part of the new system, which objection I confess I cannot in any degree entertain, namely, the taking away the pauper children, of a certain age, from the parents in order for them to be removed to another establishment, where they are differently fed, decently attired, and well taught. This certainly appears to me to be a very considerate and very wise measure, and although I have constantly heard it condemned, I have never yet heard one valid objection raised against it. It is undoubtedly a severe task for mothers to part with their children, but this sacrifice of feeling is not confined to mothers who happen to be paupers, but it is an exaction of a very general nature, extending from the Queen on the throne to the Queen of the Beggar's Opera. All alike are obliged on occasion, to be separated from their children.

The new arrangements for the medical attendance of the poor appear to me to offer innumerable objections. I have always thought that if the old destructive system of Poor Laws had left one spark of proper feeling in the minds of the poor in connection with their claim for assistance in distress from their richer neighbours, that remaining sentiment was a feeling of gratitude in sickness, for the medical attendance secured to them. Surely the new system of connecting several parishes of many miles in extent, and then letting the medical attendance on the poor of this vast district of country to one medical practitioner—and that too by tender—must and will have the effect of prolonging the sufferings in cases of accident, and embittering the dying days of many an afflicted fellow mortal. If others entertain this apprehension in an equal degree with me, I fervently hope that every influential person in parishes so situated, will see the necessity for watching narrowly that the parish doctor most effectually does his duty,

keeping in mind that his duty is to give sufficient attendance, and to administer sufficient means and antidotes to the occasions of his patients without any reference to the salary which he receives; this is entirely his own business, and heaven forbid the wants of the sick should be neglected because a set of adventurous practitioners have thought proper to engage to do for five pounds a service which is reasonably and fairly worth ten pounds. Since writing the above, I have had an opportunity of looking over the first annual report of the Poor Law Commissioners, which report I promise myself to make the subject of my next letter.—I am Sir, your obedient and very humble servant,  
AGRICULTOR.

Sussex, October 13, 1835.

#### No. IX.

### TO THE EDITOR OF THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

SIR,—In your review of the corn trade this week, are some remarks upon the importation of foreign corn; which if I rightly understand, are meant to prove that a duty of 6s 8d per quarter, on wheat, would be a sufficient protection to the British farmer, because that is the average rate of duty which has been paid upon the quantity of Foreign wheat imported under the present corn laws. This argument appears to me fallacious, for it is evident that if the duty had for that period been fixed at 6s 8d, no greater quantity would have been imported in the years between October 1828 and 1832, when there was a scanty crop throughout Europe; but the surplus of Europe imported at a duty of 6s 8d in addition to an abundant crop of our own growth in 1832 would probably at once have reduced the price from 8s the bushel to 5s that year, and to 3s 6d afterwards, which prices would annihilate rent upon lands now let at or under 20s per acre, and make great part of them worth nothing as arable, and but little as pasture, and in that case what is to be done with a large population? Spade husbandry may do in some cases, as where old pasture or superior arable is given up to it, but not on those lands most affected by the opposition of foreigners in the corn market.

I would add another remark upon corn laws which I think will be found correct, that there have been several laws passed at different times either to keep up or keep down the price of corn, which laws have generally had the desired effect for a few years, but ultimately quite the contrary. This I account for that by screwing the farmers down to the lowest possible rate of profit, or rather to a loss in order to get corn cheap, they have been deprived of the power and inclination to grow corn in sufficient quantity; on the other hand the certainty of a market, and a good price calls forth all their energies to raise as much as possible, so that in abundant seasons supply will exceed demand, and the price be lowered to the consumer in proportion. In one case the ruin of a generation of farmers causes corn to be dear, in the other enriching them causes corn to be as low in price as it can be grown, and a plentiful supply of it.

N.

#### No. X.

### TO THE EDITOR OF THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

For the last two or three years, the statements of the price that a farmer is obliged to give for his malt, appear to me, rather exaggerated. In the midland counties, it is the custom with a large proportion of the respectable farmers not to buy any malt, but to send as much barley as they require for the year to a maltster to be malted, which is done for about 7s or 8s per qr. exclusive of the duty, and that sum the outcast upon good barley will nearly repay to the farmer. When a farmer buys his malt, as is frequently stated at 4s or 5s per



bushel more than the price he gets for his barley, it is not so much the fault of the duty, as because his own poverty or bad management lead him to take one, or perhaps two years' credit for his malt, which, it will be allowed, obliges the maltster in his own defence to put on what appears at first sight an exorbitant profit.

To any farmers who thrash their barley, as many now do before they want the straw for fodder, I would recommend them, from experience, to salt the straw well as they stack it, they will find the advantage, in my opinion, even greater than is derived from salting damaged hay, and the expense but very trifling.—I remain, &c.,

A CONSTANT READER.

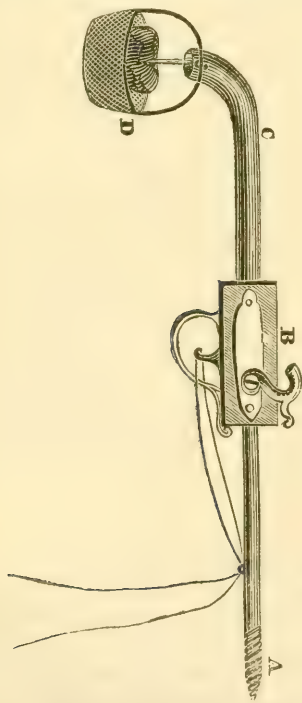
No. XI.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

SIR,—I beg leave to recommend to the notice of preservers of pheasants, (through the medium of your much admired Magazine), the following simple *Poacher Trap*. Besides its novelty, it has other recommendations, namely its simplicity, and unlike other traps, being perfectly humane. The subjoined is a sketch (though I fear a bad one) of the instrument, which may be screwed (A) to any tree in the preserve by which the poachers would probably have to pass; from the Trigger let there be wires or whipcord stretching across the road or footpath, as with an old-fashioned Spring Gun, these being moved will let off a Copper Cap (B), which communicating with a train of powder contained in paper in the barrel or tube (C) will ignite a Russian light,\* (or any other composition which will emit a strong light) hung in a wire basket (D).

By this means the keeper being concealed may discover who are the poachers, (they generally being neighbours), with little risk of being himself detected.

North Wrexham.



\* These lights, which may be easily made or purchased, will throw out a light sufficient to show objects distinctly for 50 yards on either side.

## THE POPPY.

Mr. Editor,—Amongst the thousand and one tourists who have pestered the public with what they paid for in the eating way, and with what were the remarks of Miss Matilda or Master Jackey, or the more recondite reminiscences of the discontented cynic who started with a determination to be displeased with all that was French, I have never seen in print any thing said about the poppy, of which thousands of acres are cultivated all over French Flanders for the oil, of which vast quantities are used for the table even in Paris, and much burnt in lamps, and why not in painting? As an eating oil it far exceeds many of the Italian oils in flavour, and colour being quite limpid. Now, Sir, I think it might be cultivated with profit and success in the present depressed state of agriculture. It would be sure of a ready market. As gallipoli oil is imported in large quantities for our manufactures and other uses, it might likewise be used in the finer kind of soaps, and even opium may be extracted from it. I remember seeing it cultivated for that purpose at a place near to Leith walk, in a large garden famous for strawberries and cream, well known to the inhabitants of modern Athens. The mode of collecting is this:—children, boys and girls, are employed, two take a row, one makes an incision across the poppy head with a small sharp knife, while another follows with a small tin cannister similar to that in which gunpowder is sent from the manufacturers, which is suspended by a string so as to hang on his breast, and leave both hands at liberty, with his left he holds the poppy head, with his thumb he takes off the tear that has exuded from the wound, and scrapes it off on the edge of the cannister, and so on to another. I believe the quantum of a day's work is a pint. It is afterwards dried in the sun if sufficiently hot for that purpose, if not, gradually by artificial means. I have no doubt the worthy President of the Horticultural Society could and would by means of his numerous correspondents, throw a greater light upon the subject, so as to obtain information as to the produce of seed per acre, and what quantity of oil that seed produced, what soil suited it best, &c. &c.

The species cultivated is the large white single Turkey poppy. I have no doubt sufficient seed might be obtained from the shops of Messrs. Les Culiniers Arabesques, as the gay French wittily call the druggists, for any gentleman to try in his own garden, and any quantity from Brussels, Antwerp, Cambray, or Mons.

T. H.

ENGLISH FARMING, &c.—With respect to the cultivation of the soil, comparing it either with France or Spain, England has decidedly the advantage, though I question whether, in this respect, it is not behind both Holland and Belgium. The largeness of our farms gives more room for the application of capital and science to agriculture; but I doubt much whether, after all, so much is made of the land as when divided into smaller farms; while all must deplore the downfall of that most useful class, the yeomanry of England. If happiness was to be found in man it was amongst that class. Now, generally speaking, the farmer is a great deal too much of the gentleman; neither he nor his sons work, while his daughters—save the mark!—would no more defile their hands with cheese or butter, than they would venture into the sun without a parasol. No farming servants are allowed to live in the house, as of old, but are driven to find a home elsewhere—early and improvident marriages and fearful pauperism follow.—From Captain Blackiston's new work—"Twenty Years of Retirement."

[Impressed with the importance of giving as much publicity as possible to the proceedings which take place at the meetings of Agricultural Societies, we have, in our present number, devoted more space than usual to the subject. It has, it is true, been at the cost of excluding a large portion of valuable practical matter, but as, at this time, it is of the highest importance to the whole agricultural body, that any means of improving the condition of the farmer, either as regards contemplated application to the legislature for relief or actual improvements in husbandry, should be made generally known, we trust we shall need no further apology for the course which we have adopted.—EDITOR OF THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.]

### LIVERPOOL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society was held on Thursday, October 1. We are glad to hear from the report of the committee, a copy of which will be found below, and from information derived from other quarters, that not only has there been a considerable accession of members during the year, but that the benefits derived from the exertions of the society have been manifested in the adoption of improved methods of cultivation, draining, feeding, planting, breeding, and other operations connected with agriculture, and in the spirit of emulation which has been excited amongst the farmers in this extensive and important district. The society may now be considered as fairly established, and the experience of the past holds out the most encouraging prospects for continued and increasing exertions in future. We are glad to see that it is intended to have an annual ploughing match at Newton, for we are convinced that nothing tends more to the removal of old prejudices, and the adoption of improvements, than these periodical meetings, at which farmers may assemble together, become acquainted with each other's plans, and, by learning what their neighbours have done, be encouraged to attempt to do the same themselves, whilst at the same time they may learn to avoid the errors into which others have fallen. With these general remarks, we shall now proceed to give some account of the proceedings of the day.

The members met at the Golden Lion, at ten o'clock in the morning, for the purpose of adjudging the prizes, electing officers for the ensuing year, and transacting the usual business of the society. The show of cattle, live stock, implements of husbandry, &c. was held in the old infirmary yard, Lime-street. It was generally considered that, both with respect to the number of animals exhibited, and their quality, there was a marked improvement compared with the exhibition of last year. We thought ourselves there was some falling off in the former particular with respect to almost every class of animals, excepting the sheep, of which many fine specimens of the Leicester and Southdown breeds were exhibited.

The following is a copy of the report of the committee:—

"The sixth anniversary of the Liverpool Agricultural Society brings the committee once more before its subscribers and the public, with a repetition of the satisfactory assurances contained in the report for last year. Every expectation held out then has

been amply realized; new subscribers have been enrolled; new prospects of advancement of the society's best interests continue to open upon its friends; improved methods of cultivation are daily gaining ground; and an exhibition of stock, &c. has to-day been presented, on the character of which it is unnecessary to comment. The public are well able to form their own approving estimate.

Where all connected with the society is of an encouraging description, it would be superfluous to dwell upon particulars; but there is one subject, the importance of which may justify the committee's solicitude, and a more marked notice. It is impossible for any one at all conversant with farming to survey the district embraced by the society's boundary without recognizing the absolute necessity of very great exertions in *draining*, to bring much of the land into any thing like a productive state, or to justify the application of capital or skill in any of the improved modes of cultivation which the society may be instrumental in recommending.

"The committee is, therefore, particularly anxious to impress equally on the landlord and tenant, that draining is the first essential step towards improvement and profit, and that, until it has been extensively and effectually accomplished, skill, labour, and manure, are alike unprofitably expended on the soil.

"To such members of the society as are not cognizant of the fact, it will not be superfluous to state that a ploughing match, under the auspices of the society, has taken place at Newton, attended by circumstances highly gratifying and encouraging as regards the number of competitors and spectators, as well as the manner in which the ploughing was performed.

"This interesting and useful application of a portion of the society's energies and funds is proposed to be continued annually; and as it must tend to improve and perfect one of the most important operations of agriculture, so it is trusted that the ploughing matches to be held in future will obtain that attention and countenance to which they are manifestly entitled.

The thanks of the committee are again due to the Mayor and Corporation of Liverpool for the accommodation of the yard in which the exhibition has been held, and to Mr. Lucas for the use of the commodious room in which the society and its friends dined together."

*An Account of Premiums awarded at the Liverpool Agricultural Society's General Annual Meeting, held October 1, 1835.*

#### CLASS I.—THE BEST CULTIVATED FARMS, &c.

Premium 2.—To Thomas Littledale, Esq. of West Derby, as owner and occupier, for the best cultivated farm of 80½ acres, the society's silver medal.

3.—To Mr. John Owen, of High Leigh, as tenant and occupier, (being solely dependant upon farming) for the best cultivated farm of 158 acres, a piece of plate, value 10 sovereigns.

7.—To Mr. Thomas Whisley, of Broncoed, near Mold, as tenant and occupier, (not solely dependant upon farming) for the best cultivated farm of 112 acres, a piece of plate, value 5 sovereigns.

8.—To Henry Critchley, Esq., of Haydock, as tenant and occupier, (not solely dependant upon farming) for the best cultivated farm of 47 acres, a piece of plate, value 3 sovereigns.

10.—To Mr. Henry Occleston, of Tabley, as tenant and occupier, for improving seven acres of meadow land by irrigation, a piece of plate, value 5 sovereigns.



- 13.—To Mr. Henry Mawdesley, of Tarbuck Hall, as tenant and occupier of a farm of 265 acres, for laying 11,929 yards of drains, for most effectually draining 18½ acres thereof, the same a piece of plate, value 10 sovereigns.
- 14.—To James Heath Leigh, Esq., of Groppenhall, as tenant and occupier of a farm of 141 acres, for laying 10,462 yards of drains, for most effectually draining 20 acres thereof, a piece of plate, value 7 sovereigns.
- 18.—To Mr. John Burgess, of Utlington, for laying down 15 acres of land for permanent meadow or pasture, a piece of plate, value 4 sovereigns.
- 21.—To Mr. Robert Webster, of Litherland, as tenant and occupier of a farm of 98 acres, for having most judiciously covered with marl 17 acres, after the rate of 150 cubic yards to the acre, a piece of plate, value 3 sovereigns.
- 23.—To Mr. Laurie Fair, of Laudican, as tenant and occupier of a farm, for making the best reservoir on his premises for the reception of dung water, a piece of plate, value 3 sovereigns.

#### CLASS II.—CROPS OF TURNIPS, &c.

- Premium 4.—To Mr. John Dawson, of Granaut, near Holywell, as tenant and occupier, for the best crop of mangel wurzel, of four acres, a piece of plate, value 5 sovereigns.
- 6.—To Mr. Richard Almond, of Standish, as tenant and occupier, for the best crop of Swedish turnips, of four acres, a piece of plate, value 4 sovereigns.
- 7.—To Mr. Edward Webster, of Huyton, as tenant and occupier, for the best crop of Swedish turnips, of three acres, a piece of plate, value 3 sovereigns.
- 8.—To Mr. John Dawson, of Gronant, Holywell, as tenant and occupier, for the best crop of common turnips, of ten acres, a piece of plate, value 3 sovereigns.

#### CLASS III.—REWARDS.

- Premium 4.—To William Tipping, of Toxteth-park, farmer's man-servant to Samuel Scotson, of Toxteth-park, for ploughing 105 statute acres of land, with a pair of horses, double, without a driver, the sum of 3 sovereigns.
- 6.—To John Smith, farmer's man-servant to Robert Roskell, Esq. of Much Woolton, for 27 years' servitude, and for having conducted himself to the satisfaction of his employer during that period, 2 sovereigns.
- 7.—To William Hughes, of Cotton, in the county of Chester, farmer's man-servant to Mary Keay, of Cotton, for 22 years' servitude, and for having conducted himself to the satisfaction of his employer during that period, 2 sovereigns.
- 8.—To John Glover, farming labourer to John Okell, Esq. of Little Woolton, for 50 years' servitude, and for having conducted himself to the satisfaction of his employer during that period, 4 sovereigns.
- 9.—To William Pemberton, of Poolton-cum-Seacombe, farming labourer to Thomas Webster, Esq., for 43 years' servitude, and for having conducted himself to the satisfaction of his employer during that period, 2 sovereigns.
- 10.—To Mary Moss, of Ormskirk, farmer's woman-servant to Mr. Richard Appleton, for 31 years' servitude, and for having conducted herself to the satisfaction of her employer during that period, 3 sovereigns.
- 11.—To Mary Charlesworth, of Minshall Vernon, farmer's woman-servant to Mr. Joseph Fairhurst, for 19 years' servitude, and for having conducted

herself to the satisfaction of her employer during that period, 2 sovereigns.

- 15.—To Edward Taylor, of Billinge, labourer in husbandry, for bringing up ten legitimate children, all living, without parish relief, 6 sovereigns.
- 5.—To James Rowlands, of Arrow, labourer in husbandry, for bringing up ten legitimate children, seven of which are living, without parish relief, 4 sovereigns.

#### CLASS IV.—LIVE STOCK.

##### HORNED CATTLE.

- Premium 1.—To Richard Pilkington, Esq., of Windle Hall, for the short-horned bull, three years four months old, 15 sovereigns.
- 3.—To Mr. John Dawson, of Gronant, near Holywell, for the best short-horned bull, one year old, and bred within the limits of the Society, a piece of plate, value 5 sovereigns.
- 4.—To Mr. Charles Rimmer, of Lydiate, (being solely dependant upon farming), for the best short-horned bull, three years ten months old, and bred within the limits of the society, a piece of plate value 8 sovereigns.
- 5.—To Mr. Edward Webster, of Bold, (being solely dependant upon farming), for the second best short-horned bull, two years eleven months old, and bred within the limits of the society, a piece of plate value 5 sovereigns.
- 6.—To Mr. William Bloor, of Holywell, (being solely dependant upon farming), for the third best short-horned bull, two years six months old, and bred within the limits of the society, a piece of plate value 2 sovereigns.
- 7.—To William Bloor, of Holywell, for the best bull, one year six months old, a piece of plate value 5 sovereigns.
- 8.—To Mr. William Howard, of Knowsley, for the second best bull, one year three months old, a piece of plate value 3 sovereigns.
- 9.—To Richard Pilkington, Esq., of Windle, for the best dairy cow, a piece of plate, value 7 sovereigns.
- 10.—To Mr. Thomas Picton, of Liverpool, for the second best dairy cow, a piece of plate, value 4 sovereigns.
- 11.—To Peter Greenall, Esq., of St. Helen's, for the best two-year-old heifer, a piece of plate, value 3 sovereigns.
- 12.—To Richard Pilkington, Esq., of Windle, for the best one-year-old heifer, a piece of plate, value 3 sovereigns.
- 13.—To Mr. Edward Webster, of Bold, (being solely dependant upon farming), for the best two year-old heifer, bred within the limits of the society, a piece of plate, value 5 sovereigns.
- 14.—To Mr. Richard Jackson, of Knowsley, (being solely dependant upon farming), for the second best two-year-old heifer, bred within the limits of the society, a piece of plate, value 2 sovereigns.
- 18.—To Peter Greenall, Esq., of St. Helen's, for the best fat cow, showing the most symmetry, fat, and weight, a piece of plate, value 5 sovereigns.
- 19.—To Mr. Thomas Picton, of Liverpool, for the second best fat cow, a piece of plate, value 3 sovereigns.
- 20.—To Mr. John Dawson, of Gronant, Holywell, for the best cow for feeding after milking, a piece of plate, value 3 sovereigns.
- 21.—To Mr. Thomas Picton, of Liverpool, for the second best cow for feeding after milking, a piece of plate, value 2 sovereigns.

##### HORSES.

- 22.—To Mr. Thomas Robinson, of Bold, for the

- best stallion for the general purposes of agriculture, a piece of plate, value 10 sovereigns.
- 23.—To Messrs. J. and J. Rimmer, of Scarisbrick, for the second best stallion for the general purposes of agriculture, a piece of plate, value 7 sovereigns.
- 24.—To Mr. James Shepherd, of Kirkby, for the best brood mare for the general purposes of agriculture, a piece of plate, value 5 sovereigns.
- 25.—To Mr. John Gore, of Knowsley, for the second best brood mare for the general purposes of agriculture, a piece of plate, value 3 sovereigns.
- 26.—To Mr. James Cook, of Eccleston, for the best brood mare of the waggon kind, a piece of plate, value 5 sovereigns.
- 27.—To Mr. Joseph Swift, of Eccleston, for the best yearling filly for the general purposes of agriculture, a piece of plate, value 3 sovereigns.
- 28.—To Mrs. Ann Brownbill, of Kirkby, for the best two-year-old colt, for the general purposes of agriculture, a piece of plate, value 4 sovereigns.
- 29.—To Mr. James Cook, of Eccleston, for the best two-year-old colt for the general purposes of agriculture, a piece of plate, value 4 sovereigns.
- 30.—To Mr. William Howard, of Knowsley, for the best three-year-old colt, for the general purposes of agriculture, a piece of plate, value 5 sovereigns.
- 31.—To Henry Hesketh, of Kirkby, (being solely dependant upon farming), for the best pair of horses for the general purposes of agriculture, a piece of plate, value 5 sovereigns.
- 32.—To Mr. William Knowles, of Bootle, (being solely dependant upon farming), for the second best pair of horses, for the general purposes of agriculture, a piece of plate, value 3 sovereigns.

## SHEEP.

- 33.—To Sir Edward Mostyn, Bart., of Talacre, for the best pen of three yearling Leicester ewes, the society's silver medal.
- 34.—To Mr. Robert Jenkinson, of Mold, for the best pen of three yearling Southdown ewes, a piece of plate, value 3 sovereigns.
- 35.—To Sir Edward Mostyn, Bart., of Talacre, for the best Leicester ram under three years old, the society's silver medal.
- 36.—To Mr. Richard Johnson, of West Derby, for the best Southdown ram, a piece of plate, value 2 sovereigns.
- 38.—To Mr. J. C. Etches, of Liverpool, for the best pen of five fat ewes, a piece of plate, value 2 sovereigns.
- 39.—To Mr. Samuel Scotson, of Toxteth-park, for the best pen of five fat Leicester ewe lambs, a piece of plate, value 2l 10s.

## PIGS.

- 40.—To Mr. John Dawson, of Gronant, near Holywell, for the best boar, eleven months old, a piece of plate, value 4 sovereigns.
- 41.—To Mr. John Watkinson, of Manchester, for the second best boar, eleven months old, a piece of plate, value 3 sovereigns.
- 42.—To Mr. John Etches, of Liverpool, for the best breeding sow, two-and-a-half-years-old, a piece of plate, value 3 sovereigns.
- 43.—To Mr. John Dawson, of Gronant, Holywell, for the second best breeding sow, eleven months old, a piece of plate, value 2 sovereigns.
- 44.—To Mr. J. Dawson, of Gronant, near Holywell, for best fat pig, eleven months old, a piece of plate, value 2 sovereigns.
- 45.—To Mr. Thomas Palmer, of Walton, for the

second best fat pig, one year and five months old, a piece of plate, value 30 shillings.

- 46.—To Mr. James France, of Liverpool, for the third best fat pig, thirteen months old, a piece of plate, value 1 sovereign.

## EXTRA STOCK.

- 47.—To Richard Pilkington, Esq., of Windle, for the best cow of any breed, the sum of 5 sovereigns.
- 48.—To Sir Edward Mostyn, Bart., of Talacre, for the best two-year-old heifer, the sum of 4 sovereigns.
- 49.—To Peter Greenall, Esq., of St. Helen's, for the best one-year-old heifer, the sum of 2 sovereigns.
- 50.—To Edward Greenall, Esq., of St. Helen's, for keeping the best stallion of the cart breed to serve the mares of his tenantry gratis, the society's silver medal.
- 51.—To Sir Edward Mostyn, Bart., of Talacre, Flint, for keeping the best boar to serve the sows of his tenantry gratis, the society's silver medal.
- To Mr. John Meacock, of Liverpool, for a dairy cow, the society's silver medal.
- To Sir Edward Mostyn, Bart. of Talacre, for a dairy cow, the society's silver medal.
- To Richard Pilkington, Esq., of Windle, for a dairy cow, the society's silver medal.
- To Mr. Samuel Scotson, of Toxteth-park, for a fat ox, the society's silver medal.
- To Mr. John Meacock, of Liverpool, for a superior cow for feeding after milking, the society's silver medal.
- To Thomas William Coke, Esq., of Holkholm, for a ram and six ewes of the improved Southdown breed, the society's silver medal, much admired.
- To Mr. James Heaps, of Little Hulton, for a superior stallion, the society's silver medal.
- To Mr. George Booth, of Liverpool, for a very superior three-year-old colt, the society's silver medal.

## IMPLEMENTS, ROOTS, SEEDS, &amp;c.

- To Mr. Abraham Vickers, of Manchester, for a hay and straw cutter: and also for a cream extractor, (on a new construction), the society's silver medal.
- To Thomas Robert Wilson France, Esq., of Rockliffe Hall, near Garstang, for a superior implement for cutting and raising turves for drain covers; and also for other tools for cutting the drains, the society's silver medal.
- To Mr. J. Orrell, of St. Helen's, for exhibiting a probe and conductor for relieving choking cattle, the society's silver medal.
- To Mr. William Cartmel, of ———, for a superior hay-cutting machine, the society's silver medal.
- To John Aspinall, Esq., of Netherton, for exhibiting a glass of honey, containing 1½lbs, collected on Mr. Hutt's system, the society's silver medal.
- To Mr. William Skirving, of Walton, for exhibiting some specimens of the Kohl Rabi, Swedish, and other turnips, and mangel wurzel, the society's silver medal.
- To Mr. William Ashcroft, of Halsall, for exhibiting a quantity of roots of superior mangel wurzel, the society's silver medal.
- To Messrs. George Gibbs and Co., London, for some superior specimens of the Turkey onion grown in this country; and for some Egyptian clover, and other superior grass seeds, the society's silver medal.
- To Mr. William Skirving, for some superior specimens of the Italian grass and other seeds, the society's silver medal.



## SWEEPSTAKES.

- 1.—To Richard Pilkington, Esq., of Windle Hall, for the best short-horned bull, 2l 2s.
- 2.—To Richard Pilkington, Esq., of Windle, for the best two-year-old short-horned bull, 1l 1s.
- 3.—To Mr. William Bloor, of Holywell, for the best one-year-old short-horned bull, 1l 1s.
- 5.—To Richard Pilkington, Esq., of Windle, for the best short-horned cow in calf or milk, 3l.
- 6.—To Sir Edward Mostyn, Bart., of Talacre, for the best cow of any breed, 1l 1s.
- 8.—To Sir Edward Mostyn, Bart., of Talacre, for the best two-year-old short horned heifer, 1l 1s.
- 9.—To Richard Pilkington, Esq., of Windle, for the best one-year-old short-horned heifer, 1l 11s 6d.
- 10.—To Richard Pilkington, Esq., of Windle, for the best bull-calf under one-year-old, 1l 11s 6d.
- 11.—To Mr. William Bloor, of Holywell, for the best cow-calf under one-year-old, 2l 2s.

## THE DINNER.

The Annual Dinner of the Society took place at the large rooms of Lucas's Repository, Great Charlotte-street. Accommodations were provided for about 550 guests, and fully that number sat down to a good and substantial dinner, prepared by Mr. Horne, of the Mersey Hotel. Lord Stanley, the president of the society, entered the room a few minutes after five o'clock, and took the chair amidst the loudest cheering. He was supported on the right by his Worship the Mayor, James Aspinall, Esq., the Rev. Mr. Blackburne, and Colonel Hornby; on the left by John Ireland Blackburne, Esq., M.P., J. W. Patten, Esq., M.P., and Henry Bold Houghton, Esq. The following gentlemen were also present:—Sir Edward Mostyn, Bart., R. B. Wilbraham, Esq., M.P., the Rev. R. Rawstorne, Penwortham, Thomas Robinson, Wilson France, Esq., C. Hillyard, Esq., president of the Northampton Agricultural Society, T. B. Cross, Esq., Shaw-hill, —Barley, Esq., P. H. Fleetwood, Esq., M.P., Henry Critchley, Esq., John Formby, Esq., Richard Pilkington, Esq., Peter Greenall, Esq., E. Unsworth, Esq., &c., &c. The cloth was drawn at about a quarter past six o'clock, and the following toasts were then proposed from the Chair, and received with the usual honours:—

"His Majesty the Duke of Lancaster."

"Her Majesty the Queen."

"The Princess Victoria and the rest of the Royal Family."

"The Navy and the Army."

The CHAIRMAN in announcing the next toast said, Gentlemen, I must now take the liberty of calling upon you, as I have often had the pleasure of doing in this room before, for a bumper toast with three times three, and though I do not think it necessary to use many arguments in order to induce you to drink, with all the honours, the prosperity of that society which is the main object of our present meeting, still I can hardly allow that toast to be proposed without prefacing it with a few observations. I am happy to say, Gentlemen, that these observations will mainly be in the spirit of congratulation on our continued success and improvement. Those who have done us the honour of visiting us from parts of the country where these societies have long been established, and who came to look at our infant exertions, must, of course, remember that this society is yet but in its infancy, and must make allowances for the deficiencies which they cannot fail to perceive; but even to these gentlemen, if

they have been here before, I confidently appeal to say whether whilst they still perceive deficiencies in the exhibition of this day, they do not also perceive a manifest improvement not only over that of the last year, but still moreover those which preceded it? Gentlemen, the surest and best way to promote permanent success and real improvement is to perceive our deficiencies, to remedy them, and not to be satisfied without going still further in the march of improvement. Gentlemen, I see great improvement already, not only in our agricultural operations, but also with respect to that spirit and excitement of competition among the farming population, and I am happy to say that competitors come here amongst us,—sometimes carrying off premiums, sometimes defeated by us, not only from our own immediate neighbourhood, but from distant counties also. I am happy to congratulate you on the fact that our neighbours in Wales have not this year carried off all the prizes, as they did last year. (*Cheers*). Amongst the successful competitors for cattle we have, however, the familiar names of Dawson and Bloor, but I recommend them also to look out lest they should be defeated next year. There are several great monopolists of cattle. Mr. Gregn has carried off four premiums, whilst that unconscionable gentleman, Mr. Pilkington, is satisfied with no less than nine premiums in cattle only. (*Laughter and applause*.) Gentlemen, I must say that I do not grudge Mr. Pilkington his prizes, for all who saw the stock exhibited by him this day must be satisfied that he well deserved the success which he has obtained. (*Applause*.) I believe, gentlemen, there is a peculiarity in this meeting with regard to premiums for cattle which deserve imitation elsewhere, I mean the separate premiums for cattle bred by the *bona fide* farmers of the county. We must all be sensible that there are many farmers who are utterly unable to compete on equal terms with men of large capital who can afford to spend much money in the pursuit of a favourite science, and therefore that it is most desirable for the purpose of encouraging those who are desirous to excel to invite them to a competition in which they have a fair chance of success, where, in their endeavours to improve they may meet their competitors in a fair field and with no favour. (*Cheers*.) At all events, gentlemen, we have not deteriorated since last year. If we have not improved in the class of pigs which we have showed to-day, we have certainly much improved in cattle, and we have not fallen off in pigs, so that we need not be afraid of Ireland under selling us in our own market. (*Laughter and applause*.) One thing, however, must have struck a stranger with astonishment—I mean the very indifferent show of horses for agricultural purposes, which is the more remarkable, because I may venture to say that the farmers in this part of the country exhibit better teams in the ordinary work of their farms than have been shown this day. (*Applause*.) Gentlemen, there is one of the premiums given by this society to which I can never advert without feelings of the strongest satisfaction,—feelings which I have expressed year after year,—feelings which will not suffer by repetition, because they ought to be impressed on the minds of both the high and the low in this county, as well as of those who come from other parts of the country,—I mean the premiums to farmers' servants and agricultural labourers for long and faithful services in the employment of the same master. (*Hear, hear, and cheers*.) It affords me very great satisfaction to say that amongst the claimants for this class of most valuable prizes, not one of them claims for a less period than nine-and-twenty years of faithful service,

(*Cheers.*) Two of them claim for nine and-thirty years, two for forty-nine years, and one who claims for the full period of fifty years of faithful service.

(*Cheers.*) Gentlemen, this is a class of our agricultural population, and this is a feature amongst them of which we have never had cause to be ashamed, and in which we may challenge competition with any county in England. I have also to congratulate the society on the facts, that whilst the number of subscribers has not fallen off in the present year, the amount of the funds has considerably increased, and that that increase has enabled us not only to discharge a portion of a very small debt of 45*l* which remained last year, but would have left us a surplus in hand if we had not enlarged the sphere of our operations by a new undertaking, calculated to confer the greatest benefit on the agriculturists of this county; I mean the ploughing match which has been established this year for the first time, which will be continued annually in future, and which has already produced one great benefit, that of convincing the competitors of their own deficiencies, and of their own capability of improvement. (*Applause.*) This, gentlemen, is the real object of all competition in agriculture. A man looks at his own stock, and learns to admire them and think them perfect; he looks at his own farming implements, and he sees no reason to suppose them capable of improvement; and in like manner the farmer's labourer thinks himself an exceedingly good ploughman, and does not see how it is possible that he should be surpassed. (*Laughter.*) Now all these classes find that they have been mistaken, and more especially with respect to ploughing. The farmer finds that the plough is capable of material improvement; the ploughman sees that other people do the work better than he can, and thus a spirit of emulation is excited, and the means are shown by which that spirit of emulation is to be carried to its proper and successful result. I need hardly say to gentlemen who have given their attention to agriculture, that one object accomplished by these ploughing matches is to show the preference which ought to be given to ploughing with two horses over any other mode. I hope, gentlemen, that one of the consequences of this ploughing, match will be to show the farmers that it is not the best mode of economising their means to make four horses and two men just do the work which might be done by two horses and one man. (*Laughter and applause.*) I ought, perhaps, to apologise for trespassing so much on your time, little acquainted as I am with agricultural matters. ("No, no.") I have watched the progress of this society with great interest. I have seen it begin shamefully deficient in stock; I have seen it gradually improve; I have seen the show of each year better than that which preceded it; and I have seen a spirit excited, both amongst landlords and tenants, which, I have no doubt, will enable us in future years far to outdo the progress which has been made up to the present time. (*Cheers.*) I have, therefore, no doubt that you will drink, with all the honours,—

"Success and prosperity to the Liverpool Agricultural Society."

This toast was drunk standing, with three times three, in the most enthusiastic manner.

JAMES ASPINALL, Esq., the Mayor, then rose and proposed the health of

"The Earl of Derby—the Patron of the Society." (*Loud and long continued cheering.*)

LORD STANLEY returned thanks.

J. WILTON PATTEN, Esq., then proposed the health of Lord Stanley, the President of the Liverpool Agricultural Society. This toast was received with

most vehement and long continued cheering. After it had somewhat subsided,

LORD STANLEY rose and said, that in former times, in Scotland, when agricultural knowledge was not quite so far advanced as it was at present, it was customary for agricultural labourers to stipulate that they should not be fed with salmon more than three days in the week, and he thought that three speeches in one night were rather too much to expect from one individual. (*No, no.*) He should, however, be wanting in the common feelings of humanity if he did not say how deeply he was affected by the enthusiastic kindness shown towards him that evening. It was not by occupying the time with long, though not with heartless thanks, but by endeavouring to fulfil the duties of the station which he occupied, that he could best evince his sense of the honour done to him on this occasion. (*Cheers.*) During the six years in which this anniversary had been held, he had had the honour of presiding at four; he had only been prevented from attending at the other two by business of deeper and more general importance, and he trusted that no circumstances, excepting those to which he had alluded, would prevent his taking the chair at any succeeding anniversary. (*Applause.*) Whilst he had filled the situation of president the society had gradually and steadily improved. (*Cheers.*) His Lordship, in conclusion, again thanked the company for the kind manner in which they had drunk his health, and said that from the bottom of his heart he drank their good healths in return.

LORD STANLEY then proposed the health of the Mayor and Corporation of Liverpool. (*Loud cheers and three times three.*)

JAMES ASPINALL, Esq., returned thanks.

LORD STANLEY said.—He had been in hopes that, before this time, the printed lists of the premiums would have been prepared, and that we should have been enabled to distribute them at this time; in the course of a short time they will be so; and I am sure that, in the meantime, it will be no unpleasant interruption to those who have heard him before, if I call upon Mr. Shaw, our Poet Laureate, for a song,

Mr. SHAW then sung a humorous song, which elicited loud cheers and laughter, in which none joined more heartily than the Noble President himself, particularly at those happy parts where allusion was made to himself.

LORD STANLEY then said, we must now proceed, if you please, to the business of the evening by distributing the prizes to the successful candidates. I could wish that they had been so arranged so as to enable me to save one gentleman, Mr. Pilkington, for instance, the trouble of coming more than once to receive his prizes, though Mr. Pilkington could not have carried them if he had. I must, therefore, apologize to the gentlemen for the trouble which they may have. (*Cheers and applause.*)

The Noble PRESIDENT then proceeded to the execution of his grateful task of distributing the prizes amongst the proud and successful winners, accompanied with appropriate and humorous remarks to each individual, which greatly contributed to the variety and amusement of the evening. After its completion he again continued,—

We have now delivered the whole of the prizes which are given, either in sweepstakes or pieces of plate. Some others have to be delivered to several gentlemen in medals, and we cannot do better than, in giving them, to drink the health of Sir Edward Mostyn, whom we saw here last year, and whom I hope to see here upon future occasions, entering into



honourable competition with us. I propose Sir Edward Mostyn and the agriculturists of Wales.

This toast was drank amidst the loudest demonstrations of applause. A considerable time having elapsed without Sir E. Mostyn having risen to acknowledge the honour conferred upon him,

Lord STANLEY again rose and said,—I was in hopes, from having seen Sir E. Mostyn in the show-yard, this day, that he would have been here this evening, but I regret that he is prevented, through indisposition. I hope, however, that he will be here on a future occasion. In the meantime, I beg to propose to you the health of the successful candidates, with the hope that we shall meet them here again next year. *(Cheers.)*

Lord STANLEY then proposed the health of the members for the southern division of the county.

R. B. WILBRAHAM, Esq., returned thanks.

H. B. HOUGHTON, Esq., proposed the health of the members for the northern division of the county, Lord Stanley and J. W. Patten, Esq., which was drank with loud applause.

Lord STANLEY in returning thanks, said—"Gentlemen, I beg leave to express my most grateful thanks for the honour you have done me as one of the representatives for the northern division of this county, and though not immediately representing the interests of the great majority of those whom I am now addressing, I trust you need no assurance that my services will be given equally to both divisions of this county, for I am not able to consider them as separated, except nominally, and shall always desire to see them as closely connected as possible. *(Cheers.)* I make no apology for saying in a commercial rather than a manufacturing town—and I should require no apology for saying it in a manufacturing town—that a member of Parliament would very ill fulfil the duties of his station with reference to the interests of the empire at large, if he did not consider it especially his duty to protect and guard, as far as may be, the agricultural interest. *(Cheers.)* At the same time, however, I am bound to say that those are the truest and sincerest friends of the agricultural interest who warn them against entertaining any exaggerated or overstrained expectations of the relief which it is in the power of Parliament to extend to them. I am convinced that the sooner those delusions, for delusions they are, are got rid of, the better it will be for both landlord and tenant. I believe that somewhat is in the power of Parliament for the relief of the agriculturists; I believe it possible to serve them by the equalization of those local burdens which press more heavily on the landed than on any other interest; but I should consider myself as shrinking from the duty I have to perform as a representative of all classes in Parliament, if I did not say that the expectations sometimes entertained, that Parliament either ought or that Parliament can keep up high prices of agricultural produce for the exclusive benefit of the agricultural interest, are altogether unfounded. I say, therefore, whilst I think that the landed interest ought to be protected by parliament, and whilst I will, as a member of Parliament, always do my best to protect it consistently with a course of enlightened policy, that we must look for the relief of the agricultural interest less to anything that can be done in Parliament than to a proper understanding between landlord and tenant, to increased skill and knowledge, and to an increased desire on the part of both to make the most of the abundant materials placed in their hands towards forwarding the national prosperity. I beg pardon for entering on these topics, but having had my health drunk as a member for the agricultural division of a great commercial county, I did not think it an un-

fitting opportunity for saying what I thought might be done for the agricultural interest, and discountenancing expectations which must end in disappointment.

Mr. J. W. PATTEN also returned thanks.

Lord STANLEY then said,—It is always a satisfaction to us, gentlemen, to see that meetings are attended by strangers from different counties, but it is a double satisfaction that many, practically conversant with agriculture, who visited us one year, are ready to visit us another, to see the progress we have made in the meantime. Amongst the strangers who have visited us this year that were present on the last occasion, I am happy to see Mr. Hillyard, and as the president of an agricultural society in one of the most flourishing counties in England, I am glad to propose his health, and to thank him for his attendance this day. *(Cheers.)*

Mr. HILLYARD, in returning thanks, said—"The very flattering manner in which my health has been proposed and received really overpowers me, and I am sure I cannot at all express what I could wish upon the present occasion. *(Cheers.)* I am happy to tell you that the Farming and Grazing Society in the county of Northampton, of which I am the president, is going on most prosperously; but, gentlemen, when I tell you who is its patron, you will not be surprised that it is going on flourishing, it is my Lord Spencer—*(Cheers)*—and most happy should I be to report to that noble lord, and to all our friends in our agricultural county, what I have seen at Liverpool this day; I see here, in the first commercial town in the first country in the world, men of all parties assembled in the common cause, the support of agriculture. I could say more, had I the power to speak what I feel upon the present occasion. I will advert to what our President has said—"It is an infant society." Upon my word I should not have known it, had I not been told so. When I looked at the cattle-show this day, I could not have told that it had been an infant society, otherwise the beasts very soon attained their maturity. *(Laughter.)* We are a breeding country, but if I had the liberty of selecting such males as I could select, and such females as I could select, I have no doubt that in the course of time, it must be that of four years, that I could get from this county—*(laughter)*—that I could, I repeat, get from this county—*(repeated laughter)*—an ox to take away the best prize that we ever had or ever shall have.—*(Cheers.)* We always go from our show, which is a sort of a nursery, to London, and I have no doubt if I had the beasts I have mentioned, we should cut a respectable figure in Smithfield. I have not visited this town as a judge, though I have the honour to fill that honourable situation in Manchester. I must say that this is a very useful society. I never compliment, and I will say, and with truth, that the worst boar that was shown this day would have got our prize upon the 19th September. *(Cheers.)* Gentlemen, as a sheep county I do not conceive that you are much. *(Laughter.)* But, however, this I can say positively, that there is an evident improvement in the sheep I saw this day, compared with those of last year. *(Cheers.)* The best sheep you can have is that which will produce the greatest quantity and the most valuable flesh and wool, and I do think you ought to breed that sort. Perhaps we sometimes run into extremes: no doubt the Leicester sheep are the best in the world, but I begin to think we are getting them too fat: I think the grossly fat sheep of our county would not suit the stomachs of the manufacturers of Lancashire. I beg pardon for taking up your time, but I recommend you to pro-

ceed in the way you are going on, and, depend upon it, the Liverpool Agricultural Society will vie with any in the kingdom. (*Loud cheering.*)

LORD STANLEY next rose and said, the speech which you have just heard from the President of the Northampton Agricultural Society savoured, as it ought to do, of business; we will now get a little out of the line of business. I shall take the liberty of calling for a song from a person whom you have perhaps heard of before.—of the name of Ezekiel Homespun. If he is in readiness, I shall be happy to have the pleasure of hearing him.

MR. SHAW then delivered a humorous speech and song, in the character and dress of a raw country peasant, which created much laughter.

LORD STANLEY then said, it is right that we should not forget the obligation we owe to those gentlemen who have discharged the ordinarily invidious duty of adjudicating the prizes to the satisfaction of all parties. I propose to you the health of the judges of cattle and sheep,—A. Jones, Esq. of Welshpool, J. Wood, Esq. of Kimbleworth, near Durham, and Benjamin Crowtham, Esq., Byrom, near Ferrybridge; as well as those of horses, namely, John Scott, Esq., of Preston, and J. Oakden, Esq., of Knutsford. (*Cheers.*)

A. JONES, Esq., in returning thanks, said, as a humble individual who has had the honour to-day of officiating as one of the judges, my fellow judges have deputed me to return you thanks for the high compliment you have paid them. If I were to address you upon the subject of the superlative ability of our President, I should be very much wanting in words, indeed, in attempting to say any thing which you are not already aware of. (*Cheers.*) But when I see him surrounded with the wealth, the wisdom, and the worth of the inhabitants of this county,—when I see him thus surrounded for the purpose of supporting the falling agriculture of the country, what can we do more than to tell him that we are not to die in despair, but we are to expect every thing from the intelligence and wealth of the land? You, Gentlemen, who have supported the falling agriculture of the country, in the way which you have to-day done it,—a way which it will never be in my power to express; but I shall attempt to express to every agriculturalist whom I have ever the pleasure of meeting what I have this day seen. And I can tell you that I have met an agriculturalist who has come two hundred miles distant for the purpose of experiencing a pleasure which I am sure we have met with here. We were told by a gentleman that we should see nothing in the agricultural show-yard in Liverpool, that we as agriculturalists could call good: but we have the proud satisfaction of telling you that the stock which we have seen this day is such as no county in England or the world can surpass. Mr. Hillyard has told you that if he were to attempt breeding he would come to Liverpool for the females; and if I might be allowed to draw a comparison, I would say that the females of the cow tribe bear the same comparison to the bull tribe in this county as the women of Liverpool do the men. (*Cheering and laughter.*) I will tell you that the cow tribe shown this day is superior to any thing I have ever seen; but I hope that you will attempt to make the bull tribe as superior as they ought to be in the scale of creation. (*Cheers and laughter.*) To tell you what we felt would be extremely irksome to you; but as long as you have your worthy president at your head, this society will flourish year after year, and I expect that, after twenty years shall elapse, it will eclipse every thing in the world as an agricultural society.—

(*Cheers.*) Agriculture has sunk in some counties almost into oblivion, but oblivion it will never come into here as long as Lord Stanley shall continue amongst you. My comments upon the bulls may not have been gratifying to you, and I must also agree with Lord Stanley in saying that the horses are not such as might have been expected in the county of Lancaster; indeed I have never, in the course of my agricultural experience, seen such a bad show of horses as I have seen this day exhibited; where so much is offered as a premium, better horses might have been expected. With respect to the sheep, there could not have been a better exhibition. I shall be proud to come among you upon future occasions, and whether as a judge or spectator, shall always be extremely gratified to see the progress you are making in the improvement of agriculture. (*Loud cheering.*)

LORD STANLEY next proposed—"The Lancashire Witches," and, in connexion with it, "Breeding in all its branches." (*Loud cheers.*)

LORD STANLEY next proposed—"The health of all gentlemen to whom we are indebted for the excellent management which we have seen to-day, the Secretary and the arranging Committee of the Society." (*Loud cheers.*)

MR. WHITE, in returning thanks, said that this was the second time he had had occasion to do so in his own behalf, and that of the managing committee, for the kind manner in which their health had been drank. There was no doubt that if the society proceeded as it had begun it would soon be one of the most important in the kingdom.—(*Cheers.*)

MR. UNSWORTH, of Maghull, proposed—"Liberal landlords and industrious tenants," which was drank with loud applause.

Shortly afterwards, at twenty minutes to ten o'clock, he vacated the chair, and left the room accompanied by the greater part of the company. Mr. Peter Greenalgh, of St. Helen's, was then called to the chair, and the festivity of the evening was kept up for some time longer.

## GREAT AGRICULTURAL MEETING AND SHOW OF LIVE STOCK AT AYR,

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF THE  
HIGHLAND AND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND.

This great Meeting, the anticipation of which had excited a very lively interest for some time past in the West of Scotland, took place at Ayr, on Friday, the 2d of October, under the direction of a Committee, consisting of the Marquis of Tweeddale, senior Vice-President, acting as President in the unavoidable absence of his Grace the Duke of Gordon; the Vice-Presidents, the Lord Lieutenants, the Vice-Lieutenants and Conveners, with various noblemen and numerous gentlemen from the counties of Ayr, Wigton, Renfrew, and Bute. The committee held its first meeting on Thursday last in the Town Hall, and proceeded to elect the various Sub-Committees to superintend the minute details of the Show, and the practical Judges for the different departments of Live Stock. The Committee afterwards, along with the Judges dined at the King's Arms Inn, Mr. Kennedy, of Dunure, one of the Extraordinary Directors of the Society and Convener of the Committee, in the Chair, supported on the right and left by the Marquis of Tweeddale and Bute, and the Earl of Eglington. A large party of noblemen and gentlemen had thus a favourable opportunity of previously assembling together before entering on the more



arduous and onerous duties of the following day. Mr. Kennedy discharged the duties of chairman with admirable taste and spirit.

On the following morning, the most numerous stock that was ever exhibited at any of the Shows under the patronage of the Society was early brought forward, and placed in the pens allotted to them without the least accident or confusion, the total number of animals exhibited amounting to 760. The Show-Yard was constructed at the Fort, on the same principle as those at Stirling and Aberdeen; and in its arrangements and accommodation, seemed to afford entire satisfaction to the very numerous assemblage who attended on the occasion. By ten o'clock every thing was ready for the Judges to enter on their delicate duties.

#### I. — CATTLE. *Ayrshire Breed.*

The first to be noticed of the various Classes of Stock brought forward in this part of the country, is naturally the Ayrshire Dairy Stock.

In the class of Ayrshire aged bulls, sixteen competitors appeared. The first premium of twenty sovereigns was awarded to Mr. John Baird, Highcross, Old Monkland, Lanark; the second of ten sovereigns to Mr. William Peter, at Temple, East of Kilpatrick, Dumbarton. In this class, the Judges recommended the bulls of Mr. James Allen, Blackstone Dalry, Ayrshire, and Mr. Alexander Crichton, Middleton, Irvine, Ayrshire. In the class of bulls calved after 1st January, 1833, the first premium was awarded to Mr. John Gray, Tongue, Ayrshire; and the second to Mr. David Hutcheson, Green, Renfrewshire. Besides the premium stock, the Judges in this class commended the bulls of Mr. James Jameson, Ladeside; and of Mr. Thomas MacCreath, Belsley-hill, in Ayrshire.

In the class of Cows of the same breed, the first premium was gained by Mr. William Hunter, Montford, Ayrshire; and the second by Mr. Lawrence Drew, Cormyle, Lanarkshire. The cows commended in the class were those of Mr. John Dunlop, Outnains, Ayrshire; and Mr. Ebenezer Storrie, Gavel Garden, Stirling.

For the best Fat Cow of the same breed, not under four years old, the premium was awarded to Mr. John Findlay, Lyonstone, Ayrshire.

In the class of Cows of the same breed, calved after the 1st January, 1832, which shall have had a calf, or in-calf on the day of competition, the premium was awarded to Mr. John Black, Easterhouse, Lanarkshire. The Judges recommended the cows of Mr. Hugh Kirkwood, Highlangmuir, and Mr. James Templeton, Netherairg, Ayrshire.

In the class of Heifers of the same breed, the first premium was awarded to the pair of heifers belonging to Mr. John Findlay, Leonstone; the second to Mr. Adam Skeoch, Ardrossan Mill, Ayrshire. The pairs of heifers of the class which deserved recommendation were those which belonged to Sir James Fergusson of Kilkerran, and Mr. William Guthrie, Busbie, Ayrshire.

For the best pair of Quey Stirks, not exceeding 21 months old, of the same breed, the premium was awarded to Mr. John Forrest, Sandylands, Lanarkshire. The pairs belonging to Mr. William Jack, Little She Walton, and Mr. David Wright, Sanquhar, were commended.

In the class of the best Ox of the same breed of any age shewing most symmetry, fat, and weight, the premium was awarded to the Marquis of Bute.

For the best two Oxen calved after 1st January, 1832, the premium of ten sovereigns was awarded to Sir David Hunter Blair; and for the pair calved after 1st January 1833, the premium of ten sovereigns was adjudged to the Marquis of Bute. The pairs of oxen belonging to Mr. James Kennedy, Lochlands, and Mr. David Tennant, Hawkhill, Ayrshire.

#### GALLOWAY BREED.

The next class of animals to be mentioned is the Galloway breed. The number exhibited in this class was much less numerous than might have been expected from the proximity to the breeding district to which it peculiarly belongs.

In the class of bulls of this breed, the first premium of fifteen sovereigns was awarded to Mr. William Brown, Endrick, Wigtonshire, and the second of seven sovereigns, to Mr. Thomas Fergusson, Dinmurchie, Ayrshire.

For the pair of Oxen of the same breed not under three years old, showing symmetry, fat, and weight, the premium of ten sovereigns was awarded to Mr. W. Mure, Grange, county of Kirkcudbright; and for the best pair of spayed heifers, Mr. Mure also gained the premium of ten sovereigns. The Judges were anxious to notice the pure breeding and symmetry of Mr. Mure's stock, and particularly those of the spayed heifers.

In the class of Cows of the same breed, the first premium of ten sovereigns was awarded to Mr. Thomas Fergusson, Dinmurchie, and the second of five sovereigns to Mr. William Sproat, in Borness, Kirkcudbright.

For the best two Queys of the same breed, the premium of ten sovereigns was awarded to Mr. William Mure, on account of merit, although there was no competition in this class.

#### SHORT-HORNED BREED.

In this class the competition could not be reported to be great, in this quarter of the country, where much attention is paid to the Ayrshire breed of cattle.

In the class of Bulls of this breed, the premium of twenty sovereigns was awarded to T. F. Kennedy, Esq., of Dunure. The Judges expressed it as their opinion that the bull belonging to Mr. George Reid, Ballancrief, East Lothian, possessed great merit.

In the class of Cows of this breed, Mr. Reid obtained the premium of ten sovereigns.

For the best short-horned of any age, the premium of ten sovereigns was awarded to Mr. James Kennedy, senior, Lochlands, Ayrshire, and in this class the ox belonging to Mr. Hugh M'Jannet, Drumshang, possessed considerable merit.

#### WEST HIGHLAND BREED.

In this class, though not very numerous, the animals exhibited were of superior order. The first premium of ten sovereigns was awarded to Colonel Boyle, of Showelton, and the second of seven sovereigns to Mr. Hugh M'Jannet, in Drumshang. The others which were commended by the Judges as possessing merit, were a pair belonging to the Hon. Colonel Macadam Cathcart, of Craigengillan; and a dun-coloured ox, belonging to Mr. George Dunn, Blairston Mains, Ayrshire.

#### CROSS BREEDS.

In this class several premiums were offered for various crosses between the short-horn, Ayrshire, and Galloway breeds.

For the best ox, a cross between the Ayrshire and Galloway breeds, showing symmetry, fat, and weight, the premium of seven sovereigns was awarded to Mr. Andrew Hendrie, Highfield, Ayrshire.

For the best Ox, a cross between the short-horn and Ayrshire breeds, the premium of seven sovereigns was awarded to T. F. Kennedy, Esq., of Dunure. The ox, belonging to Mr. James Kennedy, senior, Lochlands, in the class, possessed much merit.

The premium of seven sovereigns for an ox, being a cross between the short-horn and Galloway breeds, was awarded to Mr. William Marshall, Kirkland, Kirkcudbright.

It may not be unworthy of remark, that in all cases of the crosses enumerated, the male seemed to have a preponderating influence in establishing the character of the progeny. For example, in the cross between the Ayrshire and Galloway, the Galloway bull had determined the character; in that between the short-horned and Ayrshire, the short-horn bull had decided the symmetry and points of the animals exhibited, although the character of colour, the breed having generally the same colour, could not be distinguished in the progeny; in that between the short-horn and the Galloway, the short-horn bull had decidedly imprinted its character on the animal exhibited.

In the class of oxen of any breed, the first premium was awarded to Mr. Hugh M'Jannet, Drumshang;

and the second to Mr. William Rodger, Dalmorton, Ayrshire.

## II.—HORSES.

In the class of Draught Stallions, eighteen competitors appeared. The premium of thirty sovereigns was adjudged to Mr. James Kirkwood, Gameshill, for his compact brown horse.

Of draught brood mares, none of them exhibited those superior properties for which the draught stock in the adjoining county of Lanark, has been so long celebrated. The first premium of ten sovereigns was adjudged to Mr. John Young, Nethertrees, Ayrshire; and the second of seven sovereigns to Mr. James Fulton, Bailig.

For the best Draught Gelding or Filly, the premium was awarded to Mr. Hugh Crawford, jun., Flat, Ayrshire.

In the class of Cleveland Stallions, the premium of twenty sovereigns was awarded to Mr. William Mure, Grange, Kirkcudbright.

## III.—SHEEP.

### *Black-faced Breed.*

In the class of black-faced Tups, the first and second premiums of five and three sovereigns, were awarded to Mr. Thomas Robertson, Broomlee, Peeblesshire; the premium of five sovereigns for the best pen of black-faced Ewes, was also awarded to Mr. Robertson.

In the class of black-faced Gimmers, the first and second premiums of five and three sovereigns, were awarded to Mr. Andrew Weir, Lindburn, Ayrshire.

In the class of black-faced Dimmots, the first premium of five sovereigns was awarded to Sir James Fergusson, of Kilkerran; and the second to Mr. Thomas Robertson, Broomlee.

In the class of black-faced Wedders not under one year and eight months, and not exceeding three years old, the premium of Mr. William Rodger, Dalmorton; for Wedders not exceeding three years old fed on hill pasture, the premium of five sovereigns, was awarded to Mr. Limond, of Dalblair, Ayrshire.

In the class of fat black-faced Wedders of any age, the premium of five sovereigns was awarded to Mr. David Tennant, Hawkhill Ayrshire.

### *Cheviot Breed.*

In the class of sheep of the cheviot breed, the premium of five sovereigns was awarded to Mr. Thomas Little, Pennyland, Dumfriesshire, for the best two tups, as was also the premium of five sovereigns for the best pen of ewes of the same breed. To Mr. Little was also awarded the premium of five sovereigns, for the best pen of cheviot gimmers.

### *Leicester Breed.*

In the class of tups of the Leicester breed, the premium of five sovereigns, was awarded to Mr. William Mure, Grange, and the Judges commended another tup of Mr. Mure's as deserving of notice.

For Leicester ewes the premium of five sovereigns was awarded to the Hon. F. Macadam Cathcart; and those belonging to Mr. William Marshall, Kirkland, Kirkcudbright, were noticed by the Judges as possessing merit.

## IV.—SWINE.

In the class of swine, the competition was pretty extensive. For boars, the first premium of five sovereigns, was awarded to Mr. John Dunlop, Auchans; and the second of three sovereigns, to Mr. John Howat, Martnaham, Ayrshire. For sows the first premium of five sovereigns was awarded to Messrs. Watson and Grieve, Whitehill, Ayrshire; and the second of three sovereigns to T. F. Kennedy, Esq., of Dunure.

In the class of sows the property of cottars or tenants paying not more than 15*l*. of yearly rent, the premium of three sovereigns was awarded to Mr. William Boyd, Ayr.

For pigs not exceeding forty weeks old, the first premium of five sovereigns was awarded to Mr. Andrew Dick, Genoch, Ayrshire, and the second to T. F. Kennedy, Esq., of Dunure.

The sow belonging to Mr. Breakenridge, Barbuston, was favourably noticed by the Judges.

## EXTRA STOCK.

As usual at all the annual shows of the society a con-

siderable number of animals out of the range of competition were, for various causes, exhibited as extra stock. They consisted of bulls, cows, heifers, oxen, crosses, horses, sheep, fowls, &c. &c.—The Judges particularly recommended the following among the extra stock as deserving of premiums, viz.—A set of four Ayrshire cows, exhibited by Mr. Finlay, Lyonsstone; Ayrshire cows shown by Mr. Bruce, Langholm; Ayrshire cows shown by Mr. Kirkwood, High Langmuir; an ox, a cross between a short-horn and Galloway breed, exhibited by Mr. Rodger, Craig; another, a cross between the Ayrshire and Galloway breeds, shown by Mr. Wright, Woodlands; a stot from St. Kilda, fed by the Hon. F. Macadam Cathcart; a heifer and stirk, crosses between the short-horn and Ayrshire, shown by Sir James Fergusson, of Kilkerran, Bart.; two tups exhibited by Mr. Garrat, Northamptonshire; ten black-faced tup lambs, shown by Mr. Andrew Weir; ten black-faced ewe lambs, exhibited by Mr. Thomas Fergusson, Dinmuirchic; a remarkably fine draught foal, shown by Mr. James Meikle, Clockston, Ayrshire. The large poultry, belonging to T. F. Kennedy, Esq., of Dunure, seemed to excite a considerable degree of interest.

## IMPLEMENTS.

In the class of implements the Judges examined every article exhibited with care, some of which are deserving of particular notice, for their ingenuity and aptitude to the respective uses, and workmanship, which last particular reflects great credit on the artisans of the county. Of those articles which the Judges think worthy of recommending, the reaping machine, exhibited by Mr. Smith, of Deanston, claims the first prize for the decided improvement he has effected in its principle of action, and for the substantial manner in which it is constructed. He also exhibited several models of drains. Mr. John Cook deserves commendation for good workmanship on his three-horse, and two-horse subsoil ploughs; also Mr. James McConnel for a subsoil plough and root slicer. Mr. Alexander Reid, of Bollingshaw, exhibited a method of equalising the draught of horses in thrashing machines, gins, &c.; an improvement in converting the common plough into a draining or trenching plough, several new methods of yoking horses in the plough, and cart, whereby two or more horses are made to pull equally and together; a simple method of making carts accommodate themselves to equalise the pressure on the horse's back in ascending and descending inclinations of road; a very ingenious method of adjusting cart axles to dished wheels without any set or bend; and a very simple and cheap stomach pump for cattle. Mr. Alex. Boyd exhibited a very ingenious self-acting tide gauge, and harbour telegraph. Mr. Robert Kerr, Stewarton, an elegant, useful and economical bee hive. Mr. John Underwood, Ayr, a very ingenious double-action pump. Dr. Sloan, of Kilmaurs, a safety traverse joint for carriages, whereby obstacles on roads may be passed over without risk of upsetting. Mr. Thomas McCririck, smith, Garrallan, by Cumnock, an improved cheese press, and an instrument to determine the set of coach and cart axles. Mr. John Watson, Ayr, an ingenious model of a safety lock involving a new principle. The number of subsoil ploughs exhibited formed a very interesting feature, as it evinces the extension of the use of that important improvement. There was a subsoil plough of a lighter construction sent from Stirlingshire by Mr. Murray, of Polmaise, which was said to be of easy draught for two horses at a depth of fourteen inches. The exhibition of drain tiles was also very encouraging, as showing the extension of that first of improvements—thorough draining. It is believed that a great waste of capital is too generally incurred by the use of inferior tiles; some tiles manufactured in Warwickshire, with models of the tools used in making them, were exhibited by Mr. Hamilton, Rozelle, which was highly approved of by the Judges. These tiles are more uniform in shape and burning than those generally in use in this country; and being stronger at the crown, and the edgings made broader than the general body, to give a broader bearing on the ground, and which forms are accomplished in the making by a very simple process. Mr. Robert



Boyle, potter, Ayr, also exhibited some good specimens of draining tiles.

#### V. ROOTS AND SEEDS.

The exhibition of roots and seeds was particularly enhanced by the well arranged collection of Messrs. P. Lawson and Son, the indefatigable Seedsmen to the society. Their collection consisted of 100 varieties of the cereal grains; 50 of the leguminous; upwards of 200 of the plants cultivated for their herbage, and 160 named varieties of the potatoe. It would perhaps be unnecessary to enumerate all the varieties of plants and other articles which were exhibited in this class, but a few remarkable articles may deserve some attention. From Auchincruive was exhibited Chevalier barley weighing 57½ lbs per bushel. A barley under the name of Pomeranian, which is a variety of the hordeum hexatemon. A barley from the Alps, a variety of distecheon. Specimens of Italian and Common Ryegrass in hay from Mr. Girdwood, manager at Kerrylamont the home farm of the Marquis of Bute, showing the comparatively great produce of the former. A fine sample of black oats imported from America by the late Earl of Cassillis in 1828, very productive of corn and straw, giving from twelve to sixteen bolls per acre, and not liable to shake out with the wind. This is probably a variety of the *avena ori entalis*. A very fine sample and in the ear, of black barley from the Cape of Good Hope, exhibited by Mr. Patrick McKinn. Gowkscroft. This is a variety of the distecheon, but a different one from any that had ever come under the notice of the Judges. A sheaf of very fine barley and a bushel sample of the same, under name of the Italian. It is a variety of distecheon, and resembling that known by the name of the golden. This was exhibited by Mr. Imrie, seedsmen. Messrs. J. Smith and Son, Ayr, exhibited the seed and plant of a new species of *Heraclium*, from Siberia, which for its large leaves and rapid growth, they consider suitable to the feeding of dairy cows. Messrs. Lawson and Son, exhibited the *Pinus Austriaca*, a plant superior to the *Pinus Sylvestris*, or *Laricio* in quickness of growth and durability of timber. Also plants of the *Pinus Sylvestris*, from Haganoe in Germany, presenting a more rapid growth than the plant produced from the native *sylvestris* of this country. They had also twelve varieties of flax raised from seed procured from Russia last year. That variety called *utissimum altissimum*, appears to possess superior properties, *Vicia villosa*, an annual growing seven feet in height; and the *biennis* are worthy of experiment.

For specimens of honey in the comb, in Kerrs, were exhibited by Miss Margaret Henderson, Thornhill, Mr. John Brown, Mr. Alexander King, and Mr. Robert Kerr, all from Stewarton.

#### WOOL.

There were only two competitors for cheviot wool. Premiums were awarded to Mr. Andrew Mitchell, senior, Linfairn; and to Mr. Peter Mitchell, Balloch Beatties, Ayrshire.

A premium was awarded to Mr. Thomas Wilson, Altonalbany, Barr, Ayrshire, for the best lot of black-faced wool.

#### WOOLLEN AND LINEN MANUFACTURES.

This exhibition consisted of carpets, rugs, flannels, damask and table linen; a certain sum was recommended by the Judges to be given to some of the competitors.

#### CHEESES.

In this class of articles there was a general and keen competition, not fewer than forty-three competitors having appeared in the lists. The Judges expressed themselves highly gratified at the superior quality of all the kinds of cheese exhibited.

The first premium was awarded to Mr. David Dickie, Tannierich; and the second to James Wright in Millhouse, parish of Symington, for full milk cheeses.

In this class the premium was awarded to Mr. Hugh Boreland, Wester Hillhouse.

The premium for imitation Stilton was awarded to Mr. John Dickie, Middle Robertsonland.

Mr. Murray, of Polmaise, sent a cheese for exhibition, which had been pressed by Mr. Robison's air pump press.

#### ON WORKING OXEN.

The following remarks on working Oxen are copied from the memoirs of the Pennsylvania Agricultural Society, contained in a letter from the Hon. Levi Lincoln, to John Hoare Powel, Esq.

The best broken Oxen are those which are early trained and accustomed to the yoke with occasional light work. They are often broken as early as at one or two years of age, with gentle and patient usage. At this period they are more docile and tractable, and it is thought become more powerful, by being sooner accustomed to each other, and to the application of their strength to the draft. I believe they may be taught to travel in almost any gait; certain it is, the rate at which oxen differently broken, will walk with their load would seem incredible to a person ignorant of the difference in the mode of their training. To accustom them to a quick pace, they should at first be driven in the yoke while young, without any, or a very light weight, and never heavily loaded, until they have arrived at full strength and maturity. A great fault with many people is too much indifference as to the construction of the yoke. Almost any shapeless piece of wood, with holes for the insertion of the bows, is made to answer; but to the ease of the draft, the adaption of the yoke or bow to the neck of the Bullock, and the position of the staple and ring in the yoke, are altogether material. For common use, and particularly for ploughing, I have found that yokes were generally too short. Cattle of the largest size, require a yoke from 4½ to 5 feet in length. In short yokes that are apt to haul as it is termed,—that is, draw from each other, to such a degree in some instances, as to cross their fore legs, and destroy their power, and greatly impede their progress. I once owned a pair made totally useless by this habit, and afterwards entirely corrected, by the application of a yoke 18 inches longer. A short yoke is necessary only in snow paths, where cattle would otherwise crowd against each other, the opposite of hawlings, but of the same mischievous effect. In respect to what oxen may be made to do in a short time, or as an experiment upon their strength, I must refer you to the results of our ploughing matches. With us they are but little used upon the road, except in the transport of heavy loads for short distances, in the same town or between neighbouring towns. One reason why horses are preferred for waggoning on the road, may be that they can be made to travel quicker, and that from the construction of the hoof they are less liable to lameness than the cloven-footed ox, by becoming foot-sore. On the other hand, the patient and steady labour of the ox, finds no substitute in the horse for the service of the farm, and the latter is seldom seen there except in occasional aid of the ox team, or with the light plough between the rows of corn. The value of a yoke of oxen, or a pair of horses, for use in all the business of a farm, admits of no comparison. So decided is the preference for the former, that I do not believe a single farmer can be found in this extensive Agricultural County who performs his labour by horses without oxen; while there are hundreds, I had almost said thousands, who make no other use of horses in husbandry, than to furrow for planting, and plough among their corn for hoeing. Our oxen are kept in a cheaper and less expensive manner than horses. In the summer, they are uniformly grazed in the pastures. In the cold and winter seasons they are put into the barns, and fed upon the stock hay, as it is called, that which grows in meadows, and upon the fodder of corn stalks, husks, &c. unless indeed they

are more severely worked than usual, when hay of better quality is given them; and in all cases, as the spring advances, their keeping is improved, and with better hay, some grain is added. I speak of the general practice of farmers. There are some who keep their oxen more generously, and others more hardly than I have mentioned. But with a clean and warm stable, with daily application of the curry-comb and card, and coarse food, without severe labour, the best farmers will at all times exhibit teams of most vigorous and powerful cattle, and the best hay and the grain will be saved in their beef and pork, and in the produce of their dairies, for the market.

## SONG FOR THE SPORTING SEASON.

I was a sporting character,  
And mingled with the gay,  
I used to hunt—but now those joys  
From me are *chased* away;  
Though left and right, to ev'ry flight,  
I went with Ward and Spring,  
I knew not till I took a wife  
The *secrets* of the ring,

I used to gamble—but alas!  
Those gambols all are o'er;  
My notes are changed to humble peace,  
And I can play no more!  
I used to press each friend to chess,  
Away from worldly strife;  
Was fond of draughts, which is, I find,  
A failing in my wife.

Our pleasures quickly pass away,  
'Tis useless for them wishing,  
I've but one hobby left, for now  
My sole delights in fishing;  
I have been baited by a maid  
(*'Twas scaly conduct—very!*)  
To quit the place at Pond-ers end,  
And take her to Fins-bury.

'Twas two o'clock one chilly morn,  
On Waltonising bent,  
That like two angry schoolmasters  
With rod in hand we went;  
We sneaked away, ere break of day,  
Our sleeping spouses dishing,  
Not only fixed to fish in Kew,  
But in the cue for fishing.

The morn was heavy-wet, and hail  
In torrents like a sea,  
Rush'd down the streets—at Christmas time  
'Twould seasonably be;  
You'll ask—how can I prove the fact?  
Quite easily 'tis done—  
For London is at Christmas time,  
With currents over-run,

At length we reached the destin'd spot,  
The storm and rain abated,  
And being simple men of course,  
We both with *gentles* baited.  
Our sport that day—I grieve to say,  
Was worse than we expected;  
Like would be monthly scribblers, we  
Soon found our lines rejected.

*From the Lays for Light Hearts.*

A MOVING BOG.—This rather rare phenomenon has been lately witnessed on a part of Lord O'Neill's estate, in the neighbourhood of Randalstown, on the Ballymena road, and about two and a half miles from the former town. The following is the substance of a letter which we have received from a gentleman who was at the place on Saturday last:—On the 19th ult., in

the evening, the first movement occurred. A person who was near the ground was surprised to hear a sort of rumbling noise, as if under the earth; and, immediately after, his surprise was not a little increased, on perceiving a part of the bog move pretty rapidly forward, a distance of a few perches. It then halted, and exhibited a broken, rugged appearance, with a soft peaty substance boiling up through the chinks. It remained in this state till the 22d, when it suddenly moved forward, at a quick rate, covering corn-fields, potato-fields, turf-stacks, hay ricks, &c., not a vestige of which now remains to be seen. So sudden and rapid was this movement, that the adjacent mail coach road was covered, in a few minutes, or, rather, moments, to a depth of nearly twenty feet. It then directed its course towards the river Maine, which lay below it; and so great was its force, and such was the quantity of matter carried along, that the moving mass was forced a considerable way across the river. In consequence of the late heavy rains, the river has again found its channel through the matter deposited in its bed, otherwise the water would have been forced back, and immense damage done to the land on the banks. The fish in the river have been killed for a considerable distance. The damage done by the mossy inundation has been very considerable. About 150 acres of excellent arable land have been covered, and rendered totally useless. Down the middle of the projected matter a channel has been formed, through which there is a continual flow of dark peaty substance, over ground where only two weeks ago the reapers were at work. A house close by the road is so far overwhelmed, that only a part of the roof is to be seen. Besides the actual damage sustained, the utmost alarm prevails, and the people living adjacent to the place have been removing their furniture, &c. to a distance. All manner of absurd reasons are assigned to account for the destroying visitation; but as the cause is one of a natural and sufficiently well ascertained kind, it is useless to dwell upon the solutions suggested by ignorance.

IRON PLOUGH.—A gentleman, named Malabar, who has been for some time a resident here, has invented, and had constructed, under his immediate direction, a plough, composed principally of wrought iron, which, on trial, has been found infinitely superior to the Kentish plough, now in common use; and over which it possesses the important superiority of being easily worked by one man, with two horses. Mr. Malabar, whose object seems to be that of combining economy with utility, has entered into a calculation to show the advantages likely to be derived from his invention; and mentions instances where four men and eight horses are employed to perform the team work upon 150 acres of arable land, at an annual expense to the farmer of nearly 550*l.* Lands which now require two men and four horses, he observes, might be profitably tilled with half the number of each. The iron plough has been successfully worked at Kersney Court, and in the neighbourhood of Hougham; but we regret to add that the body of the machine was detached from the wheels, during the night of yesterday week, and clandestinely removed from a field near the last-named place, where it had been left, after the employment of the day; and all inquiries for its recovery have hitherto proved fruitless.—*Dover Telegraph.*

JOINT STOCK BANKS.—The aggregate amount of notes circulated in England and Wales by Private Banks and Joint Stock Banks, in the four quarters of the year ending 27th June, 1835, is as follows:—Quarter ending 27th Sept. 1834. Private Banks 8,370,423*l.*; Joint Stock Banks, 1,783,689*l.*; total 10,154,113. Quarter ending 28th December, 1834. Private, 8,537,655*l.*; Joint Stock, 2,122,173*l.*; total 10,659,828*l.* Quarter ending 28th March, 1835. Private 8,231,206*l.*; Joint Stock, 2,188,954*l.*; total 10,420,160*l.* Quarter ending 27th June, 8,455,114*l.*; Joint Stock, 2,484,687*l.*; total 10,939,801*l.*



## BRITISH AGRICULTURAL LOAN COMPANY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

SIR,—Printed circulars are now being disseminated, announcing a project for establishing a British Agricultural Loan Society, the professed object of which is declared to be “to place agriculturists upon an equal footing with the trading community, by making them such advances upon corn as other trading companies do upon merchandise, so as to enable them to contend fairly for that reward of their labour which all other interests so strenuously maintain.” It is further stated that “the system to be adopted by this association is perfectly original, as this company will never work upon anything but real capital under trust, nor will it ever interfere with the regular business of any bank by the discount of bills but contrariwise create by its ordinary operations an increased demand for local notes, which must tend to employ the capital, confirm the credit, and promote greatly the future welfare of that interest especially.” And, again, the institution is said “to be the offspring of nature and of circumstances,” the meaning of which, I confess, I do not clearly comprehend; but, however much I, in common with many others, do lament the ruinous state of agriculture, I much fear that its regeneration must be effected by circumstances very different in their nature from any which can be inferred from the scheme held out in the prospectus of this natural and circumstantial association.

Any advance to be made by this company will, it is presumed, only be made on such corn as may be consigned to them and lodged in their granaries; and if they act prudently, such advance will not exceed two-thirds of the market value for the time being; now, I would beg leave to ask what advantage the farmer would derive from this beyond what he now enjoys, from consigning to the respectable factors in Mark-lane; besides, it must be evident, that in the early part of the corn season, (that is, between harvest and Christmas,) were they to thrash out their corn to a large extent, which in many instances would not only be impracticable but absolutely disadvantageous, the corn so thrashed, unless it were kiln-dried, would get out of condition, and must be deteriorated. And moreover, if heavy consignments were made, so as to influence the market and raise the prices, it would give the farmers possessing capital a decided advantage over those who were needy, because the former would immediately thrash corn from the stacks, which would be in much better condition than that in granary, and obtain a higher price at the expense of those very persons whose interests it is proposed to maintain.

Every one conversant with the corn trade knows that, on an average of years, and under ordinary circumstances, it is only by possessing large capital, and by purchasing even at less cost than that at which it can be produced, that the speculation will repay the purchasers, and although the loan company may indemnify themselves, still, if the expense of keeping, and the interest on money advanced, fall on the farmer who consigns, what possible advantage can he derive?

Anything in the shape of monopoly is at all times impolitic, and fraught with danger to the public; and in times like the present might cause such an excitement as would endanger the peace of the country as well as the interests of individuals.

As respects the boon which the scheme professes to hold out to bankers, I fear they will have some difficulty in discovering how it would operate in their

favour, because trade is, like water, sure to find its level, and must be seriously affected if any factitious or unnatural means are resorted to for the mere purpose of a seeming temporary expediency, and there is no axiom in philosophy more true than this, “that one extreme always produces another.”

On the whole, I am satisfied that the evil of which agriculturists complain lies too deep to be cured by any such palpable quackery as that now proposed, and as there is no want of capital in the kingdom, nor lack of energy and knowledge to wield it, it is quite certain that if individuals capable of forming a correct judgment considered it advantageous to speculate in corn under present circumstances, they would readily do so, and it is equally clear that if individuals cannot obtain a remuneration for their capital thus employed, neither can joint-stock associations such as this, unless it be at the expense of those very agriculturists whose interest they affect to espouse.

I am, Sir, your very obedient servant,  
Norwich, Oct. 13. THOMAS NIMMO.

## WALTHAM AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

At the first anniversary meeting of this society, which took place at Waltham on the 8th of October, the ploughing match was well attended, upon the health of the judges being drank after dinner, W. Beasley in returning thanks observed, that only a very few years ago he was almost ashamed to acknowledge where he came from, in consequence of the backwardness evinced by the Leicestershire farmers and graziers to form Agricultural Societies; but now he was pleased to say, that at this time there were three distinct and efficient societies in the county. He spoke at great length of the good likely to result from agriculturists forming themselves into societies, also of the excellent situation at Waltham; and said, he could not account for the rapid growth of the infant society, whose first anniversary this day had taken place, but from a conviction that farmers now begin to see as they ought to do, and he hoped they would go on progressing, and that they would all put their shoulder to the wheel, and each and every one of them in his respective station would interest himself in the promotion of such a laudable society. He also adverted to the necessity of all agriculturists having an eye to the proceedings of the next parliament from a feeling being thrown out by the commissioners' report in the Excise Inquiry, wherein they state that one-half of the duty on malt might come off, without great injury to the revenue, if the existing corn laws could be repealed or modified so as to allow of the importation of barley at a lower rate of duty! And should such an attempt be made, he hoped that every person connected with agriculture, would to a man use all lawful means to stop so destructive a measure for the British farmer. For as much as he (Mr. B.) would like to see the repeal of the malt duty, he would not like to see it purchased at the expense of the present existing corn laws.

THE MAMMOTH GOURD.—The largest we have heard of is now to be seen in the window of Messrs. W. and J. Noble, seedsmen, Fleet-street. It was raised in the garden of Thomas Creswick, Esq., Hatfield, Herts, weighed 148lbs when cut, and measures seven feet one inch round. It is a beautiful specimen of the *Cucurbita* tribe, and does great credit to the grower.

An extraordinary ox hide and horns has been landed in the St. Katharine's Dock from the ship *Vistula*, arrived from the Cape. The beast is supposed to have been about five years old. The circumference of the horns at the root is 17 inches; length of the horn four feet six inches; from tip to tip, in a straight line across, eight feet five inches; the front of the skull, 13 inches.

## FOREIGN CORN.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable the House of Commons, dated 6th of August, 1835;—for an Account of the Total Quantity of Quarters of Foreign Wheat that have paid the Duty for Consumption in the United Kingdom, under 9 Geo. IV. c. 60, since that Act came into force, in 1828, till 5th of July, 1835, and the Total Amount of Duty received thereon; and showing, from the Total Quantity of Quarters, and the Total Amount of Duty so received thereon, what the Duty was equal to per Quarter on the Average for the whole Period;—and

The same Account for Foreign Barley, Oats, Rye, Peas, and Beans, Wheatmeal and Flour, Oatmeal, Maize or Indian Corn, Buckwheat, Bere or Bigg; and the same Account for all these, the Produce of, and imported from any British Possession in North America, or elsewhere out of Europe.

## FOREIGN CORN, MEAL, and FLOUR.

CORN, MEAL, and FLOUR, the produce of, and imported from, British Possessions out of Europe.

|                       | Quantities charged with Duty for Home Consumption under Act 9 Geo. IV. c. 60, from the passing of the Act (15th July, 1828) to the 5th July, 1835. |         |    |    | Quantities charged with Duty for Home Consumption under Act 9 Geo. IV. c. 60, from the passing of the Act (15th July, 1828) to the 5th July, 1835. |       |    |    |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----|----|
|                       | Qrs.                                                                                                                                               | £       | s. | d. | Qrs.                                                                                                                                               | £     | s. | d. |
| Wheat.....            | 437912                                                                                                                                             | 1605637 | 6  | 8  | 462282                                                                                                                                             | 85022 | 3  | 8  |
| Barley.....           | 1224762                                                                                                                                            | 347998  | 5  | 8  | 313                                                                                                                                                | 23    | 1  | 6  |
| Oats.....             | 1521235                                                                                                                                            | 481670  | 6  | 1  | 8973                                                                                                                                               | 294   | 0  | 3  |
| Rye.....              | 142771                                                                                                                                             | 26686   | 3  | 9  | —                                                                                                                                                  | —     | —  | —  |
| Peas.....             | 26406                                                                                                                                              | 9987    | 6  | 9  | 5949                                                                                                                                               | 544   | 1  | 10 |
| Beans.....            | 241213                                                                                                                                             | 134415  | 11 | 2  | —                                                                                                                                                  | —     | —  | —  |
| Indian Corn           | 103285                                                                                                                                             | 19646   | 3  | 10 | 218                                                                                                                                                | 27    | 2  | 5  |
| Buckwheat.            | 35346                                                                                                                                              | 10706   | 6  | 1  | —                                                                                                                                                  | —     | —  | —  |
| Wheat-meal and Flour. | 1896102                                                                                                                                            | 183252  | 1  | 11 | 417813                                                                                                                                             | 30529 | 1  | 6  |
| Oatmeal....           | 9                                                                                                                                                  | 4       | 8  | 5  | 1843                                                                                                                                               | 78    | 0  | 10 |

WM. IRVING, Inspector.

General of Imports and Exports.

Inspector-General's Office, Custom-house,  
London, August 15, 1835.

## EPILEPSY IN CATTLE.

(From the Veterinarian.)

This sad malady is far more prevalent among oxen and steers, and sometimes among calves, than in the horse; and yet it has been observed that a milch cow is rarely or never affected by it. So much of the food of the cow being devoted to the nutriment of their offspring, or of man, we cannot well conceive of the possibility of that plethoric state or deranged circulation by which epilepsy is usually caused.

SYMPTOMS.—Young cattle are the usual victims here, as might be readily expected. The premonitory symptoms are as obscure as in the horse; or, perhaps, they are as deficient in cattle as in the horse. There will, perhaps, be a little previous dullness or heaviness, but that will rarely be observed, or it will be regarded as accidental, or connected with some other and different disease.

The beast begins all at once to stagger. He usually moans piteously, and, as the fit approaches, the moaning changes to a fearful bellowing. The convulsions are more diffused and more violent than in the horse—the dreadful labour of respiration, and the contraction of the abdominal muscles are frightful—the mouth is filled with frothy fluid, tinged with the colour of the food, and many particles of food mingling with it, and the fæces and the urine are discharged involuntarily.

The duration of the fit is uncertain; but, as in the horse, the convulsions gradually cease, and all is for a moment quiet—the beast gets up—looks around him with wonderment and suspicion—slowly and cautiously joins his companions, and then begins to graze again, as if nothing had occurred.

SERIOUS NATURE OF THE DISEASE.—The evil, however, does not end here. The young beast is a far more plethoric subject than the ox—the usual course of the blood is more easily deranged and determined to the brain, and the habit of fits is too readily formed; and not merely of fits occurring at irregular and distant intervals as in the horse, but twice or thrice, or many times in the course of a day: so that there is not only much danger to those who have to attend on the animal, but he is covered with contusions, his condition is impaired, and he is soon ready to be carried off by some more than usually violent attack.

There is an almost inseparable connexion between epilepsy and apoplexy in these animals. Young beasts in high condition are oftener attacked; and a sudden change of pasture from that which is scanty to another that possesses extraordinary luxuriance is almost sure to produce it. In fact, it is apoplexy or staggers in these animals.

There is, from determination of blood to the brain, sufficient pressure to produce great derangement in the stream of nervous influence; but not enough to be the immediate cause of death.

TREATMENT.—The mode of treatment will be same as in the horse—bleeding, physic, setons, and a less allowance of food: but, except there are circumstances which render the farmer peculiarly anxious to save that beast, the wisest course is to send him to the butcher, for the treatment will be both expensive and doubtful.

SHEEP.—This disease occurs yet oftener in sheep than in cattle. On a sudden, and without any apparent cause, a sheep will cease to graze; he will stare stupidly around him, stagger, run round three or four times, and then fall and struggle violently for several minutes. By degrees the convulsions subside, they cease, and the animal gets up with the same half-unconsciousness that has been described in the horse and the ox; this wears away, and he begins to graze again.

NATURE OF THE DISEASE.—Here again is a close connexion or identity between apoplexy and epilepsy. These fits oftener occur in young sheep in good condition, and after improvident change of pasture. It is very frequent in the beginning of spring and the latter part of autumn, when the hoar frost lies thick upon the ground. The sheep, either not having been folded, or being turned out too early, gather much of this congealed water with their food; and it palsies the action of the rumen, or by its intense cold determines the blood from it to a more important and dangerous part. Having to travel over the Downs of Wiltshire at this season, a few years ago, I had an instructive but not pleasing illustration of this cause of epilepsy. Within two hours after day-



break I saw at least twenty sheep and lambs with the convulsions of epilepsy strong upon them. The coachman told me that on every fine cold morning he saw nearly or quite as many. I saw also an illustration of the chief method of cure among some of the shepherds. It was to break one morbid derangement of the nervous system by setting up another. The dog was set upon the poor animals, and who were thus speedily frightened, not out of their senses, but into them again. I saw this succeed in several instances; but I thought that it was a brutal and a dangerous mode of cure. The chain of diseased action might sometimes be broken, but there was hazard of the determination of blood to the sensorium, which was the cause of these convulsions, being abundantly and fatally increased. I thought it would have been better to have soothed the poor animal, and to have taken it home and nursed it, and, most of all, not to have exposed it to the influence of this cause of derangement of the vital and nervous currents.

**FREQUENCY OF IT IN SOME DISTRICTS.**—On some parts of the continent this disease is very prevalent and fatal among sheep, and is traced to the nature of the pasturage. Tessier, in his valuable work on sheep, speaks of it as having been lately introduced, and becoming exceedingly prevalent and fatal in the district of Beauce, in France. When it once attacks a flock, it finds such a free disposition in them all to be affected by it that the farmer either gets rid of the whole, or destroys every sheep that exhibits the slightest symptoms of it; and many of the farmers of the district have actually given up sheep husbandry on account of the frequent prevalence and the ravages of this malady. He attributes the complaint to the cultivation of a different kind of pasturage in Beauce than that on which the sheep used to feed; but he does not enter into the particulars which we could wish on such a point.

Gaspain, speaking of its prevalence in Germany, says, that it is most destructive in the spring and the summer, and occasionally so in the winter; and he tells us that the shepherds there attribute it to the feeding on some species of dock, and garlick, and, in the winter, on the sproutings of the pine.

There can be no doubt that pasturage and condition are main agents in the production of this disease.

## ON THE APPLICATION OF THE POINTS BY WHICH LIVE-STOCK ARE JUDGED, TO SHORT-HORNS.

By MR. JAMES DICKSON, CATTLE-DEALER,  
EDINBURGH.

(From the *Quarterly Journal of Agriculture*.)

(Concluded from page 249.)

I have said that the origin of the short-horn cattle, like all other existing breeds of cattle in this country, is but obscurely known; that is, in other words, the origin of that breed which imparted the external characters and useful properties of the short-horns, is but obscurely known; but the period at which that breed began to acquire the refined tone, or "blood," which now characterizes its useful properties, is not enveloped in obscurity. Historians trace the type in this manner: A race of cattle had long existed on the banks of the Tees, in the counties of Durham and York. Whence or how they came is not known.

They acquired the appropriate title of Teeswater cattle. Many years ago this breed existed in considerable numbers; the following description of which is given by the Rev. Henry Berry, in his *Account of the Improved Short-horns*, p. 13, 14.

"In colour resembling what is called the improved breed of the present day, except that the fashionable roan was not quite so prevalent; they are described in general characters also to have differed very little from their descendants. Possessing a fine mellow touch, good hair, light offal, particularly wide carcasses, and deep-fur quarters; they were also justly celebrated for extraordinary proof when slaughtered,—resembling thus closely their descendants of the present day. One trifling difference is alone worth recording,—the horns of the old Teeswater breed were rather longer, and turned gaily upwards."

The Teeswater breed thus formed the foundation on which the present superstructure of the improved short-horns have been reared. The connecting link, however, betwixt the old and new breeds cannot now be very distinctly traced, the history of that connexion being very unsatisfactory. Whether any attempts had been made to improve the Teeswater breed itself is not known. Every authority on this subject seems to agree, that the first probable attempt to improve them was by crossing with a breed imported from Holland, which was similar to that now in Holstein. Certain it is that the present Dutch and Holstein breeds of cattle present a frame not unlike that of the improved short-horns, and superior to that of the Teeswater, though in *points* they are inferior to the former. The colours of the Dutch are black and white, while those of the Teeswater were red and white. The numerical superiority of the latter breed may have obliterated the black colour of the former; but it is not improbable, that the black of the imported breed had rendered the red of the Teeswater darker and richer. The red colour of any unimproved breed of cattle that I have seen, is generally of a yellowish hue than the rich red of the improved short-horns. These remarks on the colour of cattle are by no means whimsical, for colour is a permanent character, and the uniform intensity of colour, of whatever tint, is strongly indicative of purity of blood. Short-horns only sport two colours, a rich red and a cream white. These may be exhibited singly, or they may be patched together, or blended hair about. The presence of any other colour should be viewed with great suspicion.

Amongst the earliest importers of Dutch bulls and cows was Sir William St. Quintin of Scampston. The cross produced by the imported breed is said to have made a decided improvement on the old; and following up the advantage, the cross at length produced a stock distinguished by the name of the "Teeswater Short-horns," a stock which united in a wonderful degree the good properties of graziers and milkers. These valuable properties were soon appreciated, and cherished with uncommon zeal among rival breeders. Mr. Milbank of Barningham was one of the most successful of these breeders. He flourished about ninety years ago.

No pedigrees of cattle having been kept at that early period of their history, no satisfactory account of them can be given till the appearance of the bull Studley, of a red and white colour, bred by Mr. Sharter of Chilton. How he was directly descended I cannot ascertain; but there is little doubt of his being the result of the cross, though

not an immediate one, between the old Teeswater and Dutch breeds. It is probable that Mr. Sharter may have obtained the dam or sire of Studley from Mr. Milbank, for he was in the practice of purchasing stock from the latter gentleman, who was particularly fortunate in his stock of cattle. A cow which was bred from Mr. Milbank's stock by Mr. Sharter was slaughtered, after bearing several calves, and weighed in the four quarters upwards of 110 stones. And to show the successful completion of Mr. Milbank's improvements in his own days, an ox, five years old, was slaughtered by him, and the four quarters weighed 150 stones. The Studley bull, then, may be regarded as the first recorded progenitor of the present race of improved short-horns. He is described "as having possessed great girth, deep fore-quarters, short legs, neat form, and light offal." His pedigree, however, is not traced in Coate's Herd Book. The Studley bull, red and white, got James's Masterman's bull, which was bred by Mr. Walker, near Leyburn. 'Masterman's bull, colour not known, got William Robson's bull, which was bred by Mr. Waistell of Great Burdon, near Darlington, and whose dam was Mr. Waistell's roan cow Barforth. Robson's bull, colour unknown, got Snowdon's bull. Mr. George Snowdon of Hurworth, received a present of six cows and a bull from his landlord Sir James Pennyman, who obtained his stock from Sir William St. Quintin of Scampston; but whether the present given to Mr. Snowdon by his landlord, consisted of the Dutch breed as imported by Sir William St. Quintin, or the improved cross with the old Teeswater, appears to me uncertain. Be that as it may, Snowdon's bull got the famed bull Hubback, colour yellow-red and white, bred by Mr. John Hunter of Hurworth, and calved in 1777. Hubback's dam was also bred by Mr. Hunter, and she was got by a bull of Mr. Banks of Hurworth; and his grand-dam was bought from Mr. Stephenson of Ketton. It was at one time asserted that Hubback's dam was descended from a Kyoel, but there is every reason to believe, from the testimony of people who knew Mr. Hunter's stock, that she was descended from the stock imported from Holland. Hubback, when a calf, was about to be purchased by Mr. Waistell, who refused to give the money sought for him, namely, 8*l*. Mr. Waistell asked the opinion of Mr. Robert Collings of Hubback, who expressed it in a manner which induced Mr. Waistell to close the bargain. Mr. Robert Collings also desired to purchase the young bull, so that both these gentlemen made a joint speculation of him. Both parties not being overjoyed with their purchase, sold him to Mr. Charles Collings of Barmpton, near Darlington, who soon saw the value of the little animal. For quality of flesh, hide, and hair, young Hubback could not be surpassed. Hubback's mother, when removed to good pasture, got so fat as to be unable to bread, and Hubback himself soon became useless as a bull; but so long as he could be used, he proved himself a sure stock getter. Mr. Waistell repented of selling Hubback to Mr. Charles Collings, for "when he began to cover, Mr. Charles Collings confined him to his own stock, and would not let him serve even one of Mr. Waistell's cows."\*

Beyond this period it is quite unnecessary to trace the pedigree of short-horns. "It has been remarked," says a writer, "that we have at present no superior horse on the turf, which does not boast the blood of the Godolphin Arabian" (by-

the-by the Godolphin was not an Arabian, as is commonly stated, but a Barb), "so it may be asserted that we have no superior short-horns which do not claim descent nearly or remotely from Hubback." Foljambe's dam was got by Hubback. Foljambe, white and a few red spots, calved in 1787, was the bull Mr. Charles Collings considered did the greatest good to his stock; and in him were the Barningham and Hubback bloods united. Mr. Charles Collings, by great judgment and perseverance, brought the short-horns to the greatest degree of perfection. It is rare that a man enjoys the fruits of his own labours, in a business which, in a great measure, he had created for himself, and which requires the greater part of a lifetime to bring to maturity; but in Mr. Charles Collings's case, it may be said, he was amply rewarded for his attention to breeding. His brother Robert went hand in hand with him, and participated in his success.

Take the following as an instance of their success. According to Mr. Bailey's Survey of Durham, Mr. Charles Collings's stock realized the following prices on 11th October 1810:—

|                  |               |               |              |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| 17 cows,         | for £2802 9 0 | highest price | 410 guineas. |
| 11 bulls,        | .. 2361 9 0   | .....         | 1000 ....    |
| 7 bull calves,   | 687 15 0      | .....         | 170 ....     |
| 7 heifers,       | .. 942 18 0   | .....         | 206 ....     |
| 5 heifer calves, | 321 6 0       | .....         | 106 ....     |

47 head sold for £7115 17 0

At that sale was sold the bull Comet, calved in 1804, and died in 1815, to Messrs Wootend, Trotter, Wright, and Charge, near Darlington, for 1000 guineas, and it is said that 1600 guineas were offered for him afterwards.

On the 29th of September 1818, Mr. Robert Collings's stock was sold off at the following prices:—

|                |                   |               |              |
|----------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 34 cows,       | for 4141 guineas; | highest price | 370 guineas. |
| 17 heifers,    | .. 1287 .....     | .....         | 331 ....     |
| 6 bulls,       | .. 1343 .....     | .....         | 621 ....     |
| 4 bull calves, | 713 .....         | .....         | 270 ....     |

61 head sold for 7484 guineas.

Till within the last thirty years, few short-horns were seen north of the Tweed; but now, the counties of Berwick, Roxburgh, and the northern portion of Northumberland, can exhibit as numerous and high bred stock as the counties of Durham and York. Amongst the breeders of short-horns in Scotland, the late Mr. Robertson of Ladykirk, near Coldstream, stood pre-eminent. Mr. Robertson spared neither trouble nor expense in procuring the best bulls from the most eminent breeders in England. His judgment of good stock was very acute. He furnished accommodation to stock, both in regard to housing and pasturage, of the first order. It was a delightful sight to contemplate his stock of cows, forty in number, grazing in the luxuriant old pastures around Ladykirk House. I have seen the grass as high as their fetlocks by the middle of April. It was also delightful to see the feeding stock in winter, in small comfortable hermsels, bedded plentifully with straw, and supplied with abundance of turnips. During the early period of his exertion in breeding stock, Mr. Robertson was averse to strangers inspecting his premises, and few breeders were permitted to send cows to Ladykirk. Latterly, however, when the stock was as highly bred as any as could be obtained from England, he was more liberal in the disposal and use of his stock. His bulls Signor, Sirius, white, Sultan, roan, Young

\* British Cattle, p. 229.



Sultan, Valentine, red, Romulus, white, which all proved themselves excellent stock getters, will not soon be forgotten. During the last few years of his life, Mr. Robertson evidently relaxed in his exertions to preserve his stock in the highest perfection. They shewed evident symptoms of too close breeding; they became tender, and wanted size; and accordingly at the sale at Ladykirk after his death, the breeding stock did not realize the prices they were entitled to according to the breeder's fame. The Messrs Comptons of Carham, in Northumberland, became eminent breeders. At the sale at Carham, some of the bulls fetched upwards of 100*l*, and the cows 60*l*. Mr. Thomas Smith of Grindon, also in Northumberland, some years ago possessed a very superior stock. His stock was generally of a larger bone than Mr. Robertson's, carried great weights, and were very hardy in constitution. Mr. Smith's heifers were eagerly sought after by breeders. His bull Duke, and some others which were never named, left much good stock. Of late years Mr. Smith has declined the trouble of an active breeder. His brother, Mr. William Smith of Shedlaw, possessed an equally good and similar sort of stock. The stock of the Messrs Smith was mostly red and white, while that of Mr. Robertson were mostly white and roan. Still keeping on the south side of the Tweed, Mr. Alexander Thompson of Scramernston and Learmonth has bred many superior bulls, such as young Lancaster, Larmonth, Midas, Mindurum, North Star. Mr. John Grey, Milfield Hill, near Wooler, has a large breeding stock. The bull Fitz-Duke was bred by him. Mr. William Jobson, Chillingham-Newton; Mr. Robert Jobson at Turvelaws; Mr. Hunt at Thornton; Mr. Alder at Hazlerigg; Mr. Curried who was at Brandon; Mr. Culley of Akel, who soon declined farming, but whose stock fetched a large sum; Mr. Culley of Fowbray; and Mr. James Chrisp at Doddington, are all eminent breeders; and the blood of their stock is so pure, that a breeder desirous of obtaining a good stock to commence with, or of crossing for improvement of what he may at present possess, cannot err in selecting from any of them.

On the north of the Tweed Mr. Robertson of Ladykirk took the lead as a breeder of short-horns. His stock was neat and compact, and possessed properties very similar to that of Mr. Charles Collings. No farmer could well compete with Mr. Robertson, for no farmer had the fine old pasture and accommodation equal to the lawn and steading of Ladykirk. It was pleasing to observe a large landed proprietor devoting these favourable advantages, and his time and talents, to the cultivation of stock. Mr. John Heriot of Ladykirk farm being near to, and on intimate terms with, his landlord Mr. Robertson, possesses the same stock. The late Mr. Abraham Wilson of Edington Mains, near Dunse, had a fine and large breeding stock; he and three other gentlemen hired the bull Diamond from Mr. Charles Collings, which obtained at the time the first premium at the show of the Tweedside Agricultural Association. His late brother Mr. James Wilson, and his nephew Mr. John Wilson, at present at Simprim, near Coldstream, possessed fine useful breeding stock. Few better stock could be seen anywhere than at Whitsome Hill, near Dunse, when the late Mr. George Brown had that farm. In his stock was united the Grindon and Ladykirk bloods. He bought heifers from Mr. Smith, which were served with Mr. Robertson's bulls; a privilege which none but Mr. Heriot possessed, beside Mr. Brown. Mr. Robertson

was so pleased to observe Mr. Brown's superior farming, that he offered him gratuitously the service of his best bulls. Mr. Jopling of Castletlaw, near Coldstream, has a fine breeding stock. The late Mr. Hogarth of Bailieknow, near Kelso, was long an eminent breeder, and purchased some of Mr. Robertson's best bulls. The short-horns have so spread over the Border counties of Scotland, that every farmer, how small soever his possession, has now stock of a superior order. The show of the very superior stock at the Highland Society's show at Kelso in 1832, demonstrated in a decisive manner the superior quality of this species of stock in the Borders.

In East Lothian, which is not a breeding county, the Marquis of Tweeddale, at Yester, and Mr. Bogue of Limplum, have devoted much attention to the breeding of short-horns. But the most enterprising breeder in this county was Mr. John Rennie, when at Linton. He did more than any other person to spread fine stock throughout Scotland. He purchased all the finest breeding and feeding stock he could find, and disposed of them every year, by public auction, at Phantassie. At these sales, 22,000*l*. have been received in one day. He purchased largely from the stocks of Mr. Robertson and Mr. Mason of Chilton. His very superb lot of breeding cows, as they grazed in the fine grass park in front of Phantassie House, was the admiration of every one who passed that way.

The Duke of Buccleugh has a superior stock at Dalkeith Palace. His Grace purchases the finest heifers and bulls that can be had in England, his principal object being to stimulate his tenantry to the like exertion.

In Fife General Simson led the way. He obtained most of his stock from the Messrs. Collings, and although they were all sold off at the General's death, they remain in the county to disseminate the breed. Mr. Boswell of Balmuto bestowed great attention to breeding short-horns. Part of his stock was obtained from Northumberland. Having removed from Balmuto to Kingcausie, near Aberdeen, he there pursues the crossing system with the short-horn bull and Aberdeenshire cow. Mr. Thomson of Pusk, and Mr. Dudgeon of Falkland Wood, with some others, have tried the short-horns; but this breed, though well adapted to Fife, is not so widely dispersed in it as they deserve, much to the loss of the farmers themselves.

Mr. Mowbray of Cambus, a distiller in Clackmannanshire, is a very spirited breeder of short-horns, and makes every exertion to spread the breed through the country. He showed some superior stock at the Highland Society's Show at Stirling in 1833. Mr. Ritchie of Newhouse, near Alloa, purchased the white bull Romulus, bred by Mr. Robertson, from Mr. Rennie, and which obtained the first premium, in 1827, at one of the Highland Society's Shows at Edinburgh. Mr. Aitchison, of St. Clement's Wells, another distiller, purchased some good animals from Mr. Rennie's stock.

The short-horns are pushing their way through Perthshire; Mr. Richmond of Monedie has shown some good specimens of them. Lord Kinnaird at Rossie Priory has purchased bulls from the present Earl Spencer for the use of his tenants. Mr. James Hunter of Monorgan, in the Carse of Gowrie, has paid considerable attention to the breed; and, not far from him, Mr. Patrick Kinnear of Lochton and Littleton has shown good

specimens of stock. These gentlemen, and Mr. Hunter of Glencarse, purchased the red and white bull Linton from Mr. Rennie.

In Forfarshire the short-horns first took footing near Coupar-Angus. Mr. David Inches of Cardean has shown many excellent specimens. He derived his stock from the Messrs Wilson of Edington Mains and Simprim, in Berwickshire. Mr. Andrew Dalgairns of Ingliston, a very extensive feeder, has now got a considerable number of them; and so have his neighbours Mr. Anderson of Newton and Mr. Hood of Hatton. Mr. Stephens late of Balmadies was among the first to introduce short-horns in the eastern district of Forfarshire. His stock was obtained from Mr. Brown of Whitesome Hill, in Berwickshire; and his red and white bull, named Brown in honour of the breeder, was admired by every one who saw him, having proved himself for eight years an excellent and sure stock getter. He was got by Mr. Robertson's red and white bull Valentine, out of a cow descended from the stock of Mr. Mason of Chilton, and crossed with the stock of Mr. Smith of Grindon. At the sale of Mr. Stephens' stock in 1830, Mr. Rennie of Kinblethmont Farm, Mr. Hood of Hatton, Mr. Cobb of Mains, were purchasers as breeders. Mr. James Rennie of Kinblethmont Farm, near Arbroath, followed Mr. Stephens' example, and has now a large breeding stock. Mr. William Mustard of Fithies, who is a famous breeder of Angus cattle, also tried the short-horns, as well as his brother Mr. James Mustard of Leuchlands, near Brechin. The late Mr. Arkley of Dunninald, near Montrose, had also a large breeding stock of short-horns at an early date. He obtained them principally from Mr. Mason of Chilton. The stock was sold after his death and distributed through the county. Mr. William Cobb of Mains, near Dundee, has some good short-horns; and the late Mr. Anderson of Carlungie, near Arbroath, possessed some good stock.

In Kincardineshire, Mr. Taylor of Kirtonhill kept a stock of short-horns. He latterly declined farming, but part of the stock still remains with the present farmer, who took his farm. But Captain Barclay Alardice of Ury has excelled all other breeders of short-horns to the north of the Frith of Forth. He purchased many bulls from Mr. John Rennie and others, and can now show as high bred and good skinned stock, and of as strong a constitution, as any breeder. His success may convince any one that short-horns will thrive admirably in Scotland, and will pay better than any other stock. Captain Barclay has a stock of thirty cows, the produce of which he sells annually as breeding stock, which realize good prices; and he ships fine heavy steers by steam to London. He has proved himself one of the most spirited breeders and farmers in Scotland.

The late show of the Highland Society in Aberdeen in 1834, where sixteen short-horn bulls were shown, proves the wide dissemination of the breed, even in that northern latitude. They have also found their way to the county of Caithness, whither the late Mr. Thomson of Laws and Mr. John Wilson of Simprim, in Berwickshire, have sent bulls to Mr. Horne of Stirkoke.

This hasty enumeration, for I could not run the risk of tiring the patience of my readers by entering into the particulars of every breeder's stock, shows how the short-horns are spreading themselves over the face of the country. Such an im-

portant result could only have occurred from a conviction of the superior properties of this breed; for, perhaps, no breed of cattle has had to encounter in so great a degree unmerited obloquy, and dogged prejudice, as it has had north of the Forth. Let any man who is well acquainted with the profitable properties of short-horns recommend them to a north country farmer, and he will be instantly met with this plausible but disparaging remark, "They may be very well adapted to your fine climate in the south country, but they could not thrive here on our poor meat, like our own black cattle." To attempt to prove the fallacy of this assertion, for it is nothing else, by an appeal to facts established by the experience of south country breeders, would be of no avail, for dogmatic assertion overrules every argument. But now that the experiment of breeding them has been tried before their very faces, in their own country, and alongside their own favourite breeds; and that it has been proved beyond contradiction that they will get fatter on the same keep, and will endure quite well the ordinary climate of the plains in Scotland, dogmatists dare not now be so bold. Strange that so much proof is requisite to convince men to enhance their own interest, by adopting that breed which, under similar circumstances, would leave them the larger profit. No doubt, short-horns require adequate food and requisite attention; but what superior thing can be obtained without corresponding trouble? I can say, however, that I have seen short-horns bred and fed on all sorts of land, and sometimes in high districts, and indifferent climate, and have known them do well in all situations. Nay, some of the farmers in high districts in the south of Scotland, where they are now kept, not unfrequently beat their neighbours in competition, who are in lower situations and finer climate. In any situation, two-year olds will fetch from 15*l* to 20*l* a-piece, and three-year olds from 20*l* to 25*l*. Can such prices be obtained in the northern counties for any other breed of cattle? And if not, why require farther inducement to cultivate the more profitable breed of the short-horns? Nor are such prices obtained through extravagant feeding. Only the ordinary produce of the farm, such as grass, turnips, straw, and potatoes are given; and unless hay is very cheap and abundant, it is never applied to the feeding of cattle. But as 20*l* a-piece for two-year olds is a large return, one-half of which time the cattle may be said to be calves, the short-horns would pay even for extraordinary feeding. The truth is, cattle ought to be kept at a feeding pace throughout the whole time the breeder has them in his possession. It is both loss of time and labour, and a great risk of life, to keep cattle hanging on in a mere growing condition. The sooner they are brought to maturity the sooner is the return of cattle effected, the larger the profit realized, and the less risk of life incurred. In the ordinary circumstances of life, a person would feel obliged by being made acquainted with advantageous means of obtaining profit; but in the breeding and feeding of cattle some stronger inducements, it seems, must be superadded!

The rage for breeding short-horns has been much encouraged by the institution of agricultural societies for the distribution of high premiums to successful competitors. Two such societies were formed many years ago on the Borders, one, The Tweedside Agricultural Society, which held its meetings twice a-year at Coldstream; the other, The Border Agricultural Association, which met as



frequently at Kelso. Every nobleman, gentleman and farmer in the districts around contributed to the support of these societies. At length an amicable union of interests was made by them under the title of the Border Union Agricultural Association, which meets alternately at Coldstream and Kelso. 100*l.* are annually given for the best five bulls, and an exhibition of forty bulls for competition is no uncommon sight at these shows. Some years ago the breeders south of the Tweed used to carry off most of the prizes; but now the breeders north of that celebrated river, draw off their fair share of prizes, showing the progressive improvement in this branch of agricultural industry. Breeders in Scotland have now greater reason than ever to drink "Both sides of the Tweed." Similar societies exist in the counties of East Lothian, Fife, Perth, Angus, Kincardine, and Aberdeen, by whom the encouragement of short-horn stock is laudably and perseveringly kept in view. But all these local societies are mere auxiliaries in their exertions to the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, a society which now enrolls, as members, 2,000 of the most influential noblemen and gentlemen, and the most experienced farmers, in the country, and which possesses the means of distributing upwards of 2,200*l.* a-year in premiums for the promotion of agriculture. The Highland Society, mindful of local improvements, bestows a portion of its premiums, in conjunction with local societies, for the improvement of the best breeds of cattle and sheep throughout the country. In magnitude and influence no such society ever existed before in any country. It is a society worthy of the high character which Scottish agriculture has acquired throughout the world.

The preservation of the valuable breed of short-horns is a consideration of paramount importance; and, fortunately, it is in the power of breeders themselves to secure it. It consists entirely in maintaining the *purity of blood in vigour*. This desirable end is best secured by avoiding, on the one hand, the evil of breeding in-and-in, that is, the union of too close relationship in blood, and, on the other, too violent a cross. A strong mark of the purity of blood being in vigour is the circumstance of like producing its like; and no breed will in this respect incur so little disappointment to the breeder as short-horns, after a proper selection of the dam and sire.

The evil of breeding in-and-in, or, in other words, producing too great refinement of tone, is manifested in the first instance by a tenderness of constitution; the animals not being able to withstand the extremes of heat and cold, rain and drought. If the evil is prolonged through several generations, the forms of the animals become affected, the bone becomes very small, the neck droops, the skin of the head becomes tight and scantily covered with hair, the expression of the eye indicates extreme sensibility, the hair on the body becomes thin and short, and the skin as thin as paper; the *points* continue good, and predisposition to fatness increases, but the whole carcass becomes much diminished in size, though retaining its plumpness and beautiful symmetry. The evil, however, does not terminate in the production of these symptoms. Internal diseases ensue, such as disorganization of the liver, or rot, polypi in the trachea, or clyers, malformation of the bones of the neck and legs, and general deformity.

A remarkable instance of the evils of breeding in-and-in may have been observed in Mr. Robert-

son's stock during his latter days, when he relinquished the active duties of a breeder. A decline in the constitution might have been observed in the white bull Romulus, bred by Mr. Robertson, and shown by Mr. John Rennie at the Highland Society Show in Edinburgh in 1827. He exhibited evident symptoms of delicacy, and was in very poor condition, owing most probably to having caught cold some time before the show. The judges, nevertheless, awarded him the first prize, because he was decidedly the bull which showed the purest blood on the ground. In this award they displayed right judgment, and proved they were judges in the best acceptance of the term. The bull certainly did not at the time show to the best advantage. Few would have supposed he was from Mr. Robertson's celebrated stock, or had been brought up on the fine pastures of Ladykirk. Still as he was, he showed superior *points* of high breeding to any bull that was exhibited against him. He was the finest toucher I ever put my hands on. Afterwards, when recovered from the cold, he showed himself a very superior animal in appearance. When full of beef, it was difficult to find a bull with so many fine *points*. Many people censured the decision of the judges, solely on account of the low condition of the animal, and of his small size; and this opinion was well touched off in a very humorous manner by the shepherd, in the *Noctes in Blackwood's Magazine* for April 1828. After all, it was evident his constitution had become tender by two near breeding, for although afterwards he regained condition, he died of consumption in the hands of Mr. Ritchie, the gentleman formerly alluded to, who bought him. Viewing the decision of the judges in this light, it is questionable whether they should not rather have selected a bull for the premium of hardier constitution, of which there were several in the show.

It is true that both Mr. Bakewell and the Messrs. Collings bred much in-and-in. Such a practice may be excusable in those who are attempting to establish a particular kind of stock, as by that means it will be sooner brought to maturity. But the same license cannot with propriety be taken by breeders who have abundance of well-bred stock within their reach from which to select their breeding stock. The invariably injurious tendency of breeding in-and-in proves that Nature herself places a barrier against abuse in breeding.

The practice of breeding in-and-in leads me to remark on the subject of judging of large and small bulls. I have had frequent opportunities of observing that premiums, at local shows, are given by the judges to *large* bulls. This I conceive a great mistake. In my opinion, the size of a bull ought to be considered of secondary importance in judging of him as a breeding animal. That which shows the greatest number of good *points* ought to be chosen, and these should be counted by the judges. One bull may possess one point better than another; but that one possessing the greatest number of points ought to be preferred, particularly among a competition of aged bulls. Some young bulls, it is true, do not show their points till they are one, or even two years old, whilst others show them from the first. When all the points are not visible on a young bull, he must be partly judged of by his pedigree. If the blood is well descended, free from intermixture, and not too nearly related in blood on both sides, then a young bull may be safely judged of by his pedigree. The points of well-bred young bulls improve as

they advance in years. I recollect of a remark which was made by an eminent breeder of short-horns, the late Mr. Abraham Wilson of Edington Mains, in Berwickshire, in regard to this very subject. He once had a yearling bull, which showed rather indifferently as to points, and was dissuaded to breed from him. He remarked, that knowing his blood, he should breed from him, though he were crooked as an Z. He did so, and obtained some most excellent stock from him, and the bull improved very much in his points as he advanced in years.

Purity of blood, then, being the criterion by which to judge of bulls, the size is a matter of little importance. Fine quality is of greater value than size. Short legs are generally indicative of fine quality; and it seldom happens that large size is united with fine quality. Where the two properties are found to be united, I should certainly prefer the large size; but without knowing the pedigree, a mistake is more likely to be committed by using a large than a small bull. The stock of the most celebrated breeders consisted of bulls of small size. Mr. Robertson's bulls were small, and so were those of the Messrs. Collings. In particular, Mr. Charles Colling's bull Diamond, which obtained the first prize at the show at Coldstream, and was purchased by Mr. Abraham Wilson and three others, for 150 guineas, was a small animal; but he possessed the most beautiful symmetry and points of any bull I ever saw. He was, in fact, a perfect model of a short-horn bull. His stock was very like himself. A great many of them are still in Berwickshire, and are very much admired. They get soon ripe, and never fail to fetch the highest price per stone in the market, the beef being of the finest quality. I have known two-year olds got by this bull fetch 25*l* to slaughter. I was the more assured of the propriety of attending to quality more than to size, by what I witnessed at Smithfield. On getting acquainted with one of the principal salesmen, who was a very frank man, I was desirous to obtain as much information from him as possible regarding the state of the market. He stated to me at the first this startling proposition, that "twenty stones of beef were not worth 20*s* that day." This appeared to me a strange remark, a perfect conundrum, and I begged an explanation. That day's market, he explained, was short of fine quality, but was well supplied with inferior beef. For an ox of 80 stones, 8*l*b to the stone, of fine quality, he could obtain 20*l*, whereas for one of 100 stones, of inferior quality, he could procure no more; so that twenty stones of beef were that day given away for nothing. These remarks reminded me of the propriety of the breeding toast, in reference to Smithfield, "Small in size and great in value." The bull Comet was rather a short-legged animal, but he had beautiful symmetry, exquisite points, and great substance. He was a bull of the finest quality.

The selection of bulls for breeding should not be made at random. Purity of blood is of course the first consideration. Every breeder should be able to trace the pedigree of his stock, and should keep a book for the express purpose of entering his stock as they are bred, in the manner that breeders of race-horses do. With such a reference young bulls, which do not show all their points, might be bought and sold in perfect and mutual confidence. Quality of flesh is the next consideration. This property is generally, though not invariably, associated with a small size, and particularly with a shortness of the legs. Quality and

blood, however, being the same, I would always prefer a large bull. Where these properties are not very apparent, or only one, not both present, the small size will incur the lesser risk of breeding from impure blood. A good touch is a very desirable point for early maturity. Some bulls show many good points, but want the fine touch. This was the case with the bull bred by Mr. John Rennie, and shown by Mr. Somerville at the Highland Society's shows in Edinburgh, at the same time with Romulus. His defects were in not having fine touch, and having thin hair. A thick soft covering of hair is an excellent property in a bull. It enables the stock to withstand the vicissitudes of the season in any situation. At one time thin silky skins were the vogue, but breeders afterwards found that a good covering of hair protects the animals from many dangers of climate and disease. At the same show I exhibited the red bull Pizarro, bred by Mr. Hunt of Thorington, in Northumberland, of the best coat of hair I ever saw on a short-horn, and having a rather thick, but mellow hide. The coat was like dreadnought, and the hair being set on thick, like down, it was impossible for cold or rain to penetrate it. This bull had been previously hired for two years by Mr. James Wilson of Simprim, in Berwickshire. Mr. Wilson had another bull at the same time, with quite a different kind of coat. The calves of both were kept together, and though both were equally well bred, those got by the red bull with the thick coat stood out in the straw yard in stormy weather, and eat the turnips quite heartily; whereas the calves of the other could not. This bull obtained a premium at Kelso, and another at Haddington, beating Mr. Somerville's bull, then in possession of Mr. Bogue of Linplum. I sold the bull Pizarro to Mr. Beattie of Oakwood, Selkirkshire, who used him for seven years, and who has obtained much hardy good stock from him. A heifer, his full sister, also gained a sweepstakes at Kelso. A lot of young heifers, which Captain Barclay disposed of, by auction, at Edinburgh, in autumn 1834, possessed fine thick coats, judiciously suitable to the climate of Scotland. Breeders of short-horns in Scotland should keep this point particularly in view in selecting their breeding stock, whether male or female.

All the considerations enumerated are particularly suitable to breeders who keep their stock to fatten, and especially for early maturity. To breed for the grazier is to pursue a somewhat different object. Graziers generally prefer cattle which stand high on the legs. They conceive they look better in a crowded or large market. Although, as a grazier, I would always prefer to purchase short-legged compact animals for feeding, still that is not the general rule with graziers. Butchers, on the other hand, look only to quality, especially in Smithfield, regardless of the length or shortness of the legs; but fine quality is more frequently associated with short than with long legs.

In judging of cows I should make some modifications of the rules recommended for bulls. They should be always large, having capacious parts to support the calf to a large size, and to admit its egress freely at the period of calving. Purity of blood, of course, must be attended to as the first consideration; but, in order to obtain a well-bred large cow to breed from, I would overlook a point or two in the symmetry or quality. As in the case with bulls, small cows will generally show fine symmetry, yet I would deviate a little on the score



of points, which are every thing to a bull, to obtain a large capacious cow, which generally carries a strong healthy calf.

It has been frequently asserted, that short-horn cows are bad milkers, indeed that no kind of cattle are so deficient in milk. Those who say so do not know the still greater deficiencies of the Herefords, a species of cattle quite unknown in Scotland. The higher bred stocks of the Messrs. Collings, Mr. Mason, and Mr. Robertson, yielded little milk. Indeed, Mr. Robertson's cows could not supply milk sufficient for their own calves, at least not in the quantity which it was desired by him they should receive. Cows were kept for the purpose of supplying the deficiency of milk of the high-bred cows. But this deficiency of milk did not altogether proceed from the circumstance of the cows being of the short-horn breed : because those eminent breeders devoted their whole attention to the development of flesh, and not at all to the development of milk. Had the flesh been neglected as much as the milk, and the property of giving milk as much cherished as the development of flesh, their short-horn cows would have been deep milkers. As it is, the generality of short-horn cows are not bad milkers. Indeed, it is not to be doubted, that where the general secreting powers of the animal system have been increased, as it has been in that of the short-horns, the power of secreting milk will be increased with the power of secreting flesh and fat ; all that seems requisite, is to encourage the power of that secretion, which for the time is most wanted. I have no doubt that it is completely in the power of the breeders of short-horns to make them good milkers. It would be to desire an impossibility, to desire the full development of flesh, fat, and milk, at the same time ; but there is no absurdity in desiring a large secretion of flesh and fat at one time, and a large secretion of milk at another, from the same cow. Accordingly, this is the very character which has been acquired by short-horn cows. They will yield from six to sixteen quarts a-day throughout the season ; and they are so constant milkers, that they seldom remain dry above six weeks or two months before the time of calving. I know a Scotch breeder who had a short-horn cow which gave fifteen quarts a-day during the flush of the grass in summer, and never went dry for two seasons. An attempt was made to dry her about six weeks before the period of calving, but it was thought that the udder would be injured to force it to get dry, when there was evidently no effort on the part of nature to effect it. In this manner she continued to give milk for two years, till she calved the second year, at which time the udder was attacked with inflammation, and she died. Many instances of very constant milking, in short-horn cows have come under my notice, but the practice of the owners of public dairies in towns, were there no other proofs, would prove the milking powers of short-horn cows. They prefer them as the greatest and most steady milkers ; and it is now difficult to see cows of any breeds but short-horns, or crosses with them, in these dairies. In London, Edinburgh, and Liverpool, fine short-horn cows may be seen at the public dairies. They are bought by the milkmen whenever they come of age, that is, about five or six years old. They give milk till they attain the age of eight or nine, and are then fed off fat for the butcher. These cows can be fed off fat. This property, and that of milking, prove clearly, that short-horns possess

both in a remarkable degree. They do not, it is true, possess both in an eminent degree at the same time ; but they exhibit either property separately when it is desired. They thus give a return in flesh for part of their original high price, whilst they remunerate their owners in the mean time with an abundance of milk for their food.

Short-horn calves are seldom fed for the butcher ; but when they are, they exhibit in a remarkable degree the disposition to early maturity. Their docile temper inspires confidence in man, and secures them exemption from ill treatment. They take their food with avidity at any time it is offered them, while they lie at ease and in contentment till the period of feeding again arrives. In this manner they gain condition without trouble to themselves or their owners, till in about eight weeks they will acquire the weight of 40lb per qr. The celerity of acquiring flesh and fat in short-horns, is strikingly exemplified in the calf. Suppose a calf weighs 12lb per qr when calved, in eight weeks it will acquire 112lb, or one stone of 14lb per week ; and when it attains to 80 stones in two years, it acquires on the average three quarters of a stone per week. But short-horns will lay on a stone per week even in the second year.

Thus at all ages short-horn cattle will realize a handsome profit, for the great care and good food liberally bestowed on them.

#### THE METHOD FOLLOWED IN INDIA OF CASTRATING TURNIPS AND CARROTS, TO MAKE THEM YIELD A GOOD SEED.

Dig the ground and work it well, and form it into any number of beds that may be required, in the same manner that seed-beds are usually prepared with manure, and they may then be considered ready for the reception of the castrated plants.

TO MAKE THE COMPOSITION.—Take equal proportions of buffalo and hog's dung, as fresh as can be procured, and of red earth, mix these all together, with a sufficient quantity of water to make the whole the consistence of honey ; to a quantity of this mixture, equal to about five quarts, add three drams by weight of asacitida, (called hingue in the bazaar,) previously dissolved in a small quantity of water, by rubbing them together. When all these substances are properly combined, the composition is then ready for use.

The turnips and carrots selected for the operation of castration, should be fresh and succulent, and of the largest kind that can easily be obtained, but must be more than a quarter or one-third grown ; the tops should be removed, leaving about 8 or 9 inches from the turnip or carrot upwards, and a little of the bottom or top root must be cut straight off likewise, allowing nearly the whole of the eating part to remain, from the bottom of which nearly to the top or junction of the stalk, must be made two incisions across each other, entirely through the body of the plant, and dividing it into four quarters ; they must now be dipped and moved about in the composition, which is ready prepared in a chatty, and all except the stalks are to be covered by it ; the composition must likewise be made to penetrate and fill the incisions, and the plants are then to be placed in the beds at the distance of 15 inches from each other ; the whole of the part covered by the composition is to be below the surface of the ground, and they are then to be watered—the watering must be repeated every three days until they shall have taken root

and fresh tops make their appearance, when once every four days will be sufficient; and they require to be weeded the same as any other esculent; the fresh tops soon become large, strong, and luxuriant, and the seed they produce will be of a good and vigorous kind.

### CHOICE OF SEED.

(FROM SINCLAIR.)

Cultivators often commit very serious blunders in the choice of seed; yet by attention to this object, they might frequently add considerably to the quantity of the produce, and to the intrinsic value of the crop.

By some, the hazardous rule, of taking the worst grain for seed, has been recommended; but it is a much safer system, unless in cases of real necessity, to use none but what is fully ripened, for such seed is less affected by injurious local circumstances, or unfavourable seasons. The ripest seed may be obtained by beating, or slightly thrashing the sheaves. The shape of the seed merits attention, for though size or magnitude is generally owing to the soil in which it has been grown, yet it is likewise a sign of its ripeness. In regard to figure, much depends upon the climate, for warm and early situations produce round grain; whereas a long figure denotes the reverse. Colour is a popular mark in some cases, but is not itself of importance. It is prudent, however, to raise that sort which is most suitable to the market in regard to colour, and in other respects. Sometimes seed, apparently quite sound, is incapable of producing plants. This should be ascertained, by sowing a certain number, and seeing how they spring.

On the whole, though blighted grain will often vegetate, and though it is possible, that in rich soils and in very favourable seasons, it may produce even an abundant harvest, yet the prudent farmer, will not rely upon the chance of such an event, as a practice on which he ought to depend, more especially when his crops are sown in winter, or early in spring, and consequently are exposed to much severity of the weather.

Care also must be taken that the seed has not suffered injury by being bruised, or having imperfect lobes, or broken husks, and that there is no risk of sterility from age.

Where domestic seed is relied on, it is proper to change the seed from the heavier, to the lighter parts of the farm, and *vice versa*, if there be much difference. On clay farms in general, domestic seed may be safely used for some time; but with a view to prevent degeneracy, it is an excellent practice to select from the growing crops, the ears which are the soonest ripe, and which are of the plumpest quality; by this means, those husbandmen who devote themselves in a peculiar manner to this object, can not only supply themselves, but can always command a much higher price than others, by selling the grain raised upon their farms for seed either among their neighbours, or in other districts.

### CHANGE OF SEED.

A change of seed, being founded on rational principles, is in general to be recommended. Every species of grain has a climate in which it flourishes, and a soil in which it never degenerates; for instance in Sicily, where wheat is said to grow naturally, the seed that drops from the mother-plant, arrives at per-

fection, though neither the seed nor the soil be changed. But as wheat is not a native production of Britain, it has here a great tendency to degenerate, more especially in the northern districts; and it degenerates rapidly, if the seed be sown, year after year, in the neighbourhood where it was produced. Nor is it sufficient that the seed be procured from a different field; it ought also to be taken from a different soil, and a different atmosphere.

Besides preventing a degeneracy in the quality of the grain, a judicious change of seed, has a tendency to effect an earlier maturity in the crop; an object, in many cases, of the greatest moment. It is well known that a change of constitution in plants, originating from the situation in which they have been placed, is commonly transmitted to their offspring. Plants propagated from seed produced in a warm sandy soil, will therefore grow quickly, in whatever soil the seed is sown; and plants from seed produced in a cold stiff soil, are late of growing, even in a warm soil. Hence the advantage of changing seed from a warm to a cold soil; for though seed from a warm soil, will not grow so fast in a cold, as in a warm soil, it will, however, always grow more quickly than seed from a cold soil.\* The quantity also will be increased. From an experiment made by the celebrated Lord Kames, it would appear, that the produce of changed seed, exceeds that of old seed, at the rate of nearly twenty-six per cent. The farmer however, ought not to alter his seed, while it gives him fair and reasonable satisfaction, unless he has every reason to be convinced, that better can be obtained by a change.

It is proper to add, that in two cases it has been found expedient to change the seed from an inferior to a superior climate. In Flanders, where great quantities of flax are grown, the seed must be brought from the Baltic, otherwise the crop will be deficient. In case of potatoes also, seed is imported from an inferior climate, as the most likely means of preventing the disease called the *curl*. It has fortunately, however, been discovered, that by taking up potatoes for seed early, or sowing them so late that they cannot reach maturity, the same object may be obtained.

Besides changing seed, crossing different varieties has been found of use. Mr. Knight has not only raised new varieties of apples, and of the garden pea, but has likewise tried experiments with crossing wheat, which he has effected by sowing the different kinds together. This was attended with a most extraordinary result; for when, in the year 1796, almost the whole crops of corn in the island were blighted, the varieties obtained by crossing, alone escaped, though sown in different soils, and in very different situations.

### QUANTITY OF SEED.

It is hardly to be credited, how little this branch of the inquiry is attended to, or understood, in several districts. In some the quantity of seed sown is enor-

\* Gentleman Farmer, p. 330—To ascertain these points, an intelligent farmer in the Lothians, sowed English seed wheats from London, with some of his own, and it was always earlier by several days. He has likewise tried sowing seed wheat equal in quality to his own, from a situation where the climate produces crops ten days later than the farm he occupies, and it was nearly a week later than his own seed sown at the same time.—Husbandry of Scotland, vol. i. p. 355.



mous, as a quarter of oats or eight bushels per acre. In others, they sow the same quantity of wheat in all seasons of the year, without paying much regard to the time of sowing; though two or three bushels of seed sown in August or September, are equal to four bushels and upwards, sown in the latter end of November, or in spring. Thick sowing must occasion a great deficiency in early sown wheats, in weak and shallow soils; for though they may be in heart sufficient to push a number of plants through the winter and spring, yet the vigour of the soil is spent in the earlier stages of vegetation; the straw is slender and scanty, and the ears abridged of half their load.

### ACUTE RHEUMATISM.

BY MR. THOMPSON, LEITH.

(From the *Veterinarian*.)

I have had fourteen cases of this disease in Mr. Bannerman's stables. The muscles of the shoulders and arms were generally the parts affected: the cure was a good bleeding from the jugular, and a sharp purge, and was effected in a few days.

One of these cases was uncommonly severe. The disease was in the back and loins. The horse brought forward his hind legs under his flanks, roached his back, and drew up his flanks with a convulsive twitch, accompanied by a piteous groan, almost every five minutes.

The sympathetic fever was alarming; the pulse was 90; and there was obstinate constipation of the bowels.

The horse literally roared aloud if any one attempted to shift him in the stall, and groaned incessantly when lying.

He was bled almost to fainting; three moderate doses of aloes were given in the course of two days, accompanied by small portions of hellebore. Injections were administered, and warm fomentations were frequently applied to the back and loins.

On the third day the physic operated briskly, accompanied by considerable nausea and reduction of the pulse. From that time the animal gradually recovered, contrary to the expectation of the proprietor, who had previously lost, by apparently the same complaint, two horses, each of them worth £40.

These horses are well fed, and always in good condition, but are at times worked without mercy, which, perhaps, makes them so liable to such attacks.

**EAGLE'S NEST.**—Whilst a herd was tending his sheep on the Pentland hills a few days ago, he found in the cavity of a rock a nest of that rare bird the golden eagle. The nest was composed of a few sticks rudely thrown together, without the least appearance of regularity. At the time it was discovered the eagles were absent, but they very soon made their appearance, screaming dreadfully. Upon looking into the nest there were found in it two eaglets and an addled egg. The provisions for the eaglets which were in the nest were two young rabbits, part of a third, a partridge, and, strange to say, a part of a salmon. On the rock round about the nest there were a great quantity of bones, feathers, &c.—*Caledonian Mercury*.

**FALCONRY AMONG THE ANCIENTS.**—An early writer on this subject gives us the following anecdote:—"I once had (says he) an excellent oppor-

tunity of seeing this sport near Nazareth, in Galilee. An Arab, mounting a swift courser, held the falcon on his hand, as huntsmen commonly do. When we espied the animal on the top of a mountain, he let loose the falcon, which flew in a direct line, like an arrow, and attacked the antelope, fixing the talons of one of his feet into its cheeks, and those of the other into its throat, extending his wings obliquely over the animal; spreading one towards one of his ears, and the other to the opposite hip. The creature, thus attacked, made a leap twice the height of a man, and freed himself from the falcon; but, being wounded, and losing both its strength and speed, it was again attacked by the bird, which fixed the talons of both his feet into its throat, and held it fast, till the huntsman coming up, took it alive, and cut its throat. The falcon was allowed to drink the blood, as a reward for his labour; and a young falcon, which was learning, was likewise put to the throat. By this means the young birds are taught to fix their talons in the throat of the animal, as the properest part; for, should the falcon fix upon the creature's hip, or some other part of the body, the huntsman would not only lose his game, but his falcon too; for the beast, roused by the wound, which could not prove mortal, would run to the deserts and the tops of the mountains, whither its enemy, keeping its hold, would be obliged to follow, and being separated from its master must of course perish."

### AGE OF A PIG, AS CALCULATED BY HIS TEETH.

The calculation of the age of the pig, as evidenced by the teeth, has not yet been pushed beyond three years; it has stopped at the protrusion of the adult middle teeth of the lower jaw.

At three or four months, the young pig is provided with all his incisive milk teeth, as well as the tushes; and the successive replacement of these teeth is the only sure guide to the knowledge of his age.

**FROM SIX TO TEN MONTHS.**—The shedding and replacement of the corner teeth—the change of the upper corner teeth preceding that of the lower ones by two or three months; the milk tushes give place to the permanent ones.

**FROM TWENTY MONTHS TO TWO YEARS.**—The change of the pincers in both jaws, and the formation of a black circle at the base of the tushes.

**FROM TWO AND A HALF TO THREE YEARS.**—The protrusion of the adult middle teeth in both jaws; the pincers are black, shagrin'd, and a little rounded at the extremity. After three years, the age is appreciated by the growth of the tushes, which continue to increase in length and thickness as long as the animal lives. Between three and four years, the upper tushes begin to raise the lip, and at five years' old they protrude through the lips. At six years of age the tushes of the lower jaw shew themselves out of the mouth, and begin to turn in a somewhat spiral form. At this period, also, the eyebrows become wrinkled, and the lateral eminences of the forehead, caused by the roots of the tushes of the upper jaw, become more projecting. After seven years, the eyebrows become grey, and the bone of the superior arch of the orbit is so much more prominent, that the eyes appear to be hollow and sunk in the head. These alterations of the face, which are continually increasing, concur, with the length of the tushes and the largeness of the snout, to give to the head of the animal a hideous aspect.

## OBSERVATIONS ON THE NATIVE BREED OF IRISH CATTLE.

*(From the Irish Farmer's Magazine.)*

It would be most extraordinary if in a country like Ireland, which contains so great an extent of rich and grassy land, its native cattle were not in many respects valuable, and this is no doubt the case in those parts of the country, where attention has been paid to the breeding and rearing of those animals, and where the soil and climate are suited to their growth and thriftiness. That some of their properties, however, may be improved by a judicious cross with a more valuable breed, there is no doubt; but still any further attempt at improvement must be slow, unless a better system be adopted in Ireland in the rearing of calves, and their treatment afterwards, than is usually practised. In the Queen's County, about 20 years since, the Leicestershire cattle were introduced by Sir H. Parnell, and further improvements were made by the late Mr. Stubbers and Mr. Doyne, but in consequence of the calves bred from these stocks being poorly reared, and only wintered with oat or barley straw, the breed annually degenerated, and the form alone is the only feature now which distinguishes their progeny from the native IRISH breed:—their size and original properties of quick feeding and richness of milk having much degenerated. In the corn districts of Ireland, especially, this is to be particularly noticed, and is in a great measure attributable to the deficiency of grass land on tillage farms, which obliges the farmer, through mismanagement, to stint his cows in pasturage, and to economize the produce of milk by taking a portion of it for the use of his own family, which more properly should be given to the animals to be reared. In lieu of this an unnatural mess of boiled linseed and hay water is substituted: the result of which is, that the calves thus treated either die before they are reared, or are carried off by disease before the following winter; and even should they live, are not worth half so much when selling out, as could be obtained for well reared calves. It is therefore evident there is no economy in the system; and it can only be from ignorance or necessity it is adopted.

In making these observations we do not consider them applicable to our regular cattle breeders, but to a very large proportion of small farmers in Ireland who attempt to economize in this way. We shall, however, suggest a better system, which will prove really economical without risking the health or valuable qualities of the animals to be reared—it is this—to grow a regular succession of artificial green food, by which a sufficient number of cows can be well supported even on farms entirely under tillage, and by which an abundance of milk will be obtained, not only for feeding calves well, but for the support of the farmer and his family. Lucerne, scarlet trefoil, and vetches, may be advantageously sown for this purpose, which can succeed each other in the rotation we have named them, and will form also a beneficial and improving preparation for the land on which corn is to follow. By such nutritious keep each cow will be enabled to rear a calf and also supply a portion of milk for domestic purposes, and at the same time—if a good breed—she will run into flesh and make early beef the following spring. Let this system be fairly contrasted with the usual mode practised, and no rational person will hesitate to give the preference to the former, either on a limited or extensive scale.

In some large dairies, also, there is a mistaken economy practised in this respect; the proprietors

supposing they may advantageously substitute the food already mentioned in rearing calves for milk.—The low price of young stock in this country may, no doubt, be some apology for this practice; but the query is, all matters considered, is there ultimately any advantage gained—for those who purchase cattle badly reared will be sure to avoid, if possible, getting such stock again; and consequently the character of the breeder will be much injured? In England they are aware of this manner of rearing calves with us, and are therefore very cautious of buying Irish cattle as they have experienced to their cost that many lots they have bought have fed so slowly, and proved so badly when slaughtered, that little profit was made on them either by the grazier or butcher. Unfortunately for the the character of our native cattle it is this description that are usually imported into Britain, for good beasts are generally sold early in the season to our graziers, and then the cattle jobbers purchase on low terms, for the former purpose, those of inferior quality. No doubt prime fat beasts are exported to British sea-port towns, but those are seldom sent to the interior of that country; therefore it is presumed by those not acquainted with such circumstances, that good and valuable cattle are not to be procured in Ireland.

There is also another matter which tends to lower the character of Irish cattle in the estimation of English buyers; it is this—the number of old and ill-fed cows that are sent from this country, which are bought at a low price at the late fairs, in consequence of the season being too far advanced to feed them the same year; and even should they put up meat the following year their value is trifling, as English butchers will not buy *old beef* except at a very reduced price. It appears, however, that Irish dairy-men, and others, consider it good management to keep *good* milking cows for *many years*; quite forgetting that the value of the best is annually decreasing, independent of the loss of keep for the months that she remains dry. We think the English system better—that is, keeping the dairy cows well, and selling them out for stores the following spring, when but a small loss by the difference of price in the original purchase will be sustained. Good cows in calf generally bring from £13 to £15, and are usually sold out after giving milk for eight or nine months from £10 to £12. If, however, such cattle were to be continued for this purpose for five or six years, their value at the time of selling off would not be more than £7 or £9. The question then is—what is to pay for this deficiency in value, and the expense in supporting them the months they annually remain unprofitable? It may be said that a good milch cow will amply repay this loss in the course of a few years by extra produce, the ultimate loss sustained by selling her out when old—and this, we admit, will be the case *occasionally*; but on general principles we are decidedly in favour of selling them off dry before they are six years old, and still younger, should they prove bad milkers.

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TENURE OF CASTLE GUARD.—Much land in Kent and other counties is held at Rochester Castle by the tenure of perfect castle guard. On St. Andrew's day, old style, a banner is hung out at the house of the receiver of the rents, and every tenant neglecting then to discharge his proper rent is liable to have it doubled every time he passes the adjacent bridge during the time it remains unpaid.



## MALT.

## EXTRACTS FROM THE FIFTEENTH REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF EXCISE INQUIRY.

The evidence which is contained in the tenth report, and the facts we have inserted in this report relating to illicit malting in Ireland, preclude any rational expectation that measures of intimidation and punishment will ever completely suppress it.

With regard to England, we conceive that it has been fully established that there also the malt duty is extensively evaded; and we think that we have given, upon the authority of the witnesses, a solution of the circumstances which have led to this evasion, by showing that of the number of 5,219 entered malt-houses, 167 are surveyed only nine times in a fortnight, and 5,052 not more frequently than five in a fortnight. If this system of a five times a fortnight survey is a proper one for enforcing the payment of the duty, then it would appear that the system of daily survey in towns is unnecessary and vexatious. But as it is obvious that it is owing to the circumstance of the survey in towns being a daily survey that the duty is well collected in them, the necessary inference is, that the five times a fortnight survey must be essentially defective: and that the duty will be evaded in the out-walks so long as the temptation to evade it remains so great as it is under the present rate of duty. This we consider a conclusion which cannot be controverted; and, therefore, all that can be done, as it appears to us, for completely putting an end to the existing evasion of duty is, either to convert the five times a fortnight survey, into a daily survey, or to diminish the temptation by reducing the duty.

When we began this inquiry our opinions were not only strongly against the repeal of the malt duty, but also strongly against any reduction of it, in consequence of our being, at that time, under an impression that the duty was not evaded. But according as we became more accurately informed on this point doubts occurred to us respecting the correctness of our opinions, till at length we have been, as it were, constrained to abandon them as to the inexpediency of reducing the duty, from seeing that the Excise cannot contend successfully in Ireland, whilst it is at its present rate, with the facilities with which the laws there are violated; nor in England with the opportunities which the number of entered malt-houses in the out walks afford for carrying on illicit trade.

If, for the purpose of suppressing illicit malting, it should be determined to reduce the duty, it will be most important that the rate of reduction should be settled, not at random, but with reference to some principle, for the correctness of which well established experience can be produced.

We shall, therefore, briefly point out what appears to us to be the right principle on which the rate of the malt duty, as well as of every other Excise duty, should be fixed. The opportunities we have had of tracing the effects of both high and low duties on the effectiveness of the Excise regulations in preventing fraud, confirm us in the opinion we have expressed in former reports, that no Excise duty should be carried beyond the point at which the licensed trader who pays it, can successfully compete with the unlicensed one, who does not pay it. Although it may, at first sight, appear to be impossible that the licensed traders could on this rule pay a rate of duty that would yield a large amount of revenue, experience proves the contrary. The reason of this is, that the fraudulent trader does not benefit by the whole amount of duty evaded, but sustains

great loss from the manner in which he is obliged to carry on his trade; for he is not able to extract from the materials he uses so much of the valuable matter they contain, in consequence of the hurried and imperfect manner he is forced to conduct the various processes of his business, as the legal trader can extract. He is also obliged to protect himself from being informed against by the persons he employs, by paying them very highly, and to incur various other large expenses, in order to escape the penalties to which he is always exposed.

The case of the duty on spirits in Scotland and Ireland shows, by actual experience, that a very large revenue may be obtained with a rate of duty that allows the licensed distillers the means of underselling the unlicensed ones. But this case has been so fully explained in our report on British spirits, that it is unnecessary to say more upon it on the present occasion.

That a similar successful competition might be carried on by the licensed maltsters is shown by the evidence of Mr. Taylor and other witnesses, provided the duty were considerably lowered, and the restrictions on making malt properly modified.

If the duty were reduced by one-half there seems to be reason to expect, provided that a sufficient supply of barley could be obtained, that the reduction would not be followed, ultimately, by any loss of revenue. The diminished price of malt, which would be the necessary consequence of reducing the duty, would lead to the practice of home-brewing being revived, to more beer being drunk, to more malt being used in all the cheaper sorts of beer, and to the discontinuing of the practice of using large quantities of raw corn in the Scotch and Irish breweries. With respect to grain spirits, as the quality of them in Scotland and Ireland depends on the quantity of malt which is used in making them, there can be no doubt that a large reduction in the price of malt would lead to restoring the old practice of using malt to a large amount instead of raw corn. According to return in the Appendix, about 490,000 quarters only of malt are now annually used in the United Kingdom in distillation. The reducing of the duty would also remove the principle obstacle in the way of allowing a drawback of the whole duty paid on the malt used in beer exported to our colonies and foreign countries; and in this way be the means, according to the evidence of Mr. Tennent, of considerably increasing the consumption of malt.

There is one point connected with the reduction of the duty which is particularly deserving of notice, and that is, rendering it practicable, with perfect security to the revenue, to relax the restriction under which the business of making malt is carried on. Whilst the duty is very high, and the temptation, in consequence, very great to evade it, it is necessary to impose severe restrictions to counteract this temptation; and, therefore, one of the best effects of a reduction of duty will be the opportunity which would be afforded of diminishing the interference of legislation with the operations of making malt, and thus of permitting the maltster to carry on his trade in a way to secure, by his skill, the greatest amount of profit on his capital which it is possible for him to make.

Notwithstanding the strong case which seems to have been made out, by the extracts of the evidence which we have quoted, in favour of a reduction of the malt duty, it would be improper to bring this

discussion to a close without again adverting to a subject mentioned in the beginning of this report, namely, the effect of the corn laws in obstructing a free supply of barley to meet the increased demand for it which would arise from reducing the duty. We have already said that the only grounds on which a reduction can be justified, while the present amount of revenue is necessary, is a strong probability that a reduced duty would, by means of an increased consumption, yield as great a revenue as that which is obtained from the present duty; but if the importation of foreign barley be not permitted, the tendency of a reduced duty to increase the consumption of malt would be counteracted by the price of British barley becoming higher in consequence of the new demand for it which would arise from the duty having been lowered; and thus the consequence of a reduction of duty would be, not such an increased consumption of malt as would keep the revenue up to its present amount, but a higher price of barley, and a certain loss of revenue.

As, therefore, there is no probability of a reduced duty being followed by such an increased consumption of malt as would prevent a loss of revenue, so long as the importation of foreign barley is restricted, we are of opinion that it will be preferable to endeavour to check illicit malting by the enforcement of the Excise laws, however inadequate they may be to produce a complete remedy, rather than to try the experiment of stopping it by a reduction of duty. If there were no factitious cause for elevating the price of barley, arising from the direct effect of a duty on foreign barley, or from the indirect effect of duties on other kinds of foreign corn, we should not feel any hesitation in saying that the proper way of dealing with the malt duty would be to reduce it one-half; but nothing in our opinion, can be more unwise than to reduce duties on articles which are fit subjects of taxation, without, at the same time, taking care to secure the most abundant supply that is possible to be secured of the materials which are necessary for their production.

Although, as we have before said, we have no expectation that intimidation and punishment will lead to a complete remedy of the evil of evasion of duty, as now practised in the United Kingdom, we are, however, of opinion that this evil may be diminished, even while the present duty continues, by adopting some measures for counteracting it to which the commissioners (of Excise,) as yet, seem not to have turned their attention.

In England it would appear that more frequent inspection, by superior surveying officers at irregular periods, of the malt-houses in the out-walks would be useful; whilst in Ireland the calling in of the aid of the regular constabulary force, to prevent the violation of the revenue laws, as well as that of the other laws of the land, would, beyond all doubt, contribute to keep down the practice now almost openly carried on in the interior of the country of private malting, in unentered houses.

We also look forward to the discontinuance of the system of giving credit in paying the malt duties, as a measure which, if adopted, would be followed by very good effects.

With respect to the complaints which have been made to us by several maltsters of the malt regulations, we are sensible that the recommendations of changes which we have made to your lordships in this report may fall short of what is expected from us; but we have felt it would not have been consistent with our duty to treat with indifference the able defence which the commissioners have made, in justification of the greater part of their regulations, in

their letter to us already referred to. If, however, the reconsideration and revision of all the provisions of the malt laws, which we have suggested, be carefully and fairly carried into execution, we trust that the general result will be, that every person engaged in the trade will feel satisfied that he is not exposed to a greater degree of interference and inconvenience in carrying on his business than is really unavoidable, in order to secure the revenue, and at the same time give protection to the fair trader.

HENRY PARNELL.

HENRY BERENS.

HENRY L. WICKHAM.

Office of Excise Inquiry, 5, Whitehall-place,  
Aug. 27, 1835.

**RENT AND PRODUCE.**—Every lease ought to recognise and contain a self-acting principle of adjustment between the amount of rent and the price of produce, quite independent either of landlords or tenants: and much of the misfortunes which have befallen the latter, who alone are the real cultivators of the soil, and with whom the interests of agriculture are most strictly and properly identified, may be traced to their ignorance or neglect of this important principle.—Tenants may bear to be reminded, too, that as in their negotiations for a new farm they never give a shilling more rent because the estate happens to be loaded with mortgages or family settlements—or because his Lordship shrugs up his shoulders, and declares that, being called upon to maintain a certain rank and station in the county, he must keep up his rents, and “will do all that he can in the House” to keep up corn—so neither will the merchant give to the tenant one sixpence a quarter more for his wheat because he happens to have a large family or to live in a parish where the poor rates are very high, or to have hired his farm on a long lease at a high rent when wheat was double its present price. The tenant never troubled himself to inquire anything about the incumbrances of the landlord, nor does the merchant about those of the tenant. It may be very generous, and it always sparkles brilliantly in the newspaper, when a landlord remits five or ten per cent. at his audit. But the principle is bad to be so “fettered by a lease” as to make it necessary to have recourse to the degrading experiment of annually bestowing on the one side and of receiving on the other this remission as a gratuitous boon. It alters the proper relation and position of both parties. Let there be a reciprocity and an equality of interest between them, and there will naturally be cultivated a mutual good feeling. But the right feeling is not cultivated when a tenant is annually made to crouch under a sense of obligation and dependence on his landlord, which formed no part of his lease, and which was not and ought not to have been contemplated by him when it was drawn up and signed.—*Bury Post*.

The Glamorganshire Agricultural Society held their grand annual meeting at Cowbridge, on Tuesday, Sept. 22nd, and we congratulate the county on the capital exhibition of stock that was displayed. Mr. Walker, from Worcestershire, was the judge, who expressed great satisfaction with the display, observing that the general improvement of the stock in the county since he filled the same situation two years ago, was highly creditable to the breeders; the arrangement for the accommodation of the stock was also very good. In the evening, about eighty of the most respectable agriculturists and landowners of this and the neighbouring counties, dined together at the Bear Inn, the Hon. W. B. Grey, Vice-President, in the chair, and speeches in accordance with the occasion were delivered by that gentleman and Chas. Morgan, Esq., of Ruperra Castle, the Vice-President. The entertainment, as usual, did credit to Mr. Ballard.



## FEMALE EMIGRATION TO AUSTRALIA

On Thursday, the *Boadicea*, chartered by the Emigration Committee for the conveyance of single females and families to Australia, sailed from Gravesend with 270 souls on board, for Hobart Town. The arrangements for the accommodation and welfare of the emigrants were similar to those adopted on former occasions. The emigrants on this occasion consisted of about 100 Irish girls, 40 from Scotland, and 27 from London and Middlesex, the remainder from other counties in England. The females were 200 in number, and the other passengers consisted of young men and fathers of families, agriculturists, who are much wanted in the colony. Among the emigrants we observed twelve very fine young girls, remarkably well-behaved, and only fifteen years of age, from the Foundling Hospital at Cork, fifty from the Dublin schools, and thirty or forty selected from the other institutions in Ireland. Their demeanour was excellent, and they were accompanied by several experienced matrons, who from motives of pure benevolence, have left their native isle to administer to their comfort and convenience. The majority of them are well educated, and of superior moral and religious habits. The Scotch lasses are, if possible, of a superior class; there were several young women from Edinburgh; and if the single gentlemen in Hobart Town are long insensible to such charms as the fair daughters of Caledonia display, we should say very little gallantry exists in Van Dieman's Land. Among the families are—a Mr. Story, a farmer from Somersetshire, with his wife, five rosy-cheeked, round-faced daughters, between the ages of five and seventeen years, and two boys; a widow from Bristol, with three daughters; Mrs. Strange, a widow of Brighton, with her mother, aged fifty-eight years, and three daughters; and Mr. Thompson, superintendent, and his wife, who fills the situation of matron. The four families are cabin passengers, and are handsomely and conveniently provided for, for which they pay an extra sum. A ship has been chartered by the Irish Female Emigration Committee for the purpose of conveying out single women to Sydney, which is to sail in a few weeks from Cork. Mr. Parsons, a surgeon, who officiated as medical officer of the *Strathfieldsaye*, which sailed from London in 1833 with female emigrants, gave a very interesting account of the condition of the women who were carried out in that ship, and who, he said, were doing well in the colony when he left, a great majority of them having either having met with good husbands or been engaged as farm servants by the settlers. Mr. Parsons states that a wide field is still open for emigration in our Australian colonies and that the want of good farmers and labourers is much felt. It is a well known fact that one free labourer is considered worth four assigned convicts, and is invariably preferred to convicts, and good wages given where they can be procured. Of the useless drones without trade, or habits of industry, there is a superabundance in the colony, men whose only qualifications are those of clerks and shopmen are utterly useless. Shepherds and agriculturists, carpenters, and builders, are those most wanting.

USE OF STEAM POWER IN PROPELLING THRASHING MACHINES.—It is gratifying to remark the very rapid increase of steam engines amongst

the steadings in Fifeshire, nor do we know any fact more highly complimentary to the enterprise of our agriculturists. At this moment the traveller over our county may count nearly thirty engines in the act of thrashing corn; and that he may know where to look for them, we shall mention the names of a good many farms where they are. Steam-engines are in activity at Kinnimont, Newton, Craigie, Seggie, Foodie, Moonzie, Kilmux, Pilmuir, Balmacoll, Falkland Wood, Kilgour, Lochty side, Balgonie Park, Kirkaldy (Mr. Douglas,) Bankhead, Clentry, Balmiel, Torhain, Treaton, Chapel, Wester Bogie, Dalachy, Castleton Hill, South Fod, Methilhill, Kingsdale, Carnbee, and probably a good many others we have not noticed. Comparing Fife with any other county—say Forfarshire, where we do not believe there are half a dozen—how proudly does she stand; and how much of hope does her advanced position hold out in regard of the improvement of our national agriculture so soon as other counties become enlightened and spirited enough to follow in her track. The great extension of the use of steam completely and unanswerably puts down every doubt at first entertained of its utility when applied in this way; and the advantage is indeed so clear that its employment has spread among us with unexampled rapidity—there being not more than three or four of the foregoing engines in action only five years ago! the farmer who uses it will find many other modes of applying conveniently and economically this admirable agent; for instance, how easily may the spare steam be always applied, as it sometimes has been, by intelligent farmers, in stewing the animals' food? Nor is there any difficulty or much expense in adapting an ordinary thrashing mill to be driven by an engine. All that is necessary is the removal of the horse wheel, the building up of the open sides of the shed, its division by an interior wall into two departments—one for the engine and another for the boiler and furnace, and the building of a stalk. Many farmers are deterred from availing themselves of the use of steam, by the idea of the difficulty and expense of buildings for the engine, and it is therefore necessary to attend to what we have now said. We have very little doubt, that in other five years there will scarcely be a steading in the county which has not abandoned the unnecessary and expensive use of horse power in thrashing its corn. Nor is it unworthy of remark, that almost the whole of these engines have been erected at the commencement of leases; and, therefore, a farmer in now entering on a lease, should consider whether he is not better at once to employ steam power. The saving is obvious. On some farms a pair of horses and a man may be dispensed with: and even the very labour saved to the poor horses, let alone the saving of additional corn which is necessary when such hard work is imposed, is of itself no small gain. Landlords in such cases should give every encouragement to their tenants obtaining such an important improvement; and where leases are partly run down, and the tenant may fear a sacrifice at the expiry of his lease, the landlord should at once agree to take the steam engine machinery and buildings off the tenant's hand at a valuation, in the event of the lease not being renewed.—*Fife Herald*.

ESSEX. — CURIOUS CUSTOM. — "THE LAWLESS COURT."—On King's Hill, in Rochford, in the county of Essex, on every Wednesday morning next after Michaelmas day, at cocks' crowing, there is by ancient custom a Court held by the Lord of the Manor of Raleigh, which is vulgarly called the "Lawless Court." The steward and suitors whisper to each other and have no candles, nor any pen and ink, but supply that office with a coal; and he that owes suit or service thereto and appears not, forfeits to the Lord double his rent every hour he is absent. The Court is called "Lawless," because held at an unlawful or lawless hour, or *quia dicta sine lege*. This Lawless Court is imperfectly mentioned by Camden, in his description of Essex, who says this servile attendance was imposed on the tenants of that manor for conspiring, at the like unseasonable time, to raise a commotion.

## ON THE TREATMENT OF FOOT-ROT IN CATTLE.

BY MR. M. POTTIE, YOKER, NEAR GLASGOW.

*(From the Veterinarian.)*

It has been ordained, for wise purposes, that we should have a tendency to consider things which are similar in some respects as similar in all: and, although we have long known that this principle is apt to produce error, there are still very few, perhaps none, who can constantly remember, and act as if they remembered, that two things may be exceedingly alike in one or two relations, and yet altogether different in others.

We are called to treat a few cases of foot-rot in cattle, and there are heat, pain or pressure, swelling, and lameness. The treatment which we adopt with so much advantage, when similar symptoms appear in the foot of the horse, is immediately adopted here, and an analogous result is expected; but we are surprised and disappointed to find it quite different. After many experiments, but which were never regarded as experiments, it becomes apparent that the disease is not of the same nature as that which produces the same symptoms in the horse. Poultices, fomentations, cooling lotions, and bleeding, whether local or general, if not positively injurious, have not the slightest curative power over foul in the foot. Each has been tried, alone and in combination, and not once or twice, but often. Purgatives and cold lotions, when operating together, retard the disease, but do not cure.

The readers of the *Veterinarian* are aware that the inflammatory symptoms which characterize foot-rot in the ox exist for several days; that, at the end of from two to eight or nine days, an abscess appears and bursts, either at the side of the foot or between the toes; that the effects of the first attack are not gone when another takes place; and that this is followed by another and another, until the foot becomes completely disorganized, and the patient reduced to a skeleton. By this time the toes are thrown far apart, the bones are carious, there are sinuses in all directions, and an immense quantity of matter is discharged. In this state a cow under bad management, often continues for six or twelve months.

All this, however, if the patient is put under proper treatment from the beginning, may be easily and certainly avoided. All the practitioner has to do, is to produce a slough, of considerable thickness and extent, from between the toes. There are several escharotics that will do this, but some are too strong and some too weak: the former excite an intolerable degree of pain; the latter operate too slowly, requiring several applications, and often not producing mortification until an abscess has formed, when the use of any caustic is of little service. I find the powdered sulphate of copper answers the purpose better than any agent with which I am acquainted. The foot, in the first place, is well cleaned by washing with hot water and soap; it is dried: a pledget of tow is covered on one side with common tar, and over this is spread a thick layer of the powdered sulphate; the pledget is then introduced between the toes, placed in close contact with the digital commissure, and retained by attaching its ends to a ligature round the pastern. From the moment the escharotic begins to operate, the internal process appears to be arrested; but unless that portion of skin upon which the application is laid sloughs away, the disease will be re-established. In many cases, one dressing is sufficient to produce the sloughing; in others, two or even three dressings may be requisite.

When the commissure is soft, yielding, and moist, one application is in general enough; others are necessary when this part is hard and horny, for then the caustic operates upon it with more difficulty. The escharotic loses its power in about forty-eight hours, and it need not be removed sooner. At the end of this time it will be seen whether or not, another application is necessary. More than three dressings I have never had occasion to employ. The slough comes away with the first, the second, or the third; and, subsequently, the sore is kept clean and washed once or twice a day with the acetate of zinc, or any other astringent lotion. Nothing more is required. The slough once separated, the lameness disappears, and the animal returns to her food, and yields her usual quantity of milk.

I shall not attempt to explain this unorthodox mode of proceeding. It is of no consequence where or how I was taught to adopt such a plan. I do not announce it as a discovery. Within the last twelve months, however, I cannot have tried it on less than a hundred cases, and it has not failed once. Another practitioner in my neighbourhood can testify that it has been equally efficacious in his hands.

13th September, 1835.

**PRICE OF BREAD IN JERSEY.** — We have heard many persons express considerable surprise at the high price of bread in this proverbially cheap Island; and when the perfect freedom of importing foreign corn into Jersey, and the nearly untaxed state of its population are duly considered, it will certainly appear almost beyond belief that the "staff of life" is nearly double the price here as in some parts of the mother country, where the agriculturists are so heavily burthened, and where a tax is levied upon imported corn! Such, however, is the fact; for, while we are paying 1½d per lb for the best bread, the quarter loaf of fine white bread (old weight, 4½ lbs) is now actually selling in Suffolk at 4d the loaf, or something less than 1d the pound! The trifling difference in our weight, as well as the nominal premium of a penny on the English shilling, we are aware, should be taken into the account; but, at the same time, it ought also to be remembered that the journeymen's wages in Jersey are considerably lower than in England. — *Jersey Argus*.

The new act for the abolition of unnecessary oaths came into operation on Friday, and as no voluntary declaration will be received by the magistrates except in the form prescribed by the statute, without alteration or omission, because an indictment could not be sustained for making a false declaration if the prescribed form were not strictly adhered to:—"I, A. B., do solemnly and sincerely declare that —, and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of an act made and passed in the year of the reign of his present Majesty, intitled an act to repeal an act of the present session of parliament, intitled an act for the more effectually abolition of oaths and affirmations taken and made in various departments of the state, and to substitute declarations in lieu thereof, and for the more entire suppression of voluntary and extra-judicial oaths and affidavits; and to make other provisions for the abolition of unnecessary oaths. Declared and subscribed at this day of , 1835, before me." The 18th clause of the act gives the magistrate unlimited discretion as to the matters which may be declared before him. It recites that it may be necessary and proper in many cases not enumerated in the act to require confirmation of written instruments, allegations, proof of debts, execution of deeds, and other matters; it therefore authorises the magistrate to receive a declaration of these matters "in the form in the schedule to this act annexed, and if any declaration so made shall be false or untrue in any material particular, the person wilfully making such false declaration shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor."



## ON ROT IN SHEEP.

(To the Editor of the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture).

The attention of your readers having again been called to the internal rot of sheep, I would humbly offer the following remarks to their consideration, hoping they may be of some use in leading either to a prevention or cure of that distressing disease which has been the means of ruining so many of our poor farmers, and perhaps of injuring the health of many of our people, who have been fed with unwholesome mutton. I first, then, would recommend your readers to read a small book published in 1823, at Berwick-upon-Tweed, by a Lammermuir farmer,\* not that I agree with him as to the cause of the disease, but he gives many interesting facts and useful hints. He supposes that the rot is occasioned by feeding in a luxuriant after-growth of grass, but I have yet to learn that a luxuriant after-growth of clover occasions this disease. The fact I believe to be, that it is some particular plant which affects the animal. It is surely no longer believed that it is wet or cold; for if a ewe, when giving milk, does not suffer, is she more likely to escape the effects of cold than another sheep? But I believe it is admitted by medical men, that women giving milk are not so apt to suffer from poison as other persons; so also with sheep. I am inclined to believe that the butter-cup (*Ranunculus*), is the plant which is the cause of the mischief. Green in his "Universal Herbal" says, that all the parts of this plant are exceedingly acrid. In the Isle of Sky, it is used instead of Spanish flies to raise a blister. Curtis stated that when cattle are tempted or forced to eat it, their mouths become sore and blistered; and, according to Linnæus, sheep and goats eat this plant, but cattle, horses, and even pigs, refuse it. Geese also eat it. Now, sheep and geese are more apt to have enlarged or diseased livers, than any of the other graminivorous animals that I am acquainted with.

But to return to the Lammermuir farmer. He recommends salt as a decided cure for this disease. The dose is 1½ ounce of common salt, given in three-fourths of an English pint of water, to a sheep, with an empty stomach, for three or four mornings. Lime-water is also good. I have seen both given; and, on killing the sheep that had two doses of the salt, there were about 160 flukes taken out of its liver, most of which were dead. But as a preventive is better than a cure, I would call your attention next to White, that close observer of nature. He says in his Natural History of Selborne, that "worms seem to be the great promoters of vegetation, which would proceed tamely without them, by boring, perforating, and loosening the soil, and rendering it pervious to rains and the fibres of plants, by drawing straws and the stalks of leaves into it; and, most of all, by throwing up such infinite numbers of lumps of earth." Again he says, "that the earth without worms would soon become cold, hard-bound, and void of fermentation." But more applicable still to the case of your correspondent, in p. 232, where he says, "Lands that are subject to frequent inunda-

tions are always poor, and probably the occasion may be, because the worms are destroyed." Now, I observe from your correspondent's remarks, p. 503 of vol. v. of your Journal, that his meadow, although well laid down in grass, soon appeared starved, after having been irrigated: so it is well worth his examining whether or not the worms have been destroyed by frequent irrigation? If so, I have no doubt he has got rid of the moles also, as the latter feed chiefly on the former. The Ettrick Shepherd says, vol. ii. p. 700 of your Journal, that it is his opinion, as well as that of shepherds, that the extirpating of moles, or doing away with mole-hills, was the primary cause of the disease amongst sheep, known by the name of pining. Now, the conclusion to which I have come in my own mind is, that earth is necessary for the general health of sheep, be it in the shape of mole-hills or worm-casts. True it is, that there are no moles in the sister island, Old Ireland, and the sheep there are in general, I believe, sound, but there must be plenty of worm-casts. Your correspondent strengthens me in this opinion, that earth is good for sheep, when he states that folding them occasionally in fallow, is sometimes a means of preventing the rot.\*

I watered a field of old grass in summer 1833, which I stocked chiefly with sheep, and I found they soon became all tainted, although those of a neighbour from the said breeder were perfectly sound. The shepherd, who had known my field for many years, said he was not aware that sheep had ever suffered in the field before from the rot; and I now think it very probable that I erred in not stocking the field sufficiently, thus by the length of the grass preventing the sheep from getting at the worm-casts or other earth. It occurs to me, that one reason why the disease of the rot is more common in England than in Scotland is, that they do not feed their grass so close as we do. Besides, they do not clean their fallows so well, and have more butter-cup, having older and richer pasture. The meadows in the neighbourhood of your correspondent are entirely new, so perhaps the worms are not yet destroyed, which may account for no rot being in these pastures; and those that are watered by other streams may perhaps be supplied with mud or earth from such streams.

It is a custom at the Duke of Montrose's, and with others who feed pigs, to give them occasionally ashes or cinders; and as a pig is very apt to overeat itself, and to take all sorts of mixtures, it ought always (when prevented by confinement from getting at the earth of the field) to be provided with some alkali, to correct the acidity in its stomach. I had some time ago a large fat hog, which was confined, and kept very clean, getting nothing to eat but meal of various kinds, with milk; and just about the time I intended to kill it, I was prevented by its becoming very costive and unwell. I did not know how to administer any opening medicine to so strong an animal, but in turning it out of the sty, I found it began to eat earth and lime; I therefore immediately mixed some magnesia with milk, and it soon took a sufficient quantity of it. I would also mention, that when the root of the bitter cassia is given, in the West Indies, washed to pigs, it kills them, but when they make their way into the provision grounds, and take plenty of earth with this root, it has apparently no bad effects on them.

It ought to be generally known whether potatoes, when given raw to pigs or cattle, should be washed.

\* This is an excellent practical treatise on the management of sheep in upland pastures. Its author, the late Mr. John Fairbairn, of Hallyburton, we had the pleasure of knowing well; and many will bear us out when we state that no Lammermuir farmer could show a better flock of Cheviot sheep than he had. We may mention, as our correspondent only alludes to the former paper on rot arising from water meadows that this paper came to hand too late for insertion in our last number.—EDITOR.

\* Buckbean (*Menyanthes*), class 5, order 1, is said to be a cure for the rot in sheep.

I know not what is the best corrective for the poison of the solanum family, but an alkali is given to counteract the bad effects of meadow saffron and prussic acid. At all events, some earth may be the means of preventing swelling in cattle, when feeding either on turnips or potatoes\*. I remember a butcher in the West Indies telling me, that he found cattle which were fed in pastures, through which a pure running river passed, had their livers always diseased, whilst those cattle which had water to drink out of filthy stagnant ponds, in which they stood for many hours in the day, had their livers quite sound. He and I both thought at the time, that it was the difference of temperature in the water, but I am now inclined to think that the earth was the means of keeping the liver sound.

I hope these few remarks may be of some use to your correspondent, or may be the means of drawing out some information from others. Whether the rot is occasioned by some particular plant, or by a luxuriant after-growth occasioning a fermentation in the stomach of the animal, my firm conviction is, that salt or earth, or both, are of use to graminivorous animals, as grass is occasionally to dogs and cats. Every observer must have seen horses eagerly chewing the roots of grass with earth, and grooms are aware that it is a bad sign of the state of the horse's stomach. Chalk is given to calves, and lime or shell gravel to fowls.

I would now ask, what takes place if a sheep eats some earth? does it not absorb the acid in its stomach and form a salt, thus in part agreeing with the recipe of the Lammernuir farmer? He mentions a striking fact (in his book before referred to), that the shepherds in Spain, while feeding their flocks on land with limestone, do not give salt to their sheep, but have occasion to do so when feeding them on any other soils; which I would account for by the lime correcting the acidity and forming salt. I may here mention the way in which salt is given to sheep in the West Indies; a large cask without ends is laid upon its side on the ground, a small hole being dug for the swell of the cask; four stobs or stakes are then driven into the ground, two on each side of the cask, to keep it steady; the salt is then put into it, and so protected from the rain. Those who give salt in this way, and feed their pasture close, so that the sheep can get at the worm-casts, need not, I think, be much afraid of either the internal or foot-rot.

I have thus attempted to say a word in favour of the worm, as the kind-hearted Ettrick Shepherd stood forward in defence of the mole, rook and wood pigeon. I recollect destroying almost all the vermin in a large district of country in Perthshire, with a view of increasing the game; but the rabbits multiplied to such an extent as to become an immense nuisance. By the way, may not the increase of field-mice in a district in France, mentioned in the miscellaneous notices of your last number but one, be accounted for in the same way? I would recommend to them a large importation of owls. If man sets his wisdom in opposition to the all-wise Lord of the Universe, and destroys in a small degree the balance of creation, every thing suffers from it. We are indeed wonderfully connected together; yes, the meanest and most grovelling animal is needful for the well-being of the whole.

S. W

## QUANTITY OF SEED.

(From Sinclair.)

Whereas, had there been only a due proportion of plants, the exhaustion, during winter and spring, would have been less severe, and the strength of the soil would have been reserved, for the more material purpose of perfecting the plants in harvest.

In treating of this subject, it may be proper to lay down, 1. The rules to be recommended respecting the quantity of seed in general; and, 2. The fittest proportions for the different crops.

### GENERAL RULES.

1. The first point to be considered, is the climate. In a district where a crop is likely to experience favourable seasons, a less quantity of seed will be required, than where it is liable to a succession of variable weather, and occasionally, to great storms of rain or snow or too severe frosts. Indeed where the climate is uncertain, it is necessary to employ a sufficiency of seed to provide against accidents.

2. The nature of the soil, and its state of fertility are the next points to be discussed. On light thin soils, for the reasons already assigned, the quantity of seed ought to be moderate; whereas, in strong, stiff, wet, retentive soils, on the other hand, as the plants seldom branch off much from the roots, a large proportion of seed will be necessary, in order to secure such abundant crops, as lands of this description are capable of supporting. But where such lands are well prepared, rendered friable by a summer fallow, and in high condition, a small quantity of seed is sufficient; for though the crop may appear thin during the winter, the seedling plants have time and vigour enough to fill up the field, by means of suckers, or lateral plants, which branch out from the principal root, and produce a full crop in autumn.

3. The next point for consideration, is, the season when the seed is sown; for it is evident, that seed sown early, takes deeper root, and has more time to branch out additional shoots, than that which is late sown. Hence a less quantity is sufficient. Indeed, with late sowing, the progress of the crop may be retarded by dry and hot weather, unless a large quantity of seed be employed, so as to afford protection to the soil from the mischiefs of evaporation, by the plants growing closely together. It seems to be a judicious rule, on soils of a medium quality, where wheat is sown broad cast, to use about two bushels and a half per acre, towards the latter end of September, and to add a gallon of seed for every fortnight afterwards.

4. The state of the weather, when the seed is put into the ground, must likewise be considered; for where the season is very dry, and where there is a small proportion of moisture in the soil, more of the seed may fail to vegetate, than where the contrary is the case. Hence a larger quantity is required; and hence the propriety, not only of a larger quantity of seed, but the practice of steeping and of putting in the seed in such dry seasons, immediately after the plough.

5. The manner in which the operations of sowing is carried on, it is obvious, must make some difference in the quantity sown. Where the broad cast system is adopted, a larger quantity of seed is required, than where the grains are deposited, with equality, and exactness, only on certain portions of the land as is the case in the drill and dibbling methods. Where the grain is scattered over the whole surface of the soil, in some measure at random, it is exposed to the depredation of birds, and some of the seeds may not be placed in a situation favourable to vegetation. At the same time, under the drill system, the saving of seed cannot be carried to any great extent, without the risk of disappointment, though it may in dibbling.

In regulating the quantity of seed, it is necessary also to have in view, whether clover is to be sown with the grain; for in that case, it is evident, that a smaller quantity of the grain seed ought to be used, otherwise the clover may be materially injured, by a superabundant crop of grain.

7. The quality of the seed is another point to be at-

\* A large quantity of earth, particularly in wet weather, eaten with turnips or potatoes, will cause cattle to scour, a small quantity will not; but scouring prevents swelling from either root.—EDITOR.



tended to ; for it cannot be doubted, that a less quantity will be sufficient, when it is known to be good and perfect of its sort, than when from age, an unfavourable harvest, or otherwise, it is known to be the reverse. In the former case, every seed will vegetate, whereas, in the latter, many must prove defective.

8. The last point relates to the size of the seed ; for the smaller the size, the greater number of plants will be produced from a certain weight of corn ; and when the grain is round and plump, its being of moderate size, does not make it less fit for the purposes of vegetation.

#### PROPORTIONS OF SEED FOR THE DIFFERENT CROPS.

It is to be regretted, that the proportions of seed best calculated to afford the fullest and most abundant produce, in different crops, and under various circumstances, has not yet been decided by the aid of experimental investigation. The following hints, it is hoped, will throw some light on this branch of the subject.

WHEAT.—When land is in high condition, and adapted for wheat, more especially after a summer-fallow, about two bushels per acre have been generally found sufficient, in the best cultivated districts of Scotland. Bean stubbles require more seed than summer-fallows, because the seed, from the roughness of the surface, cannot be so well distributed ; and clover leys, ought to have more seed than even bean stubbles. Turnip land, sown with wheat in spring, must have a still more ample allowance, as the shorter period of growth does not leave a sufficient interval for tillering, and many of the suckers that are produced, never come to maturity. In these cases, from three bushels up to rather less than four, may be required. In England, it is calculated that about two bushels and a half is the medium quantity of seed wheat throughout the kingdom, though it is often more.

BARLEY.—The quantity of seed for a crop of barley, varies from two bushels and a half, to four bushels per acre ; but it is always safer to give too much than too little seed. It is a rule indeed, with all spring sown grain, to give a sufficient quantity of seed, to ensure a full crop from the first growth, and not to depend upon tillering, or planting out. With a full quantity of seed, the crop grows, and ripens equally, and, unless in very unfavourable seasons, the grain is uniformly good. Barley, being generally sown in the dry seasons of the year, the plants are often stunted in their growth, and unable to send out off-sets to stock the soil. The plant may afterwards stool or tiller at a later period ; but these young shoots, cannot be expected to arrive at maturity, or if their ripening is waited for, there is a great risk of losing the first, or earlier growth of the crop.

FRENCH CARTS.—After staying a couple of days at Rouen, we proceeded by the same mode of conveyance to St. Germain : we went by the upper road, which is not very interesting. On the way we passed many carts drawn by horses, such as I have described. The construction of these carts struck me as being particularly well adapted to the roads on which they travel. The body is composed of a frame of great length, extending entirely over the shaft-horse, and so constructed that, by means of a winch, the frame may be moved backwards and forwards, so as to be balanced on the two wheels which support it. These wheels are large, and stand perfectly upright, with very deep naves, so that they can preserve their perpendicular without difficulty ; and the lynch-pin is so placed as to allow of considerable horizontal play on the axle, which, on a rough *pavé*, is a great advantage. How much superior is this to the wheels of our travelling waggons, the felices of which, being frustrums of cones, a good deal of power must necessarily be lost in keeping them in a straight line, while the grinding motion thus occasioned must be very injurious to the roads ! These carts are also fitted with a contrivance for retarding the revolution of the wheels on descending hills, by pressure of the circumference, to serve instead of a drag.—From Captain Blakiston's new work—*Twenty Years of Retirement*.

## HAMPSHIRE.

*From Kennedy and Grainger's Practice of Tenancy in the grazing districts of Great Britain, published in 1829.*

The whitest fleeces in Hampshire are invariably produced upon a white soil, but with more certainty upon a white clay or marl, than upon chalk, it having been constantly observed, that upon such a soil they are finer than upon any other, and also much softer to the touch ; though it is equally true, that chalky soils produce a fine and white wool. Deep black, hungry, and bad land, produces a coarse and harsh wool. Chalky ground, and fine hazle soils, with a substratum of chalk, produce a wool, which always sell well, it being very suitable for the purposes of the manufacturer, in consequence of its furnishing a cloth of softer and better quality. Sheep, in good condition as to food and health, are not, generally speaking, found wanting in respect of a fine growth of wool, but if fed upon a poor black land, the small particles of surface soil are drifted throughout the wool, which dry up or absorb that necessary nourishment, the yolk ; the effect is easily discovered by the feel of wool so grown.

It is found here, as in other districts, that the effect of the sun and temperature upon newly shorn sheep, produces a harshness of feel to the touch ; but the wool becomes soft in proportion to its length, and, perhaps, that which is in the first instance hardest, has afterwards the most vigorous growth.

With regard to smearing or greasing sheep, the prevalent opinion in this county is, that unguents are of no service to the future growth of wool ; but on the contrary, that the materials of which they are composed, are thrown up as the fleece increases, and become, as it were, so much filth which requires to be washed away ; the natural perspiration of a healthy sheep, is here supposed to be the best guarantee for the perfection of the wool. This opinion, as to the inutility of unguents, is even extended to the time of clipping, or shearing, it being thought, that at the season of the year when the clipping takes place, exposure to the air is a comfort to the sheep ; whilst nature provides a warmth of wool sufficient for the winter, it is also believed, that in the latter season the wet and mud would adhere to the greased fleece, much more than to one not greased.

A good pasture is believed in Hampshire, to be every thing with regard to the growth and improvement of both carcass and fleece ; and though it is in some degree admitted, that the application of an unguent might have a tendency to prevent cutaneous diseases, and the effects arising from the fly, if used immediately after shearing ; yet it is the prevalent opinion that these mischiefs are chiefly engendered under the cover of a long coat of wool, and that they may in general be remedied or removed after shearing, without having recourse to these applications. In a similar spirit, whilst it is agreed, that sheep, greased with an unguent, might throw off snow or rain, sooner than those which had not been greased, yet it is objected, that the filth and dust would, in consequence of the application of the unguent, adhere to the fleece, in a proportion equivalent, if such a term may so be used, to the throwing off of rain or snow. An equality of temperature, and a sufficiency of good feed, are here considered, perhaps it may be said almost exclusively, the most likely methods to ensure a good fleece.

With regard to the washing of sheep, it is not

usual, in Hampshire, to perform that operation in ponds, but generally in rivers, where the filth is carried away by the stream; the washed wool is found to sell the best. The housing or coting of sheep is not considered here to be of that use or importance which it is thought in some other districts, the sheep farmers believing a free and fine air to be essential to the health of the animal, and being fearful of the consequences in this respect of the confinement of housing, whilst they are also of opinion, that the expense which must in such case be unavoidably incurred, would not be repaid by any additional returns of profit.

It is not thought here, that the removal of sheep to a luxuriant pasture, has any effect in producing a coarser wool; but this must, of course, be understood as not applying to a rank marshy pasture. The Merino and Spanish sheep are supposed, in this district, to be much longer than any other breed in benefiting by a change; those sheep which are in the most thriving state, and the most ready to fatten, are believed to feel the effects of a change the quickest, whether it is from a worse to a better pasture, or the contrary. A mild winter is not believed, by the Hampshire sheep farmers, to have any effect in increasing the weight of the fleece at the ensuing clip, or that the latter is diminished through the operation of a severe one, or that in either case the wool is coarser; it is only a wet season that is considered to injure the quality of the wool. This, however, must be taken with the qualification or limitation, that a dearth of either winter or summer food is always injurious both to the carcass and the wool.

Open sheds, where sheep might resort for shelter from the inclemency of the weather, or too great heat, it is thought here would be very desirable on sheep farms, especially those in exposed situations.

## BUYING AND SELLING OF WOOL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXETER FLYING-POST.

SIR,—In a late number of your paper I noticed an article inquiring if the present mode of buying and selling Wool will be legal under the new Law for regulating Weights and Measures, and observing that the present mode of weighing the article is stated very erroneously, I am induced to drop you a few lines, knowing it to be your wish to give correct statements. The general mode is by weighing four list of 63lbs, (which is equivalent to 18 stone of 14lbs.) This is only reckoned for as a pack of 240lbs. The allowance of 12lb on the pack does not by any means compensate for the dung, yolk, &c., that the Wool contains, as in heavy soils the pack will not yield 180lbs of clean Wool; and it is the practice of many Wool-growers to wind up in the fleece all the dung, pitch, and whatever is on or about the Sheep at the time it is shorn, notwithstanding there is a considerable penalty for so doing.—Yours, truly,

AN OLD DEALER IN WOOL.

Plymouth, Sept. 1835.

N.B.—You stated the practice was four lists of 6lbs, making 204lbs to the pack.

WOOL.—A gentleman we met with the other day, who is most extensively engaged in the wool trade, communicated, in the course of conversation, the following important communication:—As regards the clip of 1835, our informant is of opinion that it is rather above than under a fair average. Throughout the season the sheep fared better in the south than the north, and, both as regards quantity and quality, the wool crop, over a wide extent of country, is to say the very least, nowise inferior to that of the last three or

four years. Salted butter, unmixed with any other ingredient, not only checks vermin, but actually promotes the growth of the fleece. Betwixt buttered and purely white wool the difference of price at present is little more than 3d per stone. As our correspondent complains that our quotations, as copied from the Liverpool papers, are occasionally a shade too high, we substitute this week what he assures us is a correct and amended list. Highland laid wool, from 10s to 10s 3d per stone of 240 lbs; Highland white, from 14s 6d to 15s per do.; Cheviot laid and washed wool, 19s per do. —*Dumfries Courier*.

DUTCH AGRICULTURE.—The Dutch journals of the 4th instant contain a decree issued by the King of Holland, from which we learn, that in consequence of the depressed state of agriculture in that country, it has been resolved to impose an additional duty upon the importation of foreign corn. Until a law to that effect shall have been passed by the States General, it is decreed that after the 29th of September there shall be given, besides the payment of the existing duties, sufficient security for the payment of the higher import duty contemplated by the Legislature.

“On all importations of wheat spilter, buck wheat, rye, barley, and oats, subsequently to the date of this ordinance, there shall be given, besides the payment of the existing duties, sufficient security for the payment of the higher import duty which shall in the sequel be imposed by the law which will be proposed by our order in the approaching session of the States General. The amount of the said security shall be estimated as follows:

|                                       |          |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Wheat and spilter, per mu. . . . .    | 2f. 22c. |
| Buck wheat and rye, per ditto . . . . | 0f. 81c. |
| Barley, per ditto . . . . .           | 0f. 58c. |
| Oats, per ditto . . . . .             | 0f. 66c. |

Reserving the option of the importer to deposit such imported corn in entrepot, according to the existing laws.

The sale of Mr. Fuller's Sussex bred neat stock, took place at Selmeaton on Thursday last, and attracted a large assemblage of buyers and others, amounting in number to between 5, and 600, and no doubt, as Verrall stated in his advertisement, they were gratified with the *treat*; and we should judge from the prices that were obtained, the event proved a very palatable dish to the respected proprietor.

|                                             | each. | highest price. |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|----------------|
| 13 Cows, (two best being barrens) . . . . . | £28 0 | 40 gs.         |
| averaged at . . . . .                       | 28 0  | 30             |
| 4 three-year old Heifers, at . . . . .      | 30 15 | 38             |
| 8 two-year old Ditto, at . . . . .          | 21 0  | 26             |
| 10 yearling Ditto, . . . . .                | 15 0  | 21½            |
| 1 Cow Calves, . . . . .                     | 31 10 | 0              |
| 1 five-year old Bull, sold for . . . . .    | 38 17 | 0              |
| 1 two-year Ditto, . . . . .                 | 35 14 | 0              |
| 1 one-year Ditto, . . . . .                 | 44 2  | 0              |
| 1 Bull Calf, . . . . .                      | 31 10 | 0              |
| 1 Ditto, . . . . .                          | 26 5  | 0              |
| 1 Ditto, . . . . .                          | 8 0   | 0              |
| 7 Steer Calves, averaged at . . . . .       | 12 10 | 0              |
| 9 yearling Steers, at . . . . .             | 18 0  | 0              |
| 8 two-year old Ditto, at . . . . .          | 21 0  | 0              |
| 16 Oxen, at . . . . .                       |       |                |

The stock was very even as to the quality and prices they produced.

At the sale of oak timber at the King's House, which was numerous and respectfully attended, thirty-six lots, containing nearly seventeen hundred trees, went off briskly at an average of about 2s 3d per foot. About fourteen thousand faggots and a quantity of cord wood, was also disposed of at reasonable prices, which will afford an excellent supply of labour and fuel for the poor during the approaching season.



## NETHERBY AGRICULTURAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of this Society took place under circumstances which gave it a more than ordinary interest. It will be recollected that last year the tenantry of Sir James Graham, as a mark of their respect and gratitude, invited the hon. baronet to a dinner. On this occasion he returned the compliment, and never did the meeting of such a number of individuals pass off with greater glee and satisfaction.

The show of cattle was appointed to take place at Croft Head, about a mile and a half beyond Longtown, and very near Netherby Hall. The show of stock, we understand, was better than on many previous occasions, and the quality was very superior.

The dinner was appointed to take place in the large farm-yard, at Croft Head, which was fitted up in a very tasty and superb style, under the direction of Mr. Gray. Sir James Graham was in the chair, supported on the right by Sir Pulteney Malcolm, and on his left by the Rev. W. Graham, of Arthuret. From this principal table, seven others extended in a longitudinal direction, and the whole tent was supported by a great number of pillars, completely enveloped in laurels, firs, and other evergreens, and the whole effect of the scene was that of a sumptuous *fête champêtre*. After the cloth was drawn, the tables appeared covered with fine green baize—on which a bottle of wine was immediately placed for every guest, and then followed those proceedings which will be found detailed at length in the subjoined report:—

SIR JAMES GRAHAM having inquired several times whether every one present was supplied with wine, proposed the health of his Majesty, King William, with three times three.

After the cheering had subsided Sir James proposed the Queen and the rest of the Royal Family.

SIR JAMES GRAHAM then proposed the British Navy, and good health to Sir Pulteney Malcolm.—This toast was drunk with three times three, and one cheer more.

SIR PULTENEY MALCOLM returned thanks.—The gallant Admiral sat down amid very loud cheering.

SIR JAMES GRAHAM gave the British Army and Col. Mein, with three times three.

Col. MEIN returned thanks.

SIR JAMES GRAHAM then proposed "the land we live in."—This was drunk with three times three cheers.

After this SIR JAMES GRAHAM read over the list of premiums, prefacing it by the following observations:—I can assure you, my friends, it is impossible for me to express in adequate terms the pleasure I see in beholding you all here to-day, and I might without further consideration proceed at once to the more immediate business of our assembly by reading over the awards of the judges, but it is necessary for me, for the information of some gentlemen who are strangers shortly to explain that at the annual meeting of the Agricultural Society established at Netherby, premiums are awarded, part by myself, and part by the society, for encouraging improvements and rewarding industry in the culture of the neighbouring lands. The farms are regularly visited, and on this occasion I have been informed by the judges that they have had great difficulty in determining to whom the premiums should be awarded, for not only have the competitors for the various prizes been exceedingly numerous but it must be added that all these competitors have displayed such excellent management that it is diffi-

cult to say which is the best. After all the deliberation they could give to the subject, and amid the difficulties they have had to contend with, the whole of the competitors having showed in very excellent condition they have awarded the chief prize, a silver teapot, value 10*l*, to Mr. Wright, of Oak Bank. (*Loud applause.*)

MR. WRIGHT having been called upon to receive the prize, was addressed by the Chairman as follows:—Sir, I cannot convey in sufficiently expressive language the sense I entertain of your excellent management ever since I have had the pleasure of knowing you, now many years, and as a proof of that feeling I present you with this piece of plate.

In awarding the prize for the second class, the CHAIRMAN said,—It is impossible to over-estimate the exertions made by the farmers on the respective farms, and to their honour be it spoken, as their leases have been drawing nearer to a close, I can safely assert, as the proprietor, that the land is every year in better and better condition. I should be ashamed of myself if I were not proud of this, and if I did not hold them up as an example to all the tenantry throughout the empire; it is a characteristic which demands my highest admiration. The second prize has been awarded to Mr. John Johnston, of Pedder Hill, but I am bound to say that the Messrs. Turner have run him hard, and I hope they will be more fortunate next year and reap the reward which they have so richly deserved.

In presenting the piece of plate, SIR JAMES GRAHAM said, as your friend and landlord I cannot convey to you the pleasure I feel in awarding to you this testimony of the approbation of the Netherby Agricultural Society.

In awarding the premium to the third class, SIR JAMES GRAHAM observed, I need hardly tell you, gentlemen, as a proof of the absence of every thing like partiality in the distribution of the premiums, that no regard is paid to the person of the competitor; thus, for instance, the third prize is given to Mr. Richmond Blaylock, of the Barn, who has not only lately come among us, but is nearly a stranger to us all.—Then addressing Mr. Blaylock, Sir James said—I have great pleasure in presenting this to you, Sir; I myself, having gone over your farm within the last few days can bear testimony to the excellence of your management.

In presenting the next premium to Mr. Tinning, the Chairman said—nothing can be more satisfactory than your exertions have been, and I am glad you have received the reward which is your due.

To Mr. William Tweddle he made similar remarks.

The CHAIRMAN then said—the next is a premium, gentlemen, to which I would particularly call your attention, because it is relative to a matter on which I have ever had a strong feeling. When I first came to this estate I believe, without exception, it was the wettest in the North of England; as a practical farmer I saw the necessity of immediately draining it, but all my endeavours to effect that object would have been as nothing without the co-operation of the tenantry; but now I may say with gratitude that a very wet estate has been converted into a dry one, but while I say this, I must again remark that all my exertions would have been useless without the aid of my friends around me, and the premiums which I have year after year offered on this subject, I am convinced have been of the utmost value to my estate; for of this truth I am quite satisfied that in this Northern climate—which is a wet climate—there is nothing so calculated to improve the soil as draining. I have on many former occasions had the

pleasure of awarding premiums on this subject, but the competitors this year really far transcend all previous efforts. It is but justice, however, not to forget what has been done, by the tenants in antecedent years.—The right hon. baronet then read over a calculation of the quantity of tiles used, and the number of miles thus intersected; the result was really astonishing, and by some would be deemed incredible. In awarding the head prize to Mr. Thomas Little, of Heatheryknow, the CHAIRMAN,—I have the greatest pleasure in awarding you this premium, as you are one of my oldest friends, and long a faithful servant to my revered father.

The farmer who produced the best lot of five Galloway cows in milk, was Mr. John Johnston, of Pedderhill, and in awarding him the prize, Sir JAMES GRAHAM said, I cannot refrain from expressing my satisfaction at the improved appearance of the Galloway stock beyond any former occasion. I take great blame to myself for having endeavoured to introduce, with considerable tenacity, the short horned breed, which I am now thoroughly convinced is not so well adapted to thrive in the climate of this part of the country. But having now taken the Galloway breed, as decidedly the best and most profitable, it has been my earnest endeavour to obtain from Galloway the best breed of cattle, in order to introduce them among the tenants on my estate.

In awarding the prize given to Mr. John Birrell of Rosetrees, Sir JAMES GRAHAM said I have one thing to quarrel with you about, Sir; I am very fond of moor game shooting but you have cut up the moss into such fine arable land, that I have scarcely any ground left to shoot over.—(Laughter.)

Respecting the exertions of Mr. John Ferguson of Lynemoor, the Chairman remarked that from a slip of barren moor, he had cultivated one of the finest gardens to be seen in the North of England.

Sir James then went through the premiums given by the Netherby Farmers' Society, taking the opportunity of praising the exertions of the candidates. At the close of the list he said,—I may now be excused, gentlemen, for proposing the toast I am about to give, which is the health of a very numerous portion of those now present. I can assure you I rejoice in beholding you all around me, and am only afraid that the accommodation provided for you is not so comfortable as I could desire, for we are a very numerous family. (Cheers.) I use that phrase in its most honest sense, for we live so happily together that when I look around I feel myself surrounded by friends who have the esteem of brotherhood. And on this occasion I should be the most ungrateful man breathing on the earth, if I did not take the earliest opportunity of proposing the toast I am about to give; for I do not think there is a landlord in England more indebted to any body of men than I am to those now around me, and while I am called to give this due acknowledgment to them, I may add my strong desire while I hold this property, that the same friendly feeling may continue, so that when my days are ended, those who follow me shall bear the generous evidence of my surviving tenantry. I am sure the gentlemen who have honoured me with their company as strangers on this occasion will excuse me if I take this opportunity of returning my heart-felt thanks, and testifying my gratitude by proposing the health of the tenantry on the Netherby estate. I have already adverted to the state in which I first entered upon the lands at Netherby, but I may add that I think the cultivation of this estate may now bear competition with most estates where there exists a similarity of soil. I speak of that perhaps with some little hesitation, but

there is another, and to me a most grateful subject, on which I can speak without the least hesitation, that is, that I will with the utmost confidence, challenge any landlord in the kingdom to produce a body of tenants more honourable, more intelligent, more affectionate, more confiding, more industrious, and more worthy than the Netherby tenants, whose health I now propose with three times three.

After the cheering had subsided, Mr. GIBBONS, of Mossband rose and said, I am not in the habit of making long speeches, but beg leave, gentlemen, to propose the health of a good landlord and a kind friend at the same time. Let us drink with the enthusiasm it deserves,—Sir James Graham, the kind and generous landlord.—This was received with a burst of applause, and hearty cheering which was protracted for some minutes.

On rising Sir JAMES GRAHAM was again honoured with a simultaneous cheer, and then spoke as follows:—Gentlemen, my friend Mr. Gibbons, who has so kindly proposed my health on the present occasion, has told you he is not in the habit of making long speeches, and I shall certainly follow his example, by contenting myself with briefly and sincerely avowing the sentiments of pleasure I feel at the warm manner in which you have recognized my exertions. Gentlemen, I do confess that it has been my object through life to be surrounded by a happy and grateful tenantry: there may be higher, and I fear me more empty ambitions, but I can only say that the utmost of my ambition amounts to this, that while I continue to hold this estate I may so demean myself that when I am no more in the land my memory shall testify that I have proved myself a kind and generous landlord; and to the best of my endeavour nothing shall be wanting to maintain this character. (Loud cheering.) I can truly say, gentlemen, that I have no wish so near my heart as to deserve your approving testimony. This is the highest reward I can ever hope to maintain, and neither state nor sovereignty, nor any thing else to which the power of reward belongs, would ever confer upon me the delight of your esteem; this is now my greatest pride, the preservation will be my greatest desire, and the memory of it will be the proudest token I can bequeath to my children. (Very loud cheering.)—And gentlemen, deeply as I feel this, I am sure that I may add that I enjoy the good will, and neighbourly feeling of the manors of Bewcastle, Nicholforest, and Solport, whose health I now propose, with three times three.

Mr. JOHN DOGSON, of Roanstreets, in Bewcastle, rose to return thanks: he said that in consequence of being one of the freehold tenants of the manors of Bewcastle, Nicholforest, and Solport, he begged to say that so far as regarded agricultural improvements they were in some measure not undeserving the compliment paid them. The great demand for lime and coal at the extensive works of Sir James, in these manors, and the demand for draining tiles at the tile-kilns of Mr. Hallyburton Little, were proofs of the attention they paid to agricultural improvements.—The manors of Nicholforest and Solport, he begged leave to say, were managed with spirit and judgment, and the fine crops of corn now waving in the large corn-fields almost within a stone throw of Christenbury craigs, was a convincing proof that the farmers of the manor of Bewcastle were not behind their neighbours in farm management. Mr. Dogson then proceeded as follows:—our wives, said he, who are careful and industrious, take upon themselves the management of the dairy department, and make butter and cheese equal to any that is sent to the London market,—and they also rear us up fine



families of healthy sons and daughters, who assist us in our farming improvements. (*Cheers.*) Our sons at an early age take a part in the labours of the field; they are excellent ploughmen, much better than some he had seen in the neighbourhood of London, where one man holds the plough and another man drives the horses, and even in that case they make ridges as crooked as the serpent that deceived old mother Eve in the garden of Eden. (*Cheers and laughter.*) Our wives also learn our daughters to knit and sew, and other necessary acquirements in housewifery, but I believe our daughters learn themselves to get husbands, for they in general get married as soon and as well as they possibly can, and they in their turn become mothers to a young and rising generation who will fill our places in society when we are "gone to that bourne from whence no traveller returns." (*Much cheering.*) Mr. DOUGLSON then concluded by saying that the tenants of the manor of Bewcastle, Nicholforest, and Solport would always go forward with agricultural improvements.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM then gave a toast "both sides of the Border."—After that he said, I rise to propose a toast which I am confident will give the utmost satisfaction. In days long gone by, gentlemen, many angry feuds existed; and bitter feeling, strife, and war prevailed throughout the counties on both sides of the border; but I am happy to say that those days are long since passed, and the only feeling that now exists is an honest rivalry in the cultivation and improvement of our native soil, and industry which is the parent of improvement and of a contented life here reigns triumphant. And the consequence naturally is, that as I think, there cannot be a happier district than that on the other side of the border, Eskdale and Liddesdale. I am happy to inform you that they have there introduced the same system which we are, this day, assembled to carry into full operation, and long may they flourish. I am about to give you the health of a landlord, gentlemen, whom I highly respect, who lives among his tenants, and is proud of living among them, and meeting with them on every occasion—I mean the Duke of Buccleugh, and the Eskdale and Liddesdale Pastoral Society, coupling with it the name of Mr. Maxwell, whom I am proud to see here on this occasion. (Three times three.)

Mr. MAXWELL returned thanks in a few words.

Song—Mr. Teather, "The heart that can feel for another."

Sir JAMES GRAHAM—Gentlemen, the excellent sentiment which you have just heard in that song is the true secret of good tenantry—of a perfect understanding between landlord and tenant. It is the heart that can feel for another that makes a kind landlord and a considerate, confiding tenantry, making due allowance for different circumstances in which we are sometimes placed. I beg therefore to propose as a toast kind landlords and confiding tenants.

Mr. SCOTT ELLIOT said, gentlemen, there are other affections than those of landlord and tenant, which develop the feeling heart. And I think we have unfortunately too long delayed to notice the health of a lady as distinguished for virtue, affection, and abilities as she is for the station she occupies in society—Lady Graham, the Baroness of the Manor, with three times three, and one cheer more.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM said,—I am sure you will all agree with me, gentlemen, that is not a manly heart that is not sometimes influenced by the wife he sincerely loves. And I cannot address you from this place, where I resided for the first four or five years after my marriage, with so much happiness, without

alluding to the influence of which I have spoken. And this much I may say of that influence that it was never used except to lead me to my home, and that home, by her influence, was best adapted to make me and those around me happy. (*Loud cheering.*) Gentlemen, I thank you very cordially, and having said this much, I will now propose another toast, connected more especially with the object of this meeting, over which I have now the pleasure of presiding. Gentlemen, I should be forgetful of deep obligations, which to the last hour of my life I am sure I never ought to forget, if I did not, on all feasible occasions, tender my thanks to the tenantry of Netherby and the outer manors; and there are many connected with this county, to whom, while life shall last, and under every change of circumstances, I shall ever acknowledge my obligations and gratitude. Permit me to tender my sense of their kindness. It was from my earliest youth my ambition to represent my native county of Cumberland in Parliament, but not to effect that purpose by sinister or any other unjust influence; I relied upon the unbought, the unpurchasable confidence of a body of men whose confidence could only be obtained by a continued course of good conduct. (*Cheers.*) I allude, gentlemen, to the yeomanry of this independent county, and from them I have received constant and honourable support; and whatever may be the case for the future the past cannot be forgotten, and I for one shall ever maintain that a more upright, intelligent, independent, and honourable body of men cannot be found in any part of the empire than is to be found in the county of Cumberland. Many of them are now present, and consequently to say more would savour of flattery, but to have said less would be an act of injustice, both to them and also to my own feelings, for I can assure you that I shall never forget their kindness. (*Applause.*) Therefore, I beg leave to propose the yeomanry of the county of Cumberland, coupling with them the name of my friend Mr. George Graham, of Prior Rigg, with three times three.

Mr. GEORGE GRAHAM returned thanks in his own behalf, and in the name of the yeomanry of Cumberland.

Mr. SCOTT ELLIOT proposed the health of "the young Laird" with three times three, and one cheer more.

Mr. FREDERICK GRAHAM returned thanks.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM then said,—I have already proposed to you the health of the tenantry on this estate, and on the out manors; you have also done me the kindness to drink my health, and thereby responded to an impression in my mind that on the whole, as a landlord, you were satisfied with my good conduct. It has not been my good fortune constantly to be resident upon my estate, and when absent, and indeed on all occasions, you must know how much depends upon the conduct of a steward, and I am now about to propose to you the health of one who has never failed to hold the balance steady; who has done his duty to me, while he on all occasions advised me to study your interests and comforts, and by so doing he has promoted my best interest and secured your esteem; I now, therefore, give you the health of Mr. Yule, the Secretary to this Society. (*Loud cheering, which burst out into a simultaneous three times three, and at the conclusion one hearty cheer more.*)

Mr. YULE said,—I really cannot express to you what I feel on this occasion. In the station which I have the honour to hold, I have always found it at the best way to promote the interests of my employer was to study your wishes and promote them to the utmost of my power. (*Loud cheers.*)

Sir JAMES GRAHAM said,—I have another debt of gratitude to pay, gentlemen, and I discharge it with the utmost pleasure. I have expressed my obligations to those who are now tenants upon the Netherby estate, but I am proud to see some present who were formerly tenants; who having left the estate, have taken this opportunity of coming amongst us, and showing the interest they take in whatever concerns their former occupations, and renewing their marks of friendly feeling. I am afraid that Mr. Andrew Lamb, of Liverpool, has been unexpectedly detained by illness, as he wrote to me a few days ago that he should certainly be here. But I am proud to see many here, whom I could formerly recognize as tenants, and then and now as friends; amongst them there is one still a neighbour, whose name I will associate with the toast, and I will give you the health of Mr. Teather, and all the former tenants of Netherby, with three times three.

Mr. TEATHER briefly returned thanks.

Mr. BAXTER then proposed the health of the Rev. William Graham, the rector of the two parishes, with three times three and one cheer more.

The Rev. W. GRAHAM said—Believe me, gentlemen, I want words to convey to you my feelings, not because I do not duly appreciate the handsome manner in which my health has been proposed; not because I do not properly estimate the acclamations with which you have greeted my name, coming as those plaudits did from so large an assembly, and that composed of men so respectable as I now see, but because my feelings overpower me. For you may easily imagine that it cannot fail of being most gratifying to me, and I can only regret that I am not more worthy of your approval. (*Loud cheering.*)

Sir JAMES GRAHAM then said—Gentlemen, we whose interests are so blended with agriculture, cannot at the same time be indifferent to the important departments of trade and commerce, more especially as respects the districts in our neighbourhood. I believe you all feel a deep interest in the growing prosperity of the trade and commerce of Carlisle, which cannot fail of imparting to us unmingled satisfaction. There is a gentleman now present a resident in the good old city, who has a peculiar claim on my attentions; I might with justice say an hereditary claim for he has been my faithful legal adviser; his father was the faithful and tried adviser of my father, I believe his grandfather of my grandfather; and I may safely say that a more honourable and excellent man does not exist. You all know him, and therefore to say more would be superfluous, and I will therefore give the health of my friend, Mr. Mounsey, and success to the trade and commerce of Carlisle, with three times three.

Mr. MOUNSEY said, on behalf of the trade and merchants of Carlisle, I am bound to return thanks to Sir James Graham, and also to you for expressing your wishes for their prosperity, though I am not immediately connected with them, as a body. Sir James Graham has alluded to the link which has subsisted between me and yourselves; for my part I can say that through the whole of my life I have been in the habit of meeting the tenants of Netherby, and that intercourse has been a source of unmixed satisfaction. (*Cheers.*)

Sir JAMES GRAHAM then said, having drank the health of the Duke of Buccleugh, and success to the agricultural society on the other side of the Border, I will now take the opportunity of proposing one whom I am proud to recognize as connected with the agriculture of this county, who has been my colleague, and who I am happy to recognize as my

neighbour and friend. I will give you the health of the Earl of Carlisle, and success to the Brampton Agricultural Society.

Mr. JOHN WRIGHT, of Oak Bank, proposed the health of Captain Charles Graham, with three times three, and one cheer more.

Captain GRAHAM returned thanks.

Mr. SCOTT ELLIOTT then proposed the health of Lady Catherine Graham, which was drank with the utmost enthusiasm.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM returned his hearty thanks on behalf of his revered and respected mother.

Mr. GRAHAM, of Cubby Hill, proposed the health of Major Graham, who in a neat address returned thanks.

Sir PULTENEY MALCOLM, after a warm eulogium on the sisters of Sir James Graham, proposed their healths, in whose name Sir James returned thanks, and said if they deserved the praise of Sir Pulteney, it might be attributed in no small degree to the excellent example of the neighbours among whom they had spent their earliest years.

The company continued assembled until about seven o'clock, when Sir James vacated the chair, attended by his most distinguished guests, and the company followed shortly afterwards.

The following is a list of the premiums adjudged by the gentlemen appointed to make the awards:—

1. To the best managed of any of the following farms, a silver tea pot of ten pounds value:—Guards, Rosetrees, Mastown, Oakbank, Beatenbush, Moat, Fauld and Browside, Hornickhill, Burnfoot, Lairdstown, Stagmire, Parcelstown, Randalinton, Bush-on-Lyne, Inch and Riddingshall, Guards-mill and Mill-hill, Longtown Brewery Farm, the Inn, and Stonehouse. Seven competitors. Prize awarded to Mr. John Wright, of Oakbank.

N. B.—The criterion of management chiefly to be attended to for 1835, will be the greatest breadth of well managed and manured turnip crop on the lighter soils; the greatest breadth of well manured thoroughly cleaned bare fallow on the strong lands, in proportion to the extent of the farm; the state of the farm-buildings water-courses, gates, and fences; and the greatest extent of bent, moor, moss, or waste land brought into aration or fit for the plough. The greatest extent of land on each farm, in proportion to the measurement, well and properly sown out, and pasture of the different ages stipulated in the respective leases, will also form a chief point in awarding this prize.

2.—To the best managed of any of the following farms, a silver tea pot of ten pounds value:—Cubby-hill, Redbank, Glendinningrigg, North Pedderhill, South Pedderhill, William and Georgetown, Oldhall, Nookfoot, Briscohill, Howend, Whitecloserigg, Oakshawhill, Milles, Cowrigg, Baileytown, Chapel-town, Lawshall, Little Randalinton, and Philips-town. Four competitors.—Prize given to Mr. John Johnston, of South Pedderhill.

N. B. the criterion of management chiefly to be attended to in 1835, will be the greatest breadth of well managed and manured turnip crop on light soils; the greatest breadth of well limed, and thoroughly cleaned summer fallow on strong soils: the greatest extent of old lea land limed on the face, to be eat in at least two years before breaking up; the greatest breadth of land well and properly laid out for pasture in proportion to the extent of the farm; and the situation of houses, gates, fences, and water courses.

3.—To the best managed of any of the following farms, cash four pounds:—Plump and Hagtown, Moss-side, Hilstown, Frankstown, Closegap, Liddle-



strength, Hightree, Bruntfauld, Baxtongill, Dikehead, Over Dikehead, Beyondwood, Forrest's Arthur's Cross, Sandgreen, Highplains, Charles-town, North Easton, Lamblin, Heatheryknowe, Carwinley Mill, Dashwellgreen, Lowplains, South Sealelands, North Sealelands, Upper Hallburn, Lower Hallburn, the Ladies' Seats, Moorstown, Daffyston-rigg, Glinger-burn, Redcleugh, Nether-Hirst, Corrie-lees, Burntinsbill, Petterscrook, Redburnside, Sealandburn, Becklees, Fineview, Plada, Caldwell-path, Creca, Bellfield, Jacksonrigg, Meadhope as let to the Globe Inn, Sandbed and Meadhope, Shadwellcrooks, Todhillriggs, Ninevah, Battiestown and Greenswang. Six competitors.—Prize given to Mr. Richmond Blaylock, of the Barn.

N. B.—The criterion of management chiefly to be attended to in 1835, will be the greatest extent of well managed and manured green crop, and clean of bare summer sallow properly manured, in proportion to the size and quality of the farm; the greatest extent of old lea land limed on the face, to be eat in at least two years before breaking up for Oats; the extent of pasture land, in proportion to the size of the farm; and the general state of houses, fences, gates, water-courses, and drains.

4.—To the best managed small possession or croft, the farmer of which may be occasionally employed off his farm—cash four pounds. Seven competitors.—Prize given to Mr. John Tinning, of Yules-croft.

N. B.—In deciding this prize, the state of the houses, gates, fences, drains, and water-courses was attended to, as well as the mode of cropping.

5.—To the best managed ditto ditto on which the farmer does not reside, under the same conditions as the last—cash three pounds. Four competitors.—Prize given to Mr. Wm. Tweddell, of Longtown.

6.—For the best executed draining by stone or tile laid on slates, the quantity of land laid dry and fit for aration to be compared with the extent of the farm without reference to the rent. Three competitors.

First prize—five pounds.—Obtained by Mr. Thos. Little, of Heatheryknowe.

Second prize—two pounds five shillings.—Obtained by Mr. Johnston, of Pedderhill.

7.—To the tenant who shall produce the best lot of two year old Galloway cattle, male or female, not less than five in number, bred on his farm, and *bonâ fide* his own property, the first choice of a Galloway bull calf. Eight competitors. Prize awarded to Mr. Johnston, of Pedderhill.

8.—To the tenant who shall produce the best lot of two year old cattle, male or female, not less than five in number, bred on his farm, and *bonâ fide* his property, the second choice of a Galloway bull calf from the Netherby stock. Six competitors.—Prize given to James Baxter, of Fauld.

9.—To the ditto ditto who shall produce the second best lot of five year old cattle under the same conditions as the last the third choice of a Galloway bull calf. Nine competitors.—Prize given to Mr. Johnston, of Pedderhill.

N. B.—The bull calves that may be selected by the successful candidates for prizes 7th, 8th, and 9th, are to be kept upon the estate of Netherby, to serve cows, for three successive seasons, that is to say for 1836, 1837, and 1838; or if the president or his agent thinks proper, the gainers of these prizes may be allowed to sell their bull calves to farmers upon the Estate of Netherby, who, however, must still keep the said bulls agreeable to these conditions, and on no account shall the said bulls be allowed to be sold off the Netherby estate, for the three years named.

10.—Pure bred Galloway cows belonging to the tenants of the Netherby estate, if approved of by the agent or under-steward, to be served free of expense for the ensuing season, by Sir James Graham's bulls.

11.—Mares belonging to the said tenants, if approved as in the last prize, to be served free of expense, by Sir James's Arab stallion, Sultan, for the ensuing year.

12.—To the best managed ancient meadow upon the estate, upon which either line, short-dung, or compost shall have been applied for the current crop, in proportion to the extent and capability of the farm—cash two pounds. Four competitors.—Prize awarded to Mr. John Birrell, of Rosetrees.

13.—To the best managed meadow formed from lands not originally meadow, and improved since the year 1834, under the same conditions as the last, two pounds. Three competitors.—Prize given to Mr. Gibbons, of Mossband.

14.—Among the best kept, neatest, and cleanest cottages and gardens upon the estate Lady Graham gives prizes to the amount of ten pounds in money and garden seeds, to be awarded according merit, by the judges of the Netherby Farmers' Society. 18 competitors.

First class—Mr. John Ferguson, of Hynemore.

Second class—Mr. John Jeffrey, of Beck.

Third class—Jane Irving, of Millhill, and 15 others.

Premiums offered by the Netherby Farmers' Society, to the Tenantry and Cottagers of the right hon. Sir J. R. G. Graham, Bart., M. P., independent of the Prizes offered by Sir James and Lady Graham. Crop and year, 1835:—

1.—To the best managed, manured, and cultivated turnip crop, upon the whole estate, the extent of the farm and nature of the soil being considered, three pounds. Nine competitors.—Prize given to William Birrell, of Rosetrees.

2.—To the best ditto ditto potato crop, on the same conditions, three pounds. Fifteen competitors.—Prize given to Messrs. Little, of Guards Mill.

N. B.—The successful candidates for Sir James's Prizes, Nos. 1 and 2, not to compete for these two last-mentioned Prizes.

3.—For the best bull, of the pure Galloway breed, *bonâ fide* the property of a Netherby farmer, and to serve cows upon the estate, until the 1st of September, 1836, at not more than 2s 6d each cow, but after receiving this Prize, the bull may be sold if he has already remained three years on the estate for the purpose of breeding, five pounds. Four competitors.—Prize given to Mr. Thomas Tweddell, Longtown.

4.—For the second best ditto ditto on the same conditions, the bull to be 2 years old off, two pounds. To Mr. R. Wilkin, Guards.

5.—For the best cow of the Galloway breed, *bonâ fide* the property of a member: the cow to be in milk at the time of showing, one pound. Seven competitors.—Prize given to Mr. Gibbons, Mossband.

6.—For the best Galloway heifer bred upon the estate, two years old past on the 1st of March, 1835, one pound. Four competitors.—Prize given to Mr. R. Gibbon, Mossband.

7.—To the best ditto ditto one year old, ten shillings. Four competitors.—Prize given to Mr. R. Lattimer, Hornickhill.

8.—To the best cart stallion, of the Pure Scotch breed, to serve in the district, and give every satisfaction during the season to the committee of Judges appointed by the Society, five pounds.—Mr. Pringle, Jerriestown, for the Horse, Clyde.

9.—To the best brood cart mare, of the pure Scotch breed, two pounds. Nine competitors.—Prize given to Mr. Sanders, of Riddings.

N. B.—This prize to be held by the Treasurer until the mare produce a foal, if she has not already produced, but she must be stinted.

10.—To the second best ditto ditto on the same conditions, one pound ten shillings.—Given to Mr. W. Graham, of Cubby Hill.

11.—To the best three years old cart horse, mare, or gelding, of the pure Scotch breed, bred on Netherby, two pounds. Two competitors.—Prize given to Mr. R. Wilkin, of Guards.

12.—To the second best ditto ditto, one pound.—Given to Mr. R. Latimer, of Hornickhill.

13.—To the best two years old horse, mare, or gelding, of the pure Scotch breed, two pounds. Seven competitors.—Prize given to Mr. R. Wilkin, Guards.

14.—To the best one year old ditto ditto, one pound. Five competitors.—Prize given to Mr. John Wilkin, of Mossband.

15.—To the best boar, two pounds. Two competitors.—Prize given to Mr. John Carruthers, of Whitesyke.

16.—To the second best ditto, one pound.—Given to the Messrs. Little, of Guards Mill.

17.—To the best sow, one pound. Four competitors.—Prize given to Messrs. Little of Guards Mill.

18.—To the man or woman servant in husbandry, for the longest term of service with one master but not less than seven years, one pound. Three competitors.—Given to Mary Scott, 14 years with Mr. Wilkin, of Bush.

19.—For the best pen of five yearling Cheviot widders.—Three competitors.—Prize given to Mr. Thomas Wilkin, of Bush.

20.—For the best ditto of five yearling half-bred widders, one pound. Four competitors.—Prize given to Mr. John Saunders, of Riddings.

**PRESERVATION OF APPLES.**—The following valuable observations, contained in a letter from N. Webster, Esq., have been published in "The Massachusetts Agricultural Repository."—"It is the practice of some persons to pick apples in October, and first spread them on a floor of an upper room. The practice is said to render apples more durable, by drying them. But I can affirm this to be a mistake. Apples, after remaining so long on the trees as safety from the frost will admit, should be taken directly from the trees to close casks, and kept as dry and cool as possible. If suffered to lie on the floor for weeks, they wither, and lose their flavour, without acquiring any additional durability. The best mode for preserving apples for spring use I have found to be the putting them in dry sand, and as soon as picked. For this purpose, I dry sand in the heat of the summer, and late in October, put down the apples in layers, with a covering of sand upon each layer. The singular advantages of this mode of treatment are these:—1. The sand keeps the apples from the air, which is essential to their preservation. 2. The sand checks the evaporation of the apples, thus preserving their full flavour; at the same time, any moisture yielded by the apples (and some there will be) is absorbed by the sand, so that the apples are kept dry, and all mustiness is prevented. My pippins, in May and June, are as fresh as when first picked, even the ends of the stems look as if just separated from the twig."

## BUCKS PLOUGHING MATCH AND DISTRIBUTION OF PREMIUMS TO AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS, AT BUCKINGHAM.

On Wednesday, September 23, the annual ploughing match of the Royal Bucks Agricultural Association was held at Buckingham. Fifteen ploughs started at ten o'clock punctually, and the work was finished by one o'clock. There was a large concourse of people in the field. Afterwards a meeting was held at the Cobham Arms, at which several members were proposed and admitted, and some other business was transacted; the party then proceeded to the hall, in which

### THE DINNER

was provided. A very large company (nearly 200) assembled to partake of the excellent viands set before them in profusion.

Amongst the company present were—the Marquis of Chandos, President, in the chair; Lord Nugent; Sir W. L. Young, Bart., M.P.; Col. Hanmer, M.P.; G. Raymond Barker, Esq.; W. Bailey, Esq.; W. Medley, Esq.; Rev. Messrs. Wright, Young, Meredith, Perkins, &c.; Messrs. Montgomery, Martin, Brown, Howard, Gray, &c. &c., and a great number of the most respectable and substantial farmers of the district. Sir T. F. Freemantle, M.P., and Sir H. Verney, M.P., as Vice-Presidents of the association, presided respectively at the two side tables.

After the removal of the cloth, the usual toasts having been given from the chair,

The Marquis of Chandos said,—Gentlemen, we are assembled here to-day to carry into effect the objects of this the Royal Bucks Agricultural Association. It has now been established upwards of three years, and is, I rejoice to add, highly prosperous and beneficial. (*Cheers.*) It has proceeded on purely agricultural principles, without any regard to political feelings or party politics. (*Cheers.*) It is true that attempts have been made to cast such motives in our proceedings, but I now only notice those aspersions, to state openly and distinctly, that in this association we know of no party but the British farmer. (*Great applause.*) I am proud to fill the situation in which I this day stand before you; to be at the head of this table as president to the association, surrounded, as I am, by so many respectable and worthy farmers, and to have the satisfaction, in their presence, of distributing the premiums which this association has awarded to the honest, industrious, and faithful labourers and servants. (*Cheers.*) I am convinced that great benefits have already resulted from these distributions: I am convinced that yet greater benefits are to follow. It is delightful to have to bestow fitting remuneration upon deserving objects, they look to you with pride and respect, gratified at the remuneration which you give; and we have the satisfaction of giving to them the prizes which not only reward their good behaviour, but stimulate others to industry and fidelity. (*Great cheering.*) When I contemplate the condition of the peasant, so debased and depraved as it has been but in too many cases, I feel assured that these would not have occurred, if, at an earlier period, such an association as this had been established. But this association once formed, I knew from the first that it would link all the county in one general interest, and unite them, free from all party motive, in the great cause of agriculture. (*Cheers.*) We shall, by this, rescue the labourer from the beer-shops, which are his bane, and aid the humbler classes in their efforts to



live free from parochial aid, and to bring up their families to honest labour and independence. (*Great cheering.*) They will now know that by honest courses and industrious conduct, they will be remunerated and encouraged, and thus they will see that to be idle and disorderly will but injure their condition, whilst good conduct, fidelity, and honest service, will receive the praise and the premiums of this association. (*Cheers.*) I am glad to hear that the prizes for the ploughing have been earned in a skilful and workmanlike manner, and I am proud to see so numerous an assemblage here to-day to witness the distribution of those rewards which have been so properly earned. I trust at another meeting to see our friends from the northern districts in greater numbers, for I wish the benefit of this association to be most widely extended, as the association looks for support to the residents of the county in every part. It is, I confess, hard upon us, that, of all the occupations of the state, agriculture alone is depressed. (*Hear, hear,*) Yes, the staple of the land is suffering, while all other branches of industry increase and prosper. It is not, believe me, of their prosperity that I complain, but it is of our adversity; and from this depression we must endeavour to rid ourselves, if we would not sink under it. (*Cheers.*) The day is not far off when my prediction will be fulfilled, that we shall again flourish, if the farmers will be up and stirring in their own cause, and most earnestly do I appeal to them to rouse without delay. Agriculture must be relieved; with every good wish to manufacture, with every desire to see it flourish, and ready to aid its prosperity in any way—still I repeat that agriculture must not, shall not longer be behind in the race of national prosperity. (*Immense cheering.*) All trade is in activity, but we find the national and natural source of prosperity declining and decaying, and agriculture is hanging on the rear. The farmers must not lose a moment in rescuing their cause from the distress that nigh threatens to overwhelm it. When I appeal to you to be active and immediate in your efforts, I know that I do not appeal in vain. I wish my words to go forth through the county and through the land, and I wish they may rouse the farmers to protect themselves. (*Cheers.*) And then I hope my words may prove true, and that better times may again encourage and repay you. Support yourselves and one another, and success will crown your struggle. I have often before told you that I am ever at your service when I can be of use, and I will again say, that so long as I breathe, you shall never want my exertions and my advocacy whenever and wherever you may think they can conduce to your advantage. The noble lord concluded amidst immense and protracted cheering, by toasting success to the Royal Bucks Agricultural Association, which was drunk with three times three, amidst the loudest applause.

The distribution of prizes followed. Lord Chandos delivered each premium to the successful candidate, addressing them singly in the most feeling and appropriate terms.

## DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

Agricultural labourers of Buckinghamshire who have brought up the largest families by their own earnings, without parochial relief:—

## FIRST PRIZE.

| Name.       | Where resident. | Children. | No. of Brought up. | £ | s. | d. |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------------|---|----|----|
| W. Burnell. | Quainton.       | 12.       | 11.                | 4 | 0  | 0  |
| C. Floyd.   | Chenies.        | 11.       | 9.                 | 4 | 0  | 0  |

## SECOND PRIZE.

|           |                |    |    |   |   |   |
|-----------|----------------|----|----|---|---|---|
| T. Keene. | Aston Clinton. | 7. | 7. | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| T. Beech. | Fawley.        | 7. | 7. | 3 | 0 | 0 |

## THIRD PRIZE.

|             |              |    |    |   |   |   |
|-------------|--------------|----|----|---|---|---|
| H. Jackson. | Ivinghoe.    | 9. | 4. | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| T. Parker.  | Cheddington. | 7. | 4. | 2 | 0 | 0 |

## FOURTH CLASS.

|            |            |    |    |   |   |   |
|------------|------------|----|----|---|---|---|
| J. Elliot. | Hambleton. | 6. | 5. | 1 | 0 | 0 |
|------------|------------|----|----|---|---|---|

To single Male hired Servants in Husbandry, who have lived the longest period, not less than five years, in the houses of their employers, being Members of this Association.

## Length of service.

|                 |            |                       |    |            |
|-----------------|------------|-----------------------|----|------------|
| Wm. Robertson.. | Wingrove.. | 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ yrs.. | £2 | 1st prize. |
| Wm. Deane.....  | Hambledon. | 5 yrs..               | 2  | ditto.     |

To the best Female hired Servants in Husbandry, who have lived the longest period, not less than three years, in the houses of their employers, being Members of this Association.

## Length of service.

|                   |              |         |    |            |
|-------------------|--------------|---------|----|------------|
| Susan Sharpe....  | Pitstone.... | 4 yrs.. | £2 | 1st prize. |
| Eliz. Saunders... | Quainton...  | 3 yrs.. | 2  | ditto.     |

To the Dairy Woman who has lived the Longest Period in the service of the same Individual, a Member of the Association, not less than Five Years, the Dairy consisting of not less than Thirty Cows.

## Length of service.

|                |            |         |          |    |   |   |
|----------------|------------|---------|----------|----|---|---|
| Letitia Brill. | Waddesden. | 7½ yrs. | 50 cows. | £3 | 0 | 0 |
|----------------|------------|---------|----------|----|---|---|

To Shepherds of Members of this Association who shall produce a Certificate from their Masters of having reared, in the preceding Lambing Season, the greatest number of Lambs of not less than 100 Ewes.

|              | No.<br>of Lambs. | No.<br>of Ewes | Prize. |
|--------------|------------------|----------------|--------|
| n...204....  | 140...           | £3 1st         |        |
| don, 167.... | 116...           | 3 do.          |        |
| ...266....   | 200...           | 2 2nd          |        |
| n...247....  | 194...           | 2 do.          |        |
| ...125....   | 110...           | 1 3rd          |        |
| ...116....   | 108...           | 1 do.          |        |

To Labourers in Husbandry who have been employed without intermission the longest period on the same Farm, or with the same Masters, being Members of this Association, (cases of illness excepted.)

## Years.

|              |                |     |    |            |
|--------------|----------------|-----|----|------------|
| R. Marlow.   | Biddlesden.    | 60. | £3 | 1st prize. |
| T. Wilmer.   | Fleet Marsten. | 55. | 3  | ditto.     |
| W. Shepherd. | Twylford.      | 42. | 2  | 2nd prize  |
| J. Causley.  | Winchendon.    | 50. | 2  | ditto.     |
| J. Allen.    | Foxcote.       | 35. | 1  | 3rd prize. |
| W. Spires.   | Thornboro'.    | 34. | 1  | ditto.     |

To the Ploughmen who can plough half an acre in the best manner, in the space of time not exceeding four hours.

| Masters.        | Men.         | Prize.             |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Jno. Brickwell. | Thos. Huges. | No driver. £3 1st  |
| Jno. Roper.     | W. Scott.    | A driver. 2nd      |
| Thos. Bartlett. | John Scott.  | Thos. Scott. 1 3rd |

W. Scott, boy driver to the second prize, 7s. 6d.

To Agricultural Labourers, claimants for the Society's Coat and Buttons, for general good conduct, not less than ten years.

|                |               |           |
|----------------|---------------|-----------|
| W. Edwards.    | Cheddington.  | 46 years. |
| T. Rowe.       | Leckhamstead. | 40 years. |
| R. Colson.     | Leckhamstead. | 40 years. |
| W. Atkins.     | Hambleton.    | 26 years. |
| A. S. Emerton. | Leckhamstead. | 35 years. |
| J. Smith.      | Chenies.      | 26 years. |
| D. Tompkins.   | Pitstone.     | 26 years. |

The following were the candidates for the ploughing match :—

| Proprietors.           | Residence.    | Ploughmen and Boys.    |
|------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| T. Bartlett, Esq...    | Buckingham    | J. Scott, T. Scott     |
| Rev. J. L. Long..      | do.           | J. Hobbs, G. King      |
| Mr. J. Sear.....       | Bourton       | T. Warner, J. Adkins   |
| Rev. Mr. Young..       | Quainton      | T. Hedges, J. Hedges   |
| G. Parrot, Esq..       | Castle Farm   | J. Hicks, W. Giles     |
| Mr. J. Hurst, ...      | Leckhampstead | S. Warner, W. Newman   |
| Mr. J. Brickwell,      | do.           | T. Hodges              |
| Mr. J. Hurst ....      | do.           | H. Smith, H. Whitehead |
| Mr. E. Walker...       | Desborough    | J. Gibbard             |
| Mr. V. Brickwell ..... |               | W. Isam                |
| Mr. C. Brickwell ..... |               | W. Fenzmore            |
| Mr. Roper .....        | Foscot        | W. Scott, A. Druce     |
| Mr. Swain .....        | Buckingham    | J. French, T. Rawlings |
| Mr. Fountain ....      | Thornborough  | J. Cranwell, T. Capel  |

LORD CHANDOS observed that he had the utmost delight in witnessing the scene that had just passed before them. He rejoiced to see so many honest and faithful servants so justly praised and so properly rewarded. They evidently were not blind to their own position, nor insensible to the kindness displayed towards them. He trusted that their example would incite their fellow labourers, and that each year the sight would be more gratifying. For himself, it was a most pleasing task to distribute these rewards, and he then proposed amidst universal cheering, "The Health of the Winners of the prizes of the day and their Families," with three times three and great applause.

SIR HARRY VERNEY.—I have permission to propose a toast, and it is one which I know you will all drink with pleasure and enthusiasm. I will appeal to you whether this association can be better headed than by the noble marquis, (*Shouts of applause*) Could the prizes have been distributed with better recommendation and advice, or with more suitable language and manner than that of the noble president? The principles which he recommended to those humble but worthy persons, are those which should govern us as public and private men. (*Great applause.*) I beg to express my most decided and warmest approbation of this association and its proceedings, and rejoice to find that such are the objects of the Royal Bucks Agricultural Association. In all times, and especially in these times, it is well for landlord, tenant, and labourer, to unite with one common feeling in the common cause. I will now give you the health of our worthy President, the Marquis of Chandos.

MARQUIS OF CHANDOS.—I assure you that I experience the greatest difficulty in finding language in which I can adequately convey to you my feelings for the kindness you so constantly and generously evince to me, or to my excellent and worthy friend, Sir Harry Verney, for the kind and hearty manner in which he gave my health, and I rejoice to hear that he will bear testimony with me to the principles which actuate this association; and that the country will know, from such a witness also, that this association has for its object only the benefit of the agricultural classes, and especially the encouragement of the agricultural labourer. I am confident

that it is for the benefit of the landlord that he should mix as often as possible with his tenantry to know their actual condition, and to understand their views and wishes; I am confident that the more frequently the clergy mix with one another and their flocks the better for both; and I am confident the more frequently the gentry and landholders of the county meet together, without reference to party politics, the better it is for them and all around them. I have heard with delight the testimony of Sir H. Verney, and with unmixed pleasure I meet at this festive board so many kind and well known friends. It has ever been my object, and will ever continue to be so, to associate as much as possible with my neighbours, and in every way in my power to aid them. I desire to live amongst them as a country gentleman, solely depending on the land for my support, and wishing to drive from my memory all party feeling and all political prejudices. Yes! I would drive from my recollection those party feuds which have sundered relatives (*here the noble lord was interrupted by the loud cheers that rung from all corners of the hall*), divided friends, and impeded many of the best and most admirable intentions of the heart. Yet I will say, that party feeling shall never distract me from my purpose, nor divert me from my object—the benefit of the English farmer. By him I have been honoured with friendship, confidence, and support for many a long year, and I hope I may say with honest pride, that I have never abused that friendship—never disgraced that confidence. I have endeavoured to be of service to those around me to the utmost of my means, regretting only that they are not as abundant as my good wishes are towards you. My object in accepting the honourable office of President, has been to do all in my power to serve you; and if I have not succeeded I regret it—but do not blame me. In every capacity I do my best to serve you, and if I am not victorious on every question, yet I am not the less anxious again to attempt whatever may be considered serviceable to your interests and welfare. *But you must not sleep on your posts; you have much to do, and must instantly begin to act, and continue in one straightforward and constant course.* It is not by restless agitation that you may hope to prosper, but by laying your wishes at the foot of the throne. State your distress, and petition the House of Lords and the House of Commons to listen to, and redress, your grievances. Do not agitate vexatiously, but follow my advice and act constitutionally. These are times of great distress, and no man can be blind to the fact. You who visit the markets know their depression. I rejoice at the prosperity of the manufacturing districts; I wish, and am glad, to see them thriving, but I want to see agriculture placed in a similar condition. I desire to see the farmer restored to that position in which he was placed by the Almighty, and in which he has an undoubted right to continue. For myself, in my course I may have met with much obloquy for my support of your cause; but I have the satisfaction of knowing that I am honest and consistent in my purpose. As a body, we have been styled monopolists, yet they who made that attack may find that the charge of monopoly may be returned upon themselves with much greater justice. I am for living and letting live, being, as I am, one of you, and dependent on your art and your cultivation. In my family have we had property left to us; so have many of you; and each of us is naturally desirous of retaining what has descended to us. Yet many farmers have been compelled to leave their homes, whom, last year, I saw there in comfort, whose hospitality I enjoyed;



and whose welcome I received. Now where are they? Expatriated to Canada, or some other foreign land, and seeking a subsistence and a grave in a strange and foreign land. No man who knows the value of home and his own fireside will, I am sure, hesitate to answer the call made on him to come forward and exert himself to support the failing plough. For myself, I am ready to sink or swim with you, but I hope I may be able to point out to you a haven, into which, at length, you may safely and prosperously steer your vessel uninjured by agitation and contrary gales. Whenever I see so many whose kindness has always befriended me, I assure you that I am most deeply sensible of their favour towards me, and desirous to express those feelings. I assure you that there is no moment of my life in which I do not turn in my mind how I may aid you; and my constant prayer is for your happiness and prosperity. I hope I may continue thus to meet you through a length of years. Let us at once begin in the good course necessary to achieve our ends, but let it still be said of us that we have never entertained any feelings but those of patriotism and loyalty, and that we have never committed one unconstitutional act.

Sir W. L. YOUNG then proposed the health of Lord Nugent and congratulations on his return to his native land. (*Great cheering.*)

LORD NUGENT.—If I say that I find great difficulty in acknowledging the honour you have just paid me, I do not say so according to the common cant which is so often used on such occasions. I do feel a real difficulty in expressing my sentiments adequately after my lengthened absence from my native country, and to be thus received in a place consecrated to me by many and dear remembrances. (*Great applause.*) It is with sincere joy that I have hailed the assurance of my noble and dear relative in the chair, it is with the deepest satisfaction I hail his declaration, that all political and party feeling are here to be wholly laid aside. (*Cheers.*) No man has more ably and consistently adhered to opinions than he, but as here we have assembled on an occasion of great usefulness, I rejoice that we are exempt from political taint. Far be it from me not to give the highest credit to a man, who, giving his best power to a party, acts with them consistently; but here, we are surrounded by the symbols of peace, the monuments of rural industry—here we are met to spread abroad the principles which must be beneficial to our country, and to mingle with these, even party motives or party feelings would be a political taint. (*Loud cheers.*) To do so would be what a political writer has called “the madness of the many for the gain of the few.” I meet the pledge as it was given, and I am sure my noble relative never made a pledge which before God and man he was not ready to give effect to. (*Cheers.*) I meet the pledge with readiness, and as far as my humble example may go I give it, hoping that whenever the time may come I may be admitted one of this useful and beneficial association. (*Loud applause.*) You have conferred to-day benefits on your county and on yourselves, and what Englishman can think otherwise after the scene of to-day. The noble ambition of the peasant has been realized, he has been raised in society and in his own estimation. Your approbation has been well bestowed, because well deserved by those faithful servants and honest labourers. (*Cheers.*) Amongst these there are men who had passed upwards of half a century each in the service of one master, and half of what a century? A period teeming with sacrifices of every kind, from the highest to the lowest; of public sacrifice, and private

rendering up of privileges. The poet has mentioned the “short and simple annals of the poor,” but the annals of our poor, in this time, have been, not “short and simple,” but complicated and suffering. (*Cheers.*) But I look to better times which cannot be better anticipated than by meetings like this; and may you always have such objects in view is my ardent and constant wish—nor is that wish less ardent or constant that at these meetings you may banish from your own mind, and from that of each other, every adverse feeling on which you may have the misfortune to differ.

LORD NUGENT again repeated his thanks, and sat down amidst universal cheering.

“Thanks to the Stewards.”

Mr. Brickwell returned thanks.

Song—*Here's a health to the King, God bless him.*—

Mr. Barton.

The health of the Treasurer, Mr. Horwood. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. HORWOOD returned thanks, and observed that in the objects of this association there could have been no mistake. As cultivating the good feeling of the peasantry, we were but making fast the roots of the British oak, and thus strengthening the branches. Two of the upper branches of that tree had declared their views of the association, and he was sure that Buckinghamshire would be subject to no reproach for the establishment of the Agricultural Association. (*Cheers.*)

The Secretary, Mr. Joseph Howard, whose attention to the interests of the association was deserving of the best thanks. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. HOWARD returned thanks, and stated that he had received letters of the associations all over the kingdom, sending their best wishes, and expressing a desire to be in communication with this association. He trusted that the association would make a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether, and then we might hope to see agriculture again flourishing. (*Loud applause.*)

Song—*The Overseer.*

“Health of the Judges of the Ploughing.”

Mr. R. PAXTON returned thanks.

LORD CHANDOS then said that there were several strangers in the room, one of whom had generously presented 5l to the association, Mr. Montgomery Martin. (*Cheers.*) He was happy to say that he had also other donations to give from friends whose names he was not at liberty then to name, amounting to nearly 100l. (*Loud cheering.*) This would show that they had active friends and well wishers. He proposed the health of Mr. M. Martin, and the strangers present. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. MONTGOMERY MARTIN returned thanks.

Mr. MARTIN then proposed the health of a warm friend to the farmer, W. Medley, Esq. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. MEDLEY was much indebted for the kind manner in which his health had been received. He was no new comer amongst them, but had been in Bucks for these 20 years, but never desired to take an active part amongst them until in a time of depression, when believing that he could serve the farmers he came forward to lend his assistance. (*Cheers.*) There was but one mode by which they were to be extricated from their present difficulties, and that was no out-of-the-way new-fangled mode—it was by returning to the old silver standard of the country; and that would ensure better prices and better wages. (*Hear.*) He had been delighted at the display of the afternoon. It was highly gratifying and delightful to see Lord Chandos and Lord Nugent sitting together at this board (*great cheering*), and he hailed it as an omen of the return of

peace and prosperity to the county. He hoped that political differences would cease. He, himself, disclaimed all politics, and reflected only with joy on the sight of that day; and a prouder sight he had never contemplated. He trusted to see better days for the farmer, and was assured that the return to the silver standard was the only means of securing the return of prosperity to the farmer, which no man desired more ardently to see than himself. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. COWLEY, (of Winslow), in an energetic speech, proposed the health of Colonel Hanmer. (*Cheers.*)

Colonel HANMER returned thanks for the cordial reception given to him. He should ever remember with pleasure that he was the humble individual who proposed the resolution to establish this association, which so widely and efficaciously extended its benefits. He believed that it was entirely through this association that the exports of corn from the Canadas and the Channel Islands had been taken up by government. The poor laws were coming into full operation, and the labourer was now dependant solely on his own resources. He trusted it would work well, and then the purposes of this association would be aided, and its intentions rendered more generally useful. (*Cheers.*)

Lord CHANDOS then proposed the health of a warm friend to agriculture, G. S. Harcourt, Esq., the late High Sheriff, and the Vice President of the Royal South Bucks Agricultural Association, at which he presided last year. He was so great a friend to agriculture, that he had established a ploughing match on his own estate at Ankerwyke. Unfortunately that took place to-day, which had been so arranged before Mr. Harcourt was aware of the annual meeting here, or he would have been present at Buckingham. (*Great applause.*)

Lord CHANDOS next proposed the Press of the county, and the health of Mr. Ryde and Mr. Mason, editors of the two county papers. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. RYDE returned thanks for the Bucks Herald, and was received with the usual kindness of the Buckinghamshire yeomen.

Mr. Mason, for the Bucks Gazette, returned his thanks. He had been called the elder brother by Mr. Ryde, but he only had the younger brother's portion. I have been (continued Mr. M.) nearly two years in the county, and I entered it under peculiar disadvantages, unknown, unnoticed, and unfriended. If after the probation of two years my principles are not known, I must despair of making them understood. Let me say once for all, that whilst I shall ever continue to maintain and exercise the liberty of the press, I will never allow of its licentiousness. (*Great applause.*) If by so doing I have the approval of honourable men, I am amply rewarded. *Agriculture is of no politics.* (*Cheers.*) *It is neither Toryism, Whiggism, nor Radicalism. It is the source of all our prosperity, and it yields to us the staff of life.* The press is liable to misrepresentation, but if I deviate from fact, or misinterpret truth, I only desire to be convinced of my error, and I will remedy it by all means in my power. (*Cheers.*) That man is a coward who will not acknowledge a fault or explain a misunderstanding.

Other toasts were given and drank with hilarity, and Lord Chandos did not quit the chair until ten o'clock, when a great number of the party still remained and continued their merriment until a late hour.

THE PROGRESS OF AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT.—It was said of Parry's condensed soup, that a man might carry the materials of his dinner in his

waistcoat pocket; and it is equally true that within the boards of an ordinary cart a farm servant may transport up the steepest slopes, manure enough to cover an acre of land. When bone dust was first introduced into Dumfriesshire, the calculation was that 32 bushels per acre served every purpose, and should not be exceeded under ordinary circumstances; but the land once gone over with bones, the manure is found to be of so abiding a nature that the quantity is now reduced to 20, 22, or 24 bushels. In some parts of England we have heard of a still smaller quantity, say 14 or 16; but as our farmers are not quite so experienced, they think it safest to adhere to a fair medium. Originally 32 bushels of bones were considered equal to 20 cubical yards or heaped carts of stable dung—a quantity which, perhaps 40 stout horses (with scatterers to each) could hardly have conveyed up a steep hill-side. To incur so much expense and exertion was entirely out of the question: and hence hill-tops, which now bear capital crops of corn, were left uncultivated as a matter of necessity, and in the absence of fructifying applications of every kind yielded a very poor return even as pasture land. In the case of one farm with which we are acquainted, a precipitous and rather extensive hill, which could not be manured on the common plan, excepting at a most exorbitant price, has been boned with ease for several years, and in that way rendered as fertile as the valley below, although the difference of rent is as 1 to 8 in favour of the high and against the low ground. This farm is, perhaps, peculiarly situated; but similar results on a smaller scale, may be witnessed in various parts of Scotland; and to speak within bounds, there are *upland farmers* who will make little fortunes during the currency of their leases, every shilling of which would have remained untold, but for the introduction of the new manure. It has sometimes been said, that from the multiplication and increased speed of our coaches, added to the facilities we derive from steam by land and water, distance has been abridged, although not geographically, and places most distant brought into closer communion; and on the same principle it may be said that bone manure, in leaving unaltered the height of our hills, has placed them on a level, in point of fertility, with our most sheltered valleys. In late years there may be some difference as regards climate and the maturity of the pickle; but when the season is early, there is none whatever.—*Dumfries Courier.*

ADULTERATED FLOUR.—Lime constitutes a large portion of the chymical components of pure wheat. To detect lime put into flour, by the hand of man, it is not sufficient that chymical analysis of the suspected flour should demonstrate lime, for a considerable quantity of lime is sure to be found in it; the proof of the adulteration would be better obtained by placing a portion of the flour in water, and examining the sediment; for, if the lime be placed there by the hand of man, it will precipitate without any chymical agent; but if chymically placed there by the hand of nature, it will not precipitate without a re-agent.

LOW PRICE OF WHEAT.—The present very low price of Wheat has induced a gentleman of the neighbourhood (who has the averages for the last 734 years by him) to refer to the prices of a few centuries ago, and it appears that

|                                                                    |         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| In the years 1594, 1595, 1596, 1597, and 1598, wheat averaged..... | 21s 2d  |
| In the years 1647, 1648, 1649, 1650, and 1651 .....                | 34s 1½d |
| In the 40 years from 1791 to 1830 .....                            | 36s 0d½ |
| By the last week's return of Devises market it only averaged ..... | 17s 4d  |

Being the exact average of the year 1799, and lower than any year since.—*Devises Gazette.*



## MANCHESTER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual exhibition of the Manchester Agricultural Society took place on Tuesday, Sept. 29, in the police-yard, Clarence-street. The show of cattle upon the whole seemed to us somewhat inferior to those of former years, a fact which might be to some extent accounted for by the occurrence of the Liverpool exhibition within two days afterwards. There was certainly a large shew of bulls, some of which were very fine animals, and especially one of which was decided by the judges to be too old for the prize for which it was competing. Some of the milch cows too were very fine; but the feeding cows were rather indifferent. The horses, too, appeared to us generally very poor. The shew of pigs was considerable, and comprehended some very fine animals; amongst them was a boar from China, which, if it did not command much admiration, at all events excited considerable curiosity from the singularity of its appearance. For a more general view of the merits of the animals exhibited, we must refer our readers to the speech delivered at the dinner by Mr. Hillyard, one of the judges.

### THE DINNER.

At half-past four o'clock about 150 members of the society and others sat down to an excellent dinner, in the large room at Hayward's Hotel, Bridge-street. Wilbraham Egerton, Esq., president of the society, was in the chair; on his right were Lord De Tabley, William Tatton Egerton, Esq., M. P., Peter Ainsworth, Esq., M. P., the Rev. C. K. Prescott, rector of Stockport, John More, Esq., of Sale, Charles Hindly, Esq., M. P., C. J. S. Walker, Esq., and other gentlemen; on his left, Egerton Leigh, Esq., of High Leigh, Mark Philips, Esq., M. P., H. Handley, Esq., M. P. (Lincolnshire), E. J. Stanley, Esq., M. P., of Alderley Park, Cheshire, Thomas Joseph Trafford, Esq., of Trafford, George William Wood, Esq., and other gentlemen.—The vice-president was Robert Garnett, Esq.—The cloth being drawn, the following toasts were given in succession from the chair.—The King, the Queen, and the Royal Family; Lord Hill and the Army; the Navy. The secretary Mr. Albinus Martin, then read the lists of premiums and other prizes adjudged that day. The next toast was "Success to the Manchester Agricultural Society," after which the Vice-President, in proposing the health of the President, said that he knew no individual better deserving of any attention they could pay him. Taken either in his public character, or as a landlord, or as a private individual he was well known, and as highly respected, and many of his tenants who were present, could well appreciate his private virtues. He hoped that Mr. Egerton would live long to preside over the meetings of this society.—Drunk with three times three, and one cheer more. In acknowledging the toast, the president expressed his gratification that the attendance of late years had been much more numerous, and that the shows had been much better than formerly. He took not the credit of this to himself, but ascribed it wholly to the committee, who had exerted themselves with such success in promoting and fostering the progress of the society. To see around him both the agricultural and commercial interests of this great community drawing hand in hand to add fresh impulse to the industry and wealth of this country was indeed a great pleasure. With such united support he felt assured the society must prosper; and if, as an humble individual, he could render it any service, he should ever be ready and

glad to do so.—He then gave the health of the Vice-president.

Mr. R. GARNETT as the only vice-president in the room, acknowledged the toast, and expressed his own anxious wishes for the prosperity of the society. It was the first time he had been present on these occasions, but he was well aware of the importance of such institutions to the country. He was no agriculturist; he had been during the greater part of his life a merchant connected with foreign commerce; it had been his fortune to visit various countries on the continent, but he had seen none to compare with Old England, particularly as to agriculture. He wished to see that pre-eminence maintained, and no means were more likely to conduce to such an end, than such societies as this, seated as it was too, in the very metropolis of the manufacturing wealth of the country. It was delightful to see interests like those of agriculture and manufactures, as nearly allied as those of man and wife, each sharing the other's prosperity or depression, thus mutually supporting and encouraging each other. He thought that this society had not been sufficiently brought before the notice of gentlemen, connected with the commerce and manufactures of the town; if it were more fully known, he did not doubt that large accessions might be made to its members. He should be ready to do what he could in this way: it only needed a little exertion to effect this object, and he was sure that in promoting the success of this society they would be conferring a benefit on the country at large.—(Cheers.) John Moore, Esq., then read the report of the committee, which related to the pecuniary affairs of the society.

The CHAIRMAN then gave the health of "the Judges," to whom the society was so much indebted.

CLARKE HILLYARD, Esq., president of the Northamptonshire grazing society, after returning thanks for himself and coadjutors, said that the office of judge was no very desirable one; for parties not gaining prizes were apt to go away dissatisfied, thinking their animals the best. However, he and his colleagues had done their duty conscientiously. If they had erred it could be only in judgment. It was impossible for them to be guilty of partiality, for they knew not in any one instance the owner of any animal in the yard. He had last year alluded to the sheep, not exactly finding fault, but saying that he came from a country where there were much better. He believed so when he said so; but he did not feel now that he stood upon the same firm ground. He did not know whether in this neighbourhood they were not breeding sheep more useful here, than would be the fat Leicestershire mutton, which he now believed would not suit manufacturers and people cooped up in factories, who had not the keen stomachs of the agricultural labourers. He therefore recommended the breeders in this neighbourhood to pursue the same course they had kept hitherto. He would say that in his opinion the sheep were excessively improved since last year. They were better calculated for use; and the best sheep was that which would produce the greatest quantity of mutton per acre, and which was easiest of sale. He had looked into the market here, and for his own table, he would rather be supplied from this market than from that of Northampton. With respect to the beasts, he regretted exceedingly that for the liberal prize of 20*l.* given by the society there should be only one ox shown; and he suggested that to divide the premium into two prizes of 12*l.* and 8*l.*, would induce a better show. The ox shown was a good one, but not without faults. He wished the owner joy, and hoped he would bring a better next year. The cows were

very good. They united every thing that could be wished for,—a disposition to give milk abundantly, and when no longer milch cows they were of nature to fatten well. The heifers were generally very good animals indeed. He could point out some of them in which could be seen what the shape and make of an animal ought to be; but there were other animals in the yard that could be brought there for no other purpose than to show what an animal ought not to be.—There was a very good collection of bulls, and some of them were very good animals. In the first class the judges fixed upon a very good animal, but it was not the only good animal of that class in the yard. In the next class the same was the case. Indeed all the bulls did credit to the county, and he thought it would be found that the breed of cattle in this county would be very much improved. He was much gratified with the pigs. He could not say more in a few words than by declaring that the worst pig shown here would have gained the first prize at the Northampton show. Last year one of the boars in the yard here knocked him down. He thought he espied his old acquaintance again this year, and though he did not know what the animal thought of him, he thought the pig a monstrous great boar (*bore*), and kept accordingly at a respectful distance. The horses did not come under the inspection of himself and coadjutors, and therefore he would not advert to them, but conclude by cordially thanking the company for their kindness and drinking all their healths.

JOHN WEBB, Esq., of Barton Park, near Derby, another of the judges, also acknowledged the toast, and suggested that in future the animals should be brought into the show yard at noon the day before the public show, that the judges might be able to make a more deliberate and careful decision than they were now able to do. What he recommended was the practice at Smithfield and in other agricultural fairs.

JOHN FORMBY, Esq., of Everton, the other judge, entered into a series of observations on the present condition of farmers. The first class, those whom Lord Stanley had designated as farmers who were their own labourers, were at present the most prosperous. The second class, whose time was chiefly occupied in overlooking their own labourers, such as tenants of farms, found it very hard work to make all ends meet.—(*Hear.*) The times would hardly afford that a man should have land to such an extent as to be able to devote his whole time to overlooking his labourers. As to gentlemen farmers, he had almost said it was impossible for them to make any money. If they were content to farm for amusement and to bear the loss, well and good; they were of great benefit to society, for they had time to read and make experiments and thus give to others the benefits of their research and experience. Upon a moderate calculation the farmer who was his own labourer saved one-third of the value of the whole produce annually, which was equal to about a rent; and it was calculated that a man ought now to make three rents. The conclusion he drew from these facts was that it would be advisable where it was practicable to divide large farms into small ones; and this important consideration he wished to press upon the attention of the landowners present.

MR. HILLYARD said that perhaps few people had made more calculations and devoted more time to this subject than himself; and he was convinced that a man could not live on three rents; he must have four. He explained that he referred to farms, principally ploughing but part grazing.

MR. DIXON, of Athershaw, near Oldham, one of the inspectors of the age of stock, asked, if large farms

were to be divided into small ones, where would be the men of capital, reading and intelligence? On the contrary, his opinion was that if farms were made sufficiently large to require and induce the introduction of persons of intelligence and capital, agriculture would be much more improved, than by making large farms into small ones. (*Cheers*).

The CHAIRMAN next gave "the Committee," to whose assistance the society was so much indebted for the time and trouble they had taken in bringing the affairs of the society to their present more flourishing condition.

[A complaint was made by the owner of some stock shown in the morning that the inspectors had decided erroneously as to the age of his beast; and in reply Mr. Webb, in defence of the inspectors, declared their judgment a correct one, taking as the criterion the animal's mouth. He suggested that wherever any doubt arose as to the age of an animal, the appearance of the mouth should decide the point, and then those animals which had not been so much forced would stand a better chance.]

MR. MOORE, the chairman of the committee, in acknowledging the toast, took a review of the objects of the society,—to meet the astonishing increase in population by an equal increase in the quantity of and a great improvement in the quality of human food; and in its efforts to attain these ends, by the distribution, since its establishment, of premiums, the total value of which considerably exceeded 12,000*l.*, within a district of thirty miles around Manchester. He was sorry that the show of stallions and brood mares had not been so good on this occasion. There was now and had long been a manifest improvement in the quality of heifers as well as cows in the summer pastures of this district. There was no place in the kingdom where such pigs as were shewn here, could be met with. [Mr. Hillyard, if there is such a place I have never seen it.] Mr. Moore dwelt on the encouragements held out by the society to the economical and advantageous cultivation of farms, to the good conduct and industry of farm servants and of agricultural labourers, as all tending greatly to promote the ends which the society had in view, and the general comfort and happiness of the community.

The prizes of last year, in plate and the society's medals, were then distributed by the chairman. He subsequently presented to Edmund Ashworth, Esq., of Turton, late the secretary of the society, four very handsome silver fruit dishes.

MR. ASHWORTH, in returning thanks for the present expressed his strong attachment to the society, of which his father was the oldest member, and had acted as its secretary 29 years, since which he himself had filled that office seven years. He bore testimony to the invaluable labours of the committee, and to the great experience and unbending integrity of the judges.

The next toast was "the Vice-Presidents elect,—E. J. STANLEY, Esq., Joseph BRUCKSHAW, Esq., Joseph BIRLEY Esq., and S. H. HASLAM Esq."

E. J. STANLEY, Esq., in acknowledging the toast expressed the pleasure he felt at the opportunity of assisting in the celebration of such meetings, particularly when, as on this occasion, they were held in a great commercial town, as it proved to him how intimately these two great interests were allied, and how cordially they acknowledged their connexion,—it showed what support the landed interest might expect from the commercial. At the present time, when it was impossible not to feel that the agricultural interest was to a certain degree depressed, they could not but deplore the present low prices; but



they must not forget that the state of the country must be prosperous indeed when agriculture flourished and prices were low. Let them therefore, be assured that though the agricultural interest be temporarily depressed, the prosperity now enjoyed by the commercial interest would ultimately re-act upon it, and thus the interests of all would be effectually shielded and benefited. Joseph Bruckshaw, Esq., also returned thanks. After the toasts of "The inspectors,"—Mr. Martin, who has kindly come forward to take the office of our secretary,"—and "the Lord-Lieutenant of this county, the Earl of Derby,"—had been drunk, Mr. Hillyard said that he wished he had been able to bring with him some roots of the blood red mangel wurzel, of which he thought himself a good grower. The roots shown that day would beat his in weight; but his were superior in nutritive matter. All knew that the best mangel wurzel was the yellow, but it was so shy of coming up that he had ceased to grow it, and the blood red was the next best. He also wished he had brought two of his sort of Swedish turnips. Better he could not get. His friend Mr. Coke's, were not to be compared with them. But he had brought with him a little bag of the seed, and he wished his friend Mr. Charles Walker would take the bag and circulate it. He must not eat one turnip from it, but give to those disposed to grow. He produced a sample also of the skinless oat, which he said was a valuable article to an old man like himself, in the making of water gruel. He also gave a sample of the Chevalier barley, of which he said he had got seven quarters five bushels per statute acre last year, and he wished that instead of wheat he had sown all barley on his farm. He gave the samples to any one present who might be desirous to sow them, and if he had any thing they wanted, it was at their service.—The Vice-President, in giving the Liverpool Agricultural Society, said that the sister towns were kindred in agriculture as well as commerce, and that he looked upon such societies as schools for adults, in which the schoolmasters were those gentlemen who had been kind enough to come from a distance to teach them valuable lessons. A man at home easily imagined that his produce was the best, and it was only by coming to such schools that he discovered he had not the best of every thing.

Mr. Formby, of the Liverpool Agricultural Society, acknowledged the toast, and the next were,

"The Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Chester, the Earl of Stamford;" "The Members for the county of Lancaster," and "The Members for the boroughs of Manchester and Salford."

Mr. MARK PHILIPS, in acknowledging the last toast, said that if the farmers of the district entertained the opinion that the members for these boroughs, being connected particularly with the commercial interest, were therefore indifferent to the interests of agriculture, they had formed a very erroneous estimate of the feelings and wishes of those representatives. They were entrusted not merely with local interests, but they had a great and important charge entrusted to them for the public at large, of which the agricultural interest formed so large a portion, that they could not disregard it. Mr. Philips then expressed his regret that there had been no competitors for a premium he had offered last year for a system of accounts in connexion with the various departments and operations of farming. He disclaimed all desire on the part of himself or the committee, to pry into any of the private concerns of individuals, his object being to induce attention on the part of the farmer to the advantage and indeed necessity of systematising his accounts, to make that arrangement in

them which would show the various expenses in connection with the different crops, and which, in reference to the different branches of their trade, mercantile men felt compelled to observe and keep, and without which separation, the manufacturer would be completely ignorant as to the particular sources of his profit and loss, and could judge only by the gross amount of his trade. He should be most happy to repeat the premium for competition amongst farmers, and he would leave the form of accounts to the committee.

The next toast was "The Members for the county of Chester."

W. TATTON EGERTON, Esq., acknowledged the toast on behalf of himself and colleagues, and expressed his great satisfaction at witnessing the kind and warm feelings entertained by gentlemen engaged in commercial pursuits to the landed interest generally.

Mr. MOOR said that as they had now residing in this town one of the most distinguished philosophers of modern times, one whom it had pleased his majesty, and the universities of this kingdom, as well as most of the learned societies in the world, to honour, he trusted this society would not lose the opportunity of paying a mark of respect to Dr. Dalton,—(*cheers*)—a gentleman not more distinguished for his eminent and brilliant discoveries, than he was beloved and respected for the simplicity and disinterestedness of his life.—(*Hear.*) This society would do honour to itself, and only an act of justice to this great man—(in fact it would disgrace itself if it omitted this opportunity of paying him respect)—by electing him an honorary member of this society by acclamation.

THE CHAIRMAN said there could be but one feeling, that of accordance with the proposition; and our distinguished fellow townsmen was accordingly elected by acclamation.

Mr. HILLYARD, in acknowledging the toast of "Prosperity to the Northamptonshire farming and grazing society," said that those present would not be surprised to hear that it was prosperous, when they were told that its patron was Lord Spencer, who took great interest in its welfare, and gave to it more than 100*l* a year to dispose of in premiums. At the suggestion of his friend Mr. Philips, he had written to Lord Spencer to say that if he could attend this meeting it would give great satisfaction to the people of Manchester, but he (Mr. Hillyard) was afraid that his lordship's old enemy and tyrant the gout, which he could not keep off by regimen or exercise, had prevented him. His lordship was one of the best breeders of short horns in the kingdom, and had a herd of cows perhaps the most valuable in the country.

In acknowledging the toast of "The Strangers,"

H. HANDLEY, Esq. expressed the gratification he felt at the union of agriculture and commerce, which he agreed with the vice-president should be as close a one as that of man and wife, and he trusted they would never be divorced. He had ever pronounced that man the most wicked or the most weak of politicians, who felt himself or would excite in others the slightest jealousy between the two. The farmers in his own purely agricultural district viewed with admiration the effects of the enterprise and skill of the manufacturers, in whose prosperity they rejoiced as that of their best customers; and he truly rejoiced to find that sympathy and good will existing here, which he felt would continue because it was founded on the conviction that the agricultural interest kept in motion that first great engine, the belly, without which manufacturers, with all their skill, would not

be able to keep going their countless machinery. That this union might long continue, and that there might be no bickering, between man and wife, he, as a married man and an agriculturist, most sincerely wished and trusted.

The remainder of the evening was spent in cheeful conviviality; but our want of space precludes us from further noticing the proceedings.

## RULES FOR REPAIR OF ROADS.

*The following Rules for the Repair and Management of Roads have already been published, but cannot be too generally known.*

**LABOUR.**—All labour by day wages, as far as possible, should be discontinued, surveyors should make out specifications of every kind of work to be performed in a stated time, and after public notice should let the same to contractors, and be particularly careful in ascertaining that the work is completed according to the contract, before it is to be paid for.

**REPAIRS.**—Roads thirty feet wide should have the centre eighteen feet in breadth, composed of the hardest and best materials, twelve or thirteen inches in thickness, and the sides should be nine inches below the middle surface: the best line of the cross section is a segment of a flat ellipsis; this shape not only assisting the water to pass from the centre towards the sides, but contributing greatly to the drying of the road by allowing the sun and air to produce a great degree of evaporation. Surveyors should constantly use a road level, that the surface may be preserved of one uniform curvature. Roads having no solid or dry foundation should be reconstructed, and laid in the above-mentioned form, the eighteen-feet centre should be formed of a layer of stones seven or eight inches deep (each stone about five inches broad at the face) carefully laid by hand, with the broad end downwards, in the shape of a close pavement, and the cavities filled with small stones or stone chips to make all level and firm; over this foundation should be laid a coating of broken stones six inches thick, and the six feet on each side of the eighteen feet centre (making in all thirty feet) should be covered with a layer of good clean gravel six inches in thickness.

Roads having imperfect foundations, or being hollow in the middle, should have the centre raised by large stones, and covered with a coating of broken stones, sufficient to give them a proper shape. In a report lately made to the House of Commons it is remarked, "that a road can never be perfect as long as a single spot of its surface shall not be according to the exact line which is pointed out for its transverse section; on such a spot water will settle and lead to large hollows and ruts; and the road level should never be out of the hands of the workmen, or the mind of the surveyor." The reducing of the wide parts of the road to thirty feet, has been attended with great advantage; the proper line of transverse section can be more accurately preserved, and the labour and expense of keeping the surface clean and in repair, is much diminished.

Where the breadth of that part of the road which has alone been formed of hard materials, and over which the carriages usually pass, is less than eighteen feet, it should be widened to that breadth, first digging away the earth, then forming a foundation as above described, and filling up with broken stones at least ten inches deep. In or near large towns, the whole breadth of the road should be covered with

broken stones, and where a road has already a good foundation and shape, no materials should be laid upon it but in thin layers, for the purpose of filling ruts and hollow places as soon as they appear. In this way a road once well made may be preserved in complete repair at a small expense.

**MATERIALS.**—Where materials consist of quarry or field stones, the hardest part of them only should be used. Hammers, light and well steeled, with slender handles, should be provided for breaking stones, and each stone should be broken, so that at its largest dimensions it may pass through a ring of two and a half inches in diameter; stones can be thus broken by persons past hard labour, and should be done by measure where the materials consist of gravel. Only the stones exceeding one inch and a half in size should be used in repairing the eighteen centre feet of roads; these should be raked from the gravel as thrown out of the pits, which will in most cases save the expense of riddling and washing, and the small stones and gravelly part remaining will serve for the sides of the roads and footpaths.

**DRAINAGE.**—All ditches ought to be on the field-side of the road fences, and connected with the natural water-courses of the country; the stone cross drains and culverts which pass under the road, should be numerous, and continued through under the fences into the ditches.

It ought never to be forgotten, that in order to have the surface of a road perfect, it must be kept completely dry.

**TREES AND FENCES.**—It is absolutely necessary to remove trees from the sides of the roads, and to keep the fences under five feet in height. Not less than 20 per cent. of the expense of repairing roads is incurred by the trees and improper state of the fences keeping the road wet, and by that means occasioning a rapid destruction of the materials.

## INCLOSURE OF WASTE LANDS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LIVERPOOL MERCURY.

SIR,—I would not encroach on the valuable space of your journal if it were not to combat the arguments of an able correspondent, who writes on a subject of great importance to the community at large, but whose pen I fear is guided by popular prejudice. As the *Thornton Farmer* is so desirous to elucidate truth in the discussion, I think it would have been only fair to have first investigated some of the assertions and gross insinuations of your previous correspondent, *Mr. Brown*, instead of throwing his ball at me; but, however, as I have been so flatly contradicted I will proceed to inquire how far the *Thornton Farmer's* opinions are correct or deserving our notice. He condemns the inclosures of waste lands because a cottager keeps a cow, a pig, and a few geese, and asserts that these inclosures deprive him of these luxuries,—nay, his very cottage and his garden; and then your correspondent proceeds to state that the generality of landlords are bad, and are in the habit of pulling down cottages and converting small farms into large ones, and that the agricultural distress is mainly owing to this cruel Malthusian system. It is to be regretted that any man should be led so wide of the fact as to give publicity to these absurd opinions. Does not the *Thornton Farmer* know that the cultivation of waste lands has long been advocated by men of all political creeds,—by philanthropists who have only had the good of mankind at heart? The subject has, in fact, been exhausted, and every effort has been made to get our country cultivated as it ought to be.



That great friend to mankind, Sir John Sinclair, so far back as the year 1796, earnestly advocated before the Board of Agriculture a general inclosure act, but reserving, I am happy to say, a portion for garden ground to every cottager. At that time, upon a careful calculation, there was no fewer than 22,351,000 acres of land in England uncultivated; and Sir John very justly observed, that every acre of land cultivated at home is more valuable than the most extensive possessions obtained abroad. Will the *Thornton Farmer* deliberately say that these millions of acres ought to remain out of cultivation for the sake of encouraging a defective system of rural economy? But to the cottages. I really wish your correspondent would establish one single instance of a cottage having been pulled down in England against the will of the owner, and under any inclosure act,—or even deprived of his roods of garden ground and croft. I fear it has been too much the fashion to give utterance to these gross libels on our countrymen without reasonable foundation. Surely the *Thornton Farmer* will not say that such an outrageous system exists in England!

I will not deny, Mr. Editor, that some inconvenience is sustained, and temporary loss too, by inclosures; but let us look at the great public advantage:—the abundant increase of food grown on our own soil; the increase of labour, too, besides the certainty of cheap food for the consumer; and do not let us overlook the habits of industry which are encouraged when the cottager finds it is not just to keep his cow, his pig, and his geese at the sacrifice of a great public good. Permit me, Sir, to say that no measure would benefit this country more than dividing, at an easy rent, a few millions of acres of these waste amongst our surplus population. Would it not for a long time put a complete stop to emigration? Why send we the very sinews of our nation to cultivate distant lands when there is such abundant employment to be found at home? What would be the effects of giving an acre, and erecting a cottage each, to about 50,000 industrious labourers, I will not here stop to inquire; but I am sure the results would be the most brilliant that ever attended any public measure adopted in this country. The King of Holland has acted upon this very principle; and surely our legislators and workers out of reform have here a wide field for the exercise of their benevolent dispositions to benefit their countrymen. The *Thornton Farmer* will here find that I am no enemy of the poor, or wish to write against their interests. I shall always be glad to see the cottager keep his cow, his pig, and his geese, and have his homestead, which I admit makes him so independent and happy; but I would have it under the sanction of a just claim, and not upon sufferance. I will calmly bear the burden of meeting these unjust attacks upon the land-proprietors; certainly I have not the felicity of being one myself, and have nothing to serve but the cause of truth, and a desire to despel prejudice. The *Thornton Farmer* broadly asserts that landlords in general are bad, and that to them is mainly owing the distress of the occupier. I have here to contend with an old-fashioned opinion; and because it has gone so long uncontradicted, is now considered standard truth. It is much easier to make an assertion than to establish facts. Circumstances have led me much amongst the occupiers of the soil; but seldom have I found, on close inquiry, that landlords generally deserve the aspersions cast upon them by the *Thornton Farmer*. I fearlessly appeal to the farming community as to the degree of credit to be attached to the assertion so wantonly made. When I said it was easy to take a farm of from ten to one

hundred acres, I by no means implied that the depression was so great as to throw these farms out of cultivation, or on the landlord's hands. I am sure in many parts of the country it is quite a favour to take a tolerable farm; there are always plenty of applicants when one is likely to be at liberty. With all deference to the *Thornton Farmer*, I again repeat that a better understanding prevails between landlord and tenant, and I am sure there is a mutual wish to meet the times.

I regret to be compelled to say that one great drawback to the prosperity of the occupier is the gross ignorance which prevails, and that the march of science has done so little real good for the very men by whom improvements and discoveries were so much needed. I hope, however, to see better times; and these can never arrive without an increase of that good will and confidence between landlord and tenant to which I have alluded, and for the continuance of which I ardently pray.—Yours, &c.

Manchester.

THOMAS BAKEWELL.

#### TO THE EDITOR OF THE YORK HERALD.

SIR,—The harvest is now finished and as usual the scythe, the scythehook, and teetled sickle have all been used in the cutting of the crops. The scythe I am happy to say, is gaining on the affections of the farmers in this part of the country; indeed we have been often astonished it was not sooner adopted. I believe it is now generally allowed that its rejection did not proceed from any defect in the implement, but from want of knowledge in the scythe men. We have had another year's experience of the cradle scythe, and have no hesitation in saying that it is the most efficient implement for cutting standing corn with which we are acquainted. Our reapers are now complete masters of their weapon, and it is pleasant to see the ease and dexterity they display when using it. To us the sight was splendid and pleasing in the highest degree, and while we were admiring it we could not resist the temptation of offering our mite of approbation to the workmen. It cannot altogether supersede the family of hooks, but we really think its introduction in some districts will be of infinite advantage. The working classes looked rather suspiciously on it at first, as they generally do with anything that is at all out of the old beaten track; but the farmers, certainly the best judges in matters of this kind, viewed it with a more auspicious eye. We have 80 acres of corn cut with the scythe this season, at a reduction of 30 per cent, on the usual cost of reaping with the hook, and I have much pleasure in saying the work is better done. Neither gleaners, geese, nor pigs, appear to have any enjoyment in fields cut by the scythe; and were the Mosaic laws still in force little benefit would arise to the fatherless and widow if the cradle scythe had passed over the field. A good scythe-man will cut from one to two acres per day, and a woman and girl will gather it up and put it into bands. We have children of tender years assisting their parents in the light labours of the field and with good effect. Had they, it is true, been from city or manufacturing towns their early efforts might have been trifling; but they were the children of the cottage farmer, who had brought them up in all the usages of rural life. If you think this worthy a place in your valuable paper you may insert it.

I am, Sir, Your obedient Servant.

JOHN BLACK.

Marske Farm, 8th October, 1835.

## AGRICULTURAL REPORTS.

### BERKS.

The harvest being finished, and the weather suitable, the wheat sowing has commenced in right earnest, and the upland farmer is now as busy with horses and men as he was in the middle of August. A great deal of wheat has been sown during the last week, and before many days are expired most of the high lands and chalk hills to the south of the Vale of White Horse will be finished, and the sowing on the lowlands proceeded in as fast as time will permit. The heavy showers that we have had of late have done a deal of good by enabling the farmer to knead down his wheat land in a proper manner, and it is not often that we see it work more kindly either in ploughing or harrowing than it does this season. The wheat being good and the soil in a pulverized state, it is supposed that this grain will come up quick and with a good broad blade. The wheat crop having for the last two or three years paid worse than either barley or oats, and manure being very scarce, there will be a less breadth than usual sown this season, particularly in parishes where the soil is not over kind for that grain. Wheat that is clean and fit for seed is rather scarce, and had it not been for the threshing machines there would not have been procured a sufficient supply to sow the land in time. The drilling of wheat is in many places getting rather out of fashion, for the small saving of seed at the present low price is not considered sufficient to pay the extra expence and trouble, and besides this there is one very great objection to the drill, which is, that wheat which is properly dressed so as to prevent smut cannot be regularly deposited by the drill, because it sticks to the cups, and it is not improbable that many of the complaints of the loss by smut in other counties has principally arisen from a neglect of the dressing, and using the wheat dry in order that it may with facility run through the drill; and it is well known that when a farmer once gets this disease into his crop it is nearly as infectious as the mange in horses or the scab in sheep, and will require some little time and very careful management to get entirely rid of the nuisance. A very large breadth of the trifolium has been sown in this neighbourhood, and in almost every field we see pieces of it up and looking well; it appears not to flourish so well where the land is ploughed, but does a vast deal best when only let in with the harrow or scarifier, or trodden in with sheep. This plant will not do on thin chalky soils, or on cold wet soils, but if it will stand a severe winter, its usefulness on many soils, and in many situations, will be completely established. A new sort of oat called the winter oat has just been introduced into this neighbourhood, and if it possesses but half the good qualities it is said to possess, it will be invaluable; its advocates say it will produce a great quantity of feed for sheep in the autumn, and again early in the spring, and then produce ten or twelve quarters to the acre afterwards; of course we can say nothing respecting its merits until another season. A great many vetches have been sown, and also a considerable breadth of rye and winter barley, and when we also take into consideration the number of acres of

promising trifolium, we need not, I think, fear a deficiency of sheep-feed next spring. A few acres of winter beans are generally planted in this neighbourhood, and they are most times tolerably productive. We are sorry to state that there is but little improvement in the turnip crop, and we can scarcely expect any alteration for the better solate in the season. The early sown, which for a time looked well, are lately become curly in the leaf, and are going to decay very fast, having been injured by the grub at the root, while the late sown ones have made a much less progress than was expected, and will certainly be of little use, except to produce a few greens in the spring. The stock of hay in the country is large and the quality uncommonly good, and there is also a great plenty of straw, which this year will prove excellent fodder; so that keep we think is not likely to be very scarce; but we confess that the grass at the present time does not grow so fast as we anticipated, and the sheep will be obliged in consequence to go to fodder a month earlier than usual, and we know of a few farmers that have already the whole of their flocks at straw. The value of the Swedish turnip will be proved this year to a demonstration, for it has been neither injured by the dry weather or eaten with the maggot, but is everywhere looking well, and has every appearance of producing an abundance of winter food. Mangel wurzel has also stood its ground well, and has two most valuable properties, namely, it is never injured by the turnip fly, or scarcely ever hurt by the drought. the loss of the turnip crop has completely cut up the sheep trade, and we scarcely ever remember such a panic or so great a fall in so short a time. In the course of about six weeks the depreciation has been as great as 30 per cent., and there is even a dull sale at this decline with every thing but ewes. We have often remarked that such rapid and great changes are but seldom permanent, and we shall not be at all surprised if the trade were again to rally before winter, for the stock of sheep in the country is, we think, by no means large, and mutton seems not unlikely to be still higher in price. Pigs are selling rather briskly, and will, we think, be worth more money. It is now ascertained that we were right in our statement respecting the yield of the wheat, and many a farmer and dealer will, we think, find themselves miserably deceived that have been calculating on the statement of Cockneys, and other ignorant persons, who have been riding about the country, pretending to give accounts of the crops of grain, and have been sending in reports to the newspapers of the great, and enormous, and abundant crops of corn, and of the probability of a still further decline in the market. We again state that, after taking considerable pains to ascertain the truth, and after obtaining every information that we possibly could, we find there is a deficiency generally on good soils of 25 per cent. from that of the crop of last year, and on some light and gravelly soils a deficiency of 40 or even 50 per cent. The quality is also variable, some of the samples being very plump, and weighing 65lbs per imperial bushel, while other samples are shrivelled and thin, and fitting only for seed.



Owing to the great bulk of straw, the threshing of wheat is a most tedious process, and neither men nor machines can get out above half the quantity which they did last year; and although some of the pitched markets seem to make a great show by exhibiting so many sample sacks yet the bulk belonging to most of these sacks is very small, and the stock of wheat on hand will be pretty much cleared out before the sowing is done. The wheat markets continue firm, and will, we think, be dearer, especially when the deficiency in the crops becomes better known, and there is water sufficient to drive the mills, and the stock of old wheat is a little worked off. Barley also yields sadly out of the straw, and the thresher complains because he cannot get enough to please his master. There are but few men that will thrash a quarter per day this year, and we fear that the produce of barley per acre will fall short of what we anticipated, but we shall be better able to give a correct account of this and other sorts of grain in a future report. The price of good barley advances, and the best Chevalier is now worth 35s per quarter. Vetches were a bulky crop in regard to straw, but they yield very sadly, and in general they do not yield more than two quarters per acre where there ought to be five quarters, according to the abundance of straw. The threshing of vetches is an expensive job, for it costs as much as sixpence per imperial bushel. Cloverseed is we think, altogether a middling crop, being short in quantity and not very good in quality, and badly harvested or else still abroad and nearly spoiled; it is expected to be dear. Apples are very plentiful, but, owing to the drought in the summer, they are not of a very large size; the inferior sorts are selling at the low price of half-a-crown per sack. Walnuts are very scarce, and worth a shilling a hundred, but hazel nuts are cheap and plentiful.—Oct. 5.

#### KENT.

We have of late had some very copious showers, which have quite altered the appearance of the country; but, fortunately, the harvest was quite finished ere the change took place, with the exception of the canary, which was out in some places. Grass has grown much since, and there is now good feed for cattle and sheep; turnips have certainly improved, but not to the extent that was expected. We are now busy getting out manure for the ensuing wheat crop, and ploughing it in, which we are enabled to do in a workmanship-like manner, owing to the late rains, and some on the strong wet soils have already commenced sowing. We still have complaints of the quantity of straw that is obliged to be thrashed before it will yield a quarter of wheat, and to those that have not a machine it is very expensive, which takes from the present ruinous low price of this grain. The barley and oats thrashed are in general a good sample, but on light lands some barley, owing to the dry weather, is but thin, but oats in general are good; the produce of peas is above the average, but in beans it is much short, but they are an excellent sample.

The markets for cattle and sheep have, since the alteration in the weather, been short, with an improvement in prices, more especially with sheep. Our markets for corn are quite overstocked with samples, and the millers, &c., have it almost at their own price, the demands on numbers of us obliging us to sell at the present ruinous prices.

Wool is almost a dead letter with us, so little

is there doing in that article at the present moment.

Numbers are now getting up their potatoes, which prove to be but a very indifferent crop, which we hear is the case generally.—Oct. 14.

#### SOMERSETSHIRE.

Nearly the whole of this county has suffered from the drought of summer, continued throughout a considerable part of the autumn. The low moors, which are divided into enclosures by deep ditches, were in a complete state of commonage; and the cattle ranging at large through hundreds, and sometimes even thousands of acres, in quest of water and pasturage, afforded unceasing toil to the herdsmen. Grass was so burnt up, that the very worst wet high cold lands appeared entitled to preference when vegetation was almost everywhere suspended. Working horses, oxen, and cows, have in most places, during the autumn, been supplied liberally with hay, and both sheep and beasts have been sent to market half fat, from the inability of the grazier to better their condition. Turnips have so generally failed, that scarcely a plat of good ones is to be seen for many miles; even the mangel wurzel, so patient of drought, is so small, as to be scarcely worth the trouble of housing. The rain which has fallen during the past month has relieved the whole population, both in towns and villages, from a sore distress, the want of water; and both man and beast experience no longer a scarcity of this necessary article. Potatoes at one time afforded no hope of any thing like an average crop; but since the moisture got well down to the roots the haulm looks flourishing, and they have become larger; where, however, new tubercles have been formed, the first have become greatly deteriorated, and the general prospect not improved. They are in sufficient abundance at market, and are sold for 2s 6d a bag of eight score pounds; this low price is probably induced in a great measure by the ruinous depression of wheat. It is quite sickening to say any thing of the price of this latter article; we will, therefore, only state, that although the yield per acre of the late harvest, as far as we are able to form a judgment, is below an average produce, a large workhouse in this neighbourhood is supplied from Michaelmas to Christmas with good second wheaten bread, at the rate of a dozen four pound loaves for 3s 3d, or at very little more than  $\frac{1}{2}$ d a pound for bread baked on the day preceding delivery. Fat heifers are worth about 7s a score, and fat sheep 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d a pound. Of store cattle there is a great glut in every fair and market, and great difficulty experienced in converting them into money. The farmers of this county who send up to Weyhill many thousands of store sheep have returned with woful countenances. Their ewes did not sell for more than 27s a-head, which of the same quality last year fetched 47s. This depression is the result of a general failure of the turnip crop: and if Providence should favour us with a moderate winter, as there is abundance of hay any excellent straw, and no excess certainly of sheep, we anticipate, ere long, more favourable prices. Wool has evinced rather a tendency downwards. Combing washed is worth 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per pound. Every labourer of character and ability readily finds employment at high wages, considering the low prices of all the necessaries of life. Women and children are in great request for picking apples, which being unusually small, will furnish a long employment, at something more than

double the price per bag of former years; while the farmer is obliged to sell his cider for almost nothing—certainly for no profit, when he has paid all the attendant expenses. Wheat sowing has just commenced on the hills, and the land is in excellent condition for the reception of the seed. Generally, we think the land under preparation is not so much as we have seen for many years past. When the owner occupies, or where the tenant is not much pressed (a somewhat rare thing now-a-days), the breadth is decreased—in these instances the growth of vetches is proportionably increased.—Oct. 16.

## LYNN.

The harvest in this neighbourhood has been finished about a month and mostly in the best possible order, excepting in the fens, where there is still a few oats out.

We have deferred sending our annual report until we could form an opinion of the yield and quality from the threshing and delivery. The supply at present has not been equal to general expectation, but sufficient for the determination of my report.

Commencing with wheat.—The breadth was very much less than that of last year, and there is more variety of quality than we have known for many years—smut or black prevails to a considerable extent, and there is also a singular defect or deficiency in the ear, by a failure in some instances of a whole row or set, and in others partly so.—The heavy rains of June beat down the crops upon the marsh and fen lands, and they have thereby suffered very materially in quantity, to the extent of one to two quarters per acre, and the quality will vary from 58lbs to 64lbs per bushel—upon the mixed and light lands there was a deficiency of plant, but the quality is very fine, weighing 63 to 64lbs per bushel. In the fens the crop is altogether the worst, having been more laid and smut more general, that a considerable proportion is of very inferior quality—therefore upon the whole we calculate we are about a sixth under an average.

Rye is very fine both as to quantity and quality, weighing 57 to 60, and some even 61lbs per bushel.

Barley is a full average crop—the rain in June came just in time to save it, and brought it to the most perfect maturity.—About half was harvested in the finest condition, and exceeds in weight that of any past year within my knowledge, say 54 to 55 and even to 56lbs per bushel—some quantity was cut and in the rain, and is more or less stained and sprouted, but that standing during the wet is of excellent malting quality, although 2 to 3lbs per bushel lighter than the perfectly bright.

The breadth of Oats was considerably larger than last year, both upon the high lands and in the fens, the latter especially, the yield and quality are excellent.

Beans also were more extensively sown but vary much in the same district, some were attacked by the fly and partially injured, where they escaped there appears to be a fair crop, and of very fine quality.

Peas are an abundant crop of very handsome quality, and secured in the best possible order.

Rapeseed has again become an interesting object in the fens, we have had a fair quantity at market this season.—The yield proved very much worse than was expected, but the quality was good.—Oct. 6.

## NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

The harvest in this and the adjoining districts being now nearly completed, we beg to offer the result of our observations and inquiries concerning the various crops.

Wheat.—From the violent winds in June, the straw of this grain was, in exposed situations, much broken, and where this has occurred the yield is very bad, but generally it proves about the customary produce on thrashing, and having upon the whole been secured in fair condition, weighing from 61 to 64lbs per bushel, have no doubt it will turn out what may be called a fair average crop, though about a fourth short of the large crop of last year. Our more opulent farmers still hold large quantities of old wheat, and there are about eight thousand quarters of free old wheat here in granary.

Oats.—The rains in July came most opportunely for this grain of which the crop is every where well reported, the quantity large and the quality fine; such as have yet come to market without being too much hurried, are of good colour and full in the pickle, the common oats weighing from 38 to 40lbs, and the potato from 41 to 43lbs per bushel—the immediate consumption must be large, as there are few old oats left either with the farmers or merchants.

Barley.—In our own neighbourhood, and what is called the Tyne Side district, this crop is the finest we ever remember—abundant in quantity and fine in quality, weighing from 54 to 56lbs per bushel; a great portion from Chevalier seed, and will malt well; but in the more remote parts of the county and in Scotland, from whence we have for the last two years had great part of our supply, the late rains have materially injured the quality, and will, when contrasted with the fine south country samples, be considered by most of our maltsters as unfit for malting, that we must look to the south this season for our principal supply, as the demand will be large, the stocks of malt being almost quite exhausted.

Beans will this year be a good average crop, both as to quantity and quality. Rye is little sown here, the quality is fine, but in quantity very deficient, though from the low price of wheat, the consumption is at present limited. Grey peas, according to the quantity sown, are a good crop, but they are of limited cultivation. White peas are not at all sown in this neighbourhood. Potatoes in some of our best districts is this year almost an entire failure, and which our farmers seem at a loss to account for. They are at present selling at from 5s to 7s per load of 2½ cwt.

## NORTH RIDING, YORKSHIRE.

We have got all our crops in, though some are not in the best state; the 24th and three following days in August have done more mischief than I expected; they were very close and warm as well as wet, and caused me to have about six acres of barley pretty well sprouted; the wheat that was out, rather suffered; however, taking all into account, we ought to be thankful for so abundant an harvest. With respect to the yield, I can only state how mine does. I have thrashed nearly thirty quarters of wheat, and thirty quarters of barley, (for want of money,) and certainly both yield better than I expected. I thought the wheat would not yield well, because there were many deaf ears in it; oats and beans caused much anxiety, as they were out in showery weather we have had at the latter harvest. I scarcely have patience to talk about prices; the best white wheat is only worth 5s. a bushel, and cost 7s. at the least. Barley is only worth 30s. per qr., and oats 28s. Oats and beans sell the best of any thing. With respect to stock, all sorts are much lower; I sold my lambs last year at 29s. a-piece; this year, although equally good, I could not get above 25s. Cattle are also lower. Rents not at all. The blacksmith, carpenter, and shoemaker, charge the same as when wheat was 10s. per bushel. It



is with great pleasure that I have now to state that the annual ploughing-match of the Boroughbridge Agricultural Association was held on Saturday week, when twenty-two men and boys strove to win: the day was fine; and any one who had the real good of his country at heart, could not but be gratified. Afterwards the members sat down to an excellent dinner, and it was proposed that the present state of the farmers should be taken into consideration, at the next quarterly meeting. The thanks of the neighbourhood are due to Thomas Duncombe, Esq. for his exertions in the cause.

#### PERTSHIRE.

Harvest commenced in the early districts about the beginning of the last week in August, and by the middle of the first week in September was general all over the country. A long period of dry weather was succeeded by a length of moist weather, which continues without intermission to the present date. We have seen some statements of the depth of rain that has fallen as high as 9 inches within six weeks; in our rain-gauge the depth from the 24th August measures within two decimal parts of 7 inches, an immense fall in so short and important a period. Heavy showers, however, were frequently followed by brisk winds, with sunshine; and the farmer, roused to attention by the threatening aspect of the weather, lost not a moment in cutting and securing his crop during the intervals which the weather allowed. In the lower districts all has been cut, with trifling exceptions, by the end of August. Up to the 29th of September the winds had been moderate, though frequent, and nothing was shaken out; on that day, however, a very high wind proved seriously hurtful to standing oats on upland farms in the higher districts, when a considerable proportion was then still uncut; from some we have seen, which had been exposed on that day, we consider that more than double the seed was lying on the ground. As the weather prevented cutting in due time, the latest portion of the crop was for the most part over ripe, and taking up clean was next to impossible. The whole of the crop being got into the barn-yard by starts, very little has been secured in good condition, and samples will come soft to the market in the early part of winter. Wheat on low-lying rich soils was lodged, and although in some instances the quantity may reach an ordinary average, yet the quality will be coarse; on soft, rich, low-lying loams, the quantity, too, is in many cases sadly deficient; on exposed situations the crop is not bulky, but the sample is fine, and a fair return in quantity. Barley will turn out a full crop, but may not be so well coloured as in drier harvests. Barley or wheat, with a few exceptions, have suffered little from sprouting. Oats have suffered most by sprouting and shaking, being longest exposed; making allowances for such drawbacks, oats may be estimated at an ordinary average crop. Peas had podded well, but were got in with much difficulty; some of the early varieties lost part of the grain in handling, and in a few trifling instances on close lands some have been entirely lost. Beans in the lower districts are for the most part in, and have sustained little damage. This plant is not much cultivated on elevated situations although it is quite possible that an early variety might be found that would grow as high up as oats. Potatoes, after the rains commenced, took a sort of second growth, the quantity will thereby be increased, but the quality will have suffered. Turnips have not swelled so much as usual in the autumn months, the ground being too much soaked with rain. Very little wheat has as yet been sown, the state of the soil not permitting. In the corn market there has hitherto been little done with the present crop.

The price of cattle and horses at the autumn fairs were much lower than at the corresponding periods last season.—Oct. 6.

#### GLAMORGANSHIRE.

The month of September proved unusually wet; the depth of rain exceeding 7 inches. The long drought which preceded having parched up the ground to such a degree, that even this large quantity of moisture scarcely saturated it to a sufficient depth, and the springs and rivulets have not yet resumed their usual vigour. The pasture land, turnips, and the young clover, strongly manifest its beneficial influence, and if October proves tolerably mild, the present scanty stock of winter keep will be considerably augmented. Turnips are still very patchy. Before the rain came, the prospect of young clover was most unpromising, and although it is greatly restored, yet it is still very deficient in plant. The trifolium incarnatum has been very generally sown to supply these failures, and if it will continue to succeed by merely harrowing it on the stubble, it will prove an invaluable substitute when the clover fails. The season has been unfavourable for harvesting the clover-seeds. The quantity kept up this year is less than usual, owing to the scarcity of grass during the summer. Stock in general are in poor condition, and in many situations recourse must soon be had to hay for their support, which is likely to render that article dearer before the conclusion of the winter.

The harvest in the vale of this county had been pretty well concluded previous to the rain coming on, but in the hilly district the corn has been much damaged. The new corn brought to market is plump and fine, and weighs well. The heavy crops which were laid early form an exception; these yield very bad, and produce a thin shrivelled sample. Barley and oats are average crops; the former is in general a good sample, and well harvested. The Chevalier proves superior to the common variety; and, if it does not entirely supersede the latter in a few years, it will afford a most desirable change of seed, an object of more importance than is generally imagined.

Wheat sowing has partially commenced. Although the price of this grain is admitted by all to be ruinous, there is not yet any striking diminution in the extent grown. We apprehend that many proceed in this case under the delusion that, as the price is low, they will make up the loss by an increased breadth of land under crop. To those who are satisfied that they can realise any profit, however small, by growing wheat at 4s 4d a bushel, this doctrine is correct; but if, on the contrary, they experience an annual loss upon every acre sown, the less they cultivate the better. Whatever derangement it may occasion to other operations on the farm, and admitting that the English farmer must naturally feel great reluctance in relinquishing the cultivation of a crop which he has ever looked upon as the golden one, yet to a great extent it would be far more prudent to allow the land to lie in grass which, under ordinary circumstances, will yield some overplus towards rent and taxes.—Oct. 7.

#### BONES.

Since the 5th of October there have passed the SOUND, or by ELSINORE, and the GREAT BELT, 2 ships loaded with Bones, bound for Hull; 1 for Grimsby; 1 for Newport; and 1 for Newcastle; for other ports of England not known, 1.

## AGRICULTURAL INTELLIGENCE, FAIRS, &c.

**HEREFORD GREAT OCTOBER FAIR.**—This Fair might now be said to last over two days, for the number of cattle sold on the Show-day would, in many places, constitute a large fair. On Monday, Oct. 19, (the Show-day), a great many fine animals were sold, but the sales were not brisk, the buyers were shy, and prices on the decline. On the following morning, the Fair-day, the streets were filled with cattle at an early hour. The supply was not so large as is usual at our October Fair, neither was the general condition of the animals (so we were informed by many competent judges) so excellent as commonly on this occasion; but this was attributed to the late long drought, and the consequent lateness of the latermath, which has not been available until within these few weeks. The stock was first-rate; and we suggest to our agricultural friends not to relax, but rather to increase, in their endeavours to keep the Herefordshire breed in the first rank. We hear from very good authority, that the breeds in Ireland are rapidly improving, and bid fair to rival even the breed of Herefordshire. Should that day ever arrive, the demand for our cattle for the Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, and even the Shropshire and Worcestershire market, will slacken surprisingly. The business commenced early in the morning, and although, at the commencement, the sales were slow, in consequence of the low prices offered, they soon quickened, for there was a large number of buyers. Fresh stock were in great demand, particularly prime steers and oxen; cows were scarce, and inferior cattle were quite a drug. There was an immense number of stock sold, but the prices, comparatively to those of last October, were depressed at least 10 per cent. The value of stock is now, unhappily, bearing a close relation to the value of wheat. The prices of both products show that the business of the agriculturist cannot, under the present rents, be carried on without trenching upon capital to pay rent. The farmer, like every other capitalist, should do more than gain a bare livelihood for himself and family, and all his labourers; his capital should accumulate, and it is, therefore, most cruel and unjust that he, instead of increasing, should decrease his capital, and that for the purpose of paying rent. There must, consequently, be a thorough and permanent adjustment of rent, so that it might bear a fair proportion to the prices of agricultural products; and, we must confess, that it is with great pleasure we discover symptoms of such an adjustment throughout the country. Landlords need not be assured that, in the long run, such a course will operate as beneficially to them, as it will to their tenants. We may be excused for these remarks, as they are not altogether irrelevant in our account of the fair. We shall now proceed to state the prices of the various live and dead stock at our great mart. Fat cattle realised from 4d to 5d per lb; fat sheep from 5d to 5d½ per lb; sale dull, and stores went off very heavily, at depreciated prices. Store pigs were in demand, at a low price; but of fat pigs, both bacon and porking, the sale was very limited, and the prices ruinously low. In the Horse Fair there was a large number of animals of most descriptions, but the inferior predominated. Good roadsters for the saddle and for the collar were in demand; but there were scarcely any buyers of inferior animals. The supply of hops was considerably smaller than that of last year; the market was brisk; it commenced on Tuesday at 80s, and soon got up to 85s, and several fine samples sold for 90s. On Wednesday, the same activity prevailed in the hop market, and prices ranged from 85s to 95s; the samples were not generally good, and only one or two of the very primest reached 100s and 105s. There were 302 pockets weighed on Tuesday and Wednesday.

**WEYHILL.**—The Sheep Fair commenced on Saturday morning. The number penned was about 125,000. Taking into consideration the roughness of the preceding night, the sheep generally looked in good condition. Sales were dull. Ewes sold from 18s to 26s, and some lots of very superior Downs reached 30s per head; lambs from 12s to 20s, and some realised 24s: wethers 20s to 33s, and one or two lots at 35s. On the average, the prices were full 8s per head under those of last year. A farmer in the neighbourhood of Devizes obtained *one hundred guineas less* money for two hundred lambs on Saturday, than he realised this time twelve months; being at the rate of 10s 6d a head lower. The lambs were precisely of the same description. A great number were driven away unsold.

**HOPS.**—The number of hops pitched was short of last year, not more than one-third of the quantity of pockets being on the hill. The quality varied considerably, yet the demand was such, that every pocket was cleared on the Wednesday night, at prices varying from 25 to 40 per cent. above the calculation, compared with the London market. The inferior hops, particularly on Wednesday, sold as high as the better sorts.—Many buyers, not competent judges of the article, added greatly to improve the prices, and take off the inferior quality useful to the planters, and compensate for the short crop. The price of Farnhams may be quoted from 8l 10s to 10l, a few higher; country hops, 7l 7s to 8l 10s. Many of the inferior hops sold 50 per cent. above their value. The brewers bought nearly all the best hops, many of which will prove very good, though on the whole a large proportion were very thin and defective, but free from mould.

There were a number of fine horses exhibited; and some unusually good three-year old colts; but there was not much demand.

The prices of cheese may be quoted the same as at Reading fair.

**DONINGTON FAIR.**—We had a somewhat large show of cattle here to-day, including stores and fat beasts; the former could only meet with customers at a considerable reduction in price; the latter also were selling at prices below those of September fair. Horses of an inferior quality were rather numerous, but slow of sale at reduced prices; any thing good, of which there were few, realised a corresponding price.

**LEICESTER MICHAELMAS FAIR.**—Our fair during the past week has been numerously attended, the number of cattle shown far exceeded any other one we recollect to have witnessed of late. Good ewes and wethers were tolerably in demand. Lambs fetched from 20s to 26s 6d. Prime fat and store stock fetched good prices, as did horses. On Tuesday the quantity of cheese pitched was immense, the average being from 5s to 5s½ per lb; but a few prime dairies realised 60s. Stilton from 6d to 8d. The rams shown by Messrs. Spencers, of Normanton and Snaresdon, Mr. Hall, Mr. Parr, Mr. Farrar, Mr. Simpkin, Mr. Flintham, and others, were eagerly sought after by graziers from distant parts of the kingdom, thus showing that the pure Leicester breed stands pre-eminent.

At **LYNN ANNUAL CHEESE FAIR** the supply of Cottenham and other cheese, although abundant, seemed scarcely to equal the demand. There was a small show of cattle at Gaywood, but business was dull.

**ST. IVES MICHAELMAS FAIR** was most numerously attended. Although there was an unusual supply of stock, very few sales were effected, and every thing seemed remarkably dull.



**COLCHESTER FAIR.**—We seldom remember to have seen so much stock as was shown at this fair on any previous occasion. The horse fair comprised a great many cart colts, but very few fine ones, and not a single first-rate nag could be found. Scarcely any business was transacted, the prices asked being exorbitant, and the farmers appearing to have but little money to expend.

**MAIDSTONE FAIR.**—The Welch cattle on Penenden-heath were not quite so plentiful as usual, and the demand for them was pretty brisk, particularly on Monday. In the town there was a good supply of, but little demand for, lean stock. The horse fair had a good show of cart colts, but very few nags. There was, however, very little done.

**MAIDSTONE FAIR.**—The buyers were not numerous, yet liberal prices were given for best hops, at the undermentioned prices:—Fine pockets best Kent, from 5*l* to 6*l*; Middle Kents, 4*l* to 5*l*; Weald of Kents, 3*l* 10*s* to 4*l*; Sussex Pockets 3*l* 6*s* to 3*l* 16*s*; Kent bags 3*l* 5*s* to 4*l* 10*s*. The planters were generally looking for better prices.—*Maidstone Gazette*.

**At ST. FAITH'S FAIR** there was a large show of good beasts, but little business was done; a lot of Mr. Hope's attracted much attention. The show of horses was very moderate.

**BOON WOOD FAIR.**—The show of cattle was great, but the demand was uncommonly flat, and not more than one-fourth of the stock shown met with purchasers. There were not many horses on the ground; the trade was also dull, and few were sold.

**KESWICK MICHAELMAS FAIR.**—Though the show of stock was far from extensive, it proved infinitely too great for the demand, and many were necessarily driven away again without having changed owners. The demand was uncommonly slow, and it was generally characterised as one of the dullest fairs ever remembered at Keswick.

**WINCHESTER FAIR.**—Between 20 & 30,000 sheep were penned, which met with a brisk sale, realizing from 1*s* to 2*s* per head higher than at the late Weyhill and Alresford fairs. A great quantity of cheese has already arrived, and a great deal more is expected during the night. The fair is expected to be one of the fullest known for many years past.

**At PRESTEIGN FAIR** there was a large show of fine animals. Many sales were effected, but at low prices. Sheep sold pretty well; fat Pigs 3*s* per stone, Store Pigs sold briskly, though at miserable prices. Salt Butter 9*s* to 10*s* per stone.

**At GROSMONT FAIR**, the supply, though not large, was in quality excellent. Many things, especially fresh steers, found a steady sale, at prices much above what could have been obtained at the fairs lately held in the neighbouring towns, and, indeed, more than could have been realized at Hereford Great Fair, on Tuesday last. Among the numerous purchasers, was a highly respectable and extensive dealer, who bought upwards of seventy prime oxen.

**SHIPLEY FAIR.**—The show of cattle at this fair was very slender, which was principally attributed to Haworth fair occurring on the same day. In-calving cows realized high prices, but of these there was a great scarcity. There was an abundance of pigs in attendance, principally Irish, the breed of which has materially improved since the introduction of the English breed into Ireland, which were largely bought up in this county about two years since. There were also a few horses shown, which were principally of an inferior description.

**At PENNYMUIR FAIR**, the number of sheep was computed at from 9,000 to 10,000, the greater part of which consisted of wedders; the demand, however, was not equal to that of the Rink on the previous day, with prices a shade lower, and a great many unsold

**THE WEST OF TEVIOTDALE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY**, recently formed under the patronage of the Duke of Buccleugh, held the first meeting at Hawick: the show was excellent, especially of cattle. The head prize, (£10) for short-horned cattle was awarded to Mr. Turnbull, of East Middle; the second best to Mr. Brodie, Bedwell.—The Judges who awarded the premiums were, for the Short-horned Cattle, Messrs. Robert Ferguson, Muirhoselaw, Nicholas Dodd, Monklaw, and John Hunt, Thornington: for Horses and Leicester Sheep, Messrs. Ferguson, Hunt, and George Robertson Harperton; for Cheviot Sheep and Swine, Messrs. Thomas Thompson, Gottenshope; Thomas Anderson, Sundhope, and John Robson, Keilder-rigg-end; and for the Extra Stock, Messrs. John Biss Ogden, Harrierfield, and Nicholas Dodd Monk-law.—After the show, a party of 110 gentlemen sat down to an excellent dinner in the Town Inn, A. E. Lockhart, Esq., of Borthwick Brae, was in the chair, Mr. Grieve, Branhholm Braes, and Mr. Scott, of Wauchope, acting as croupiers.

The number of Sheep penned at Devizes Green Fair was much larger than at former fairs; and the sale far brisker than had been calculated on, at prices above those obtained at Weyhill. The cattle fair was thin; the price of good beef may be stated at from 8*s* 6*d* to 9*s* perscore. There were a great number of horses, but very little business was done.

**FALKIRK OCTOBER TRYST.**—The last and most important of the three trysts for the year, commenced with sheep on Monday the 12th inst. The number of sheep on the ground was computed at 35,000, and supposed to be much the same in extent as last year, although the number was then stated much higher, but we have the authority of the tacksmen of the market for saying, that generally the number has been greatly exaggerated in former years' reports. The weather, upon the whole, was favourable, the extensive field, Stanhouse Muir, (measuring 80 imp. acres), in the vicinity of the Carron Works, on which the market stands, was dry, and every way comfortable for the stock exhibited.

A number of English buyers were present. Considerable sales were anticipated, but not high prices, and the result of this day's market exactly turned out so. By 12 o'clock, a number of large lots which had been bought up began to leave the market, and others followed in quick succession; and by nightfall the greater part of this immense quantity had changed hands. Prices as follows:—Best white-faced wethers, top price 25*s*; current 20*s* to 23*s*. Black-faced wethers (from Glenochy) 21*s*, next best, 18*s*; current, 11*s* to 16*s*. Cheviot ewes, top 18*s*; current 15*s*. Black-faced ewes, top 13*s*; current 7*s* to 11*s*. The sales were all by the clad score. The prices realized were considered to be a shade better than the September tryst. The only description of sheep that remained unsold were ewes, and not to any great extent. The fall upon sheep at this market compared to last year, is considered to be 5*s* upon the best quality, and from 2*s* to 3*s* a-head upon the lower priced and inferior sorts.

Yesterday, the 13th inst, the cattle market commenced. The number was much the same as last year's October tryst, but very inferior in respect to condition. There were very few fat cattle in the market, these brought readily the Edinburgh market price. Prices of cattle, for feeding as follows:—100 head of Aberden-shire, three year old off, were sold by Mr. McCombie to an East Lothian Farmer at 10*l* 10*s*; best two year olds brought 8*l*; three year old Highland Stots 6*l* to 8*l*; two year old ditto, 5*l* to 6*l*. The demand was generally good, and the market was pretty well cleared of all descriptions and prices, upon the whole, a shade better than at the late markets, but from 20*s* to 30*s* a head below those of last year. The demand both for sheep and cattle, we believe, exceeded expectation, and heavy stocks have been moved off, although we fear not to advantage in point of profit.

For upwards of 50 years, wheat has not been known at so low a price as now in Liskeard market.—*Plymouth Journal*.

**CRIF MICHAELMAS MARKET** was well supplied both with horses and cattle. Fat beasts may be quoted at from 6s to 6s 6d per stone, Dutch. One lot of superior three-year-old stots brought 87 15s a head; inferior kinds from 27 10s to 57. Lean stock was but little sought after, a great number of which left the market unsold. Draught horses, of good action, brought from 207 to 267; inferior kinds from 107 to 157, while not a few sold at prices varying from 57 and under. The supply of young swine was great, and sold at from 2s 6d to 12s, according to age and quality.

**ASHBOURN FAIR.**—This fair was well supplied with sheep and cattle; lambs were not very numerous; good fat beasts were scarce, and not in great demand; the sale of sheep was not brisk, nor that of lambs. The show of horses was large, but mostly of inferior quality, and prices unusually low. Beef fetched 4½d to 5d, and mutton 5d to 5½d per lb.

**THE LAUDERDALE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY** held their annual meeting on Thursday Oct. 8. The number and quality of sheep exhibited far surpassed any previous show there.

**At RINK FAIR, KELSO,** the show of Cheviot stock was greater than for some years past. The demand was tolerably good, and the greater proportion of the stock shown was disposed of. Good average lots of two year old wedders brought from 18s to 20s; ewes sold at about the same price, being a reduction on the price of last year of about 25 per cent.

**At AUCHTERARDER MICHAELMAS MARKET** the number of beasts brought forward was at least 2,000, and merchants were numerous; but they by no means gained the prices which the holders wished, although those offered were superior to that realized in many previous markets in the neighbourhood. The holders were obliged to give way, and a great deal of stock changed hands at perhaps 20 per cent cheaper than in this market last year. There were a few fat beasts in the market, which were immediately bought up at from 6s 6d to 5s per Dutch stone. There were some good horses brought forward, few of which were disposed of.

**LANARK TRYST.**—A very large number of cattle appeared in the market, consisting of every description of stock. Cows to calve within a month were much sought after, and such as were sold varied in price from 37 15s to 127. There were some fine queys, to calve in the spring, but they met with a dull sale. Year olds were numerous, but in small request. Half-fed beasts, ready for putting on turnips, were also plenty, but the demand for them was limited. Prices in general are on the decline. There was a good show of horses, and many of them changed owners.

**SALE OF COMPETING STOCK AT AYR.**—Mr. Rodger, Dalmorton, sold his Airshire bullock, which gained the 2d prize, for 50 guineas. Mr. Dunn of Blairston Mains, sold his pair of West Highlanders at 907. Mr. Kennedy, Lochlands, sold his prize Teeswater, with a cross between a Teeswater and Airshire, and two Airshire, four in all, for 1507. Mr. Muir, Factor to the Earl of Selkirk, sold a prize Galloway for 307. 5s, which weighed, fat and weight, 67 stones tron. Mr. M'Jannet of Drumshang, got 807, for his pair of Galloway prize bullocks; and 467 10s for his pair of prize West Highlanders. Mr. Wright, Woodlands, sold two bullocks of a cross breed between the Airshire and Galloway, to Mr. Arbuckle for 757. The Galloway prize bullocks which were roused, brought from 217 to 347 per head. Of the West Highland bullocks roused, the pair which gained the second prize, sold at 507. Of the others, the price per head ran from 257 to 307. The fat sheep were all sold. Mr. David Tennant, Hawkhill, sold his prize black-faced fat wedders at about 50s per head. The rest of the same description brought from 35s to 60s. Two fine breeding Leicester Tups, shown by Mr. Garratt, farmer, Northumberland, brought him an offer of eight guineas, which he, however, refused.

**METHVEN.**—A great many potatoe merchants have last week and this been lifting potatoes which they had lately purchased by the acre; they are generally paying from 127 to 187, and average from 307 to 387 bolls per acre. A farmer in the north-end of the parish of Methven sold one of his acres at the advanced rate of 247; the rest of his field sold at 207.

**HOPS.**—The Town Malling Agricultural Association Ploughing Match, will take place on the 30th. of October, when, independent of many others, the following premiums will be given:—

|                                                                                                           | £. | s. | d. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| To the Hop Dryer whose Master shall produce the best managed Sample of Hops of his drying in class 1..... | 2  | 0  | 0  |
| The Next best ditto, class 1.....                                                                         | 1  | 0  | 0  |
| Best managed Sample class 2.....                                                                          | 2  | 0  | 0  |
| Next best, class 2.....                                                                                   | 1  | 0  | 0  |
| Best managed Sample, class 3.....                                                                         | 2  | 0  | 0  |
| Next best, class 3.....                                                                                   | 1  | 0  | 0  |

No successful candidate for any of the last mentioned prizes shall contend again for the same prize within three years.

No successful candidate in any other Association this year for any of the above prizes shall be allowed to contend for the same prize this year in this Association.

No Hop-planter to produce more than one sample of hops from the same Oasthouse—but if he have two or more Oasthouses with different dryers he may produce a sample from each.

No sample of hops shall be permitted to be shewn for a prize unless delivered to the secretaries, or one of them, by the Master himself, with an accompanying certificate in writing that it was drawn from a bag or pocket, which had been, or was to be offered for sale; and such sample and certificate must be delivered into the hands of one of the secretaries before ten o'clock on the morning of the 30th.

No sample of hops sent for a prize shall bear any name, number, letter or mark of any kind; or it will not be received.

The judges of the hop samples will be hop factors or hop merchants, to be appointed on or previously to the day.

There must be three competitors at least for each premium.

**PETERBOROUGH SECOND WOOL FAIR.**—The second wool fair was held at Peterborough, on Saturday, Oct. 3, as was appointed in July last, and though we are not able to report so favourably of the extent of business done, as we could have wished, yet there were several sales effected, which was not the case in July in a single instance. There seems a great opposition on the part of the buyers to this system of open market, and it will be seen that their hostility arises from their desire to keep up the monopoly inseparable from the common practice of visiting the growers about the country, and thereby keeping them in comparative ignorance as to the state of the market for their produce. The arguments in favour of an open market are very preponderating, and it only remains with the growers, by perseverance, to establish it in this city. At three o'clock a large company sat down to an excellent dinner in Mr. Dowes's spacious room, and the further arrangements in the wool fair were put in the hands of the committee.

**REAPING MACHINE.**—We (Stirling Journal) have pleasure in being able to state that Mr. Smith's Reaping Machine has been in successful operation during the two past weeks, and that its performances have given great satisfaction to all who witnessed them—The cutting and laying are correctly and uniformly executed, and the gathering into a neat sheaf is considered easy and expeditious. The machine cuts a breadth of from five feet to five feet six inches at a time, and a couple of horses move it easily at a rate of three miles an hour. The alterations which have been introduced in the construction of the machine, this season, have made it very complete, whilst its original simplicity has been but little invaded.



**CHELMSFORD.**—A ploughing match under the auspices of the Chelmsford Agricultural Society took place upon the farm of Mr. Jos. Crush, at Mountnessing Hall, on Monday last. The judges, Messrs. Joslin, Wood, and Alger, pronounced the work to be well executed, and decided the prizes as follows :—

| CLASS I. |                  |                                   |
|----------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Prize.   | Name.            | Residence.                        |
| 1.       | Wm. Johnson..    | Wm. Moore.. Mountnessing.         |
| 2.       | John Girkin ..   | Chas. Foakes . Ramsden.           |
| 3.       | Chas. Sorrell .. | Chas. Foakes . Ramsden.           |
| 4.       | Wm. Wybrew ..    | Thos. Bridge . Buttsbury.         |
| 5.       | John Barnes ..   | Joseph Crush . Mountnessing.      |
|          | John Marsh ..    | Joseph Crush . Mountnessing Hall. |
|          | John Marsh ..    | Joseph Crush . Mountnessing.      |
|          | James Clarke..   | Joseph Crush . Mountnessing.      |
|          | John Ellis ..... | William Crush. Great Burstead.    |
|          | James Dennish .  | C. Grant, Esq. Thoby Priory.      |
|          | Joseph Gilby ..  | Joseph Crush . Mountnessing.      |
|          | Ed. Harwood ..   | Chas. Foakes . Ramsden.           |
|          | Thomas Stubbs    | Henry Woods . Ingatstone.         |
|          | Saml. Sweeting   | C. Grant, Esq. Thoby Priory.      |

**CLASS II.—BOYS.**  
1. Robert Tyler .. Wm. Crush .. Great Burstead.  
John Barnes received 3s 6d in addition to his prize, having completed his task in the least time, and would probably have received a higher prize had he not ploughed quite so deeply. Ellis's work was commended, but was too fleet. The unsuccessful in the first class were rewarded with half a crown each. Two other ploughs arrived too late to be suffered to compete in the class, but the men having ploughed their stiches, a small sum was collected for them in the field.

**'CONE WHEAT.**—This article is a light red, hard grained wheat. It grows taller than the Lammas kind, and shows a beard not unlike rye. Various millers and bakers consider it essential to use a portion of it, let the price be what it may. In addition to being stronger, it also possesses the quality of making the bread keep longer than any other variety in use; but great skill is required in the manufacture and the grindstones used must be close, hard, and smooth. There are two kinds of wheat that take the name given; that is the blue and the white cone, and most persons consider the bread made from the latter superior to any other. On the stiff clayey soils of Gloucester and Somersetshire, this wheat has been cultivated to a considerable extent for a number of years; and a great deal of it is grown in the south of France, and more particularly on the banks of the Loire, and Garonne. At Adour, where it is also cultivated, the produce in favourable seasons is sometimes enormous—amounting to sixty, seventy, and even a hundred imperial bushels per English acre. It has been seen in that neighbourhood twelve feet high, and some of the stalks more like canes than ordinary wheat straw. The French make from it their best flour, which is very fine. The price is 42s the imperial quarter, and the general weight is 62 lbs. per bushel.

## MEETINGS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES, ASSOCIATIONS, CATTLE SHOWS, &c. TO COME.

[We shall feel obliged to such of our readers as will forward to us any local newspaper containing the announcement of annual meetings, for insertion as below.]

South Suffolk Agricultural Association, Sudbury, Nov. 3.  
Exeter Agricultural Society, Nov. 5.  
York Agricultural Association, Nov. 14.  
Rutland Agricultural Society, Dec. 1.  
Yeovil Agricultural Society, Dec. 4.  
Chippinham Cattle Show, Chippinham, Dec. 11.  
Smithfield Club, Dec. 11.

## LIVERPOOL, OCTOBER 20TH.

Since our *Annual Harvest Circular Letter*, dated 21st October, 1834, we have continued our best endeavours to communicate to our friends, correctly and candidly, the transactions in this corn market, by an uninterrupted series of weekly letters, every Tuesday, in which we have occasionally made such remarks on the prospects thereof as we deemed likely to be useful, and in those of the last three months, a record of the weather, and consequent progress of harvest—the result of which, in this district, might have been pretty correctly stated some weeks earlier, but considering this of less importance, we have postponed this letter for the purpose of obtaining more extended information by carefully investigating the contents of letters on the subject of the recent harvest from almost all the influential corn districts in the United Kingdom.

A general feeling prevailed that we should this season have had a very early harvest, but it has not proved much more so than the two preceding ones; it commenced in the southern districts of England—partially in this one—and in the *forward* situations throughout the whole kingdom about the first week of August, and was completed with upon the whole most favourable weather, by the second week in September; but throughout the north of England, Scotland, Wales, and the Isle of Man, it commenced two weeks later, and the operations of harvest were very often impeded by heavy rains, by which the crops of all grain are reported to have suffered considerable injury, and the weather has this season been very unfavourable throughout the whole of September and the first fortnight of this month for saving the crops in backward situations.

On the subject of the recent harvest, reports are various, but the opinions expressed by those on whom we have been accustomed to rely are less so than usual; in the great influential corn districts of England to the south of this, particularly in those on the South-east coast, where last year the crops of wheat, (*reported then very good*) have since been proved to have much exceeded full averages, the weather this year appears to have been cold, stormy, and unfavourable for the crops of wheat at the critical period of blooming, and immediately afterwards to have become very hot—forcing into premature ripeness; and although their crops of every kind of grain have been secured in the best possible condition, the crops of wheat are reported very deficient in quantity and quality, compared with those of last year generally; although on several farms in the various counties of England, and also in this district, the quality never was better, complaints of its proving deceptive, and yielding much less from the straw than usual, are very general: to the northward—throughout Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and the Isle of Man, although they have been much annoyed by the rain, and have had a more tedious harvest, reports generally are favourable as to quantity, but of the quality of their wheat they are very various; considering that there has been a reduction in the breadth of land occupied with wheat this season—still more so in the north of Ireland, where it is estimated upwards of 50,000 acres formerly wheat have been appropriated to flax, we unite in opinion with many of our respected neighbours, that although the crops of wheat throughout the United Kingdom are decidedly deficient from those of either of the two last years, they will not prove far short of a fair average in quantity: of barley, oats, beans, and pease, reports are every where favourable—they are full averages in quantity and quality generally, and excepting in backward situations, they have been saved in excellent condition; hay has been an abundant crop and well saved; of potatoes reports are not generally favourable, neither as to quality nor quantity, but the result of this very important crop is not yet fully ascertained.

From most of the corn provinces in the north of Europe accounts are favourable of the crops generally; from Canada not so favourable; but all supplies from those are contracted to the United States, by a reported deficiency in their crops of wheat, and very little wheat

or flour is expected to be exported to this kingdom from Canada this season.

The stocks of grain *here in bond* on the 1st October instant, were about 116,000 qrs of wheat, about 108,000 brls of flour, chiefly sour, about 4,500 qrs of oats, and about 1,500 qrs of peas, exclusive of Canadian wheat and flour, which although in bond we consider free.

The stocks of *foreign grain and flour in bond* in the United Kingdom on the 5th September, 1835, were about 579,275 qrs wheat, 79,440 qrs of barley, 342,083 qrs oats, 3,476 qrs rye, 1,622 qrs beans, 4,847 qrs peas, and 159,654 brls of flour. The prospect of any change in the corn laws, or of any relief to the holders of *bonded grain*, appears very dubious—on this subject there are some remarks in the first page of the *Mark Lane Express* of the 12th October instant well worthy of the attention of all interested therein.

We now annex at the foot of this letter, a statement of the imports of grain into this port for a long series of years, up to the 1st of October in each year, which we have long been in the practice of extracting weekly from authentic sources, and making up with every personal attention as to its correctness; it will be observed that there is a great deficiency in the imports of wheat and oats from Ireland this year (in which are included those passing up this river direct to Runcorn) compared with those up to 1st October, 1834, and they are still more considerably diminished from those in the three preceding years—nor is this deficit made up by the small increase on the imports of flour and oatmeal, nevertheless the stocks of *free wheat* here, including the Canadian, free and in bond, are estimated nearly equal to those at this period last year—about 140,000 qrs—of oats, oatmeal, barley, beans and peas, they never were less—they are almost exhausted, and of malt they are very small.

To account for our stocks of wheat here, (which under other circumstance we should not consider large,) with such miserable prices—and such diminished imports from Ireland during the last two years, we may remark nearly as in our letter this time last year; the demand for *wheat* from this port has been confined in the most unprecedented manner to a very small district around us; the principal millers and dealers beyond Manchester and Preston, towards Yorkshire, and even in those towns and their vicinity have been fully supplied with *wheat* by imports through the river Humber into Wakefield and Leeds, and by the canals from the southern interior counties; for low as our

prices have been here, they have been even more so, proportionably, in Yorkshire during the whole of the last season, and the quality of the wheat there has been better than ours; the prices of wheat throughout the kingdom are lower than at this time last year by about 5s per qr, and lower here by about 6d per 70 lb!—lower than ever remembered in proportion to qualities!!—even in the autumn of 1822! and we have not now as *then* large stocks of wheat of the wretched quality of 1821 forcing on our market at 3s 6d to 4s 3d per 70 lb, nor have we now as in 1832, a large portion remaining on hand of the importation of fully two millions and a half quarters of foreign grain, and 700,000 brls of flour which had been released for home use in England, (the flour chiefly in Liverpool,) during the two preceding years; the ruinous depression which has so long prevailed in the value of wheat, so much below its cost of production, may therefore be considered unprecedented, and hardly warranted by any estimate of increased cultivation, or even by the extreme poverty of the farmers generally, which however may still continue to effect our markets for some time, as from the low prices, larger quantities are of course requisite to make up their Christmas rents; all other kinds of grain have borne and still bear a much higher proportionate value than wheat, the consumption of which has been very great for human and for cattle food and for distillation, and must so continue, the immense population throughout this great manufacturing district being in full employment and with fair wages; and the kingdom being now completely clear of all remnants of foreign wheat—deprived of all prospects of imports from Canada—the condition of the crops in backward situations likely to be so different from those of the last two years—with the doubtful crops of potatoes, fully justify the confident expectation that a material increase in the value of wheat will occur before another harvest, and that the average prices of the past season will be greatly exceeded—although on all other grain they may be diminished for some time, and they certainly will not bear so high a proportionate value to wheat.

The imports of *new grain* from Ireland have been generally hitherto in no condition to keep, and have been forced off, on arrival, ex-ship; but it may shortly be expected to arrive in better prepared condition, and probably will become an object of speculation, for which purpose some quantity of *old wheat* has already been taken.

SCOTT & PARKE.

#### GENERAL IMPORTATION OF GRAIN AND FLOUR INTO LIVERPOOL FOR TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS.

|                                          | Wheat.  | Oats.   | Barley. | Beans. | Malt.  | Flour.  |         | Oatmeal. |
|------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------|---------|----------|
|                                          | Qrs.    | Qrs.    | Qrs.    | Qrs.   | Qrs.   | Bags.   | Brls.   | Sacks    |
| From 1st Oct., 1808, to 1st Oct., 1809.. | 114,000 | 460,000 | 30,000  | 7,000  | 11,000 | 13,000  | 170,000 |          |
| From do. 1809, to do. 1810..             | 160,000 | 338,000 | 26,000  | 14,000 | 54,000 | 12,000  | 109,000 |          |
| From do. 1810, to do. 1811..             | 137,000 | 150,000 | 9,000   | 8,000  | 25,000 | 21,000  | 28,000  |          |
| From do. 1811, to do. 1812..             | 115,000 | 205,000 | 51,000  | 4,000  | 20,000 | 27,000  | 13,000  |          |
| From do. 1812, to do. 1813..             | 166,000 | 484,000 | 72,000  | 6,000  | 30,000 | 52,000  | ..      |          |
| From do. 1813, to do. 1814..             | 211,000 | 336,000 | 34,000  | 17,000 | 34,000 | 60,000  | ..      |          |
| From do. 1814, to do. 1815..             | 261,000 | 359,000 | 37,000  | 22,000 | 50,000 | 59,000  | 80,000  |          |
| From do. 1815, to do. 1816..             | 112,000 | 354,000 | 46,000  | 16,000 | 38,000 | 37,100  | ..      |          |
| From do. 1816, to do. 1817..             | 218,000 | 342,000 | 78,000  | 15,000 | 35,000 | 4,500   | 520,000 |          |
| From do. 1817, to do. 1818..             | 240,000 | 417,500 | 63,700  | 19,700 | 43,000 | 3,000   | 371,000 |          |
| From do. 1818, to do. 1819..             | 238,966 | 396,720 | 65,502  | 38,326 | 36,633 | 35,017  | 49,606  |          |
| From do. 1819, to do. 1820..             | 341,545 | 318,505 | 66,635  | 18,759 | 38,202 | 37,679  | 127,429 |          |
| From do. 1820, to do. 1821..             | 348,371 | 366,834 | 59,902  | 26,875 | 44,273 | 80,194  | 89,975  |          |
| From do. 1821, to do. 1822..             | 320,863 | 251,081 | 43,412  | 22,214 | 46,890 | 71,665  | 15,031  |          |
| From do. 1822, to do. 1823..             | 332,609 | 293,802 | 27,225  | 23,814 | 49,047 | 115,848 | 5,568   |          |
| From do. 1823, to do. 1824..             | 189,947 | 382,846 | 36,412  | 27,084 | 50,545 | 55,292  | 91,776  |          |
| From do. 1824, to do. 1825..             | 387,082 | 628,992 | 49,411  | 25,795 | 62,218 | 97,949  | 37,101  | 58,000   |
| From do. 1825, to do. 1826..             | 325,619 | 388,277 | 62,736  | 22,049 | 64,904 | 91,828  | 17,736  | 59,000   |
| From do. 1826, to do. 1827..             | 404,531 | 499,169 | 98,807  | 51,295 | 55,814 | 93,038  | 60,914  | 48,000   |
| From do. 1827, to do. 1828..             | 352,298 | 605,963 | 56,849  | 34,563 | 75,105 | 163,584 | 25,881  | 135,920  |
| From do. 1828, to do. 1829..             | 135,561 | 472,147 | 52,151  | 25,202 | 59,979 | 100,326 | 156,112 | 117,000  |
| From do. 1829, to do. 1830..             | 466,046 | 486,739 | 71,341  | 32,903 | 50,340 | 96,605  | 249,458 | 112,000  |
| From do. 1830, to do. 1831..             | 727,443 | 447,319 | 69,837  | 28,918 | 91,800 | 82,487  | 699,910 | 136,000  |
| From do. 1831, to do. 1832..             | 484,859 | 471,857 | 54,300  | 27,389 | 78,689 | 173,566 | 81,662  | 176,800  |
| From do. 1832, to do. 1833..             | 528,759 | 379,411 | 60,600  | 20,275 | 79,132 | 293,665 | 46,639  | 210,000  |
| From do. 1833, to do. 1834..             | 460,814 | 317,062 | 60,166  | 41,926 | 81,197 | 270,357 | 46,437  | 144,100  |
| From do. 1834, to do. 1835..             | 350,584 | 266,049 | 71,288  | 27,260 | 86,441 | 304,486 | 14,916  | 176,820  |



## A PARTICULAR COMPARISON OF THE IMPORTS OF GRAIN AND FLOUR INTO LIVERPOOL FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS

Ending the 1st October, 1835, with those during the same period ending 1st October, 1834, distinguishing the Importations of each Quarter.

|                                                                                                           | WHEAT.           |         |          | OATS.    |         |          | BARLEY.  |        |          | BEANS.   |        |          | MALT.             |          |             | FLOUR.    |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------|----------|----------|---------|----------|----------|--------|----------|----------|--------|----------|-------------------|----------|-------------|-----------|-------|
|                                                                                                           | Qrs.             |         |          | Qrs.     |         |          | Qrs.     |        |          | Qrs.     |        |          | Qrs.              |          |             | Bags.     | Brls. |
| In October, November, and December, 1833.....                                                             | Ireland.         | Coastw. | Foreign. | Ireland. | Coastw. | Foreign. | Ireland. | Coast. | Foreign. | Ireland. | Coast. | Foreign. | Coast.            | Ireland. | Cst. & Ill. | Foreign.  |       |
|                                                                                                           | 106290           | 3173    | 19612    | 74446    | 2367    | 35       | 10730    | 11030  | 2400     | 3960     | 1838   | 2781     | 12398             | 270      | 72100       | 1730      |       |
| In January, February, and March, 1834 .....                                                               | And from Canada. | 13051   | 14000    | 74639    | 16214   | ..       | 5625     | 18172  | 200      | 2391     | 2404   | ..       | Canada and India. | 305.0    | 89335       | 14300     |       |
|                                                                                                           | And from Canada. | ..      | ..       | ..       | ..      | ..       | ..       | ..     | ..       | ..       | ..     | ..       | Canada and India. | ..       | ..          | 2199      |       |
| Total Import from 1st October 1833, to 31st March, 1834.                                                  | 203094           | 16224   | 33612    | 140085   | 15881   | 35       | 16355    | 22902  | 2600     | 6351     | 4322   | 2761     | 42948             | 1.02     | 159435      | 23129     |       |
| In October, November, and December, 1834 .....                                                            | 85690            | 4155    | 12400    | 77752    | 3062    | ..       | 16764    | 13773  | ..       | 5612     | 662    | 496      | 16623             | 1555     | 99403       | 421       |       |
| In January, February, and March, 1835.....                                                                | And from Canada. | 55060   | 12400    | 55756    | 15867   | ..       | 2116     | 23025  | ..       | 3748     | 1134   | 114      | Canada and India. | 1787     | 87397       | 1080      |       |
|                                                                                                           | And from Canada. | 2900    | ..       | ..       | ..      | ..       | ..       | ..     | ..       | ..       | ..     | ..       | Canada and India. | ..       | ..          | 349       |       |
| Total Import from 1st October, 1834, to 31st March, 1835                                                  | 140750           | 15500   | 15000    | 123508   | 18929   | ..       | 18880    | 30800  | ..       | 9260     | 1816   | 610      | 34500             | 2540     | 187300      | 5670      |       |
| Increase or Decrease during the first six months .....                                                    | Decr.            | Decr.   | Decr.    | Decr.    | Incr.   | Decr.    | Incr.    | Incr.  | Decr.    | Incr.    | Decr.  | Decr.    | Decr.             | Incr.    | Increase.   | Decrease. |       |
| In April, May, and June, 1834.....                                                                        | 76500            | 11354   | 2150     | 22823    | 9561    | ..       | 2965     | 3816   | 293      | 6366     | 2159   | 800      | 21265             | 91       | 50422       | 6078      |       |
| In July, August, and September, 1834.....                                                                 | 64590            | 11520   | 12530    | 40200    | 2457    | 4320     | 3062     | 2419   | ..       | 2666     | 2021   | 13660    | 18478             | 213      | 60500       | 11400     |       |
|                                                                                                           | And from Canada. | 3160    | ..       | ..       | ..      | ..       | ..       | ..     | ..       | ..       | ..     | ..       | ..                | ..       | ..          | 2830      |       |
| Total Import from 1st April to 30th September, 1834 ....                                                  | 141090           | 22874   | 23930    | 133023   | 12018   | 4320     | 6027     | 6275   | 293      | 8932     | 4181   | 14460    | 39743             | 304      | 110922      | 22308     |       |
| In April, May, and June, 1835.....                                                                        | 53340            | 23816   | ..       | 54144    | 6316    | 2135     | 1752     | 7092   | ..       | 6309     | 1663   | 2730     | 22600             | 4863     | 54886       | 2790      |       |
| In July, August, and September, 1835.....                                                                 | 60610            | 23190   | 17378    | 44150    | 4199    | 1468     | 5020     | 1744   | ..       | 3560     | 542    | 580      | And from India.   | 20200    | 623.00      | 4302      |       |
|                                                                                                           | And from Canada. | 1000    | ..       | ..       | ..      | ..       | ..       | ..     | ..       | ..       | ..     | ..       | Canada and India. | ..       | ..          | 184       |       |
| Total Import from 1st April to 30th September, 1835....                                                   | 113950           | 47006   | 18378    | 98394    | 11415   | 3663     | 6772     | 8836   | ..       | 9869     | 2235   | 3370     | 42860             | 6241     | 117186      | 9246      |       |
| Increase or Decrease during the last six months.....                                                      | Decr.            | Incr.   | Decr.    | Decr.    | Decr.   | Decr.    | Incr.    | Incr.  | Decr.    | Incr.    | Decr.  | Decr.    | Incr.             | Incr.    | Increase.   | Decrease. |       |
| Total Import from 1st Oct. 1830, to 1st Oct. 1831.....                                                    | 229677           | 60396   | 427370   | 367837   | 24347   | 54245    | 25762    | 29355  | 14540    | 5021     | 18677  | 5520     | 84110             | 7090     | 82347       | 69910     |       |
| Do. do. from 1st Oct. 1831, to 1st Oct. 1832.....                                                         | 384655           | 42729   | 52735    | 442745   | 28552   | 590      | 17009    | 31391  | 5900     | 10223    | 8829   | 8337     | 74924             | 5765     | 172366      | 81662     |       |
| Do. do. from 1st Oct. 1832, to 1st Oct. 1833.....                                                         | 424114           | 34729   | 72766    | 331561   | 47850   | 30599    | 12980    | 42190  | 3000     | 13630    | 6655   | 74000    | 74000             | 5042     | 207655      | 46639     |       |
| Do. do. from 1st Oct. 1833, to 1st Oct. 1834.....                                                         | 344174           | 32908   | 77342    | 282109   | 30344   | 4385     | 22632    | 45636  | 2207     | 15283    | 8502   | 17241    | 52891             | 1306     | 270387      | 46437     |       |
| Do. do. from 1st Oct. 1834, to 1st Oct. 1835.....                                                         | 254700           | 62506   | 33378    | 222102   | 30344   | 3663     | 22662    | 45636  | ..       | 19229    | 4051   | 19380    | 77380             | 9081     | 304486      | 14916     |       |
| Increase or Decrease during the 12 months ending 1st Oct. 1835, compared with the preceding 12 months.... | 89474            | 23408   | 44164    | 50007    | 256     | 752      | 3270     | 10159  | 2207     | 3946     | 4451   | 13261    | 5231              | 7575     | 34129       | 31321     |       |
| Oct. 1835, compared with the preceding 12 months....                                                      | Decr.            | Incr.   | Decr.    | Decr.    | Decr.   | Decr.    | Incr.    | Incr.  | Decr.    | Incr.    | Decr.  | Decr.    | Incr.             | Incr.    | Increase.   | Decrease. |       |

Besides the above mentioned Imports into this Port (in which are now included those which pass up this river direct to Runnymede) from the 1st October, 1834, to the 1st October, 1835, we have had about 176,820 sacks of Oatmeal from Ireland, being an increase on those of the preceding year of 32,720 sacks.

## REVIEW OF THE CORN TRADE IN MARK LANE, DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER.

The sudden change in the weather towards the close of the harvest in England, and the prevalence since that period of wet, has proved extremely injurious to the crops of grain throughout Scotland, where heavy rains have been experienced for several weeks. The growth of wheat, taken generally, is below an average, though, perhaps, equal in bulk to the crops of last season, and inferior in quality. The cold ungenial weather experienced in spring checked the growth of the plant, which in many districts, particularly those in a more northerly direction, did not fill well in the ear, besides being thin on the ground, and when the grain arrived at maturity, the rainy weather caused it to be housed in bad condition, yielding a rough, damp, irregular sample, in many instances infected with smut, and much discoloured, besides being sprouted, though this latter defect has not advanced to the extent it otherwise would have done, had the weather proved warm and muggy, instead of being cold and windy. Old wheat, of which there still remain stocks in the farmer's hands, is, therefore, in request, in order to admix with the new finer qualities maintaining a higher relative range of price; purchases also of sound dry corn are being effected on our coast for shipment to the north, as the winter must be advanced before the greatest portion of the new wheat can be made available to the millers. Bere and barley, in some instances, particularly in the more southerly portions of the kingdom, have been secured under more favourable circumstances, but the bulk of the crop has suffered likewise from the inclemency of the weather, much being sprouted and stained. The quality, therefore, is various, much being deteriorated, and fit only for distillation and grinding, and though the crop on the whole is a full average, yet the brewers will have to look to England this season for part of their supplies of malting qualities. Oats, which are the chief produce of Scotland, have disappointed the anticipations of the growers. In June and July the promises on the ground were highly flattering, but the excessive drought of August caused a prematurity in the ripening and want of fulness in the ear, and before the crop was harvested most of it was more or less damaged by the wet. The sample is, in consequence, stained and dark in colour, and shipments generally cannot be expected before Christmas. Some parcels are yet in stook, and others, as is also the case with barley, heating in the stacks, and being rendered inferior in quality and yield. The produce is, however, calculated at a moderate average, with much of the corn heavy in sample. Beans, in many instances, have grown too much to haulm, not podded well, and will be a de-

fective crop. Peas being mostly sown on light lands have suffered from the dry weather, and will be short in the produce, though of better quality than beans.

During the past month the wheat trade has afforded the farmer little relief from that continued depression which has characterised the proceedings in Mark Lane for a lengthened period; the last week's average of the kingdom having exhibited a greater decline in the price of corn, than has been experienced for more than half a century, the aggregate price not exceeding 36s 11d per qr., equal to 35s 10d Winchester measure, on a quantity amounting to 93,753 qrs; the largest return being from Yorkshire, which comprises 17,740 qrs sold at an average of 36s 10d. Lincolnshire being the next most important on the list, consisting of 8,469 qrs at 35s 5d; the lowest rates being from Oxfordshire, which were 34s. The trade at all the leading country markets has likewise evinced a tendency to recede, as the supplies generally have been liberal of new wheat. In the London market the samples continue to exhibit much desparity in the quality, and the damp state of the atmosphere during a portion of the month has affected the condition of the grain, causing much variation in the currencies. The finer qualities have receded fully 1s per qr., and the secondary and inferior descriptions 2s to 3s. At the beginning of the month an accession of wind and water, caused the mills to get into operation, and the millers purchased freely; though many of the cargoes which have arrived, have gone direct into the hands of the manufacturers. The unfavourable accounts also from Scotland as noticed above, and some purchases made for shipment to the North of England prevented any immediate depreciation in the currencies. Towards the middle of the month, however, the supplies of Flour beginning to augment, and the millers apprehensive of large receipts both of the article as well as wheat, and being partially in stock for immediate operations, became reluctant purchasers, and prices in consequence receded until the close of the month as before referred to. For bonded wheat an inquiry has existed for shipment at low prices, say from 20s to 22s per qr., at which rates, Mecklenburg and other wheats have been sold.

Though the supplies of flour coastways were large in the early part of the month, yet the trade being quite bare of stock took off the samples offering at the previous rates; the arrivals however continuing, the demand became languid, and prices receded, the article being fully 1s to 2s per sack lower; best Norfolk selling at 28s to 29s. Town made qualities have remained nominally unaltered, though 36s may be considered the top quotation. For bonded flour



there has been a free demand for shipment to the West Indies, weekly exports taking place to most of the Islands; owing to the advance in the American markets, and the shortness of the supplies, preventing the usual receipts from the United States.

The alterations which have taken place in the averages consist of an increase in the duty on wheat of 3s, making the duty 49s 8d: 3s also on oats, leaving the duty 16s 9d, and 5s 9d on beans, the duty being 18s 3d; but on peas the duty has decreased 2s 9d per qr.

Barley has considerably increased in supply, but the samples exhibiting a great disparity of quality, the maltsters have been obliged to select their parcels with care; at the beginning of the month prime Chevalier and fine common runs of malting barley forming a small proportion of the arrivals, realized rather more money, but as October advanced and the receipts augmented prices receded; Chevalier being noted 1s, other malting barley 1s to 2s, and distillery and grinding sorts fully 2s lower. Some of the new samples are extremely heavy, weighing 57 to 58, and even 59lbs; it is stated some are to be found of 60lbs per bushel. New barley has been offering from Ireland on low terms, varying from 9s to 11s 6d per barrel as in weight. Rather an extensive demand has existed for bonded barley at from 12s, 13s, 14s to 16s per qr. for shipment, principally to Norway and Sweden.

The maltsters have found the new barley to yield a more tender and kindly description of malt than was at first anticipated, and the article has become saleable at the quotations; old qualities, except fine, meeting with little attention; prices have remained steady throughout October.

The importation of oats from our own coast, as well as from Ireland, is fast increasing, and consists almost entirely of the new growth. From Scotland the receipt have been very trifling. In the early part of the month foreign samples composed the bulk of the samples offering; but an influx of the new British growth coming upon the market, materially depressed the trade, and as the quality of the English was heavy, and many fine parcels appearing among the Irish arrivals, they commanded the market, unless the foreign corn was extremely fresh. Old English, Scotch, and Irish grain has been extremely scarce and suffered little depreciation. New oats on the contrary have gradually declined, and are now 3s 6d to 4s per qr. lower than at the first of the month. New Irish oats weigh on an average from 40 to 42lbs, and are decidedly preferable to the run of last year's growth; those of 42lbs are worth 21s to 22s; some clean, dry, stout, and superior made 23s. The new Scotch, some weathered and discoloured, are very difficult of disposal; quality of 42lbs in tolerable condition, but not stout or even, have been sold at 21s to 22s, and some damp of 40 to 41lbs, at 19s to 20s. Old Scotch potatoe oats are worth 27s 6d, Angus 23s 6d, and bright, dry new might make within 2s to 3s of these rates. An extensive free on board trade has been transacted in Irish grain. Limerick oats have been selling at 9s 6d to 10s; Waterford, 9s 9d to 10s 3d, and 10s 6d; Galway, 9s to 9s 6d. The former two, weighing 40 to 42lbs, the latter 38lbs. Holders in Limerick and Waterford, at first steadily demanded 9s 9d to 10s, purchasers offering only 9s 6d; prices having since advanced, and the quality proving good, 9s 9d to 10s has been paid; but by the later accounts from Water-

ford, the best qualities are noted still higher, say 10s per barrel green. In bonded oats little business has been transacting. Archangel qualities have sold at from 6s 6d to 8s 6d per qr on board. Brew oats are held at 13s to 15s.

Old beans have become extremely scarce, and have advanced 1s to 2s per qr; new beans, which come in excellent condition, have also advanced 1s per qr, and been in request for shipment to the north of England. Windsor beans have declined fully 2s per qr, and become very unsaleable at 29s to 32s; Longpods have also receded 1s to 2s per qr, and are now noted at 28s to 31s per qr.

White peas have continued in fair demand, and good boiling qualities have improved 1s to 2s per qr, but hog and maple descriptions are 2s to 3s per qr lower as well as blue peas.

During the month of October, the following quantity of grain and flour has arrived in the port of London:—

|            | Wheat.<br>qrs. | Barley.<br>qrs. | Malt.<br>qrs.      | Oats.<br>qrs.    |
|------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| English... | 41,546         | 26,720          | 11,645             | 26,330           |
| Scotch.... | 191            | 420             | 40                 | 5,073            |
| Irish..... | 243            | 1483            | ...                | 43,135           |
| Foreign... | ...            | ...             | ...                | 8,445            |
|            | Beans.<br>qrs. | Peas.<br>qrs.   | Linseed.<br>sacks. | Flour.<br>sacks. |
| English... | 7,069          | 8,257           | 137                | 37,807           |
| Scotch.... | 22             | ...             | ...                | 290              |
| Irish....  | ...            | ...             | ...                | 118              |
| Foreign... | 23             | 152             | 19,823             | 1,042            |

In France the farmers are generally complaining as to the quality of the new wheats, which they find much inferior to the growth of last year; the better qualities of corn are bearing a higher proportionate value to those of secondary description, and are in request for seed. In barley there is also much disparity in the quality. Oats continue to maintain their currency. At Marseille the better sorts of wheat were also in demand, but the shipments this season from the Loire, will, it is expected, turn out fine, as the samples exhibited have given very general satisfaction. Prices generally are ruling low, and are more depressed than for a series of years, the last general average of the kingdom not exceeding 30s 5d per qr. In many places the after-growth of artificial feed is weak and rapidly fades off, and the natural pastures, from the shortness of fodder, have been so much trodden down and depastured, which added to the wet, caused them to afford less nourishment than if even dry weather had prevailed. The prices of cloverseed, owing to the rains having excited apprehensions for the fate of the crops, have considerably advanced, not only in the northern departments, but in the districts of Beauce, Poitou, and the more southern departments; and though a few fine days had caused the currencies partially to recede, yet the deficiency in the crops, and the little remaining on hand of the growth of last year, is sufficient to have caused a re-action in the market. Fine qualities continue to be held at 48s to 50s, with few purchasers; other sorts, from 42s to 46s per cwt. as in quality, and there are buyers of the better description at the latter price. The quantity that is disposable is very limited, and holders prefer waiting the demand for the consumption, rather than quitting at the present rates. Lucerne is also improving in value and may be reckoned 20 per cent dearer during the past month: the crop is only of middling quality. At Rouen, samples of Cloverseed were offering more freely, with rather a diminished demand, the article being noted at 44s to 46s. From St. Malo we learn that Cloverseed was in active request, and scarcely 50 bales remaining in the market of the crops of 1834, and as growers were fearful of experiencing a want of the article, owing to the failure of the new growth, they

scarcely knew what rates to demand; 48s had been offered in vain, and it is stated, the accounts from Lower Brittany contain similar reports. From Sables-d'Olonne seed is noted at 48s, but none offering as the crop was almost totally deficient. At Nogent-le-Retron, little business has been transpiring in Cloverseed; old seed is preferred to new, as being superior in quality; prices are 42s to 44s.

The prevalence of the Cholera in Italy prevented in the beginning of the month any attention being directed towards the transactions in grain beyond the demand necessary to meet the local consumption; as the effects of the disease, however, mitigated, the markets, it appears, have been over-supplied with wheat, and are extremely dull, and the currencies depressed. At Naples, Barletta samples have been ruling lower than for some years past; the best descriptions were to be obtained at 21s, but prices have somewhat rallied, and a few purchases have been made at 22s to 23s for Algiers. Speculators in the Mediterranean have little chance of any profitable business in wheat, as the abundance of the supplies, added to the shipments ready to be made from the Black Sea, completely paralyzes the trade, and effectually checks any chance of improvement. At Trieste, the result of the harvest in the province, though abundant, has turned out inferior in quality, which causes fine samples of wheat to be in request at rather better prices.

In Holland a royal decree has imposed a heavy duty on the admission of foreign grain in the proportion of 66 florins 60 cents. on wheat per last; 24 florins 30 cents. on bran and rye; 17 florins 40 cents. on Barley; and 19 florins 30 cents. on Oats. The partial exclusion of future foreign supplies has had the effect of giving a temporary excitement to the corn trade, and free foreign and native wheats have advanced 2s to 4s per qr; Rye, 2s to 2s 6d; and Barley, 1s to 1s 6d per qr. The measure, however, has given great dissatisfaction to the trade, being, no doubt, very prejudicial to business, as it will eventually be found to be to the very interests it is intended to protect.

At St. Petersburg, it appears, that the first supplies from the country of grain and meal had been received, the latter only amounting to 200,000 kuhl. In consequence of the shallowness of the water, it is stated, from Wischny Wolotschok, the place where the barks assemble, that the opening of the sluices and floodgates on the rivers has been much retarded, and it is expected that the second caravan will not reach the city before winter, and the third supply will be detained until some time after the frost. The monthly consumption of the city is estimated at 50,000 to 55,000 kuhl. The government expect their first supplies by the second caravan; the private granaries are cleared out, and in the neighbourhood the cultivation of grain is limited, and what is grown has yielded badly. As far therefore as the season has as yet advanced the city is very scantily supplied. In addition to which the old government stores of foreign meal are exhausted, and any restriction on the free entry of foreign wheat not to be anticipated; mixed Holstein wheat of 1833, and 1834, has obtained 31s, a quality of 1833 has been sold on delivery at 30s 8d, and dried Pomeranian has obtained 32s. No correct information is as yet ascertained, as to the general result of the harvest in Russia. The supplies of wheat having augmented, the trade is rendered less animated, though good qualities are worth 30s 4d to 31s per qr. Rye is scarce, and would readily obtain 27s 8d to 28s. Barley is nearly exhausted, and fine qualities would realize 20s 6d. Linseed was held at 40s 11d to 43s 9d per qr. At

Riga Linseed has continued saleable from the barks at 23s 9d to 42s 4d, as in quality. Of hempseed there were hardly any sellers at 27s 11d, half a rouble more money being demanded. Courish wheat is nominal at 23s 7d to 27s 11d; barley, 18s 7d to 19s 2d; oats, 12s 10d; rye, 23s. At Danzig, the increase of arrivals and want of demand, kept the currencies very depressed, fine fresh high mixed wheat remaining at 26s to 27s, weighing 62lbs, and high mixed 25s to 25s 6d. The last year's growth is to be obtained at nearly the same rates. Rye had advanced to 17s, owing to orders from the interior, but as the supplies would no doubt be large, price was likely to recede. The cultivation of Rapeseed appears much increasing, and the home crushers have taken off all the new growth. The merchants at Danzig, and indeed all the lower Baltic Ports are complaining of the arbitrary measures adopted by the King of Holland, respecting the admission of foreign grain as being extremely detrimental to their trade, as the low qualities of wheat which were sent to Amsterdam, cannot pay so high a duty as 66 florins per last, in addition to which, the sudden mode in which the resolutions have been promulgated, have prevented speculators from having any chance of retrieving themselves. In Mecklenburg the crops have been much injured by the drought, and by the gales of wind. Wheat is barely an average crop, barley deficient, oats have failed to the extent of one-third, but rye and peas exceed an average growth. The potatoe crop will to all appearances turn out very deficient, and as there will be no second crop of hay the farmers, who generally have a large stock of cattle, will be under the necessity of feeding upon grain during the winter, which may, it is conjectured, in some measure, equalize the want of a foreign demand. At Rostock and Wismar wheat may be purchased at 20s. In Denmark the trade remains dull and depressed, and with the exception of tares and rapeseed, of which latter article a very limited stock is remaining on hand, very little doing in any description of grain, except for the local necessities. At Hamburg the trade generally is extremely heavy, and wheat, with the exception of Magdeburg, Marks and Mecklenburg qualities, to be obtained on lower terms. Rapeseed remains firm at 34l to 35l.

The flour as well as the grain trade in the United States of America remains firm, and in some instances improving, owing to the shortness of the stocks. At New York, North Carolina wheat obtained 48s 4d per qr; Genesee ditto, 47s 8d; Western Canal flour, 27s 7d per barrel. North River barley, 30s 10d to 32s 1d; Northern oats, 21s 10d; Southern ditto, 15s 4d. At Philadelphia wheat sold at 47s 8d to 48s 4d. Flour, 28s 1d. At Baltimore wheat obtained 45s to 46s 6d; prime samples, 47s 8d. Flour 28s 1d per barrel.

In Canada the trade remained extremely languid, white wheat at Montreal was held at 5s 6d per 60lbs. and mixed at 5s 3d for Upper Canada quality, Lower Canada red being noted at 5s. The business transacting in new wheat on delivery was very limited, as much disparity was expected this year to exist in the sample, and the condition of the grain being also much affected by the wet weather.

In New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land prices of wheat had further advanced by the last advices of the 18th of June. At Sydney the last quotations received at Hobart Town and Launceston were 8s to 10s per bushel for wheat, in consequence of the want of supply, which had caused an advance in the latter Towns of fully 1s per bushel, wheat being noted at 7s to 8s per bushel. Barley was quoted at 5s; oats 3s to 3s 6d.



CURRENCY PER IMPERIAL MEASURE.

| BRITISH.                                 | Oct. 1.          |    | Nov. 1.          |    |
|------------------------------------------|------------------|----|------------------|----|
|                                          | s.               | s. | s.               | s. |
| Wheat, red, Essex, Kent, Suffolk.....    | 32               | 35 | 32               | 37 |
| White.....                               | 33               | 44 | 33               | 43 |
| Norfolk, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire..... | 31               | 35 | 31               | 34 |
| White, do. do.....                       | 32               | 37 | 32               | 36 |
| West Country Red.....                    | 31               | 35 | 31               | 34 |
| White, ditto.....                        | 32               | 37 | 32               | 36 |
| Northumberland and Berwickshire Red..... | 30               | 34 | 30               | 34 |
| White, ditto.....                        | 32               | 36 | 32               | 35 |
| Irish Red.....                           | 30               | 34 | 30               | 33 |
| Ditto White.....                         | 34               | 35 | 33               | 34 |
| Barley, Malting, new.....                | 31               | 35 | 30               | 31 |
| Chevalier, new.....                      | 31               | 35 | 30               | 33 |
| Distilling.....                          | 28               | 31 | 28               | 30 |
| Grinding.....                            | 24               | 26 | 23               | 25 |
| Irish.....                               | 24               | 25 | 22               | 24 |
| Malt, Brown.....                         | 35               | 40 | 35               | 40 |
| Ditto, Chevalier.....                    | 60               | 62 | 60               | 62 |
| Ditto, Norfolk and Suffolk Pale.....     | 46               | 54 | 46               | 54 |
| Ditto Ware.....                          | 58               | 61 | 58               | 61 |
| Peas, Hog and Grey.....                  | 28               | 32 | 28               | 32 |
| Maple.....                               | 30               | 35 | 30               | 33 |
| White Boilers.....                       | 32               | 36 | 32               | 37 |
| Beans, small.....                        | 34               | 38 | 36               | 40 |
| Harrow.....                              | 31               | 36 | 32               | 37 |
| Ticks.....                               | 29               | 33 | 29               | 35 |
| Mazagan.....                             | 30               | 30 | 30               | 34 |
| Oats, English feed.....                  | 20               | 22 | 16               | 20 |
| Short small.....                         | 22               | 24 | 21               | 23 |
| Poland.....                              | 22               | 26 | 21               | 23 |
| Scotch, Common.....                      | 25               | 26 | 18               | 24 |
| Berwick, &c.....                         | 26               | 28 | 21               | 27 |
| Potatoe, &c.....                         | 27               | 29 | 21               | 28 |
| Irish, Feed.....                         | 16s 0d to 17s 0d |    | 15s 0d to 16s 0d |    |
| Ditto Potatoe.....                       | 20s 0d 22s 0d    |    | 19s 0d 22s 0d    |    |
| Ditto Black.....                         | 16s 0d 18s 0d    |    | 16s 0d 17s 0d    |    |
| Brn.....                                 | 8s 0d to 10s 0d  |    | per bushel.      |    |

PRICES OF FLOUR,

| Per Sack of 280 lbs.                       | Oct. 1. |    | Nov. 1. |    |
|--------------------------------------------|---------|----|---------|----|
|                                            | s.      | s. | s.      | s. |
| Town-made.....                             | 33      | 35 | 36      | 35 |
| Norfolk, Suffolk, Kent, and Essex.....     | 27      | 30 | 27      | 29 |
| Sussex and Hampshire.....                  | 27      | 30 | 27      | 29 |
| Superfine.....                             | 32      | —  | 32      | —  |
| Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and Stockton..... | 27      | 29 | 26      | 28 |
| Northumberland, Berwick, and Scotch.....   | 27      | 29 | 26      | 28 |
| Irish.....                                 | 27      | 29 | 26      | 28 |
| Extra.....                                 | 30      | —  | 29      | —  |

IMPERIAL AVERAGES

|                                                                                                                                       | Wheat. | Barley. | Oats. | Rye.  | Beans. | Peas. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| Weekending.....                                                                                                                       |        |         |       |       |        |       |
| 11th Sept.....                                                                                                                        | 38 10  | 27 6    | 20 7  | 29 5  | 36 8   | 35 9  |
| 18th ".....                                                                                                                           | 38 0   | 27 8    | 20 5  | 31 5  | 35 2   | 36 9  |
| 25th ".....                                                                                                                           | 37 7   | 27 9    | 20 4  | 29 6  | 34 10  | 36 0  |
| 2nd Oct.....                                                                                                                          | 37 1   | 28 2    | 19 9  | 30 10 | 34 5   | 35 11 |
| 9th ".....                                                                                                                            | 37 0   | 28 3    | 19 10 | 30 5  | 33 9   | 35 9  |
| 16th ".....                                                                                                                           | 36 11  | 28 3    | 19 5  | 29 8  | 34 7   | 35 10 |
| Aggregate Average of the six weeks which regulates the duty.....                                                                      | 37 7   | 27 11   | 20 0  | 30 3  | 234 11 | 36 0  |
| Duties payable in London till Wednesday next inclusive, and at the Outports till the arrival of the Mail of that day from London..... | 49 8   | 21 4    | 16 9  | 24 3  | 18 3   | 15 6  |
| Do, on grain from British possessions out of Europe.....                                                                              | 5 0    | 2 6     | 2 6   | 3 0   | 3 0    | 3 0   |
| Foreign Flour, 28s 8d per 190lbs. British Possession do., 3s per 195 lbs.                                                             |        |         |       |       |        |       |

PRICES OF HOPS IN THE BOROUGH.

|                            | OCTOBER 1. |         | NOVEMBER 1. |      |
|----------------------------|------------|---------|-------------|------|
|                            | £ s.       | £ s.    | £ s.        | £ s. |
| East Kent Pockets.....     | 4          | 15 to 5 | 10          | 6 2  |
| Mid-Kent Pockets.....      | 3          | 15      | 4           | 15 5 |
| Weald of Kent Pockets..... | 3          | 3       | 4           | 8 3  |
| Sussex Pockets.....        | 3          | 3       | 4           | 0 3  |
| Yearlings, Bags.....       | 3          | 0       | 4           | 4 3  |
| Old Olds.....              | 0          | 13      | 1           | 10 2 |

An Account of the Quantity of Grain and Flour imported into the United Kingdom during the month ending the 10th Oct. 1835; the Quantity on which the Duty has been paid for Home Consumption, and the quantity remaining in Warehouse.

|                                       | Wheat.  | Barley. | Oats.   | Rye.    |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|                                       | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    |
| Quantity imported.....                | 6,574   | 4       | 7,066   | ..      |
| Do. entered for home consumption..... | 811     | 79      | 103,893 | ..      |
| Do. remaining in warehouse.....       | 626,389 | 64,149  | 238,124 | 3,476   |
|                                       | Peas.   | Beans.  | Maize.  | Flour   |
|                                       | qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.    | cwts.   |
| Quantity imported.....                | 1,749   | 308     | ..      | 10,744  |
| Do. entered for consumption.....      | 124     | 448     | 11      | 7,330   |
| Do. remaining in warehouse.....       | 5,965   | 1,502   | 757     | 283,416 |

BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS MARKETS.

|                                                                | Per ton.   |        |             |      | Per ton.   |      |             |      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------|-------------|------|------------|------|-------------|------|
|                                                                | OCTOBER 1. |        | NOVEMBER 1. |      | OCTOBER 1. |      | NOVEMBER 1. |      |
|                                                                | £ s.       | £ s.   | £ s.        | £ s. | £ s.       | £ s. | £ s.        | £ s. |
| Ware, Scotch reds.....                                         | 0          | 0 to 0 | 0           | 4    | 5 to 4     | 15   |             |      |
| Marsh Champions.....                                           | 4          | 0      | 4           | 10   | 3          | 15   | 4           | 5    |
| Common reds.....                                               | 0          | 0      | 0           | 0    | 3          | 15   | 4           | 5    |
| London whites.....                                             | 3          | 15     | 4           | 4    | 3          | 10   | 4           | 0    |
| Shaws.....                                                     | 3          | 10     | 4           | 0    | 3          | 5    | 3           | 15   |
| Middlings, Scotch reds.....                                    | 0          | 0      | 0           | 0    | 3          | 15   | 4           | 0    |
| Marsh Champions.....                                           | 3          | 0      | 3           | 10   | 3          | 0    | 3           | 10   |
| Common reds.....                                               | 0          | 0      | 0           | 0    | 2          | 15   | 3           | 10   |
| London whites.....                                             | 2          | 10     | 3           | 5    | 2          | 10   | 3           | 5    |
| Shaws.....                                                     | 2          | 10     | 3           | 10   | 2          | 5    | 3           | 0    |
| Chats, 17 to 175s per ton. Onions, 2s to 3s 6d per bush. bask. |            |        |             |      |            |      |             |      |

SMITHFIELD MARKET.

|                    | Per stone of 8lbs. to sink the offals. |        |             |       | Per stone of 8lbs. to sink the offals. |       |             |       |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------|--------|-------------|-------|----------------------------------------|-------|-------------|-------|
|                    | OCTOBER 1.                             |        | NOVEMBER 1. |       | OCTOBER 1.                             |       | NOVEMBER 1. |       |
|                    | s. d.                                  | s. d.  | s. d.       | s. d. | s. d.                                  | s. d. | s. d.       | s. d. |
| Inferior Beef..... | 2                                      | 0 to 2 | 2           | 2     | 0 to 2                                 | 2     | 2           | 2     |
| Do. Mutton.....    | 2                                      | 2      | 2           | 4     | 2                                      | 4     | 2           | 6     |
| Middling Beef..... | 2                                      | 6      | 2           | 10    | 2                                      | 6     | 2           | 8     |
| Do. Mutton.....    | 2                                      | 4      | 2           | 10    | 2                                      | 6     | 3           | 0     |
| Prime Beef.....    | 3                                      | 2      | 3           | 10    | 3                                      | 6     | 4           | 0     |
| Do. Mutton.....    | 3                                      | 4      | 4           | 0     | 3                                      | 4     | 4           | 0     |
| Veal.....          | 3                                      | 2      | 4           | 8     | 3                                      | 0     | 4           | 8     |
| Lamb.....          | 4                                      | 0      | 4           | 10    | 0                                      | 0     | 0           | 0     |
| Pork.....          | 3                                      | 0      | 4           | 0     | 3                                      | 0     | 4           | 4     |

WOOL MARKETS.

BRITISH.

|                       | Per lb.    |         |             |       | Per lb.    |       |             |       |
|-----------------------|------------|---------|-------------|-------|------------|-------|-------------|-------|
|                       | OCTOBER 1. |         | NOVEMBER 1. |       | OCTOBER 1. |       | NOVEMBER 1. |       |
|                       | s. d.      | s. d.   | s. d.       | s. d. | s. d.      | s. d. | s. d.       | s. d. |
| Down Teds.....        | 1          | 7½ to 1 | 8           | 1     | 7½ to 1    | 8     | 1           | 9½    |
| Half-bred Do.....     | 1          | 8½      | 1           | 9½    | 1          | 8½    | 1           | 9½    |
| Ewes and Wethers..... | 0          | 0       | 0           | 0     | 0          | 0     | 0           | 0     |
| Leicester Hogs.....   | 1          | 7½      | 1           | 8     | 1          | 7½    | 1           | 8     |
| Do. Wethers.....      | 1          | 3       | 1           | 3½    | 1          | 3     | 1           | 3½    |
| Blanket Wool.....     | 0          | 10      | 1           | 2     | 0          | 10    | 1           | 2     |
| Flannel.....          | 1          | 0       | 1           | 5     | 1          | 0     | 1           | 5     |
| Skin Combing.....     | 1          | 2       | 1           | 3     | 1          | 2     | 1           | 3     |

SCOTCH.

Per Stone of 24 lbs.

|                           | OCTOBER 1. |    |    |    | NOVEMBER 1. |    |    |    |
|---------------------------|------------|----|----|----|-------------|----|----|----|
|                           | s.         | d. | s. | d. | s.          | d. | s. | d. |
| Laid Highland Wool, from, | 10         | 0  | 10 | 6  | 10          | 0  | 10 | 6  |
| White Do. Do.....         | 13         | 9  | 14 | 3  | 13          | 9  | 14 | 6  |
| Laid Crossed Do.....      | 13         | 0  | 14 | 0  | 13          | 0  | 14 | 0  |
| Washed Do. Do.....        | 14         | 6  | 16 | 0  | 14          | 6  | 16 | 0  |
| Laid Cheviots.....        | 14         | 0  | 16 | 0  | 14          | 0  | 16 | 0  |
| Washed Do.....            | 18         | 6  | 20 | 6  | 18          | 6  | 20 | 6  |
| White Do.....             | 24         | 0  | 26 | 0  | 28          | 0  | 30 | 0  |

FOREIGN.

NOVEMBER 1.

In foreign wools no material alteration in prices from last month.

# THE POLITICAL COMPANION

TO

## THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

### FRENCH CORN AVERAGES.

(From the Times.)

The following are the average prices of wheat in France at the end of September in each year during the undermentioned 17 years, from 1819 to 1835 inclusive, according to official returns; the whole reduced into English measure and money:—

| Per hectolitre.<br>f. c. | Per qr.<br>s. d. | Per hectolitre.<br>f. c. | Per qr.<br>s. d. |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| 1819..16 1               | equal to 36 8    | 1828..21 9               | 48 3             |
| 1820..19 40              | 44 5             | 1829..20 13              | 46 2             |
| 1821..16 9               | 36 10            | 1830..21 92              | 50 3             |
| 1822..16 62              | 35 9             | 1831..21 71              | 49 9             |
| 1823..15 41              | 35 3             | 1832..19 44              | 44 6             |
| 1824..14 53              | 33 4             | 1833..15 86              | 36 4             |
| 1825..15 22              | 34 10            | 1834..14 64              | 33 7             |
| 1826..15 21              | 34 9             | 1835..13 66              | 31 3             |
| 1827..18 31              | 42 0             |                          |                  |

The average of the whole period is 17f. 31c. per hectolitre, which is equal to 39s 8d per quarter; and it will be remarked that the average of the present year is the lowest of the whole period,

In order to make a fair comparison between the average prices of corn in England and France, the mode of taking the average of each country respectively must be had in consideration. The ancient practice of England and Wales was to make up the average from the sales made in the maritime districts only, and all Irish and Scotch corn was excluded from the account; but in the corn law of 1828 it was enacted, that not only the sales of corn in the inland markets of England and Wales, but that the Irish and Scotch corn should also enter into the average, and these alterations have the effect of depressing the average price of wheat, as compared with the period anterior to 1828, at least 5s. the quarter, and in proportion for other grain; and therefore when the average price of wheat is now, for example, stated to be 40s per quarter, this under the former mode of taking the averages, would be 45s the quarter, all which must be borne in mind when we compare the average prices of corn subsequent to 1828 with those before that period.

The French averages on the contrary, for the whole of that large and populous country, are drawn up from the sales made in the very small number of only 26 places, and these, for the chief part, capital towns and cities; and this has important results, for, first, it is certain that the corn consumed in large towns and cities will be much superior to the average quality of the whole country, and next, it is equally certain that the price, whatever the quality, will be higher than in the places of growth in the interior, because the corn comes loaded from thence with charges of transport.

Wherefore the mode of taking the averages in France tending to show a high price of corn, and the mode of taking the averages in England tending, on the contrary, to show a low price of corn, this establishes a great difference in the respective results; under a sober and impartial view of things, it is plainly impossible to estimate this difference at less than 10 per cent.

There still remains to take into the account the quality of the corn of each country respectively. Now, the best bread at Paris, and in the large towns in

France, is better than the best bread in London and the large towns in England; and the best flour at Paris and in the large towns in France is better than the best flour in London and the large towns in England; and, therefore, the best French wheat is better than the best English wheat; and, therefore, the average quality of the wheat in France is better than the average quality of the wheat in England; and if it be then considered that the Scotch, and particularly the Irish wheat, is greatly inferior to the English, there will be no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that the average quality of the wheat in France surpasses that of the United Kingdom at least 10, and probably 15 per cent.

There being, then, 10 per cent. difference in the quality, and a further difference of 10 per cent. in the mode of taking the averages, it is clear that, supposing the official average price in each country to be the same, yet the price in France would really be 20 per cent. lower than in England. And this is confirmed by the fact; for the proportional difference between the price of bread at Paris and in London is generally greater than between the price of wheat. Thus, for example, the highest quotation of wheat of the first quality at Paris is 22f. 50c. the 1½ hectolitre, which answers to 34s 4d the quarter, and the highest quotation of wheat of the first quality in London is 45s the quarter. On the other hand, the highest price of white wheaten bread of the best quality at Paris is 55c. the 2 kilogrammes, which is something less than 4½d the loaf of 4lb English weight, while the best quality of white wheaten bread in London sells for 7d. the loaf of 4lb. And therefore the difference between the price of wheat at Paris and in London is 31½ per cent., while the difference in the price of bread is 47½ per cent., and yet it may very safely be stated that the Paris baker makes to the full as great, if not perhaps greater profits, than the baker in London; and this disproportion between the price of wheat and the price of bread arises entirely from the superior quality of the French wheat, for good wheat will not only produce flour of a better quality than wheat of an inferior description, but it will also yield a greater quantity, and therefore, supposing the French and the English miller to pay precisely the same price for wheat in the respective markets of London and Paris, the Frenchman can afford to sell his flour cheaper than the Englishman, and yet make the same profit, because from the same quantity of wheat he obtains a greater quantity of flour.

Again the French wheat yielding not only a greater quantity of flour than the English, but this flour being also of a better quality, and as from good flour not only better bread may be made, but also more bread than from an equal quantity of flour of an inferior description, so is it of plain direct consequence that the French and the English baker both paying precisely the same price for flour, the first could afford to sell his bread cheaper than the last, and yet make the same profit, and this by reason that from the same quantity of flour he obtains a greater quantity of bread.

The final result, therefore, is, that from the superior quality of the French wheat, as compared with the English, the bread at Paris is not only of a better quality than in London, but as compared with the price of wheat it is also at a proportionably lower prices.



## CORN AND FLOUR TRADE.

*(From the Times.)*

It appears that persons engaged in the above trade, have for some time past been making representations to the Government on the subject of allowing the manufacture of foreign corn into flour for export. It is presumed that some members of the Government, and particularly the Board of Trade, are favourable to the measure, but that much opposition to it is expected from the agricultural interest.

The principle proposed to be acted upon is, that for every specified quantity of foreign wheat delivered out of bonded warehouses there shall be a commensurate quantity of flour and biscuit returned within a limited time. To effect this, it is not conceived to be necessary that the produce of the identical parcel of wheat taken out of bond should be returned, provided the quantity of wheat liable to be brought on the English market does not exceed that which will be taken out of it. With regard to the quality of the flour and biscuit to be exported, the only essential point appears to be, that it shall be in every respect wholesome human food such as is commonly used on board merchant ships, or in our colonies.

This would be more beneficial to all parties than a nicer definition, since it sometimes happens from accidents of weather, &c., that there may be a considerable quantity of English wheat not well adapted for loaf-bread, which would yet make very good biscuit. If, then, a quantity of this description of wheat were taken out of the English market, and an equal quantity of better quality of foreign wheat brought into it, the effect would be that the farmer would be relieved from an unsaleable article, and the public have the advantage of better bread.

Still if it be made a point of, that the quality of the flour and biscuit to be returned into bond shall be more strictly defined, the criterion might be the flour and biscuit usually made for the navy.

To guard against fraud, it is proposed that the operation, as far as regards the exchange of wheat for flour and biscuit, shall be under the superintendence of the Customs, and confined to the principal sea-ports, in the following manner:—On timely notice being given that a certain quantity of a specified cargo of wheat is wanted to be manufactured into flour or biscuit, the party making the application shall, with another responsible individual, give security by bond, to return into bonded warehouse within a limited time a certain quantity of flour and biscuit, or of flour or biscuit only, as the case may be, for the purposes of exportation, instead of the specified quantity of wheat so liberated; otherwise, if it should be deemed more satisfactory, the biscuit and flour may be deposited into bonded stores, and sufficient time allowed for its being examined and approved of previous to the delivery of the wheat.

The officer of the Customs may be at liberty to call in tradesmen to inspect the quality of the flour and biscuit to assist his judgement of quality, and if he should reject it, and the owner of it be dissatisfied with his decision, an appeal may be made to the collector of the Customs, whose decision shall be final.

Those regulations, it is presumed, would effectually prevent any liability to fraud, which, however, might still be subject to penalties provided in similar cases. So far would this system be from injuring the agriculturists, that it would be of positive advantage to them, inasmuch as it would bring into active operation a large capital now lying dormant in foreign corn, and also by bringing back a branch of trade once enjoyed, but now lost to this country, through the operation of the existing corn laws; it would do away one of the causes of complaint made against them, and show that the agriculturists do not desire to interfere with other interests beyond what is necessary for their own protection.

It must be borne in mind that the benefit to be derived from the plan ought not to be confined to the corn now in bond, but be of a permanent nature. That it can be carried on to great advantage is obvious from the fact that wheat can often be brought from the Bal-

tic and laid down in England at a less price than it bears in America, which annually exports upwards of 1,000,000 barrels of flour, besides a large quantity of biscuit, chiefly to our West India islands and South America.

The system would necessarily give freight to our shipping, both in corn from the Baltic, and flour and biscuit to the West Indies, Newfoundland, and South America, &c. and would afford additional employment in this country to a great number of millers, bakers, coopers, bag-makers, &c.

The foregoing plan would have the recommendation that it may be carried into effect with very little increase of expense to the Crown.

Should doubts be entertained as to the working of such a system, the experiment might in the first instance be made on the wheat now in bond, the capital in which, amounting to a million and a-half of money, is rapidly sinking by expenses of warehouse rent, labour in preserving it, interest of money, and general deterioration in quality.

## THE BUCKINGHAMSHIRE AGRICULTURAL DINNER.

*(From the Courier.)*

The farmers and agriculturists of the county of Bucks had a dinner the other day at Aylesbury, at which Lord Chandos was present. Whatever may be thought of the politics or projects of those who associate at these meetings, they have the good effect of bringing the higher and middle classes together on friendly terms, of diffusing a spirit of kindness and good-will, and of making each party aware of the views and prejudices, and interested in the welfare of the other. No great proprietor who, like Lord Chandos, the Duke of Buccleuch, and a few more, meet their tenants in a frank, social way, without assuming any patronising airs, can be a bad landlord. Without the affectation of liberality, such men are frequently liberal to a degree not easy to be imagined. A landlord who keeps aloof from his tenants, or who only condescends to look in upon them for a few minutes when they are dining, upon audit days, with the steward in the hall, and who ostentatiously announces his having abated ten or fifteen per cent. from their rents, treats them with unbecoming *hauteur*, and most frequently acts oppressively by many amongst them. Were it not invidious, we could give fifty instances of this. But with landlords who meet their tenants, and those of the neighbourhood, on easy terms, whether at their own houses, or in the public markets—who join in their sports, who treat them as friends, and not as dependents, and who make it their business to know the exact condition of every individual amongst them—bad conduct is next to impossible. Such men cannot commit harsh acts; nor can they, without good cause, proceed to distrain any tenant. We, therefore, are always glad to hear of such meetings as that at Aylesbury, where all classes are mingled freely together, and where there is neither assumption on the one side, nor servile crouching on the other.

It is generally known, and, therefore, we may, perhaps, be excused for alluding to it, that owing to peculiar circumstances, for which, however, he is in no degree answerable, Lord Chandos's means of doing good are at present comparatively circumscribed. His great popularity in Bucks is, therefore, the result of his frank, conciliatory conduct, and is as honourable to the farmers and yeomanry of the county as to his lordship.

The topics dwelt on in the speeches at the Aylesbury dinner, were such as might be anticipated. We were, however, gratified to find, that there was less

of that everlasting agricultural distress than is usually heard at such meetings. Lord Chandos pledged himself not to relax in his efforts to procure a repeal of the malt tax, and he dwelt much on the fact, that the Commissioners of Excise Inquiry had recommended the repeal of half the duty. But, notwithstanding the respect due to every suggestion offered by the Commissioners in question, we do not think they will gain, in this instance, many impartial converts to their opinion. We do not pretend to say that the malt tax is without its defects, or that it may not press heavily on some classes; but then we *must* raise a large amount of revenue in one way or another; and of all the taxes that at present exist, or that (so far as we know) have been suggested, that on malt appears to be among the least objectionable; and one that should be about the last to be meddled with. Lord Chandos, and other gentlemen of influence, should turn their attention to other modes of relieving the agriculturists, and not insist on measures they can have no reasonable hope of carrying. Why don't the leading agriculturists in the south exert themselves to effect a change in the ruinous customs that prevail in several counties as to the entry to farms? Why don't they try to introduce a more economical system of agriculture? In Northumberland, Lincoln, and Norfolk, the best farmed counties in the kingdom, more than two horses are never seen in a plough, and why, then, should there be teams of four, five, and even six horses, in Bucks, Berks, Surrey, &c.? Let the agriculturists do for themselves all that may be reasonably expected of them, and if that be not enough, then, but not till then, let them come to Parliament and solicit assistance.

### THE MALT TAX.

(From the Standard.)

If the Whig-Radical government are ready, as the *Morning Chronicle* seems to intimate, to remit the one-half of the malt duty, we think we can safely promise for the Marquis of Chandos that he will give his powerful aid to the administration in effecting that object; and, farther, we think we can promise for his lordship, and for the whole of the Conservative party, that they will assist rather than obstruct, whatever plan shall be suggested by the cabinet, to make good the financial deficit caused by that remission. It can scarcely be pretended, however, with any modesty, that this benefit, great as it would be, or any other benefit, ought to purchase for ministers a charter of mis-government—a license to oppress the poor in one country, and to destroy the church in another—to squander the commerce of the empire, and degrade its character amongst foreigners; in a word, virtually to take the crown from the head of King William, and place it upon the head of Mr. Daniel O'Connell. Yet this is the modest bargain that the *Morning Chronicle* would drive with the Marquis of Chandos, and with those who agree with his lordship upon the subject of the malt duty. In accepting such a bargain, the noble marquis might appear, for a short time and in the narrow sense, to be the farmer's friend; but such a friend as he is to the farmer Lord Chandos would no longer be, for he would no longer be the friend of his country.

We should rejoice to learn, however, that the cabinet seriously proposes to act upon Sir Henry Parnell's advice. This cabinet can act upon that advice; the cabinet of Sir Robert Peel could not. We make both assertions without any reference to the numerical strength of parties in the House of Commons. In this matter the difference of power is not connected

with the numerical proportion of the parties into which the House of Commons is so nearly equally divided. It is the difference of character of the two great parties which renders a matter of perfect facility to the one, what would be absolutely impossible for the other, even though the parties are exactly equal in numbers, as we almost believe they are by this time. This difference of character lies in the fact that the Conservatives are a party pursuing no other object but the common good, and wholly incapable of putting the public credit and the public peace in danger for the sake of supplanting an administration; while, on the other hand, as is notorious, the allied anti-Conservatives are formed from a confederation of factions, each and all of them prepared to go every length of public mischief that may seem to promise a continued possession of power and place. Were the present cabinet, therefore, to propose a remission of the half or of the whole of the malt duties, they could make the proposition with a perfect confidence that the deficiency of revenue would be zealously made up by Conservatives. The Conservative is not the party that would resort to stopping of the supplies, to the ruin of public credit, or to a curtailment of the revenue, alike ruinous, as a means of scaling office. But, had Sir R. Peel assented to the remission of the malt tax last winter, is there anything in the conduct of the majority during the session to permit the belief that a substitute would have been granted? Were the men who confessed themselves prepared to stop the supplies, in order to turn out the administration, likely to accommodate that administration by opening, at its request, a new department of finance.

We have never concealed the difficulty into which the Conservative party was thrown by the question of the malt tax; and this difficulty did not lie a moment concealed from the vigilant and unscrupulous enemy. Many of the county members had pledged themselves to support the repeal or partial remission of the tax; but they had so pledged themselves with a view to a state of affairs under which, as we have seen, such partial repeal could be easily and safely effected. The otherwise beneficial change for the country placed the question in a totally different position; for it rendered this repeal or remission an instrument by which the Whig-Radicals, if they employed it as a key to place (and who could doubt that they would so employ it?) might throw the country into confusion.

In such a juncture, the sincere friend of the farmer, who would also be the friend of his country, could scarcely act in a manner to satisfy himself. We, therefore, view with equal respect the motives of those, pledged or unpledged, who voted for, or who voted against, the motion of the Marquis of Chandos. That the noble marquis could not have acted otherwise than he did must be obvious to all who rightly consider his position as the willing, and yet almost compelled leader of the agricultural interest. Now, however, that all difficulties are removed—now that the financial Mentor of the Whig ministry himself comes forward to urge the remission of a part, at least, of this most pernicious tax, the Marquis of Chandos properly calls upon the agricultural interest to demand from the cabinet that which the cabinet can grant with safety, and which its adviser says it ought to grant. We have no doubt that the suggestion of the noble marquis will be adopted.

### THE REVENUE.

(From the Courier.)

On the whole, every new account of the Revenue laid before Parliament, and every new statement of



the consumption, shows that the resources of the country are not only not impaired, but that they are as vigorous and productive as ever. All that is wanted to develop them to the utmost is tranquillity, the removal of restrictions, and moderate duties. Agitation is the bane of industry; and those who endeavour to keep it alive are the greatest enemies of the industrious classes. It is gratifying to see how completely all experience goes to prove the superior productiveness of low duties. In no one instance has a duty on an article in general demand been sufficiently reduced without its consumption being so much increased, that the Revenue has either gained by the reduction, or its loss been inconsiderable. The most objectionable of the existing duties is that on timber; and, next to it, those on brandy and hollands. The timber duty is a disgrace to a civilized country—it has every quality that a tax ought not to have, and not one that it should have. It is not imposed for the sake of revenue, but to promote the interests of a small class at the expense of the country, and to force the use of a bad, in preference to that of a good article. For every single shilling that it puts into the coffers of the Treasury, it takes two ought out of the pockets of the public. The duties on brandy and hollands are also quite disgraceful. There can be none worse among the Caffres. These articles are sold within sight of the English coast, at from 3s 6d to 4s 6d a gallon; and, in our wisdom, we impose on them a duty of 22s 6d a gallon—that is, a duty of from 500 to 700 per cent. ! We do not know whether Mr. Vansittart, who proposed, or his successors, who in the teeth of experience and common sense have kept up this enormous duty, are most worthy of the esteem and regard of the smuggler. But for them *Othello's* occupation would have been nigh gone; and the gentlemen of the Preventive Service would have enjoyed something very like sinecures. But the duties in question furnish ample enjoyment for both parties, and keep them in a state of wholesome activity. Without excepting even Tipperary or Limerick, more ferocious contests take place, and more blood is spilt on the coasts of Kent and Sussex than any where else in Europe. In one respect, therefore, the duty on brandy and hollands is all that could be wished. It does not, it is true, all things considered, bring a solitary sixpence to the Treasury; but it does what Parliament would seem to think was about as good—it sets a host of smugglers in array against a host of Customs' officers, and affords, every now and then, an exhibition of murder and bloodshed, that will almost bear to be compared even with that of Rathcormac!

#### STATE OF THE COUNTRY,

(*From the Courier.*)

However individuals and parties may differ in their opinion as to politics, and the conduct and character of public men, they must all rejoice in the generally flourishing state of the country. We do not believe that it is possible to specify any period in our history when all the great branches of industry were in a more satisfactory state, or when so many new sources of wealth and prosperity were being daily explored, and brought into operation. The present period has little in common with 1825. During that and the preceding year vast additions were made to the issues of country bank paper, and the prices of almost all sorts of commodities were rapidly augmented. The facility of obtaining discounts and loans gave speculators the means of engaging in the wildest projects, while all those who

had stocks on hand flattered themselves with the delusive notion that they were becoming richer every day. But it soon became obvious, from the continued and heavy drain on the bank for gold, that the whole fabric was hollow and unsound; and the revulsion that ultimately ensued did not come with surprise on any one acquainted with the facts, and aware of the nature of our credit system. But, though it is impossible to say before hand what may be the state of any country at any future period, there does not seem, provided the public tranquillity and security be maintained, to be at present any thing in our situation to excite alarm as to coming events. There is no drain upon the bank, and with the single exception of sugar, the prices of most considerable articles are either stationary or declining. Our present prosperity depends on no fictitious or unnatural excitement: it is the genuine result of the public industry and intelligence, and the very best thing that can be done to promote it is to let it alone—to allow individuals to prosecute their own interest in their own way.

It was supposed by many, and apparently on pretty good grounds, that the low prices of agricultural produce would be fatal to our agriculture, and would make us dependent on the Continent for large supplies of corn. But necessity has been in that, as in most other things, the mother not only of invention, but of cheapness and abundance. The low prices did for all the agriculturists of the empire what a rise of rents has frequently done for those of a single estate—it compelled them to be more industrious, more economical, and more skilful; and the results have been quite astonishing. Though the population of Great Britain be now 1,200,000 greater than in 1830, and though all classes of individuals be better fed than at any former period, we do not import a single bushel of foreign corn, notwithstanding prices have, in the interval referred to, fallen 24s a quarter. This is, perhaps, the most extraordinary fact in the history of industry. Unless when bad harvests occur, the skill of our farmers has annihilated the corn laws; and if any thing like reasonable security could be introduced into Ireland, we should in less than a half a dozen years, be greater exporters of corn than we ever were at any period of reign of George II.

If from the agriculture we turn to the manufactures and commerce of the country, we find them in an equally flourishing and vigorous state. If we were to judge from the rapidity of its progress, we should think that the cotton manufacture had been but lately introduced amongst us. It is, in fact, making a greater advance at this moment, than it did after Sir Richard Arkwright's patents had been set aside, and his all but miraculous discoveries and inventions became public property. It was anticipated by many that the progress of the manufacture would be arrested by a deficiency and consequent high price of the raw material; but its production in the United States and elsewhere bids fair to keep pace with its consumption in England and other countries. And, looking at the innumerable sources whence raw cotton may be derived, we do not believe, how great soever may be the progress of the manufacture, that it will come to a stand-still for want of raw material at a reasonable price.

The woollen manufacture is not less prosperous than that of cotton. The exports in 1834 were not quite so great as in 1833, but the price of wool, which had attained to an extraordinary elevation at the former period, is now at a more reasonable rate, and the manufacturers are not, consequently, obliged to use so much circumspection.

The iron trade is also extremely flourishing. The low prices have enforced a greater degree of economy in all departments of the business, and have been the source of many improvements. In Scotland the business has increased 50 per cent. during the last ten years. In 1825 the entire quantity of iron made in that part of the empire was certainly under 50,000 tons; whereas it now exceeds 76,000 tons, and is rapidly extending, several new furnaces having been constructed in the course of the last and present year.

Our commerce is not less prosperous. All the sinister predictions that were to freely indulged in as to the falling off in the China trade that was to follow the abolition of the company's exclusive privileges, and the bad quality of the tea that the free traders were to import, have been *completely disproved*! The trade at Canton has been carried on without any interruption, except what was occasioned by the improper pretensions of Lord Napier; an unusually large quantity of tea has been imported, and its quality has been materially improved. New markets are opening to our produce in all parts of the world, and the old ones are becoming more and more extensive. The adoption of the recommendation of the late committee of the House of Commons to take 15s a load from the duty on Baltic timber will be of signal importance to the most valuable branch of our trade—that with the north of Europe. The whole of the trade of the Russian empire may, indeed, be said, to be in our hands. Russia has few or no mercantile ships, so that we are not only her merchants and factors, but also her carriers. Every new triumph of civilization in that vast and rapidly improving empire is a new and prolific source of wealth to England.

Our taxation, that has been the theme of so much elaborate and so much absurd discussion is every day becoming less and less heavy, because the public is becoming more and more able to bear it. Were the ridiculously extravagant duties on timber, brandy, hollands, tobacco, and a few other articles, effectually reduced—which they might be without the sacrifice of a shilling of revenue—there would be nothing to object to in the mode of its imposition. Even as it is, we do not believe that it imposes any greater burden upon us than it did on our ancestors at the accession of George III.

We do not, however, mean to say that we look upon the state of the country as in *all* respects satisfactory. Our system of country banking is anything but what it should be; and the immigration of Irish paupers into Britain threatens to have the most pernicious effects. When the last census was taken, there were in Glasgow, out of a population of 202,000, no fewer than 35,000 Irish! And we believe that the proportion of Irish is about the same at Manchester, Liverpool, and generally along the western coast. It is not easy to exaggerate the injurious influence of this immigration. The wages of the English and Scotch labourers are reduced by the competition of the Irish; and, what is worse, the habits and modes of life of the former are debased by the example and association of those who are content to vegetate in filth and misery. If nothing be done to stop up the sources of pauperism in Ireland, and if the pauper horde be allowed to spread itself over this country, it seems pretty clear that the condition of the lower classes in both islands will ultimately be brought pretty near to a level; and it is but too certain that the equalization will be accomplished, rather by the degradation of the English and Scotch than by the elevation of the Irish. But there are means, and those quite effectual for the object, by

which this most undesirable consummation may be averted; and it will be the fault of the people of England if they do not compel them to be adopted.

## AGRICULTURAL MEETINGS.

(From the Mark Lane Express.)

There is no portion of the duty devolving upon us which we perform with so much gratification as the perusal of the reports of the proceedings which take place at the respective agricultural meetings and ploughing matches throughout the country. We have upon many occasions endeavoured to impress our agricultural readers with the absolute *necessity* of extending agricultural associations over the whole kingdom with a view to uphold the interests of that body, which, from want of a bond of mutual co-operation, is incapable of defence, but which if united would be all-powerful. We do not desire to set the agricultural body in array against the other classes of the community; we only require for them the same protection which has ever been, and now is, extended to the manufacturing and commercial classes. Self-protection, however, is but one of the many advantages to be derived from the existence of agricultural associations. The periodical, nay, we may say the constant intercourse which the conduct of business connected with these associations occasions between the landlord and tenant, between the members of what is termed the higher class and the middle class, between the gentry and the yeomanry, cannot fail to be productive of *mutual* advantage. It operates beneficially on the higher class by enabling them to learn by the evidence of their own senses the real situation of the tenantry and the industrious classes, and tends to dilute that aristocratic bearing which is the result of their peculiar education. To the middle class the advantage is also great, as it enables them to form a just estimate of the feelings which are really entertained towards them by their superiors, and proves an antidote to the poison so often instilled into their minds by interested individuals, who, to serve their own mean party purposes, would make them believe that the higher order, as it is called, considers them born, merely to serve *them*—to be *their* slaves. There are few men who can read the history of the clans of Scotland, when every member of the clan was ready to turn out and defend to the last, the rights and person of his chieftain, without feeling a very great degree of enthusiasm. The objects in view, however, in those days were such as seldom to reflect credit upon the contending parties, and therefore must bring into disrepute the spirit of clanship itself. The only union of men which we know of in the present day, which partakes of a similar character to the ancient clanship, is the bond of union which subsists between a kind and considerate landlord and a deserving and grateful body of tenantry. Large bodies of men banded to-



gether for the purpose of attaining some particular, for instance, a political, object, uniformly consist of individuals who are united merely in furtherance of one object, and having no other tie. But between the landlord and tenant, whose families many of them have stood in that relation for several generations, or at least for a long series of years, there often is, and there always *should* be a species of good feeling bordering upon relationship, which is felt by no other parties but those who are united by ties of kindred. It may seem that the relation of landlord and tenant cannot have much bearing upon the subject of agricultural associations generally; this, however, upon examination will, we think, be found otherwise. Amongst the members of most agricultural societies will be found enrolled the names of some large landowners, who, by this means, are brought into immediate intercourse with their tenantry, and in many instances the owner of large estates is himself the leading member of the association, and in attending the association he is but meeting a large body of his own tenantry, interspersed with some few other individuals, whose interests are equally involved, being embarked in the same pursuit. The celebrated agricultural meetings at Holkham and Netherby are of this kind. How gratifying the reflection to the owner of the estate of Holkham, that whilst he has served his own interest in converting a barren sand into a productive cornfield, he has raised around him a happy tenantry, who in their turn have been enabled to afford the means of subsistence to a large number of that class which depends upon the sweat of the brow for their daily bread. What an example worthy of imitation by those who are in a condition to follow it, is that of the owner of Netherby, who, at the last meeting of the Netherby association, surrounded by his relations, his friends, and his tenantry whom he treated and considered as his friends, could address them in the following language:—"Gentlemen, I do confess that it has been my object through life to be surrounded by a happy and grateful tenantry; there may be higher, and I fear me, more empty ambitions, but I can only say that the utmost of my ambition amounts to this, that while I continue to hold this estate I may so demean myself, that when I am no more in the land, my memory shall testify that I have proved myself a kind and generous landlord; and to the best of my endeavours nothing shall be wanting to maintain this character."

Another kind of agricultural meeting from which much benefit is derived by the farming body, is that of ploughing matches, the direct advantage of which to the farmer is manifest, in the inducement to good workmanship, held out to the ploughmen by an appeal at once to their ambition and their interest. One of the most successful of these is that which was instituted some years since by Mr. Baker, of Cottesmere, in the county of Rutland, and which took place on the 17th

inst. We rejoice to learn that it was more fully attended than on any previous occasion, there having been upwards of 3,000 persons. Amongst the company on the field were Sir Gerard Noel, Bart., the Hon. and Rev. Le-land Noel, Rev. Henry Neville, E. H. Wilmot, Esq., and some of the most eminent agriculturists of the neighbourhood. Mr. Baker, to whom the cause of agriculture throughout the country, but more particularly in the county of Rutland, is so much indebted for originating this meeting, showed, as usual, 50 rams, for letting. They were universally admired, and 49 of them were let for the season at from 6*l.* to 16*l.* each.—There were in all 48 ploughs entered, of which 46 started. The ploughing was excellent, particularly in the second class, which the judges declared to be better than they had ever seen in any county. One prize was won by Ransome's Bedfordshire plough, one by a Northamptonshire plough, one by a Casterton plough by Bird, and the remaining prizes were all won by Ransome's *Rutland ploughs*, which were first made at the suggestion and under the direction of Mr. Baker. We trust that landlords will follow the examples which we have just set before them, being from observation and experience perfectly satisfied that the interest of the tenant is equally the interest of the landlord, as was well stated by Mr. Yule, the steward of the Netherby estate, in the following words, when addressing the tenantry at the Netherby meeting—" *I have always found that the best way to promote the interest of my employer, was to study your wishes, and promote them to the utmost of my power.*"

#### COMMERCIAL DUTIES.

(From the Public Ledger.)

The latest intelligence from Paris is of a character more important and interesting to the English reader than any which we have received of late. The portion of Paris news to which we allude as being of this description will be found in the summary, which we give in another column, of the Royal ordonnance issued for the regulation of certain existing commercial duties in France. The intent of this ordonnance is to modify some of the duties substituted by the Tariff of June, 1834, for absolute prohibition, and relates specially to the import duties of iron, coal, watches, Cachmere shawls, India silk handkerchiefs, Brazil woods, elephants' teeth, and indigo. Palm oil, salpêtre, and some other articles of minor importance are also comprised in its regulations. The effect of the alterations will in each case be a reduction of the existing duties to a greater or less extent; but the most important modification will be found in the alteration of the duties on iron and coal imported into France. By this ordonnance the duty on coals imported into France to the south and west of the sands of Olonne, and along the whole coast of the Mediterranean, which at present is one franc for the 100 kilogrammes, will be reduced to six sous. Upon cast iron a reduction of one franc upon the 100 kilogrammes is made; the duty on that article will therefore in future be eight francs, instead of nine, as at present. On wrought iron a reduction of one-fifth of the existing duty is made; in future, instead of 25 francs, 20 francs only will be charged.

## TURF INTELLIGENCE.

Although, as far as regards Racing, every other place sinks almost into nothingness compared to Newmarket, yet the meetings at this celebrated centre of attraction, though numerous, and interesting in the highest degree to that exalted portion of the community who visit Newmarket for the purpose of witnessing the performances of their own horses, excites not that general attention throughout the country which we uniformly perceive elicited by the Doncaster St. Leger, the Derby, the Oaks, the Ascot, the Liverpool, the Goodwood Cups, &c. What are called "the Newmarket horses" are allowed to be of a first-rate description; but beyond mere racing, the Newmarket Meetings possess no attraction for holiday folks, and are therefore very thinly attended.

Sufficient symptoms of the near approach of winter have already made their appearance, impressively indicating that the racing season is fast drawing to a close; and, if we take a retrospective view of the operations of the turf from their commencement in the month of May up to the present period, we shall find that many interesting races have taken place, and that nothing has occurred which can create unpleasant reflections, except those miserably meagre and grossly incorrect "Sporting Reports," which spread a delusive notion all over the kingdom through the medium of the London papers.

As the year 1834 brought out one of the best (if not the very best) colts that ever appeared on the turf, the year 1835 has been remarkable for introducing to notice a filly of equally superior pretensions: it need hardly be observed, that we allude to Plenipo and Queen of Trumps.

Chester races, which are considered as forming the commencement of the season, continued, as usual, for five days, but the sport was perhaps on the whole, scarcely a fair average. For the spectator, Chester race-ground affords the most commodious, as well as the most elegant, accommodations in the kingdom—in this respect it stands alone; while the business is uniformly well conducted under the able management of Mr. Jackson. It is to be regretted, however, that a depressing influence has operated injuriously on this highly respectable meeting for several years past, owing to the insinuating, the sinister, and intolerant spirit of sectarianism with which this good old city has unfortunately become imbued; and particularly from the Methodist conduct of its chief magistrate for the last two seasons. We have heard this accomplished functionary deliver his oracular apothegms from the awful seat of justice; and, although we might think that he possessed not exactly the impressive and fiery declamation of Demosthenes, or the turgid and sonorously-sounding eloquence of Cicero, yet we admired the solemn and injunctive manner in which he delivered his elaborate precepts, and thought the magisterial mantle descended with superior dignity from the shoulders of this semicircle-regent of the royal city of Chester. We hope he will take our advice, and abandon that uncalculated and fastidious meddling during the races, that rush-light fiddle faddle with which, during the two last meetings, he has so very unnecessarily busied himself. If he happen to possess no relish for racing (which, if true, evinces an utter destitution of good taste, to say the least of it;) let him not take such overweening and ridiculous pains to spoil the sport of others. It is some consolation, however, to know that, from the well-timed exertions of the choice spirits of Chester, the stakes will be rendered more numerous and more valuable; superior sport will therefore follow as a natural consequence.

We have given our opinion of the sinister manner in which the *pecuniary-skillful* managers of Epsom races conduct the meetings, in former numbers of our mis-

cellany; and we regret to find that the same baneful system continues to shed its withering influence over Epsom Downs, as will be perceived from the wretched paucity rendered so miserably manifest in the accompanying list. It will become disgraceful to continue the Derby and the Oaks at this place, unless the course be much, very much, improved, the business properly conducted, and the money which has hitherto found its way, clandestinely, into the pockets of private individuals, be applied to the increase of the present poverty-struck stakes. Epsom Spring meeting brought out Queen of Trumps in her glory, and is therefore as remarkable on this account, as it appeared last year in the display of Plenipo's extraordinary powers.

Ascot Meeting was not without its remarkable events, or at least, so they were bruited—in one case most slanderously. Ibrahim beat Ascot, which, after their previous exhibition on Epsom Downs, was an event unlooked-for altogether; there was nothing *slanderous* in this occurrence; but, in regard to the Plenipo affair, Mr. Batson was grossly libelled by the "London Sporting Reporter." Because Mr. Batson thought proper to prevent Plenipo from starting for the Cup, the most groundless and the basest insinuations were levelled against him by the "Gentleman" to whom we have just alluded. Had Mr. Batson not made known his intention in due time, there might have been cause for suspicion: but, on the morning of the previous day to that fixed for the race, he causes the circumstance to be publicly made known; what more could be expected? That Mr. Batson had the most substantial reasons for his conduct, we have not the least doubt: he might not like the state of the ground, to say nothing of a variety of circumstances which are continually occurring to put a racer out of trim; while we should consider it the greatest loss the Turf ever sustained should any misfortune befall the splendid animal whose extraordinary performances, and whose limited career, have excited so much interest in the racing world. It would appear as if Mr. Batson had retired in disgust, owing to the scurrilous reports raised against him, and echoed from one end of the kingdom to the other by the ignorant and mischievous mocking bird, whom we have frequently had occasion to notice.

Goodwood Meeting, although there was nothing very remarkable in the detail of the races, was not without its matter of astonishment, to wit, the transportation of General Chasse by steam from Liverpool to this place for the purpose of running for the Cup! Or, rather we should say, the *proposal* for this unusual mode of conveyance for horse flesh, originating from the prolific brain of the "London Sporting Reporter!" A voyage by sea for a horse on the eve of his race! Good! But no more of this.

The next prominent feature in racing affairs was Doncaster, where the nascent Majesty of the British throne and the Cambrian Queen were equally attractive. These races produced fair average sport, were well conducted throughout, nor did there exist, in any form whatever, the slightest foundation for that malignant, clumsily-manufactured, and calumnious paragraph, noticed in our last publication; which basely insinuated that an individual, (well known in the sporting world, who has liberally spent a handsome fortune in the pursuits of the field, and who, whatever may have been his inadvertencies, had done nothing, in the present instance, to which the slightest, the most distant, suspicion could attach) had made the most infamous offers to Mr. Mostyn in regard to his splendid filly, on the eve of the race for the St. Leger; that an attempt had been previously made to break into the stable which contained the Cambrian Queen, &c., &c., as if the "London Sporting Reporter" were anxious



to make up for his manifest and most egregious ignorance on Turf affairs, by the basest and most invidious slander. Like all human institutions, the Turf must be defective; but when its extensive ramifications, its weighty and multifarious pecuniary transactions, the elements of which it is indispensably composed, are duly considered; if disgust be excited by the occasional frauds which have been attempted, wonder will not fail to arise that its proceedings should have experienced so trifling a degree of pollution. If a lame duck waddle out of the alley; if a tradesman, through the instrumentality of the Insolvent Act, or the medium of the Gazette, contrive to defraud his creditors, the circumstance excites no surprise; but, if an adventurer in the betting circle be unable to meet his engagements, he is represented as unfit for civilized society, as if by keeping one or two individuals out of their winnings for a short period (for betting men will ultimately pay twenty shillings in the pound, if possible) were more base and more immoral, than bringing perhaps a number of families into distress or ruin. Above all, let us be careful, in our reprehensive expositions of the Turf, that we have *facts* upon which to express our dislike or abhorrence; and not in an ignorant, waspish, and malignant spirit, disgrace ourselves by the *base manufacture* of falsehood, for the mean, the infamously-groveling purpose, of calumny and destruction!

#### TATTERSALL'S, MONDAY, OCT. 19.

The assemblage at Hyde Park Corner was numerous, the attraction being the Earl of Chesterfield's horses, a draught from whose stud was offered for sale, and fell from the hammer at the following prices:

|                                                                                                                                    |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Carthusian, by Comus, out of Octavia                                                                                               | 100 |
| Bon Ton, 4 yrs by Phantom, dam by Skim                                                                                             | 125 |
| Lochinvar, 7 yrs, by Swap, out of Lady of the Lake                                                                                 | 60  |
| Ches filly, 2 yrs, by Langar, out of Emigrant's dam                                                                                | 30  |
| Yearling colt by Phantom, out of Aricia                                                                                            | 37  |
| Ditto, by Wrangler, out of Miss Craven's dam                                                                                       | 60  |
| Yearling filly, by Albany, out of Miss Lydia                                                                                       | 40  |
| Gioutte, by Partisan, cov. by Priam and Zingane                                                                                    | 44  |
| Aricia, by Rubens, out of Actæon's dam, cov. by Rubini                                                                             | 90  |
| Miss Lydia, by Walton, dam by Orville cov. by Zingane                                                                              | 105 |
| Pheasant, by Bustard, out of Plaything, cov. by Priam                                                                              | 35  |
| Mare, by Comus or Chateaux Margaux, cov. by Priam                                                                                  | 32  |
| Filly foal, by Sir Benjamin, out of Pheasant                                                                                       | 54  |
| And the following hunters from the same stable:—Claret, 75 gs; Clinker, 77 gs; Stella, 65 gs; Dublin, 150 gs, and Claxton, 140 gs. |     |

As Chester Races are considered the commencement of the season, the Holywell Hunt Meeting is regarded as its close. The latter has been rendered remarkable by the number of prizes which were carried off without competition. On the first day, Queen of Trumps walked over for the Produce Stakes, and also for the Chieftain Stakes. On the following morning, (Wednesday), Touchstone walked over for the Pengwern Stakes; and on the same day, Birdlime walked over for the Gold Cup, and Touchstone for the Post Sweepstakes. On Thursday, Birdlime walked over for the Baron Hill Stakes; and on the same day Usury received forfeit from ch f by Teniers. We recollect no parallel case. On Tuesday, out of four Stakes, two only became objects of contention. On Wednesday, four tempting prizes produced only one race! Mr. Mostyn, the owner of Queen of Trumps, of Birdlime, and of Usury, has been eminently successful throughout the season: and like a cautious skilful General, contrived to be well prepared for the finishing meeting. His promising filly, Usury, had evidently been reserved for Holywell Races: she wins the Mostyn Stakes (of 10 sovs. each, 26 subs., amounting to 260*l.*;) she comes to the post twice, is successful in each case, and receives forfeit from a match with Sir R. Bulkeley's ch filly by Teniers. Birdlime walks over for the Gold Cup, and also for the Baron Hill Stakes, and wins a "Free Handicap for all the horses at Holywell;" he came out also for the Mostyn Stakes; but finding Usury had it all her own way, he did not run to win. Queen of Trumps walked over twice, which completed her engagements. Mr. Mostyn did not deem it requisite to bring her out for the Mostyn Stakes, being confident that he could win them without her assistance, and the event proved that he had ascertained the quality of Usury, and that

his calculation, therefore, was as accurate as possible. Touchstone was the favourite for the Mostyn Stakes; but when it is considered that he carried fourteen pounds more than Usury, his defeat can excite no surprise: it is true, he is a year older than the successful filly, and that such difference in weight is usual under similar circumstances; yet, when it is considered that five pounds are supposed to be equal to a distance, or 240 yards, the advantage would appear in favour of the three years old, particularly if it happen to be a filly, as the feminine gender in the horse species attains maturity much earlier than the opposite sex: in regard to the present case, Touchstone had not merely the weight, but a superior animal also against him.

Having already remarked, that Mr. Mostyn has been eminently successful on the Turf throughout the present season, it may be further observed, that his nags have retired into winter quarters, without having been once overmarked, or having experienced that kind of severe exertion calculated to produce permanent injury. This gentleman had evidently kept a good reserve for the conclusive struggle, which takes place in his own immediate vicinity; and it has so happened that his racers may be said to have carried all before them—principally by walking over. Mr. Mostyn's stud is of a superior description; further, his horses have been well trained and well placed. They came to the post, generally speaking, more "fleshy" perhaps than usual. When Queen of Trumps appeared for the Oaks on Epsom Downs, she was considered by the "knowing ones" (many of whom, however, are utterly ignorant of the principles of power and speed) as "too fat;" they therefore betted against her, and were not very pleasingly surprised when they observed her hobble along so fast with this load of "fat!" "Facts are stubborn things."

In regard to weight, and particularly the difference between that of the three and that of the four years old, which is in general nearly equal to three distances, a stone, fourteen pounds: the advantage, as we have already observed, seems in favour of three years old, particularly when the latter happens to be a filly; for, as she attains maturity a year at least sooner than the colt, it may be presumed that, as far as relates to the progress of perfection, the three-year old filly is equal to the four-year old colt; and therefore the latter labours under considerable disadvantage in carrying fourteen pounds more. It is true, the horse, like the male of by far the greater number of varieties of animated nature, is larger and more powerful than the mare, for which, when years are equal, three pounds may be regarded as the general allowance; which, for reasons already advanced, we think, gives the advantage to the filly. When maturity is attained on both sides, the allowance seems perfectly consistent with reason, and not before. We shall be told, perhaps, that fillies very seldom prove successful for the Derby, or the Doncaster St. Leger; a circumstance which, after giving full weight to our reasoning in favour of fillies, ought to excite no surprise, since, if we look at the competitors for either of these highly-important stakes, we shall find that, in regard to numbers, the odds preponderate very greatly in favour of the colts. Yet, let it not be forgotten that the late Sir Charles Bunbury's Elinor, was, like the Cambrian Queen, doubly successful. No doubt can be entertained of the success of Fleur de Lis for the Doncaster St. Leger, had it not been for her accidental fall. The success of Bessy Bedlam was no wise doubtful—*had all been on the square*. Lastly, Queen of Trumps, of whom we have said sufficient. This consideration leads to another: the greater part of the successful horses, either for the Derby or the St. Leger, seldom distinguish themselves afterwards in that eminent manner as a person might be inconsiderately led to expect from carrying away a prize from so many chosen and select competitors. Some are never able to race afterwards, Tarrare, for instance. It will be interesting to watch the progress of Mundig: he was no where for the Doncaster St. Leger, though he proved successful at the same meeting a day or two afterwards—when, be it recollected, he had nothing to beat.

# AN ACT TO CONSOLIDATE AND AMEND THE LAWS RELATING TO HIGHWAYS IN THAT PART OF GREAT BRITAIN CALLED ENGLAND.

[PASSED AUGUST 31st, 1835.]

Repeal of 6 G. I. c. 6, in part, except as to London; 18 G. 2. c. 33. except as to London; 24 G. 2. c. 43. in part, except as to London; 30 G. 2. c. 22. except as to London; 13 G. 3. c. 78; 34 G. 3. c. 64; 34 G. 3. c. 74: Part of 42 G. 3. c. 90; 44 G. 3. c. 52; 54 G. 3. c. 109; and 55 G. 3. c. 68.

Whereas it is expedient to amend the laws relating to Highways in that part of Great Britain called England, and to consolidate the same in one act, and to make other provisions respecting highways; be it therefore enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the lords spiritual and temporal, and commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that so much of an act passed in the sixth year of the reign of king George the first, intituled an act for preventing the carriage of excessive loads of meal, malt, bricks, and coals within ten miles of the cities of London and Westminster, as relates to the carriage of bricks, except so far as the same relates to the city of London; and also an act passed in the eighteenth year of the reign of king George the second intituled an act to repeal a clause made in the third year of the reign of king William and queen Mary, relating to carts used by persons inhabiting within the limits of the weekly bills of mortality, and to allow such carts to be drawn with three horses, and to prevent the misbehaviour of the drivers of carts in streets within the said limits, except so far as the same relates to the city of London; and also so much of an act passed in the twenty-fourth year of the reign of king George the second, intituled an act for the more effectual preservation of the turnpike roads in that part of Great Britain called England, and for the disposition of penalties given by acts of Parliament relating to the highways in that part of Great Britain called England, and for enforcing the recovery thereof; and for the more effectual preventing the mischief occasioned by the drivers riding upon carts, drays, carriages, and waggons in the city of London and within ten miles thereof, as relates to the preventing mischief occasioned by the drivers riding upon carts, drays, carriages, and waggons in the city of London or within ten miles thereof, except so far as the same relates to the city of London; and also an act passed in the thirtieth year of the reign of king George the second, intituled an act to explain and amend an act made in the eighteenth year of his present majesty's reign, to prevent the misbehaviour of the drivers of carts in the streets in London, Westminster, and the limits of the weekly bills of mortality, and for other purposes in this act mentioned, except so far as the same relates to the city of London; and also an act passed in the thirteenth year of the reign of king George the third, intituled an act to explain, amend, and reduce into one act of parliament the statutes now in being for the amendment and preservation of the public highways within that part of Great Britain called England, and for other purposes; and also an act passed in the thirty-fourth year of the reign of king George the third, intituled an act for the more effectually repairing of such parts of the highways of this kingdom as are to be repaired by two parishes; and also an act passed in the same thirty-fourth year of the reign of George the third, intituled an act for varying some of the provisions in an act of the thirteenth year of his present Majesty's reign,

respecting the public highways within that part of Great Britain called England, which relate to the performance of statute duty; and also so much of an act passed in the forty-second year of the reign of king George the third, intituled an act for amending the laws relating to the militia in England, and for augmenting the militia, as relates to the exemption of any serjeant, corporal, drummer, or private of the militia from performing highway duty, commonly called statute duty; and also an act passed in the forty-fourth year of the reign of king George the third, intituled an act to alter and amend so much of an act passed the thirty-fourth year of his present Majesty as relates to the amount of the sums to be paid by persons compounding for the performance of statute duty; and also an act passed in the fifty-fourth year of the reign of king George the third, intituled an act to amend an act of the thirteenth year of his present Majesty, to explain, amend, and reduce into one act the statutes now in force for the amendment and preservation of the public highways within England, and for other purposes; and also an act passed in the fifty-fifth year of the reign of king George the third, intituled an act to amend an act of the thirteenth year of his present Majesty, for the amendment and preservation of the public highways, in so far as the same relates to notice of appeal against turning or diverting a public highway, and to extend the provisions of the same act to the stopping up of unnecessary roads; shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

Not to revive repealed acts.

II. Provided always, and be it enacted, that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend so as to revive or give any force or effect to any act repealed by the said recited acts or any of them, but such acts shall be and continue repealed in such and the like manner as if this act had not been made.

As to the recovery of penalties incurred for offences against Acts repealed.

III. Provided always, and be it further enacted, that nothing herein contained shall extend or be deemed or construed to interfere with any acts done or contracts or agreements heretofore made under the authority of any of the said recited acts, or to extend to prevent the suing for or recovery of any penalty incurred by any offence committed against the provisions of the said recited acts or any of them previous to the repeal of the said acts in and by this act, or to prevent or defeat any prosecution commenced or to be brought for such offence; but all penalties and forfeitures incurred may be sued for and recovered, and all contracts and agreements may be enforced, and all encroachments, nuisances, and other offences made or committed previous to the repeal of the said acts, against the provisions of the said acts or any of them, may be abated or prosecuted by the surveyor appointed under this act, in the same manner to all intents and purposes as if this act had not been passed.

Present surveyor to continue until a surveyor is appointed.

IV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, that the surveyor appointed under the authority of any of the said recited acts shall continue to act, and



shall have the same powers, authorities, and be subject to the discharge of the same duty, and be liable to the same penalties, as the surveyor to be appointed under the authority of this act, until such appointment shall have been made.

*Interpretation clause.*

V. And be it further enacted, that in the construction of this act the word "surveyor" shall be understood to mean surveyor of the highways, or waywarden; the word "parish" shall be construed to include parish, township, tithing, rape, vill, wapentake, division, city, borough, liberty, market town, franchise, hamlet, precinct, chapelry, or any other place or district maintaining its own highways; and wherever any thing in this act is prescribed to be done by the inhabitants of any parish in vestry assembled, the same shall be construed to extend to any meeting of inhabitants contributing to the highway rates in places where there shall be no vestry meeting, provided the same notice\* shall have been given of the said meeting as would be required by law for the assembling of a meeting in vestry; and that the word "highways" shall be understood to mean all roads, bridges (not being county bridges), carriageways, cartways, horseways, bridleways, footways, causeways, churchways, and pavements; and that the word "justices" shall be understood to mean justices of the peace for the county, riding, division, shire, city, town, borough, liberty, or place in which the highway may be situate or in which the offence may be committed; and that the word "church" shall be understood to include chapel; and that the word "division" shall be understood to include limit; and that the word "owner" shall be understood to include occupier; and "inhabitant" to include any person rated to the highway rate; and the words "petty session" or "petty sessions" to mean the petty session or petty sessions held for the division or place; and wherever in this act, in describing or referring to any person or party, animal, matter, or thing, the word importing the singular number or the masculine gender only is used, the same shall be understood to include and shall be applied to several persons or parties as well as one person or party, and females as well as males, and several animals, matters, or things as well as one animal, matter, or thing, respectively, unless there be something in the subject or context repugnant to such construction; and all the powers hereby given to, and notices, matters, and things required for, and duties, liabilities, and forfeitures imposed on, surveyors, shall be applicable to all persons, bodies politic or corporate, liable to the repair of any highway.

*Surveyor to be elected annually; may be re-elected.*

VI. And be it further enacted, that the inhabitants of every parish maintaining its own highways, at their first meeting in vestry for the nomination of overseers of the poor in every year, shall proceed to

the election of one or more persons to serve the office of surveyor in the said parish for the year then next ensuing: provided always, that any outgoing surveyor shall continue to act until his successor shall be appointed, and shall be re-eligible, and may be re-elected, and shall in such case continue to act and remain in office, any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding; and in such case notice of such election shall be given by the chairman to the person elected and to the outgoing surveyor: provided always, that in any parish where there is no meeting in the year for the nomination of overseers of the poor, the inhabitants contributing to the highway rate shall meet at their usual place of public meeting upon the twenty-fifth day of March, or if that should happen to be a Sunday or Good Friday, then on the day next following, or within fourteen days next after the said twenty-fifth day of March in every year, to elect one or more persons to serve the office of surveyor for the said parish; which surveyor shall repair and keep in repair the several highways in the said parish for which he is appointed, and which are now or hereafter may become liable to be repaired by the said parish.

*Qualification of surveyor.*

VII. And be it further enacted, that any person living within the parish or any adjoining parish, and having an estate in houses, lands, tenements, or hereditaments lying within such parish, in his own right or in right of his wife, of the value of ten pounds by the year, or a personal estate of the value of one hundred pounds (such person not living within the parish being willing to serve the office), or being an occupier or tenant of houses, lands, tenements, or hereditaments (whether resident within the parish or within any adjoining parish) of the yearly value of twenty pounds, shall be eligible to be elected a surveyor for the purposes of this act: provided nevertheless, that no person who is now exempted by law from serving the office of overseer of the poor shall be compellable to serve the office of surveyor: provided also, that any person who may be chosen and elected to serve the said office of surveyor may provide a sufficient deputy, such deputy to be approved of by the justices at a special sessions for the highways, who shall by writing under their hands testify their consent thereto.

*Penalty on surveyor not acting when chosen.*

VIII. And be it further enacted, that if any person who shall be so chosen and elected, and who is not exempt as aforesaid from serving the said office, shall refuse or neglect to take upon himself the office of surveyor, or to provide a sufficient deputy, to be approved of as aforesaid, he shall forfeit, on conviction before any two justices, any sum not exceeding twenty pounds, unless he can show to the said justices good and sufficient cause why he should not be called upon to serve the said office: provided also, that every deputy so provided and approved of shall have the same powers and authorities, and be subject to the discharge of the same duty, and be liable to the same penalties as any surveyor appointed under the authority of this act.

*Surveyor may be appointed with a salary.*

IX. And be it further enacted, that, instead of electing such surveyor as hereinbefore mentioned, it shall be lawful for the majority of the inhabitants so assembled as aforesaid in any parish for the election of surveyors as aforesaid to nominate and elect any one person of skill and experience to serve the said office of surveyor of such parish, and to fix such salary for the execution of such office as they shall

\* By the 58 Geo. 3, c. 68, § 1, it is enacted, that from and after the 1st day of July, 1818, no vestry, or meeting of the inhabitants in vestry of, or for any parish, shall be holden until public notice shall have been given of such vestry, and of the place and hour of holding the same, and the special purpose thereof, three days, at the least, before the day appointed for holding such vestry, by the publication of such notice in the parish church or chapel, on some Sunday, during or immediately after, divine service, and by affixing the same, fairly written or printed, on the principal door of such church or chapel.

think fit; which said appointment shall be in writing on paper without stamp, and signed by the chairman of such meeting; and such surveyor, when so appointed, shall be invested with the same powers, and subject to the same duties, forfeitures, and penalties as any surveyor appointed under the authority of this act would have been; and such salary shall be paid out of the money raised under the authority of this act, at such times and in such manner as shall have been agreed upon between the inhabitants so assembled as aforesaid and the person so nominated and elected as aforesaid: provided nevertheless, that if such surveyor shall cease to act, and be dismissed in the manner hereinafter described, such salary shall also in like manner cease and determine.

*Surveyor, on verifying his accounts, to name his successor.*

X. And be it further enacted, that the surveyor or surveyors, at the time of passing his or their accounts as herein mentioned, shall deliver to the justices a statement in writing of the name and residence of the person appointed to succeed him or them as surveyor or surveyors.

*Power to justices in certain cases to appoint a surveyor.*

XI. And be it further enacted, that in case it shall appear on oath to the justices at a special sessions for the highways that the inhabitants of any parish have neglected or refused to nominate and elect a surveyor or surveyors in manner and for the purposes aforesaid, or that the out-going surveyor, except he had been directed by the inhabitants so to do, has delivered no statement of the name and residence of his or their successor or successors, or that the surveyor is dead, or has ceased to possess the qualification, or is or has become disqualified in any manner herein mentioned, or that he has neglected to act, or refused to carry into operation the duties imposed upon him by this act, it shall and may be lawful for such justices, and they are hereby authorized and required, by writing under their hands, at their next succeeding special sessions for the highways, to dismiss such surveyor so neglecting to act or refusing to carry into operation the duties imposed upon him by this act, and to appoint any person whom they may think fit to be a surveyor for such parish till the annual meeting then next ensuing for the nomination of overseers or for the election of surveyors as aforesaid, and with or without such salary, as to the said justices shall seem fit and proper; and the said surveyor, when so appointed, shall be invested with the same powers, and be subject to the same duties, forfeitures, and penalties as any surveyor elected by the inhabitants of any parish as aforesaid would have been.

*When parish is situate in more than one county.*

XII. And be it further enacted, that when a parish is situate in more than one county, division, or liberty, the surveyor so to be appointed as last aforesaid shall be appointed by the justices at a special sessions for the highways assembled in that county, division, or liberty in which the church of the said parish shall be situate.

*Parishes may direct application to be made to justices at sessions for forming them into districts.*

XIII. And whereas it is expedient that in many cases parishes should be formed into districts for the purpose of having one sufficient person to be the district surveyor, who should have the superintendence and management of the funds to be raised and levied under the provisions of this act in each parish forming part of such district; be it therefore

enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for the inhabitants of any parish in vestry assembled, if they shall think fit, to empower and direct one of the churchwardens of such parish, or the chairman of the said vestry, to make application to the justices assembled at the quarter sessions for the county, or, where the parishes to be united shall be situated in the same division, at some special sessions for the division in which such parish shall be situate, for the purpose of being united with one or more parishes to form a district for the purpose aforesaid, and at the same time to nominate one fit and proper person to be returned to the said justices to be appointed as such district surveyor, together with the amount of the yearly salary which the said inhabitants in such vestry assembled shall agree to pay to such district surveyor; which application, with the name of such last-mentioned person shall be forthwith made in writing, signed by the churchwardens of the said parish, or by the chairman of the said vestry as aforesaid, and forwarded to the clerk of the peace in and for the said county, or to the clerk of the justices in and for the said division, as the case may be, who shall lay the same before the justices at the quarter sessions then next holden in and for the said county, or at the special sessions as aforesaid.

*Justices at sessions may unite such parishes into districts and select and appoint a district surveyor.*

XIV. And be it further enacted, that on such application as aforesaid being made by two or more parishes to the said justices, they are hereby authorized at the said quarter sessions or at some special sessions as aforesaid to take the same into their consideration, and to unite such and so many of the parishes so applying as aforesaid, as they shall think fit, into a district or districts for the purposes of this act; and the said justices shall select and appoint out of the persons so nominated as aforesaid by the several parishes so united into one district one fit and competent person to be the surveyor for such district composed as aforesaid, which appointment shall be in writing.

*Names of parishes and of district surveyor to be recorded, and a copy thereof sent to each churchwarden, &c.*

*—Parishes when united to form a district for three years, and until twelve months after any one parish shall give notice of intention to cease to form one of said district.*

XV. And be it further enacted, that the names of the said parishes so united, and the name of the person so appointed as district surveyor, shall be reduced into writing, signed by the chairman of the said quarter sessions, or by the majority of the magistrates present at such special sessions, and shall be transmitted by him or them to the clerk of the peace, who shall lay the same before the justices assembled at the quarter sessions in and for the said county, or at some adjournment thereof, who are hereby authorized and required to cause the same to be enrolled with the records of the court; and a copy thereof shall be sent by such clerk of the peace to each of the churchwardens or the surveyor of each of the said parishes so united; and such parishes so united shall continue to form a district for the purposes of this act for the space of three years then next following, and from thenceforward until the churchwarden of any one of the said parishes so united, or the chairman of the vestry, shall, by direction and in pursuance of a resolution of the inhabitants in vestry assembled, give twelve months notice to the churchwardens and surveyor of each of the other parishes, and to the said district sur-



veyor appointed by the said justices, and to the clerk of the peace of the county in which the said parishes are situate, of the intention of the said parish to cease to form a part of the said district; in which case, from and after the expiration of the said twelve months' notice, the union of the said parishes into such district as aforesaid, and the appointment of the said district surveyor, shall cease and determine so far as may concern or be binding on the said parish so giving such notice as aforesaid.

*District surveyor to have power, &c. of surveyor, except in levying rate.—Salary of district surveyor how to be paid.*

XVI. And be it further enacted, that such district surveyor when so appointed shall for all the purposes of this act, except the making, assessing, and levying the rate in and by this act authorized to be made, assessed, and levied, have, as far as the same are applicable, the same powers, and be subject and liable to the same duties, penalties, and forfeitures, as any surveyor elected under the provisions of this act is invested with and liable to, and shall have the laying out and application of all the funds raised and levied under the authority of this act: provided nevertheless, that such district surveyor shall not expend any monies levied in any one of the said united parishes except for the use and benefit of the parish in which it is so levied, unless with the consent of the inhabitants of such parish in vestry assembled, for the purpose of carrying on repairs or beneficial improvements under the provisions of this act for the common benefit of the said united parishes; and such district surveyor shall annually receive from each of the parishes composing his district respectively such salary as shall have been agreed upon by the several parishes in manner aforesaid, which salary shall be paid to such district surveyor by the surveyor of the highways, out of the money raised in each of such parishes under the authority of this act; and in case of nonpayment thereof, the same shall be recoverable from the surveyors of the highways of such parishes, to and for his own use, in the same manner as any forfeiture is recoverable under this act.

*When parishes are united, a surveyor to be appointed to make rate, &c.*

XVII. And be it further enacted, that in each of the parishes so united into a district as aforesaid a surveyor shall be elected, as herein mentioned, in addition to the district surveyor so appointed as aforesaid: provided nevertheless, that such surveyor shall only be authorized and required to make, assess, and levy the rate herein directed to be made, assessed, and levied, and from time to time pay over the money arising therefrom to such district surveyor.

*Appointment of a board directing repairs in large parishes.—Powers of the board.*

XVIII. And whereas it is expedient in large and populous parishes that the repairs of the highways should be under the direction and controul of a certain number of inhabitants, to be chosen and appointed as a board for that purpose, with necessary powers; be it therefore further enacted, that in any parish where the population by the then last census, taken from the returns made to Parliament, exceeds the number of five thousand, if it shall be determined by a majority of two-thirds of the votes of the vestrymen present at such meeting as aforesaid, to form a board for the superintendence of the highways of the said parish, and for the purpose of carrying the provisions of this act into effect, it shall be lawful for the said vestry to nominate and elect any num-

ber of persons, not exceeding twenty nor less than five, being respectively householders and residing in and assessed to the rate for the relief of the poor of the said parish, and also liable to be rated to the repair of the highways in the said parish under and by virtue of this act, to serve the office of surveyors of the highways for the year ensuing; and such persons so to be nominated and elected as such surveyors or any three of them, shall and are hereby authorized to act as a board, and to be called "The Board for Repair of the Highways in the Parish of \_\_\_\_\_," (as the case may be), and to carry into

effect the powers, authorities, and directions in this act contained; and such board are hereby authorised to appoint a collector, or any number of collectors, of the rates to be made under the authority of this act, and also to employ a person of skill and experience to act as an assistant surveyor to the said board, and also a clerk to attend the said board, and to keep the accounts and minutes of the proceedings thereof; such assistant surveyor and clerk to be paid such reasonable salaries out of the said rates as the said board shall determine; and upon such board being so nominated and elected as aforesaid all and every the powers and authorities given and created by this act, and granted to or vested in the vestry, and in any person or persons as surveyor, shall, for the purposes of the parish so nominating and electing such board, be and the same are hereby declared to be vested in the said persons so to be elected, or any three of them acting as such board as aforesaid; and such persons, or any three of them at a meeting to be convened for that purpose, may and they are hereby authorized to nominate and appoint a fit and proper person to be treasurer for the deposit of the monies to be collected for the purposes of this act, and to take from such person good and sufficient security for the monies to be deposited in his hands as aforesaid; and all monies to be drawn from such treasurer for the purposes of this act shall be drawn by drafts or cheques to be signed by the said persons so to be nominated and elected as aforesaid, or any three of them, at some one of their meetings to be held under this act, and such drafts shall be respectively signed and entered in their books by the said clerk to be appointed as aforesaid: provided always, and it is hereby declared, that upon the expiration of the year for which such board shall be elected as aforesaid, and before or on the day for the nomination and election of persons as surveyors under the authority of this act, the said board shall and are hereby directed to present to the vestry of the parish for which they shall have acted copies of all their accounts, and also of the minutes of their proceedings during the preceding year.

*Board may hire or purchase premises.*

XIX. And be it further enacted, that it shall and may be lawful to and for such board to rent, or with the consent of the vestry of any parish to purchase, a fit and convenient piece of ground or other premises for the keeping of the implements and materials necessary for the reparation of the highways, or for the preparing the materials for the same respectively, and to determine and direct how and in what manner the highways in the said parish, or any or either of them, or any and what part or parts thereof, shall be curbed or paved with stone or otherwise.

*Penalty on surveyor, &c. for neglect of duty.*

XX. And be it further enacted, that if any surveyor or district surveyor, or assistant-surveyor shall neglect his duty in any thing required of him by

this Act, for which no particular penalty is imposed, he shall forfeit for every such offence any sum not exceeding five pounds.

*As to repair of highways adjoining bridges hereafter to be built.—Raised causeways, &c.*

XXI. And be it further enacted, that if any bridge shall hereafter be built, which bridge shall be liable by law to be repaired by and at the expense of any county or part of any county,\* then and in such case all highways leading to, passing over, and next adjoining to such bridge shall be from time to time repaired by the parish, person, or body politic or corporate, or trustees of a turnpike road, who were by law before the erection of the said bridge bound to repair the said highways: provided nevertheless, that nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to exonerate or discharge any county or any part of any county from repairing or keeping in repair the walls, banks, or fences of the raised causeways and raised approaches to any such bridge, or the land arches thereof.†

*Powers for getting materials and preventing nuisances to extend to county bridges and roads at the ends thereof.*

XXII. And be it further enacted, that the several powers and authorities hereby vested in the surveyor of highways, as well for the getting of materials, as the preventing and removing of all nuisances and annoyances, shall be and the same are hereby vested in the surveyor of county bridges, and the roads at the ends thereof repairable therewith; and the several penalties, forfeitures, matters, and things in this act contained relating to highways shall be and the same are hereby extended and applied, as far as the same are applicable, to such bridges, and the roads at the ends thereof as aforesaid, the said surveyor or surveyors of county bridges making satisfaction and compensation for all trespass and damage done in the execution of the powers of this act, in such

\* Counties are liable to the repair of public bridges, by the common law, *Rex v. Inhab. Salop*, M. 51 Geo. 3, c. 13. A particular individual is only bound to repair a bridge by tenure or prescription, and not by the common law; hence, if a man make a bridge for the public good, he is not bound to repair it, 2 Inst. 701. If of public utility, the county is bound to repair, *R. v. W. R. York*, 5 Burr. 2594. If built by a private individual, after public use of 40 years, county may be compelled to repair, *R. v. Glamorgan*, 2 East 356, but not if erected in an improper manner, or for the express purpose of casting the expence on the county. The county is liable to repair a bridge used only in cases of emergency, as in floods; see *R. v. Devon*, R. & M. 144. When county is liable to repair a bridge also liable to the repair of highway to the extent of 300 feet at each end of bridge. *York v. R.* 2 Dow. 1. 5 Taunt. 284.

† County not liable to repair arches through which a running stream does not pass, and more than 300 feet from the bridge, *R. v. Oxfordshire*, 1 B. & A. 289. The following statutes regulate the repair &c. of county bridges:—22 H. 8 c. 5—5. W. & M. c. 11,—1 Anne, St. 1,—12 G. 2, c. 29,—14 G. 2, c. 33.—43 G. 3, c. 59,—52 G. 3, c. 110,—55 G. 3, c. 143. Persons destroying or damaging public bridges are guilty of a misdemeanour, 2 E. P. C. 1081; see also § 72 of this act, and in an indictment for such misdemeanour it will be sufficient to state the property to belong to “the inhabitants” of such county.

and the same manner as the surveyors of highways are required to make under the provisions of this act.

*When new highways are to be kept in repair by parishes. Proviso.*

XXIII. And be it further enacted, that no road or occupation way made or hereafter to be made by and at the expense of any individual or private person, body politic or corporate, nor any roads already set out or to be hereafter set out as a private driftway or horsepath in any award of commissioners under an inclosure act, shall be deemed or taken to be a highway which the inhabitants of any parish shall be compellable or liable to repair, unless the person, body politic or corporate, proposing to dedicate such highway to the use of the public shall give three calendar months previous notice in writing to the surveyor of the parish of his intention to dedicate such highway to the use of the public,\* describing its situation and extent, and shall have made or shall make the same in a substantial manner and of the width required by this act, and to the satisfaction of the said surveyor and of any two justices of the peace of the division in which such highway is situate in petty sessions assembled, who are hereby required, on receiving notice from such person or body politic or corporate to view the same, and to certify that such highway has been made in a substantial manner, and of the width required by this act, at the expense of the party requiring such view, which certificate shall be enrolled at the quarter sessions holden next after the granting thereof, then and in such case, after the said highway shall have been used by the public, and duly repaired and kept in repair by the said person, body politic or corporate, for the space of twelve calendar months, such highway shall for ever thereafter be kept in repair by the parish in which it is situate: provided nevertheless, that on receipt of such notice as aforesaid the surveyor of the said parish shall call a vestry meeting of the inhabitants of such parish, and if such vestry shall deem such highway not to be of sufficient utility to the inhabitants of the said parish to justify its being kept in repair at the expense of the said parish, any one justice of the peace, on the application of the said surveyor, shall summon the party proposing to make the new highway to appear before the justices at the next special sessions for the highways to be held in and for the division in which the said intended highway shall be situate; and the question as to the utility as aforesaid of such highway shall be determined at the discretion of such justices.

*Direction posts, where and how to be erected.*

XXIV. And be it further enacted, that the surveyor of every parish, other than a parish the whole or part of which is within three miles of the General Post Office in the city of London, shall, with the consent of the inhabitants of any parish in vestry assembled, or by the direction of the justices at a special sessions for the highways, cause (where there are no such stones or posts) to be erected or

\* Adoption by the parish is unnecessary where a way has been assigned by an act of parliament for making streets &c. *R. v. Lyon*, 5 D. & R. 497; and a road dedicated and used by the public, becomes a highway, which the parish is liable to repair, without its acquiescence or adoption, *R. v. Leake* 5, B. & A. 469. If the public have free passage through a street in London for eight years, a general dedication to the public will be presumed, *Rugby Charity v. Merriweather*, 11 East 376 n.



fixed in the most convenient place where two or more ways meet a stone or post, with inscriptions thereon in large legible letters, not less than one inch in height, and of a proper and proportionate breadth, containing the name of the next market town, village, or other place to which the said highways respectively lead, as well as stones or posts to mark the boundaries of the highway, containing the name of the parish wherein situate; and that the surveyor of every parish shall, at the several approaches or entrances to such parts of any highways as are subject to deep or dangerous floods, cause to be erected graduated stones or posts, as he shall judge to be necessary, for the guiding of travellers in the best and safest track through the floods; and also to secure horse causeways and foot causeways, by posts, blocks, or stones fixed in the ground, or by banks of earth cast up or otherwise, from being passed over and spoiled by waggons, wains, carts, or carriages; and the said surveyor shall be reimbursed, out of the monies which shall be received by him pursuant to the directions of this act, the expenses of providing and erecting and of keeping in repair such stones, posts, or blocks already erected or fixed, or which may hereafter be erected or fixed.

*Power to use adjoining ground as a temporary road.*

XXV. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for the surveyor to make a road through the grounds adjoining to any ruinous or narrow part of any highway (not being the site or ground whereon any house stands, nor being a garden, lawn, yard, court, park, paddock, plantation, planted walk or avenue to any house, or inclosed ground set apart for building ground or as a nursery for trees), to be made use of as a public highway whilst the old road is repairing or widening, making such recompense to the proprietor and occupier of such grounds for the damages they may thereby sustain as the justices at a special sessions for the highways assembled may think reasonable, such sum so awarded as a recompense to be recoverable in the same manner as any fines and forfeitures are recoverable under this act.

*Surveyor to remove snow, &c.*

XXVI. And be it further enacted, that if any impediment or obstruction shall arise in any highways from accumulation of snow, or from the falling down of the banks on the side of such highways, or from any other cause, the surveyor is required from time to time, and within twenty-four hours after notice thereof from any justice of the peace of the county in which the parish may be situate, to cause the same to be removed.

*Surveyor to make rate.—Rate to be allowed by justices.*

XXVII. And in order to raise money for carrying the several purposes of this act into execution, be it further enacted, that a rate shall be made, assessed, and levied by the surveyor upon all property now liable to be rated and assessed to the relief of the poor; provided that the same rate shall also extend to such woods, mines, and quarries of stone, or other hereditaments, as have heretofore been usually rated to the highways; and provided also, that every such rate shall be signed by the said surveyor, and allowed by two justices of the peace, and published in the same way as poor rates are now allowed and published.

*Surveyor may inspect rate book, and obtain copies or extracts.*

XXVIII. And in order to enable the surveyor to form a proper judgment of any rate to be made in

pursuance of this act, be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for the surveyor, and he is hereby authorized and empowered, at all reasonable times, to inspect, or by writing signed by him to grant authority to any person appointed by him to inspect, any of the rates made towards the relief of the poor of the parish of which he is surveyor, or the books wherein the assessments thereto shall be entered, without fee or reward; and the surveyor, or person by him authorized as aforesaid, shall be allowed to make a copy of such rate or books, or to make any extracts therefrom; and if any person in whose custody or power any of the said rates or books shall be, shall, when thereunto required in manner aforesaid, refuse or neglect to produce the same to the surveyor, or person so by him authorized as aforesaid, as the case may be, or to allow such copy or extract to be made or taken, at all reasonable hours in the day-time, he shall for every such offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding five pounds.

*Form and amount of rate.*

XXIX. And be it further enacted, that every rate shall contain the names of the occupiers, the description of the premises or property they occupy, and the full annual value of such premises or property, and shall also specify the sum in the pound at which it is made; and no rate to be levied or assessed as aforesaid shall exceed at any one time the sum of tenpence in the pound, or the sum of two shillings and sixpence in the pound in the whole in any one year: Provided nevertheless, that with the consent of four-fifths of the inhabitants of any parish contributing to the highway rate, assembled at a meeting specially called for that purpose, ten days previous notice of the same having been given by the surveyor of the said parish, the rate to be levied and assessed as aforesaid may be increased to such sum as the said inhabitants so assembled may think proper.

*Surveyor to have power to enforce composition in certain parishes.*

XXX. Provided always, and be it further enacted, that in parishes in which the overseers of the poor have power by local acts of parliament to compound with or require composition for poor rates from the landlords of certain houses, tenements, or hereditaments, and, in case of their refusal to compound, to rate such landlords as the occupiers, the surveyor shall have the same powers, remedies, and privileges to compound and enforce composition, and, in case of refusal by the landlords, to assess them in the same proportions to the rates authorized to be made by this act, as the overseers of the poor have by such acts for assessing and recovering any rate made for the relief of the poor, or the compositions entered into for the same.

*Errors in rates may be rectified.*

XXXI. And be it further enacted, that whenever it shall appear to the said surveyor as aforesaid that there has been any omission or error in any rate or assessment made in pursuance of this act of or in the name of any person, parson, or vicar, or of any house, shop, warehouse, coach-house, stable, cellar, vault, building, workshop, manufactory, garden ground, land, tenement, wood, tithe, mines, pits or quarries of any mineral, stone, or other matter whatsoever, or hereditament, liable to be rated for the purposes of this act, it shall be lawful for the said surveyor as aforesaid, with the consent and approbation of the justices at a special sessions for the highways, to cause to be added or corrected in the said rate or assessment the name of the person, parson, or vicar, omitted or erroneously stated, and a

description of the property in respect of which he ought to be rated; and every such addition or correction made in any of the said rates, and signed by such justices, shall be as valid and effectual as if the same had been part of the original rate at the time when it was first made.

*Persons may be excused by justices from payment of highway rate.*

XXXII. And be it further enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for the justices at a special sessions for the highways, on application made to them by any person rated to any rate under the authority of this act to be discharged therefrom, on proof of his inability through poverty to pay such rate, the surveyor having been first summoned to appear on the part of the parish, to order and direct that such person shall be excused from the payment of such rate; and which order of the said justices is hereby declared to be final with respect to such rate.

*Certain persons not liable to payment of highway rate.*

XXXIII. And be it further enacted, that when property, or the owner or occupier in respect thereof, has, previous to the passing of this act, been legally exempt from the performance of statute duty, or from the payment of any composition in lieu thereof, or of highway rate, the said property and the owners and occupiers thereof shall be exempt from the payment of the rate hereby imposed.

*Rates how to be recovered.*

XXXIV. And be it further enacted, that, for levying and recovering the said rate by this act authorized to be made, the surveyor shall have the same powers, remedies, and privileges as the overseers of the poor in the parish have by law for the recovery of any rate made for the relief of the poor.

*Rate-payers may divide among themselves the conveyance of stone, &c., for repair of highways, which shall be paid for by the surveyor.*

XXXV. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for two ratepayers of any parish, within six days next after the annual appointment of the surveyor, by a notice in writing, to require the said surveyor to call a meeting of the ratepayers of the said parish for the purpose hereafter mentioned, and the said surveyor shall call such meeting within eight days after the receipt of such notice, and shall give six days previous intimation of such meeting; and if at such meeting a majority of the ratepayers then and there assembled shall signify their consent thereto, it shall and may be lawful for the ratepayers keeping a team or teams of two or more horses or beasts of draught to divide among themselves, in proportion to the amount of rate to which they may respectively be assessed, the carrying of the material which may be required by the said surveyor for the repairs of the highways within such parish, and that they shall be paid by the said surveyor for such carrying or task-work, within one calendar month after having performed such service, after such rate per cubic yard of material per mile, and so in proportion for any less distance than a mile, as shall be fixed by the justices at their first meeting in special sessions for the highways after the twenty-fifth day of March in every year, which rate the said justices are hereby required to fix at such special sessions: Provided always, that such carrying or task-work shall be performed at such times and places and in such manner as the said surveyor may direct (the periods of spring, seed-time, and harvest always excepted); and that in case the said surveyor shall not approve of the manner in which such carrying or

task-work shall be performed, it shall be lawful for the justices at a special sessions for the highways to bear the complaint of such surveyor in that respect, and to award such pecuniary redress or forfeiture against the party offending as to them shall appear reasonable.

*Surveyor, with consent of vestry, may appoint collector of rates.*

XXXVI. And be it further enacted that the surveyor of any parish, the consent of the majority of the inhabitants in vestry assembled being first had and obtained, may from time to time appoint any number of collectors of the said rates, and may remove any such collector and appoint another in his stead, and make such allowance to such collector, out of the monies to be received under this act, as the said inhabitants in vestry assembled shall think reasonable; and the said collector is hereby declared to have all the same powers, remedies, and privileges for the levying and enforcing the payment of such rates as the surveyor nominated or appointed under the authority of this act.

*Security to be taken from collector.*

XXXVII. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for the said surveyor and he is hereby required to take security from every collector appointed by virtue of this act, for the due execution of his office of collector, which security shall be to the full amount of the sum likely to be in the hands of the said collector at any one time, and shall be by bond without stamp.

*Collector to make out accounts of all monies received under this act, &c.*

XXXVIII. And be it further enacted, that every collector appointed by virtue of this act shall under his hand, and at such time and in such manner as the surveyor may direct, deliver to the said surveyor as aforesaid true and perfect accounts in writing of all monies which shall have been by such collector received by virtue of this act, and also a list of the names of all such persons as shall have neglected or refused to pay their respective rates, and of the monies due from them respectively; and that every such collector shall pay all such monies as shall remain due from him to the said surveyor as aforesaid; and if any such collector shall refuse or neglect to make and render such account, or to produce and deliver up the list of persons neglecting and refusing to pay their rates as aforesaid, or to make payments as aforesaid, or shall refuse or wilfully neglect to deliver to the said surveyor as aforesaid, or to such person as he shall appoint to receive the same, within three days after being thereunto required by the said surveyor as aforesaid by notice in writing under his hand given to or left at the usual place of abode of such collector, all books, papers, and writings in his custody or power relating to the execution of this act, or to give satisfaction to the said surveyor as aforesaid respecting the same, then and in every such case, upon complaint made by the said surveyor as aforesaid of any such refusal or wilful neglect as aforesaid, to any justice of the peace, such justice may and he is hereby authorized and required to issue a summons under his hand for the collector so refusing or neglecting to appear before any two justices of the peace; and upon the said collector appearing, or having been so summoned and not appearing without some sufficient or reasonable excuse, or not being found, it shall be lawful for the said two justices to hear and determine the matter; and if, upon confession of the party, or by the testimony of any credible witness on oath, it shall appear to



such justices that any monies remain due from such collector, such justices may and they are hereby authorized and required, upon nonpayment thereof, by warrant under their hands, to cause such money to be levied by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of such collector; and if no goods and chattels of such collector shall be found sufficient to answer and satisfy the said money, and the charges of distraining and selling the said goods and chattels, then and in every such case such justices shall and they are hereby required to commit such offender to the common gaol or house of correction for the county, city, or place where such offender shall be or reside, there to be kept to hard labour for a period not exceeding six calendar months, or until he shall have paid such monies as aforesaid, or compounded with the surveyor as aforesaid for such money (which composition, the said surveyor, with the consent of the inhabitants in vestry, or, in any parish where they do not meet in vestry, with the consent of the inhabitants contributing to the highway rate at a public meeting assembled, is hereby empowered to make and receive); or if it shall appear to such justices that such collector had refused or wilfully neglected to render and give such accounts, or to produce and deliver the list of persons neglecting and refusing to pay their rates as aforesaid, or that any books, papers, or writings relating to the execution of this act remained in the hands or in the custody or power of such collector, and he refused or wilfully neglected to deliver or give satisfaction respecting the same as aforesaid, then and in every such case such collector shall, on conviction thereof, forfeit for such offence any sum not exceeding twenty pounds, and in default of payment thereof shall be committed to the common gaol or house of correction for the county, city, or place where such offender shall be or reside, there to be kept to hard labour for a period not exceeding four calendar months, or until he shall have given a true and perfect account as aforesaid, and delivered such list as aforesaid, and delivered up such books, papers, and writings, or give satisfaction in respect thereof to the said surveyor: Provided always, that no conviction or imprisonment of such collector as aforesaid shall exonerate or discharge any security taken from him on his appointment as aforesaid.

*Separate accounts to be kept.*

XXXIX. And be it further enacted, that the surveyor in every parish shall keep separate and distinct accounts of the monies levied for the highway rate; and such accounts shall specify the different sums, and the times when and the persons to whom and by whom the same shall have been collected and paid.

*Surveyor to keep books and accounts of monies received, &c.; to be open to inspection of rated inhabitants.*

XL. And be it further enacted, that the said surveyor, district surveyor, or assistant surveyor, as the case may be, shall and he is hereby required from time to time to keep a book, in which shall be entered a just and true and particular account of all money which shall have come to his hands as surveyor, district surveyor, or assistant surveyor of the parish for the purposes of this act, and to whom, and on what occasion, and for what work, and in what place, and on what day he shall have paid or applied the same, and also an account of all tools, materials, implements, and other things provided by him for the repair of the said highways; and such book shall at all reasonable times be open to the inspection of every inhabitant rated to the highway rate of the parish, or of any of the parishes united into a district,

without fee or reward, and every such inhabitant may take copies or extracts from the said book, or any part thereof, without paying for the same; and in case the said surveyor, district surveyor, or assistant surveyor shall neglect to provide such book, or to enter therein every sum received or paid by him within one week after the same shall have been received or paid, or shall refuse to permit or shall not permit any such inhabitant as aforesaid at any reasonable time to inspect the same or take copies or extracts as aforesaid, such surveyor, district surveyor, or assistant surveyor shall forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding five pounds for each default, to be levied and applied in manner herein provided.

*The property in all books, &c. to be vested in surveyor for the time being.*

XLI. And be it further enacted, that all the said books, papers, writings, and accounts, and all materials, tools, and implements which shall be provided in pursuance of this act for repairing or preserving the highways, and also the scrapings of the said highways, shall be vested in the surveyor for the time being; or in case a district surveyor shall be appointed, then all such books, papers, writings, and accounts, and all materials, tools, implements, and scrapings shall be invested in the district surveyor.

*Surveyor, on quitting office, to deliver books &c. to succeeding surveyor.—Penalty for neglect.*

XLII. And be it further enacted, that the said surveyor, district surveyor, or assistant surveyor shall, within fourteen days after leaving his office, deliver such books and accounts verified as herein directed, together with all such sums of money as shall be due from him, and likewise all tools, materials, implements and other things as aforesaid to his successor in office, or retain the same in his hands and account for them in his next account if he shall be continued surveyor or district surveyor of such parish in the succeeding year; and in case such surveyor or district surveyor shall neglect to deliver within such time as aforesaid the said books, papers, writings, and accounts, and such tools, materials, implements, and other things, in manner aforesaid, he shall for every such offence forfeit any sum not exceeding five pounds; and in case he shall make default in the paying or accounting for the money so due from him within the time and according to the directions aforesaid, he shall forfeit double the money so due.

*In case of death of surveyor, executors to account.*

XLIII. And be it further enacted, that in case of the death of any such surveyor, district surveyor, or assistant surveyor, before he shall have paid and fully satisfied all the monies which he shall have received by virtue of this act, then and in every such case the executors or administrators of such surveyor, district surveyor, or assistant surveyor, so dying shall pay the same out of his estate and effects unto the succeeding surveyor, district surveyor, or assistant surveyor, in like manner as other debts are directed by law to be discharged by such executors or administrators, and also shall deliver up all books, papers, writings, assessments, tools, materials, and implements, and other things concerning his office, which shall have come to the hands of such executors or administrators, who shall and may plead such payment in any action or suit which may be brought against them on account of the said estate and effects and give the same in evidence; and in case of the nonpayment of such monies, or the nondelivery of such books, papers, writings, assessments, tools,

materials, implements, and things, for the space of one calendar month after demand made thereof in writing by or on behalf of the said succeeding surveyor, it shall be lawful for the said succeeding surveyor to commence and prosecute an action or actions in any of his Majesty's courts of record at *Westminster* against such executors or administrators for the recovery of the said monies, or for the recovery of damages for the detention of such books, papers, writings, assessments, tools, materials, implements, and things, in which action or actions full costs of suit shall be recovered by the said succeeding surveyor.

*Yearly accounts to be made by surveyors, &c. and laid before the justices at a special sessions for the highways.—Subject to appeal.—Surveyors, appointed under the act of 13 G. 3, to pass their accounts at special sessions after 25th of March 1834.*

XLIV. And be it further enacted, that within fourteen days after the election or appointment of surveyor as herein directed, the accounts as aforesaid made in writing, and signed by the surveyor, district surveyor, or assistant surveyor for the year preceding, of all monies received and disbursed by virtue of this act, ending on the day of the election or appointment of surveyor, shall be made up, balanced, and laid before the parishioners in vestry assembled, who may if they think fit, order an abstract thereof to be printed and published; and within one calendar month after the election or appointment of surveyor as herein directed the said accounts shall be signed by the surveyor, district surveyor, or assistant surveyor for the year preceding, and laid before the justices of the peace at a special sessions for the highways holden at the place nearest to the parish or district for which such surveyor shall have been appointed, and such justices are hereby authorized and required to examine him as to the truth of the said accounts or of any charge contained therein: provided always, that if any person chargeable to the rate authorized to be made by this act has any complaint against such accounts or the application of the monies received by the said surveyor, it shall be lawful for any such inhabitant to make his complaint thereof to such justices at the time of the verification of such accounts as aforesaid, and the said justices are hereby required to hear such complaint, and, if they shall think fit, to examine such surveyor upon oath, and to make such order thereon as to them shall seem meet: provided nevertheless, that the several surveyors appointed under the authority of the said act passed in the thirteenth year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the Third shall produce such books and statements and pass their accounts before the justices at a special sessions for the highways to be holden within their respective divisions in the week next after that in which the twenty-fifth day of March shall be in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-six, and pay the balances thereof to the surveyor to be chosen in pursuance of this act in the same manner as they would have done to the surveyors to have been appointed if this act had not been passed.

*Justices to hold special sessions for purposes of this act.—At such sessions surveyor to verify accounts, and make returns of the state of the roads, &c.*

XLV. And be it further enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for the justices of the peace within their respective divisions, or any two or more of them, and they are hereby required, to hold not less than

eight nor more than twelve special sessions in every year for executing the purposes of this act, the days of the holding thereof to be appointed at a special sessions to be held within fourteen days after the twentieth day of March in every year: provided always, that it shall not be necessary to cause any notice to be given or sent to any justice acting and residing within such limits of the day or time of the holding thereof: and at the said special sessions held next after the twenty-fifth day of March in every year the surveyor of each of the parishes within their respective divisions shall verify his accounts, and shall make a return in writing to such special sessions of the state of all the roads common highways, bridges, causeways, hedges, ditches, and water-courses appertaining thereto, and of all nuisances and encroachments, if any, made upon the several highways within the parish for which he was surveyor, as well as the extent of the different highways which the said parish is liable to repair, what part thereof has been repaired, and with what materials, at what expence, and what was the amount levied during the time he was surveyor of the said parish.

*Surveyor may contract for getting and carrying materials; but not to share in any contract, or let to hire any team, or dispose of any timber, stones, &c. without licence from two justices.—Penalty.*

XLVI. And be it further enacted, that in every parish the surveyor may and is hereby authorized, with the consent of the inhabitants in vestry assembled, to contract for purchasing, getting and carrying the materials required for the repair of the highway; and if any surveyor shall have any part, share or interest directly or indirectly, in any contract or bargain for work or materials to be made, done, or provided upon, for, or on account of any of the highway or other works whatsoever under his care or management, or shall upon his own account, directly or indirectly, use or let to hire any team, or use or sell or dispose of any materials, to be used or employed in making or repairing such highway or other works as aforesaid, (unless a licence in writing for the sale of any such materials, or to let to hire any such team, be first obtained from two justices of the peace in special sessions assembled,) he shall forfeit for every such offence, on conviction, any sum not exceeding ten pounds, and be for ever after incapable of being employed as a surveyor with a salary under the authority of this act.

*Penalty on taking away materials belonging to surveyor.*

XLVII. And be it further enacted, that if any person shall, without the consent of the surveyor take away materials which shall have been purchased, gotten, dug, or gathered for the repair or use of any highway, or any materials out of any quarry which shall have been made dug or opened for the purpose of getting materials for any highway, before the surveyor and his workmen shall have discontinued working therein for the space of six weeks, (except the owner of any private grounds, and persons authorized by such owner to get materials in such quarry for his own private use, and not for sale,) every person so offending shall for every such offence forfeit and pay, on conviction thereof, any sum not exceeding ten pounds.

*Land allotted to the parish for materials, when exhausted may be sold.*

XLVIII. And whereas, under acts of parliament heretofore made and which may hereafter be made for the inclosing of waste land, parcels of land have been and may be expressly allotted to parishes or



to the surveyor of the highways for the purpose of obtaining materials for the repair of the highways in such parish, and the materials in such parcels of land have been and may be exhausted; be it therefore enacted, that in such cases it shall and may be lawful for the surveyor of such parish for the time being, by and with the consent of the vestry, and he is hereby authorized and required, with the consent in writing of the justices of the peace at a special sessions for the highways, to sell and convey to some person whose lands adjoin thereto, or, if he refuse to purchase, to any other person, the said parcels of lands from which the said materials have been so exhausted as aforesaid, at and for such price as the said justices may deem fair and reasonable, and with the money arising therefrom, and with such consent as aforesaid, to purchase other lands in lieu thereof.

*Tenant for life &c. may renounce damages.*

XLIX. And be it further enacted, that it shall be in the power of tenants for life, ecclesiastical and lay corporations, and the proprietors of entailed estates, and of the trustees and guardians of any person under any legal disability or incapacity, to give up and renounce every claim of damage or compensation for such ground and materials as any highway may occupy on their respective properties, and that such renunciation shall be equally binding on the heirs and successors of such persons: provided nevertheless that such renunciation of claim of damage or compensation be in writing, and signed by such tenant for life, proprietor, trustee, or guardian in the presence of two witnesses, or in the case of corporations in such manner and form as is usually adopted by such corporations respectively; and such renunciation shall be enrolled at the quarter sessions which shall be held next after the signing or execution thereof.

*Persons enfeoffed with lands for maintenance of highways, &c. shall let them to farm at the most improved value, with consent of justices.*

L. And be it further enacted, that when any lands or tenements have been or shall be given for maintenance of highways, the profits and proceeds of which are to be applied and disposed of for no other use, intent, or purpose whatsoever, all persons who are or shall be enfeoffed or trusted with any such lands or tenements shall and they are hereby authorized and required to let them to farm at the most improved yearly value, without fine, for any term not exceeding ninety-nine years: provided nevertheless, that previous to the granting of such lease the consent of the justices at a special sessions for the highways, neither of such justices being interested therein, by writing under their hands, shall be obtained as to the amount of rent to be received and the duration of the term.

*Materials where and in what manner to be taken by surveyors.—Power to gather stones without making satisfaction, but satisfaction to be made for damages done by carrying them away.*

LI. And be it further enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for every such surveyor, in any waste land or common ground, river or brook, within the parish for which he shall be surveyor, or within any other parish wherein gravel, sand, stone, or other materials are respectively likely to be found (in case sufficient cannot be conveniently had within the parish where the same are to be employed, and sufficient shall be left for the use of the roads in such other parish), to search for, dig, get, and carry away the same, so that the said surveyor doth not thereby

divert or interrupt the course of such river or brook, or prejudice or damage any building, highway, or ford, nor dig or get the same out of any river or brook within the distance of one hundred and fifty feet above or below any bridge, nor within the like distance of any dam or wear; and likewise to gather stones lying upon any lands or grounds within the parish where such highway shall be, for such service and purpose, and to take and carry away so much of the said materials as by the discretion of the said surveyor shall be thought necessary to be employed in the amendment of the said highways, without making any satisfaction for the said materials, but satisfaction shall be made for all damages done to the lands or grounds of any person or persons by carrying away the same, in the manner hereinafter directed for getting and carrying materials in enclosed lands or grounds; but no such stones shall be gathered without the consent of the owner of such lands or grounds, or a license for that purpose from two justices at a special sessions for the highways, after having summoned such owner to come before him, and heard his reasons, if he shall appear and give any, for refusing his consent.

*Not to extend to sea beach, &c.*

LII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, that nothing in this act contained relative to the gathering or getting or stones or other materials shall extend to any quantity of stones or other materials thrown up by the sea, commonly called beach, where the removal of the same would cause any damage or injury by inundation to the lands adjoining, or increased danger of encroachment by the sea.

*Notice to be given before materials are taken from private lands.—If the occupier shows cause against the removal, two justices shall decide thereon.*

LIII. And be it further enacted, that it shall not be lawful for any surveyor, or any other person acting under the authority of this act, to dig, gather, get, take, or carry away any materials for making or repairing any highway out of or from any inclosed land or ground, until one calendar month's notice in writing, signed by the surveyor, shall have been given to the owner of the premises from which such materials are intended to be taken, or to his known agent, and to the occupier of the premises from which such materials are intended to be taken, or left at the house or last or usual place of abode of such owner or agent, and also of such occupier, to appear before the justices at a special sessions for the highways, to show cause why such materials shall not be had therefrom; and in case such owner, agent, or occupier shall attend pursuant to such notice, but shall not show sufficient cause to the contrary, such justices shall, if they think proper, authorize such surveyor or other person to dig, get, gather, take, and carry away such materials at such time or times as to such justices shall seem proper; and if such owner, agent, or occupier shall neglect or refuse to appear by himself or his agent, the said justices shall and may (upon proof on oath of the service of such notice) make such order therein as they shall think fit as fully and effectually to all intents and purposes as if such owner or occupier, or his agent, had attended.

*If sufficient materials cannot be found in waste lands, &c. surveyor may take them from the several or inclosed lands or grounds, making satisfaction to the owners.*

LIV. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for every such surveyor, for the use aforesaid, by license in writing from the justices at a special sessions for the highways, to search for, dig, and get

materials, if sufficient cannot be had conveniently within such waste lands, common grounds, rivers, or brooks, in or through any of the several or inclosed lands or grounds of any person whomsoever (such lands or grounds not being a garden, yard, avenue to a house, lawn, park, paddock, or inclosed plantation, or inclosed wood not exceeding one hundred acres in extent), within the parish where the same shall be wanted, or within any other parish adjoining or lying near to the highway for which such materials shall be required, if it shall appear to such justices that sufficient materials cannot be conveniently had in the parish where such highways lie, or in the waste lands or common grounds, rivers or brooks, of such adjacent parish, and that a sufficient quantity of materials will be left for the use of the parish where the same shall be, and to take and carry away so much of the said materials as by the discretion of the said surveyor shall be thought necessary to be employed in the amendment of the said highways; the said surveyor making such satisfaction for the materials which may be got or taken away, and also for the damage done to such lands or grounds by the getting and carrying away the same, as shall be settled and ascertained by order of the justices at a special sessions for the highways.

*If surveyor shall make pits or holes in getting materials' he shall cause them to be filled up or sloped down and fenced off; and in like manner all those already made.*  
—Penalties on surveyor for neglect herein.

LV. And be it further enacted, that if any surveyor or person employed by him shall, by reason of the searching for, digging, or getting any materials for repairing any highways,\* make any pit or hole in lands, common grounds, rivers, or brooks, as aforesaid, wherein such materials shall be found, he shall forthwith cause the same to be sufficiently fenced off, and such fence supported and repaired during such time as the said pit or hole shall continue open, and within three days after such pit or hole shall be opened or made, where no materials shall be found, cause the same to be forthwith filled up, levelled, and covered with the turf or clod which was dug out of the same, and where any such materials shall be found, within fourteen days after having dug up sufficient materials in such pit or hole, cause the same to be filled up or sloped down, and fenced off, if required by the owner of the land or ground, and so continued; and every surveyor shall, within twenty-one days after he shall have been appointed to that office, cause all the said pits and holes which shall then be open and not likely to be further useful, to be filled up or sloped down in manner aforesaid, and if they are likely to be further useful, he shall secure the same by posts and rails or other fences, to prevent accidents to persons or cattle; and in case such surveyor or person shall neglect to fill up, slope down, or fence off such pit or hole in manner and within the time aforesaid, he shall forfeit the sum of ten shillings for every such default; and in case such surveyor or person shall neglect to fence off such pit or hole, or to slope down the same, as hereinbefore directed for the space of six days after he shall have received notice for either of those purposes from any justice of the peace, or from the owner or occupier of such several ground, river, or brook, or any person having right of common within such common or waste lands as aforesaid, and such

neglect and notice shall be proved upon oath before the justices at a special sessions for the highways, such surveyor, person or persons, shall forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding ten pounds for such neglect, to be determined and adjudged by such justices, and to be laid out and applied in the fencing off, filling up, or sloping down such pit or hole, and toward the repair of the roads in the parish where the offence shall be committed, in such manner as the said justices shall direct and appoint; which forfeiture, in case the same be not forthwith paid, shall be levied as other forfeitures are hereinafter directed to be levied.

*Penalty on surveyor allowing any heap of stone, &c., to remain on highway at night.*

LVI. And be it further enacted, that if any surveyor or district surveyor shall lay or cause to be laid any heap of stone or any other matter or thing whatsoever upon any highway, and allow the same to remain there at night to the danger or personal damage of any person passing thereon, all due and reasonable precaution not having been taken by the said surveyor to guard against the same, he shall forfeit for every such offence any sum not exceeding five pounds.

*Surveyor damaging mills, dams, &c., by digging materials, to forfeit not exceeding 5l.*

LVII. And be it further enacted, that if any surveyor shall dig or cause to be dug materials for the highways, whereby any bridge, mill, building, dam, highway, occupation road, ford, mines, or tin works, or other work, may be damaged or endangered, he shall forfeit for every such offence, on conviction, any sum not exceeding five pounds, at the discretion of the justices before whom the complaint thereof shall be made, notwithstanding his liability to any civil action to which he may make himself liable by such act.

*Where a highway lies in two parishes, the justices to determine what parts shall be repaired by each.—Proviso in case of highway repaired by party, ratione tenuræ, &c.*

LVIII. And whereas it frequently happens that the boundaries of parishes pass across or through the middle of a common highway, and one side of such highway is situated in one parish, and the other side in another parish, whereby great inconveniences often arise in repairing the same: be it enacted, that the justices at a special sessions for the highways, on complaint of any surveyor of any parish (stating in writing, and on a plan thereunto annexed, that there is such a highway, one side whereof ought to be repaired by one parish, and the other side by another, and particularly describing the same, by metes, bounds, and admeasurement thereof), may issue their summons, with a copy of such writing and plan thereunto annexed, to the surveyor of such other parish, to appear before them on a day mentioned in such summons; and if the parties appear such justices may then proceed finally to decide the matter, in manner herein mentioned, in case all the parties shall consent thereto; but in case the surveyor summoned shall not appear on such first summons, or appearing shall require further time, such justices shall adjourn the further consideration of the matter for any further time, not more than twenty-one days nor less than fourteen days from the date of such adjournment, of which the surveyor not appearing, or appearing shall require further time, shall have notice, on which day the said justices shall proceed to hear the parties and their witnesses, and, whether the party summoned does or does not appear, shall pro-

\* A surveyor of highways is liable to a reversioner for infringement of a portion of his bank by the roadside, although the property is the better for what the surveyor has done; 9 Bing. 3.



ceed to examine and finally determine the matter in form following; (that is to say) that it shall and may be lawful for such justices, and they are hereby required to divide the whole of such common highway, by a transverse line crossing such highway, into equal parts, or into such unequal parts and proportions as, in consideration of the soil, waters, floods, and inequality of such highway, or any other circumstances attending the same, they in their discretion shall think just and right, and to declare, adjudge, and order that the whole of such highway on both sides thereof, in any of such parts, shall be maintained and repaired by one of such parishes, and that the whole thereof on both sides, in the other of such parts, shall be maintained and repaired by the other of such parishes, and shall cause such their order, and a plan of such highway, and the allotment thereof as before-mentioned, to be fairly delineated on paper or parchment, and filed with the clerk of the peace of the county in which such highway shall happen to lie, and shall also cause such posts, stones, or other boundaries to be placed and set up in such highway as in their judgment shall be necessary for ascertaining the division and allotment thereof: Provided nevertheless, that in the case of any such last-mentioned highway, the repair of any part of which belongs to any body politic or corporate, or to any person, by the reason of tenure of any lands, or otherwise howsoever, the same proceedings may be adopted, but the said body politic or corporate, or person, or some one on their behalf, may appear before such justices, and object to such last-mentioned proceedings, in which case the said justices shall, before they divide such highway as aforesaid, hear and consider the objection so made, and determine the same.

*Parishes, &c. bound to repair the part so allotted.*

LIX. And be it further enacted, that from and after such order and plan shall be so filed with the clerk of the peace as aforesaid, such parishes, and body politic or corporate, or person aforesaid respectively, shall be bound as of common right to maintain and keep in repair such parts of such highways, so allotted to them as aforesaid, and shall be liable to be proceeded against for neglect of such duty, and shall in all respects whatsoever be liable and subject to all the provisions, regulations, and penalties contained in this act, and also shall be discharged from the repair of such part of such highway as shall not be included in their respective allotment.

*How costs of proceedings shall be defrayed, &c.*

LX. And be it further enacted, That all costs, charges, and expenses, to be incurred by reason of any of the proceedings last mentioned shall be borne and defrayed by such two parishes, or body politic or corporate, or person aforesaid, the same being settled and ascertained and duly apportioned between such parishes by such justices; and in case the said parties shall refuse or neglect to pay and discharge their respective share of such costs and expenses, it shall and may be lawful for the justices at a special sessions for the highways to levy the same by distress and sale, with costs of such distress, on the goods and chattels of any surveyor of the parish, or of any body politic or corporate, or person aforesaid, so refusing or neglecting to defray such costs and charges as aforesaid.

*Boundary of counties, &c. not to be changed except for the purpose aforesaid.*

LXI. And be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained shall extend or be construed to extend to affect, change, or alter in any manner what-

soever any boundaries of counties, lordships, hundreds, manors, or any other division of public or private property, nor the boundaries of any parishes or townships, otherwise than for the purpose of amending and keeping in repair such particular portion of the highway in the manner herein mentioned.

*Highway repaired by party, ratione tenuræ, &c. may be made a parish highway.*

LXII. And be it further enacted, That any body politic or corporate, or any person, liable to repair any highway by reason of tenure of any lands, or otherwise howsoever, or the surveyor of the parish in which the said highway is situate, may, if he or either party shall think proper, having first obtained the consent of the inhabitants in vestry assembled, apply to any justice for the purpose of making the said highway a parish highway, and to be repaired by the surveyor of the said parish; and the said justice is hereby authorized and required to issue his summons, requiring the said surveyor, or the party so liable to repair the said highway as aforesaid, to appear before the justices at the next special sessions for the highways, and if both parties appear such justices may then proceed to determine the matter; but in case the surveyor or party summoned shall not appear on such first summons, or appearing shall require further time, such justices shall adjourn the further consideration of the matter to the next special sessions for the highways, of which the said surveyor or party not appearing shall have notice, on which day the justices so assembled at such special sessions shall proceed to hear the parties and their witnesses, and whether the surveyor or party summoned do or do not appear, shall proceed to examine and determine the matter; and in case they decide that the said highway shall become a parish highway, and be thereafter repaired by the surveyor of the said parish, they shall, by an order under their hands, fix the proportion of the expenses of repairing the said highway to be annually paid by such body politic or corporate or person as aforesaid to the surveyor of the said parish; and the order of the said justices shall be binding on the surveyor and the said parish, and the said body politic or corporate or person as aforesaid, their heirs, successors, and assigns: Provided nevertheless, that the said justices, instead of fixing the proportion of the expenses of repairing the said highway to be annually paid as aforesaid, may, by an order under their hands, fix a certain sum to be paid by such body politic or corporate or person as aforesaid to the surveyor of the said parish in full discharge of all claims thereafter in respect of the repairs of such highway; and in default of payment of such last-mentioned sum or of such annual sum as aforesaid the said surveyor may proceed for the recovery thereof in the same manner as any penalties and forfeitures are recoverable under this act: Provided always, that when the sum so fixed to be paid in full discharge of all claims thereafter in respect of the repair of such highways shall exceed the sum of one hundred pounds, the said sum when received shall be vested, in the name of the minister, churchwardens, and surveyors of the highways of the parish within which such highway shall be situate, in some public government securities, and the interest and dividends from time to time arising or accruing therefrom shall be applied towards the repairs of the highways within the said parish: Provided also, that when the sum so fixed to be paid in full discharge of all claims as aforesaid shall not exceed the sum of one hundred pounds, the said last-mentioned sum, or any part thereof, on

the application by and with the consent of the inhabitants of the parish in vestry assembled, and of the justices in special session assembled, shall and may be paid to the surveyor of the said parish, to be applied towards the repair of the highways within the said parish.

*What shall be deemed the centre of the highway.*

LXIII. And be it further enacted, That where in this act any matter or thing is directed or forbidden to be done within a certain distance of the centre of the highway,\* that portion of ground shall be deemed and taken to be the highway which has been maintained by the surveyor as highway, and repaired with stones or other materials used in forming highways, for the six months immediately preceding; and the centre of the highway shall be the middle of such highway, where a line being drawn along the highway, or a point marked, an equal number of feet of highway which have been so maintained and repaired as aforesaid for twelve months before shall be found on each side of such line or mark.

*No tree, &c. allowed to be planted within fifteen feet of the centre of the carriage-way.*

LXIV. And be it further enacted, That no tree, bush, or shrub shall hereafter be planted on any carriageway or cartway, or within the distance of fifteen feet from the centre thereof;† but the same shall respectively be cut down, grubbed up, and carried away by the owner or occupier of the land or soil within twenty-one days after notice to him or his agent by the surveyor, on pain of forfeiting for every neglect the sum of ten shillings.

*Mode of proceeding if highway is prejudiced by hedges, &c.*

LXV. And be further enacted, That if the surveyor shall think that any carriageway or cartway is prejudiced by the shade of any hedges, or by any trees (except those trees planted for ornament or for shelter to any hop ground, house, building, or court yard of the owner thereof,) growing in or near such hedges or other fences, and that the sun and wind are excluded from such highway, to the damage thereof, or if any obstruction is caused in any carriageway or cartway by any hedge or tree, it shall be lawful for any one justice of the peace, on the application of the said surveyor, to summon the owner of the land on which such hedges or trees are growing, next adjoining to such carriageway or cartway, to appear before the justices at a special sessions for the highways to show cause why the said hedges are not cut, pruned, or plashed, or such trees not pruned or lopped, in such manner that the carriageway or cartway shall not be prejudiced by the shade thereof, and that the sun and wind may not be excluded from such carriageway or cartway to the damage thereof, or why the obstruction caused in such car-

riageway or cartway should not be removed; and the question as to the cutting, pruning, or plashing such hedges, or the pruning and lopping such trees, or the removal of such obstruction as aforesaid, shall, upon proof of the service of such summons, and whether the said owner attend or not, be determined at the discretion of such last-mentioned justices; and if such justices shall order and direct that such hedges shall be cut, pruned, or plashed, or such trees pruned or lopped, in manner aforesaid, or such obstruction removed, the said owner shall comply therewith within ten days after a copy of such order shall have been left at the usual place of abode of the said owner, or of his steward or agent, and in default thereof shall forfeit, on conviction, a sum not exceeding forty shillings; and the said surveyor, if the order of the said justices is not complied with, shall and he is hereby authorized and required to cut, prune, or plash such hedges, and to prune and lop such trees, for the benefit and improvement of the highway, and to remove such obstruction as aforesaid, to the best of his skill and judgment, and according to the true intent and meaning of this act; and the said surveyor shall be reimbursed by the owner as aforesaid what charges and expenses he shall be at in cutting, pruning, and plashing such hedges, and pruning and lopping such trees, and the removal of such obstruction, over and above the said forfeiture; and it shall and may be lawful for the justices at a special sessions for the highways, upon proof to them made upon oath, to levy as well the expenses of cutting, pruning, and plashing such hedges, or pruning and lopping such trees, or removal of such obstructions as aforesaid, as the several and respective penalties hereby imposed, by distress and sale of the offender's goods and chattels, in such manner as distresses and sales for forfeitures are authorized and directed to be levied by virtue of this act.

*Time of cutting hedges and trees.*

LXVI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That no person shall be compelled nor any surveyor permitted to cut or prune any hedge at any other time than between the last day of September and the last day of March; and that no person shall be obliged to fell any timber trees growing in hedges at any time whatsoever except where the highways shall be ordered to be widened or enlarged as herein mentioned, or then to cut down or grub up any oak trees growing in such highway or in such hedges except in the months of April, May, or June, or any ash, elm, or other trees, in any other months than December, January, February, or March.

*Surveyor to make and keep open ditches, &c. and to lay trunks, &c. through lands adjoining highway, paying for damage if any incurred.*

LXVII. And be it further enacted, That the said surveyor, district surveyor, or assistant surveyor, shall have power to make, scour, cleanse, and keep open all ditches, gutters, drains, or water-courses, and also to make and lay such trunks, tunnels, plats, or bridges, as he shall deem necessary, in and through any lands or grounds adjoining or lying near to any highway, upon paying the owner or occupier of such lands or grounds, provided they are not waste or common, for the damages which he shall sustain thereby, to be settled and paid in such manner as the damages for getting materials in inclosed lands or grounds are herein directed to be settled and paid.

*Owner, occupier, &c. not to alter such ditches without consent.*

LXVIII. And be it further enacted, That if any

\* A "road" is the surface over which the public have a right to pass; 2. T. R. 234. Ownership of land adjoining either side of a road is *prima facie* evidence of a right to the soil extending to the centre of the road; 11 Price 736. The presumption is that waste land which adjoins to a road, belongs to the owners of the adjoining land, and not to the Lord of the Manor; 2 Starke. 463.

† The Stat. 41. G. 3. c. 109, s. 9, enacts "that it shall not be lawful for any person to set up or erect any gate across any such carriage road, or to plant any tree in or near the hedges or sides thereof, at a less distance from each other than 50 yards.



owner, occupier, or other person shall alter, obstruct, or in any manner interfere with any such ditches, gutters, drains, or watercourses, trunks, tunnels, plats, or bridges, after they shall have been made by or taken under the charge of such surveyor or district surveyor, and without his authority and consent, such owner, occupier, or other person shall be liable to reimburse all charges and expenses which may be occasioned by reinstating and making good the work so altered, obstructed, or interfered with, and shall also forfeit any sum not exceeding three times the amount of such charges and expenses.

*Penalty for encroaching on highway.*—Encroachment to be taken down by the surveyor.

LXIX. And be it further enacted, That if any person shall encroach by making or causing to be made any building, hedge, ditch, or other fence on any carriageway or cartway within the distance of fifteen feet from the centre thereof, every person so offending shall forfeit, on conviction, for every such offence any sum not exceeding forty shillings; and the surveyor who hath the care of any such carriageway or cartway shall and is hereby required to cause such building, hedge, ditch, or fence to be taken down or filled up at the expense of the person to whom the same shall belong; and it shall and may be lawful for the justices at a special sessions for the highways upon proof to them made upon oath, to levy as well the expenses of taking down such building, hedge, or fence, or filling up such ditch as aforesaid, as the several and respective penalties hereby imposed, by distress and sale of the offender's goods and chattels, in such manner as distresses and sales for forfeitures are authorized and directed to be levied by virtue of this act.

*Steam Engines, &c., not to be erected within a certain distance of roads.*

LXX. And be it further enacted, That from and after the commencement of this Act it shall not be lawful for any person to sink any pit or shaft, or to erect or cause to be erected any steam engine, gin, or other like machinery, or any machinery attached thereto, within the distance of twenty-five yards, nor any windmill within fifty yards, from any part of any carriageway or cartway, unless such pit or shaft or steam engine, gin, or other like engine or machinery, shall be within some house or other building, or behind some wall or fence, sufficient to conceal or screen the same from the said carriageway or cartway, so that the same may not be dangerous to passengers, horses, or cattle; nor shall it be lawful for any person to make or cause to be made any fire for calcining or burning of ironstone, limestone, bricks, or clay, or the making of cokes, within the distance of fifteen yards from any part of the said carriageway or cartway, unless the same shall be within some house or other building, or behind some wall or fence, sufficient to screen the same from the same carriageway or cartway as aforesaid; and in case any person shall offend in any of the cases aforesaid, every such person so offending shall forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding five pounds for each and every day such pit, shaft, windmill, steam engine, gin, machine, or fire shall be permitted to continue contrary to the provisions of this act; which said penalties shall be levied, recovered, and applied in such and the same manner as any penalty or forfeiture for any other offence on any highway may be levied, recovered, and applied: Provided, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to restrain any person or persons from using, repair-

ing, rebuilding, or enlarging any windmill, steam engine, gin, or other like machine, or any kiln or other erection used for the purpose of calcining or burning of ironstone, limestone, bricks, or clay, or the making of cokes, which may have been erected and may be in existence at the passing of this act.

*Proprietors of railways to erect gates, &c., where they cross highways.*

LXXI. And be it further enacted, That whenever a railroad shall cross any highway for carts or carriages, the proprietors of the said railroad shall make and maintain good and sufficient gates at each of the said crossings, and shall employ good and proper persons to attend to the opening and shutting of such gates, so that the persons, carts, or carriages passing along such road shall not be exposed to any danger or damage by the passing of any carriages or engines along the said railroad; and any complaint for any neglect in respect of the said gates shall be made within ten days after the said neglect, to one justice, who may summon the party so complained against to appear before the justices at their next Special Sessions for the highways, who shall hear and decide upon the said complaint, and the proprietor so offending shall forfeit any sum not exceeding five pounds.\*

*Penalty on persons committing nuisances by riding on footpaths, &c.; by injuring the road; by damaging banks, causeways, direction posts, milestones, &c.; by making fires; by baiting bulls; by laying timber, &c.; by running of filth.*

LXXII. And be it further enacted, That if any person shall wilfully ride upon any footpath or causeway by the side of any road made or set apart for the use or accommodation of foot passengers; or shall wilfully lead or drive any horse, ass, sheep, mule, swine, or cattle, or carriage of any description, or any truck or sledge upon any such footpath or causeway; or shall tether any horse, ass, mule, swine, or cattle on any highway, so as to suffer or permit the tethered animal to be thereon, or shall cause any injury or damage to be done to the said highway, or the hedges, posts, rails, walls, or fences thereof; or shall wilfully obstruct the passage of any footway; or wilfully destroy or injure the surface of any highway; or shall wilfully or wantonly pull up, cut down, remove, or damage the posts, blocks, or stones fixed by the said surveyor as herein directed; or dig or cut down the banks which are the securities and defence of the said highways; or break, damage, or throw down the stones, bricks, or wood fixed upon the parapets or battlements of bridges, or otherwise injure or deface the same; or pull down, destroy, obliterate, or deface any milestone or post, graduated or direction post or stone, erected upon any highway; or shall play at football or any other game on any part of the said highways, to the annoyance of any passenger or passengers; or if any hawker, higgler, gipsy, or other person travelling shall pitch any tent, booth, stall, or stand, or encamp, upon any part of any highway; or if any person shall make or assist in making any fire, or shall wantonly fire off any gun or pistol,† or shall set fire to or wantonly let

\* A dock company, having a swing bridge on a public highway, are bound to use all reasonable means to facilitate the passing of vessels; and if any one sustains injury in consequence of obstruction, the company is liable in damages; 3 C. & P. 544., 2 Bing. 263, 9 Moore, 439, 1 Nev. M. 690.

† By 7 & 8. G. 4. c. 13., it is enacted that if any

off or throw any squib, rocket, serpent, or other firework whatsoever, within fifty feet of the centre of such carriageway or cartway; or bait, or run for the purpose of baiting, any bull upon or near any highway; or shall lay any timber, stone, hay, straw, dung, manure, lime, soil, ashes, rubbish, or other matter or thing whatsoever upon such highway, to the injury of such highway,\* or to the injury, interruption, or personal danger of any person travelling thereon; or shall suffer any filth, dirt, lime, or other offensive matter or thing whatsoever to run or flow into or upon any highway from any house, building, erection, lands, or premises adjacent thereto; or shall in any way wilfully obstruct the free passage of any such highway; every person so offending in any of the cases aforesaid shall for each and every such offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding forty shillings, over and above the damages occasioned thereby.

*Matters laid on or near highway, so as to be a nuisance, to be removed on notice; or on failure, surveyor to dispose of the same by order of a justice.*

LXXIII. And be it further enacted, That if any timber, stone, hay, straw, dung, manure, lime, soil, ashes, rubbish, or other matter or thing whatsoever shall be laid upon any highway so as to be a nuisance, and shall not, after notice given by the surveyor, assistant surveyor, or district surveyor, be forthwith removed, it shall and may be lawful for the surveyor, assistant surveyor, or district surveyor, by order in writing from any one justice, to clear the said highway by removing the said stone, hay, straw, dung, manure, soil, ashes, rubbish, or other matter or thing as aforesaid, and to dispose of the same, and to apply the proceeds arising therefrom towards the repairs of the highway within the parish in which such highway may be situate: Provided nevertheless, that if any soil, ashes, or rubbish shall be laid on any highway, and such soil, ashes, or rubbish shall not be of sufficient value to defray the expense of removing them, the person who laid or deposited such soil, ashes, or rubbish shall repay to the said surveyor, assistant surveyor, or district surveyor the money which he shall have necessarily expended for the removal thereof, which money, in

person shall set or place any spring gun, man trap, or other engine calculated to destroy human life, or inflict grievous bodily harm, with intent that the same or whereby the same may destroy or inflict grievous bodily harm upon a trespasser, or other person, coming in contact therewith, it shall be a misdemeanour.

An action on the case will lie against the person who places dangerous traps baited with flesh in his own ground so near a highway or to another's premises, that dogs passing along the highway, or in his neighbour's premises, must probably be attracted and thereby injured; 9 East, 227.

\* A having a house by the road-side contracted with B. to repair for a stipulated sum; B contracted with C. to do the work, and C. with D. to supply the materials; D's servant placed a quantity of lime in the road, by which the plaintiff's carriage was overturned; held that A. was answerable for the damage sustained; 1 B. & P. 404, see also 2 Taunt. 314.

It is the duty of the occupier of a house having an area fronting the public street, so to fence it as to make it safe to passengers, and it will be no defence to show that the area had always been in the same state, and before the defendant took possession; 3 Camp. 398.

case the same shall not be forthwith repaid, shall be levied as forfeitures are herein directed to be levied.

*Surveyor to impound cattle found straying on highways until the penalty herein imposed and the charges are paid.—Limiting the extent of penalty.—Right of pasturage not taken away.*

LXXIV. And be it further enacted, That if any horse, ass, sheep, swine, or other beast or cattle of any kind shall at any time be found wandering, straying, or lying, or being depastured, on any highway or on the sides thereof, without a keeper, (except on such parts of any road as lead or pass through or over any common or waste or uninclosed ground), any surveyor, or any other person authorized by him, is hereby required to seize and impound every such horse, ass, sheep, swine, or other beast or cattle in the common pound (if any) of the parish where the same shall be found, or in such other place as the surveyor shall have provided or shall provide for that purpose, and the said horse, ass, sheep, swine, or other beast or cattle there to detain until the owner thereof shall for every and each horse, ass, sheep, swine, or other beast or cattle so impounded pay any sum not exceeding one shilling, together with the reasonable charges and expenses, such charges and expenses to be settled by any two justices of the peace, of impounding and keeping the same, to the surveyor of the parish in which the beast so impounded shall have been found, the said sum so paid for each beast to be applied to the repair of the said highway; and in case the said penalty, charges, and expenses shall not be paid within five days after such impounding (notice being thereof first given to the owner, if known at the time), it shall and may be lawful for any two justices of the peace to order every such horse, ass, sheep, swine, or other beast or cattle to be sold, except where it shall be made to appear to such justices that the horse, ass, sheep, swine, or other beast or cattle impounded escaped from any inclosure by any gate or fence being wilfully or negligently left open or destroyed by any person not being owner of such inclosure, nor employed by such owner, or that it arose from accident, and was not wilful, in which case such justices may remit the said penalty; and the money arising from such sale, after deducting the said penalty, and charges and expenses of impounding, keeping, and selling every such horse, ass, sheep, swine, or other beast or cattle, shall be paid to the person whose property the same so sold shall appear to have been; and in case the owner thereof shall not be known, and no application shall be made for the money arising from such sale within one calendar month after such sale shall have taken place, the said money shall be applied, after deducting the said charges and expenses, in the same manner as the said penalty of one shilling is herein directed to be applied: Provided always, that no owner of any horse, ass, sheep, swine, or other beast or cattle impounded as aforesaid shall in any case pay more than the sum of twenty shillings, over and above the charges and expenses of impounding and keeping the same, for any number of horses, asses, sheep, swine, or other beast or cattle impounded at one time: And provided always, that nothing in this act shall be deemed, taken, or construed to extend to take away any right of pasturage which may exist on the sides of any highway.\*

\* The 41 G. 3 c. 109. s. 11, enacts "that after such public and private ways shall have been set out and made, the grass and herbage arising thereon



*Punishing persons guilty of pound-breach.*

LXXV. And be it further enacted, That in case any person shall release or attempt to release any horse, ass, sheep, swine, or other beast or cattle which shall be seized for the purpose of being impounded under the authority of this act from the pound or place where the same shall be so impounded, or in the way to or from any such pound or place, shall pull down, damage, or destroy the same pound or place, or any part thereof, or any lock or bolt belonging thereto or with which the same shall be fastened, or shall rescue or release, or attempt to rescue or release, any distress or levy which shall be made under the authority of this act, until or before such horse, ass, sheep, swine, or other beast or cattle seized or so impounded, or such distress or levy so made, shall be discharged by due course of law, every person so offending shall, upon conviction thereof before any two of his Majesty's justices of the peace, either upon confession of the party or parties offending, or upon oath of one credible witness, forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding twenty pounds, at the discretion of the said justices, and in default thereof be committed by such justices, by warrant under their hands and seals, to the House of Correction of the county wherein the said offence shall have been committed, there to be kept to hard labour for any time, at the discretion of the justices, not exceeding three calendar months.

*Names of owners to be painted on all waggons, &c. in the manner herein mentioned.*

LXXVI. And be it further enacted, That the owner of every waggon, cart, or other such carriage, shall paint or cause to be painted in one or more straight line or lines, upon some conspicuous part of the right or off side of his waggon, cart, or other such carriage, or upon the off-side shafts thereof, before the same shall be used on any highway, his christian name and surname, or the style and title by which he is commonly designated, and the place of his trade or abode, or the christian and surname and place of trade or abode of a partner or owner thereof, at full length, in large legible letters in white upon black or black upon white, not less than one inch in height, and continue the same thereupon so long as such waggon, cart, or other such carriage shall be used upon any highway; and every owner of any waggon, cart, or other such carriage who shall use or allow the same to be used on any highway without the name and descriptions painted thereon as aforesaid, or who shall suffer the same to become illegible, or who shall paint or cause to be painted any false or fictitious name or place of trade or abode on such waggon or cart or other such carriage, shall forfeit and pay, on conviction, for every such offence a sum not exceeding forty shillings, with or without costs, as to the justices before whom the conviction shall take place shall think fit.

*One driver may take charge of two carts, provided they are drawn only by one horse each.*

LXXVII. And be it further enacted, that no one person shall act as the driver of more than two carts, waggons, or other such carriages on any highway: provided always, that it shall and may be lawful for any one person to act as the driver of two carts, waggons, or other such carriages on any highway, and for such carts to pass and travel on any highway be-

ing only under the care and superintendence of such single person: provided always, that such carts, waggons, or other carriages, when under the care of only one person, shall not be drawn by more than one horse each, and the horse of the hinder cart, waggon, or other carriage shall be attached by a rein in length not exceeding four feet to the back of the cart, waggon, or other carriage which shall be foremost; and in case the said horse shall not be so attached, the driver of the said carts, waggons, or other carriages shall forfeit, on conviction, the sum of twenty shillings, to be recovered as other penalties are by this act to be recovered.

*Drivers of waggons or carts not to ride thereon unless some other person guide them.—Drivers causing hurt or damage to others, or quitting the road, or driving carriage without owner's name, or not keeping the left or near side, or interrupting free passage, if not the owner to forfeit 20s; if he be the owner, 40s.—Proceeding if driver will not discover his name.*

LXXVIII. And be it further enacted, that if the driver of any waggon, cart, or other carriage of any kind shall ride upon any such carriage, or upon any horse or horses drawing the same, on any highway, not having some other person on foot or on horseback to guide the same (such carriages and carts as are driven with reins, and are conducted by some person holding the reins of all the horses drawing the same, excepted); or if the driver of any carriage whatsoever on any part of any highway shall by negligence or wilful misbehaviour cause any hurt or damage to any person, horse, cattle, or goods conveyed in any carriage passing or being upon such highway, or shall quit the same and go on the other side of the hedge or fence inclosing the same, or negligently or wilfully be at such distance from such carriage or in such a situation whilst it shall be passing upon such highway that he cannot have the direction and government of the horses or cattle drawing the same, or shall leave any cart or carriage on such highway so as to obstruct the passage thereof; or if any person shall drive or act as the driver of any waggon, cart, or other such carriage not having the owner's name, as hereby required, painted and remaining legible thereon, and shall refuse to tell or to discover the true christian and surname of the owner or principal owners of such waggon, cart, or carriage; or if the driver of any waggon, cart, or other carriage whatsoever, or of any horses, mules, or other beasts of burthen, shall not keep his waggon, cart, or carriage, or horses, mules, or other beasts of burthen, on the left or near side of the road; or if any person shall in any manner wilfully prevent any other person from passing him, or any waggon, cart, or other carriage, or horses, mules, or other beasts of burthen, under his care, upon such highway, or by negligence or misbehaviour prevent, hinder, or interrupt the free passage of any person, waggon, cart, or other carriage, or horses, mules, or other beasts of burthen, on any highway, or shall not keep his waggon, cart, or other carriage, or horses, mules, or other beasts of burthen, on the left or near side of the road, for the purpose of allowing such passage; or if any person riding any horse or beast, or driving any sort of carriage, shall ride or drive the same furiously so as to endanger the life or limb of any passenger; every person so offending in any of the cases aforesaid, and being convicted of any such offence, either by his own confession, the view of a justice, or by the oath of one or more credible witnesses, before any two justices of the peace, shall, in addition to any civil action to which he may make himself liable, for every such offence forfeit

shall for ever belong to and be the sole right of the proprietors of the lands and grounds which shall next adjoin the said roads and ways on either side thereof, as far as the crown of the road.

any sum not exceeding five pounds in case such driver shall not be the owner of such waggon, cart, or other carriage, and in case the offender be the owner of such waggon, cart, or other carriage, then any sum not exceeding ten pounds, and in either of the said cases shall in default of payment, be committed to the common gaol or house of correction, there to be kept to hard labour, for any time not exceeding six weeks, unless such forfeiture shall be sooner paid; and every such driver offending in either of the said cases shall and may by the authority of this act, with or without any warrant, be apprehended by any person who shall see such offence committed, and shall be conveyed before any justice of the peace, to be dealt with according to law; and if any such driver in any of the cases aforesaid shall refuse to discover his name, it shall and may be lawful for the said justice of the peace before whom he shall be taken, or to whom any such complaint shall be made, to commit him to the common gaol or house of correction, there to be kept to hard labour, for any time not exceeding three months, or to proceed against him for the penalty aforesaid by a description of his person and the offence only, without adding any name or designation, but expressing in the proceedings that he refused to discover his name.

*For securing unknown offenders.*

LXXIX. And whereas offences may be committed against this act by persons whose names are unknown to the surveyor, assistant-surveyor, or district-surveyor, be it therefore enacted, that it shall be lawful for the surveyor, assistant-surveyor or district surveyor, or any person acting under his authority, and such other person as he shall call to his assistance, or any other person witnessing the commission of the offence, without any other authority than this act, to seize and detain such unknown person who shall commit any such offence, and take him forthwith before any justice of the peace, who shall proceed and act with respect to such offence according to the provisions of this act.

*Cartways to be twenty feet wide, horseways eight feet, and footways three feet.*

LXXX. And be it further enacted, that the said surveyor shall and he is hereby required to make, support, and maintain, or cause to be made, supported, and maintained, every public cartway leading to any market town twenty feet wide at the least, and every public horseway eight feet wide at the least, and to support and maintain every public footway by the side of any carriageway or cartway three feet at the least, if the ground between the fences including the same will admit thereof: provided nevertheless, that nothing herein contained shall require any surveyor to make or form any public footway without the consent of the inhabitants in vestry assembled.

*Width of gates across public cartways and horseways.*

LXXXI. And be it further enacted, that if any gate across\* any public cartway shall be less than ten feet wide, or any gate across any public horseway shall be less than five feet wide, clear between the posts thereof, then and in every such case, upon notice in writing from the surveyor to the person to whom such gate shall belong, left at the dwelling-

house of such person or his steward or agent, requiring him to enlarge the same, if such person shall neglect for the space of twenty-one days after such notice shall have been left as aforesaid to remove or enlarge such gate, he shall forfeit a sum not exceeding ten shillings for every day he shall so neglect to remove or to enlarge such gate as aforesaid.

*Justices may order narrow highways to be widened.—*

*Surveyor to agree with owners of lands for recompense, and if they cannot agree the same may be assessed by a jury at the quarter sessions.—On payment of money assessed, ground to be deemed a public highway.—Where there is not money sufficient, a further rate may be made, by order of the justices at their quarter sessions, not exceeding one-third of rate.*

LXXXII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, that where it shall appear, upon the view of two justices of the peace, that any highway is not of sufficient breadth, and might be widened and enlarged, such justices shall and they are hereby empowered, within their respective divisions, to order such highway respectively to be widened and enlarged in such manner as they shall think fit, so that the said highway, when widened and enlarged, shall not exceed thirty feet in breadth; and that neither of the said powers do extend to pull down any house or building, or to take away the ground of any garden, lawn, yard, court, park, paddock, planted walk, plantation, or avenue to any house, or any inclosed ground set apart for building ground or as a nursery for trees; and for the satisfaction of the person, body politic or corporate, who is seised or possessed of or interested in their own right, or in trust for any other person, in the said ground that shall be laid into the said highway respectively so be widened and enlarged, the said surveyor, under the direction and with the approbation of the said justices in writing, shall and is hereby empowered to make an agreement with him for the recompense to be made for such ground, and for the making of such new ditches and fences as shall be necessary, according and in proportion to their several and respective interests therein, and also with any other person, body politic or corporate, that may be injured by the widening and enlarging such highway, for the satisfaction to be made to him respectively as aforesaid; and if the said surveyor, under the direction and with the approbation of the said justices, cannot agree with the said person, body politic or corporate, or if he cannot be found, or shall refuse to treat or take such recompense or satisfaction as shall be offered to them respectively by such surveyor, then the justices of the peace at any general quarter sessions to be holden for the limit wherein such ground shall lie, upon certificate in writing signed by the justices making such view as aforesaid of their proceedings in the premises, and upon proof of fourteen days notice in writing having been given by the surveyor of such parish to the owner, occupier, or other person, body politic or corporate, interested in such ground, or to his guardian, trustee, clerk, or agent, signifying an intention to apply to such quarter sessions for the purpose of taking such ground, shall impanel a jury of twelve disinterested men out of the persons returned to serve as jurymen at such quarter sessions; and the said jury shall, upon their oaths, to the best of their judgment, assess the damages to be given and recompense to be made to the owners and others interested as aforesaid in the said ground for their respective interests, as they shall think reasonable, not exceeding forty years purchase for the clear yearly value of the ground so laid out,

\* A gate erected in a highway is a common nuisance unless it hath continued from time out of mind; 1. Hawk. P. C. c. 75. s. 9. If a man hath a private way without a gate, and a gate be hung up, an action on the case will lie; Litt. Rep. 267.



and likewise such recompence as they shall think reasonable for the making of new ditches and fences on the side of the said highway that shall be so widened and enlarged, and also satisfaction to any person, body politic or corporate, that may be otherwise injured by the widening and enlarging the said highways respectively; and upon payment or tender of the money so to be awarded and assessed to the person, body politic or corporate, entitled to receive the same, or leaving it in the hands of the clerk of the peace of such limit, in case such person, body politic or corporate, cannot be found or shall refuse to accept the same, for the use of the owner or for others interested in the said ground, the interest of the said person, body politic or corporate, in the said ground shall be for ever divested out of them; and the said ground, after such agreement or verdict as aforesaid, shall be esteemed and taken to be a public highway to all intents and purposes whatsoever; saving nevertheless to the owner of such ground all mines, minerals, and fossils lying under the same which can or may be got without breaking the surface of the said highway, and also all timber and wood growing upon such ground, to be felled and taken by such owner within one month after such order shall have been made, or in default thereof to be felled by the said surveyor within the respective months aforesaid, and laid upon the land adjoining, for the benefit of the said owner; and where there shall not appear sufficient money in the hands of the surveyor for the purpose aforesaid, then the said two justices in cases of agreement, or the said court of quarter sessions after such verdict as aforesaid, shall direct the surveyor to make, collect, and levy an equal rate in the same manner as the rate by this act authorized to be made, and to pay the money to the person, body politic or corporate, so interested, in such manner as the said justices or court of quarter sessions respectively shall direct and appoint; and the money thereby raised shall be employed and accounted for, according to the order and direction of the said justices or court of quarter sessions respectively, for and towards the purchasing the land to widen and enlarge the said highway, and for making the said ditches and fences, and also satisfaction for the damages sustained thereby; provided that no such rate to be made in any one year shall exceed one-third part of the rate by this act authorized to be levied, in addition to the rate for the repair of the highways.

*Cost of proceedings, by whom payable.*

LXXXIII. And be it further enacted, That in case such jury shall give in and deliver a verdict for more monies as a recompence for the right, interest, or property of any person, body politic or corporate, in such lands or grounds, or for the making such fence, or for such damage or injury to be sustained by him, as aforesaid, than what shall have been proposed and offered by the said surveyor before such application to the said court of quarter sessions as aforesaid, that then and in such case the costs and expenses attending the said several proceedings shall be borne and paid by the surveyor out of the monies in his hands or to be assessed and levied by virtue and under the powers of this act; but if such jury shall give and deliver a verdict for no more or for less monies than shall have been so offered and proposed by the said surveyor before such application to the said court of quarter sessions, that then the said costs and expenses shall be borne and paid by the person, body politic or corporate, who shall have refused to accept the recompence and satisfaction so offered to him as aforesaid.

*Previous to a highway being stopped up, &c. surveyor to request justices to view the same.*

LXXXIV. And be it further enacted, that when the inhabitants in vestry assembled shall deem it expedient that any highway should be stopped up, diverted, or turned, either entirely or reserving a bridleway or footway along the whole or any part or parts thereof, the chairman of such meeting shall, by an order in writing, direct the surveyor to apply to two justices to view the same, and shall authorize him to pay all the expences attending such view, and the stopping up, diverting, or turning such highway, either entirely or subject to such reservation as aforesaid, out of the money received by him for the purposes of this act.\* Provided, nevertheless, that if any other party shall be desirous of stopping up, diverting, or turning any highway as aforesaid, he shall, by a notice in writing, require the surveyor to give notice to the churchwardens to assemble the inhabitants in vestry, and to submit to them the wish of such person; and if such inhabitants shall agree to the proposal, the said surveyor shall apply to the justices as last aforesaid for the purposes aforesaid; and in such case the expenses aforesaid shall be paid to such surveyor by the said party, or be recoverable in the same manner as any forfeiture is recoverable under this act; and the said surveyor is hereby required to make such application as aforesaid.

*Proceedings for diverting &c. certain highways, and stopping up unnecessary highways.*

LXXXV. And be it further enacted, That when it shall appear upon such view of such two justices of the peace, made at the request of the said surveyor as aforesaid, that any public highway may be diverted and turned, either entirely or subject as aforesaid, so as to make the same nearer or more commodious to the public, and the owner of the lands or grounds through which such new highway so proposed to be made shall consent thereto by writing under his hand, or if it shall appear upon such view that any public highway is unnecessary, the said justices shall direct the surveyor to affix a notice in the form or to the effect of schedule (No. 19.) to this act annexed in legible characters, at the place and by the side of each end of the said highway from whence the same is proposed to be turned, diverted, or stopped up, either entirely or subject as aforesaid, and also to insert the same notice in one newspaper published or generally circulated in the county where the highway so proposed to be diverted and turned, or stopped up, either entirely or subject as aforesaid, (as the case may be,) shall lie for four successive weeks next after the said justices have viewed such public highway, and to affix a like notice on the door of the church of every parish in which such highway so proposed to be diverted, turned, or stopped up, either entirely or subject as aforesaid, or any part thereof, shall lie, on four successive Sundays next after the making such view; and the said several notices having been so published, and proof thereof having been given

\* The repealed statutes required that the justices referred to should be justices "within the limit of the county, riding, division, hundred, city, corporation, precinct, or liberty, where such parish, township, or place, shall lie." By this clause any two justices are authorized to act. The difficulties in summoning the justices of the division to the special sessions are obviated, 1 B. & A. 373, 2 B. & A. 223, 3 B. & A. 414, 5 B. & A. 424, 5 B. & C. 241, 6 B. & C. 110.

to the satisfaction of the said justices, and a plan having been delivered to them at the same time particularly describing the old and the proposed new highway, by metes, bounds, and admeasurement thereof, which plan shall be verified by some competent surveyor, the said justices shall proceed to certify under their hands the fact of their having viewed the said highway as aforesaid, and that the proposed new highway is nearer or more commodious to the public;\* and if nearer, the said certificate shall state the number of yards or feet it is nearer, or if more commodious, the reasons why it is so; and if the highway is proposed to be stopped up as unnecessary, either entirely or subject as aforesaid, then the certificate shall state the reason why it is unnecessary; and the said certificate of the said justices, together with the proof and plan so laid before them as aforesaid, shall, as soon as conveniently may be after the making of the said certificate, be lodged with the clerk of the peace for the county in which the said highway is situated, and shall (at the quarter sessions which shall be holden for the limit within which the highway so diverted and turned or stopped up, either entirely or subject as aforesaid, shall lie, next after the expiration of four weeks from the day of the said certificate of the said justices having been lodged with the clerk of the peace as aforesaid,) be read by the said clerk of the peace in open court; and the said certificate, together with the proof and plan as aforesaid, as well as the consent in writing of the owner of the land through which the new highway is proposed to be made, shall be enrolled by the clerk of the peace amongst the records of the said court of quarter sessions: Provided always, that any person whatever shall be at liberty, at any time previous to the said quarter sessions, to inspect the said certificate and plan so as aforesaid lodged with the said clerk of the peace, and to have a copy thereof, on payment to the clerk of the peace at the rate of sixpence per folio, and a reasonable compensation for the copy of the plan.

*As to stopping up more than one highway connected together.*

LXXXVI. Provided, always, and be it further enacted, That in any case where it is proposed to stop up or divert more than one highway, which highways shall be deemed to be so connected together as that they cannot be separately stopped or diverted without interfering one with the other, it shall be lawful to include such different highways in one order or certificate.†

*Court may confirm order for so doing wholly or in part.*

LXXXVII. Provided also, and be it further enacted, That in the event of any appeal being brought against the whole or any part or parts of any order or certificate for diverting more highways than one, it shall be lawful for the court to decide upon

the propriety of confirming the whole or any part or parts of such order or certificate without prejudice to the remaining part or parts thereof.

*Persons who may think themselves aggrieved if such highway should be ordered to be stopped up, &c. may appeal.*

LXXXVIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That when any such certificate shall have been so given as aforesaid it shall and may be lawful for any person who may think that he would be injured or aggrieved if any such highway should be ordered to be diverted and turned or stopped up, either entirely or subject as aforesaid, and such new highway set out and appropriated in lieu thereof as aforesaid, or if any unnecessary highway should be ordered to be stopped up as aforesaid, to make his complaint thereof by appeal to the justices of the peace at the said quarter sessions, upon giving to the surveyor ten days notice in writing of such appeal, together with a statement in writing of the grounds of such appeal, who is hereby required, within forty-eight hours after the receipt of such notice, to deliver a copy of the same to the party by whom he was required to apply to the justices to view the said highway; provided that in all cases where the said surveyor shall have been directed by the inhabitants in vestry assembled to apply to such justices as aforesaid, then the said surveyor shall not be required to deliver a copy of such notice to any party: Provided also, that it shall not be lawful for the appellant to be heard in support of such appeal unless such notice and statement shall have been so given as aforesaid, nor on the hearing of such appeal to go into or give evidence of any other grounds of appeal than those set forth in such statement as aforesaid.

*In case of appeal, jury at sessions to determine whether new highway is nearer, &c.*

LXXXIX. And be it further enacted, That in case of such appeal the justices at the said quarter sessions shall, for the purpose of determining whether the proposed new highway is nearer or more commodious to the public, or whether the public highway so intended to be stopped up, either entirely or subject as aforesaid, is unnecessary, or whether the said party appealing would be injured or aggrieved,\* impanel a jury of twelve disinterested men out of the persons returned to serve as jurymen at such quarter sessions; and if, after hearing the evidence produced before them, the said jury shall return a verdict that the proposed new highway is nearer or more commodious to the public, or that the public highway so intended to be stopped up, either entirely or subject as aforesaid, is unnecessary, or that the party appealing would not be injured or aggrieved, then the said court of quarter sessions shall dismiss such appeal, and make the order herein mentioned for diverting and turning and stopping up such highway, either entirely or subject as aforesaid, or for diverting, turning, and stopping up of such old highway, and purchasing the ground and soil for such new highway, or for stopping up such unnecessary highway either entirely or subject as aforesaid; but if the said jury shall return a verdict that the proposed new highway is not nearer or not more commodious to the public, or that the highway so intended to be stopped up, either entirely or subject as aforesaid, is not unnecessary, or that the party appealing would be injured or aggrieved, then the said

\* This clause makes a most judicious alteration in the law, by which much expence and litigation will be spared; under the old law, the notice to the public, stated that the "order was made," leaving the parties to appeal. The present notice states that application will be "made for an order," and the magistrates who have reviewed, are required to state the facts and assign their reasons.

† Under the old law when more than one highway was to be stopped up, a separate order was required for each. Now no order will be made until after the expiration of the time for appealing, when the order will be conclusive.

\* This is a decided improvement, and will we doubt not give much satisfaction.



court of quarter sessions shall allow such appeal, and shall not make such order as aforesaid.

*Costs awarded in appeal against stopping up &c. highway.*

XC. And be it further enacted, That the court of quarter sessions is hereby authorized and required to award to the party giving or receiving notice of appeal such costs and expences as shall be incurred in prosecuting or resisting such appeal, whether the same shall be tried or not, and such costs and expences shall be paid by the surveyor or other party as aforesaid at whose instance the notice for diverting and turning or stopping up the highway, either entirely or subject as aforesaid, shall have been given; and in case the said surveyor or other party as aforesaid, shall not appear in support thereof, the said court of quarter sessions shall award the costs of the appellant to be paid by such surveyor or other party as aforesaid, and such costs shall be recoverable in the same manner as any penalties or forfeitures are recoverable under this act.

*If no appeal be made, or if dismissed, sessions to make order for diverting, &c. and the old ways may be stopped.—New highway shall afterwards continue a public highway, &c.*

XCI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That if no such appeal be made, or being made shall be dismissed as aforesaid, then the justices at the said quarter sessions shall make an order to divert and turn and to stop up such highway, either entirely or subject as aforesaid, or to divert, turn, and stop up such old highway, and to purchase the ground and soil for such new highway, or to stop up such unnecessary highway, either entirely or subject as aforesaid, by such ways and means, and subject to such exceptions and conditions in all respects as in this act is mentioned in regard to highways to be widened; and the proceedings thereupon shall be binding and conclusive on all persons whomsoever; and the new highways so to be appropriated and set out shall be and for ever after continue a public highway to all intents and purposes whatsoever; but no old highway (except in the case of stopping up of such useless highway as herein is mentioned) shall be stopped until such new highway shall be completed and put into good condition and repair, and so certified by two justices of the peace upon view thereof, which certificate shall be returned to the clerk of the peace, and by him enrolled amongst the records of the court of quarter sessions next after such order as aforesaid shall have been made pursuant to the directions herein-before contained.

*Party liable to repair old highways to repair new highways.*

XCII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That in every case in which a highway shall have been turned or diverted under the provisions of this act, the parish or other party which was liable to the repair of the old highway shall be liable to the repair of the new highway, without any reference whatever to its parochial locality.

*Provisions as to widening of a highway to extend to all highways which persons are bound to repair ratione tenure, &c.—Justices to fix annual or other amount payable by party previously bound to repair.*

XCIII. And be it further enacted, that the powers and provisions in this act contained with respect to the widening and enlarging, diverting, turning, or stopping up any highway shall be applicable to all highways which any person, bodies politic or corpo-

rate, is or are bound to repair by reason of any grant, tenure, limitation, or appointment of any charitable gift, or otherwise howsoever; and that when such last-mentioned highways are so widened or enlarged, turned or diverted, the same shall and may, by an order of the justices at a special sessions for the highways, be placed under the control and care of the surveyor of the parish in which such highways may be situate, and shall be from time to time thereafter repaired and kept in repair by the said parish: provided also, that the said highways so widened, enlarged, diverted, or turned shall be viewed by two justices of the peace, who shall make a report thereof to the justices at a special sessions for the highways; and such last-mentioned justices shall, by an order under their hands, fix the proportionate sum which shall be annually paid, or shall fix a certain sum to be paid, by such person, bodies politic or corporate, his or their heirs, successors, or assigns, to the said surveyors of the parish, in lieu of thereafter repairing the said part of the said old highway; and the order of the said last-mentioned justices shall be and continue binding on all such person, bodies politic or corporate, their heirs, successors, or assigns; and in default of payment thereof the said surveyor shall proceed for the recovery of the same in the manner as any penalties and forfeitures are recoverable under this act.

*Mode of proceeding before justices if highway is out of repair.—In what cases justices cannot interfere.*

XCIV. And be it further enacted, that from and after the commencement of this act, if any highway is out of repair or is not well and sufficiently repaired and amended, and information thereof, on the oath of one credible witness, is given to any justice of the peace, it shall and may be lawful for such justice and he is hereby authorized and required to issue a summons requiring the surveyor of the parish, or other person or body politic or corporate chargeable with such repairs, to appear before the justices at some special sessions for the highways in the said summons mentioned, to be held within the division in which the said highway may be situate; and the said justices shall either appoint some competent person to view the same, and report thereon to the justices in special sessions assembled, on a certain day and place to be then and there fixed, at which the said surveyor of the highways or other party as aforesaid shall be directed to attend, or the said justices shall fix a day whereon they or any two of them shall attend to view the said highway; and if to the justices at such special sessions, on the day and at the place so fixed as aforesaid, it shall appear, either on the report of the same person so appointed by them to view, or on the view of such justices, that the said highway is not in a state of thorough and effectual repair, they the said justices at such last-mentioned special sessions shall convict the said surveyor or other party liable to the repair of the said highway in any penalty not exceeding five pounds,\* and shall make an order on the said surveyor, or other person or bodies politic or corporate liable to repair such highway, by which order they shall limit and appoint a time for the repairing of the same; and in default of such repairs being effectually made within the time so limited, the said surveyor, or such other person or body politic or corporate as aforesaid, shall forfeit and pay to some person to be named and appointed in a second order

\* Fines for not repairing roads *ratione tenuræ* are payable to the surveyor of the parish highways; 1 W. Bl., 602.

a sum of money to be therein stated, and which shall be equal in amount to the sum which the said justices shall, on the evidence produced before them, judge requisite for repairing such highway, which money shall be recoverable in the same manner as any forfeiture is recoverable under this act, and such money when recovered shall be applied to the repair of such highway; and in case more parties than one are bound to repair any such highway, the said justices shall direct in their said order what proportion shall be paid by each of the said parties: provided, that if the said highway so out of repair is a part of the turnpike road, the said justices shall summon the treasurer or surveyor or other officer of such turnpike road, and the order herein directed to be made shall be made on such treasurer or surveyor or other officer as aforesaid, and the money therein stated shall be recoverable as aforesaid: provided nevertheless, that the said justices shall not have power to make such order as aforesaid in any case where the duty or obligation of repairing the said highway comes in question.

*Mode of proceeding if obligation to repair is disputed.*

XCV. And be it enacted, that if on the hearing of any such summons respecting the repair of any highway the duty or obligation of such repairs is denied by the surveyor on behalf of the inhabitants of the parish, or by any other party charged therewith, it shall then be lawful for such justices and they are hereby required to direct a bill of indictment to be preferred, and the necessary witnesses in support thereof to be subpoenaed, at the next assizes to be holden in and for the said county, or at the next general quarter sessions of the peace for the county, riding, division, or place wherein such highway shall be, against the inhabitants of the parish or the party to be named in such order for suffering and permitting the said highway to be out of repair; and the costs of such prosecution shall be directed by the judge of assize before whom the said indictment is tried, or by the justices at such quarter sessions, to be paid out of the rate made and levied in pursuance of this act in the parish in which such highway shall be situate: provided nevertheless, that it shall be lawful for the party against whom such indictment shall be so preferred at the quarter sessions as aforesaid to remove such indictment by *certiorari* or otherwise into his Majesty's Court of King's Bench.

*Fines, penalties, and forfeitures how to be levied and applied.*

XCVI. And be it further enacted, that no fine, issue, penalty, or forfeiture for not repairing the highway, or not appearing to any indictment for not repairing the same, shall hereafter be returned into the Court of Exchequer or other court, but shall be levied by and paid into the hands of such person residing in or near the parish where the road shall lie, as the justices or court imposing such fines, issues, penalties, or forfeitures shall order and direct, to be applied towards the repair and amendment of such highway; and the person so ordered to receive such fine shall and is hereby required to receive, apply, and account for the same according to the direction of such justices or court, or in default thereof shall forfeit double the sum received; and if any fine, issue, penalty, or forfeiture to be imposed for not repairing the highway, or not appearing as aforesaid, shall hereafter be levied on any inhabitant of such parish, township, or place, then such inhabitant shall and may make his complaint to the justices at a special sessions for the highways; and the said justices are hereby empowered and authorized, by

warrant under their hands, to make an order on the surveyor of the parish for payment of the same out of the money receivable by him for the highway rate, and shall within two months next after service of the said order on him pay unto such inhabitant the money therein mentioned.

*Justices empowered to award costs to defendant, where information, &c. is withdrawn or dismissed.*

XCVII. And be it further enacted, that if any surveyor or other person shall be summoned before any justice to answer any information or complaint exhibited or made against him touching or concerning any offence committed or alleged to have been committed by such surveyor or other person against the provisions of this act, or for any supposed neglect of duty, in case such surveyor or other person be convicted thereof, such justice shall be authorized and empowered to order the payment by such surveyor or other person of all costs or proceedings against him; but in case such information or complaint shall afterwards be withdrawn or quashed or dismissed, or if the defendant shall be acquitted of the offence or neglect of duty charged against him, it shall be lawful for such justices to order and award that the person exhibiting or making such information or complaint shall pay to the defendant all such costs as to such justice shall seem reasonable; and in default of immediate payment of the sum so awarded, it shall be lawful for such justices to cause the same to be levied by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the person ordered to pay the same, together with the costs of such distress and sale; and if goods and chattels of such person sufficient to answer the sum so awarded, with such costs as aforesaid, cannot be found, it shall be lawful for such justices to commit such person to the common gaol or house of correction, there to be kept to hard labour, for any time not exceeding one calendar month, unless the sum so awarded, together with all costs and expences, shall be sooner paid and satisfied.

*Court may award costs to the prosecutor.*

XCVIII. And be it further enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for the court before whom any indictment shall be preferred for not repairing highways to award costs to the prosecutor,\* to be paid by the person so indicted, if it shall appear to the said court that the defence made to such indictment was frivolous or vexatious.

*No presentment against inhabitants for highway being out of repair.*

XCIX. And be it further enacted, that from and after the commencement of this act it shall not be lawful to take or commence any legal proceeding, by presentment, against the inhabitants of any parish, or other person, on account of any highway or turnpike road being out of repair.

*Inhabitants and officers in parishes may give evidence.*

C. And be it further enacted, that no person shall be deemed incompetent to give evidence or be disqualified from giving testimony or evidence, in any action, suit, prosecution, or other legal proceedings to be brought or had in any court of law or equity, or before any justice or justices of the peace,

\* A justice of the peace who prosecutes by indictment for the non-repair of a road, the indictment being removed by *certiorari* into the Court of King's Bench, and the defendant found guilty is entitled to his costs under the 5 W. and M. c. 11, s. 3,—5 T. R. 33.



under or by virtue of this act, by reason of being an inhabitant of the parish in which any offence shall be committed, or of being a treasurer, clerk, surveyor, district surveyor, assistant surveyor, collector or other officer appointed by virtue of this act, nor shall such testimony or evidence for any of the reasons aforesaid be rejected or liable to be questioned or set aside.

*Justices may proceed by summons in the recovery of penalties.*

CI. And be it further enacted, that in all cases in which any penalty or forfeiture is recoverable before justices of the peace under this act, it shall and may be lawful for any justice to whom complaint shall be made of any such offence to summon the party complained against before any two justices, and on such summons the said two justices may hear and determine the matter of such complaint, and on proof of the offence convict the offender, and adjudge him to pay the penalty or forfeiture incurred, and proceed to recover the same, although no information in writing shall have been exhibited or taken by or before such justice; and all such proceedings by summons without information shall be as good, valid, and effectual to all intents and purposes as if an information in writing was exhibited.

*Compelling witnesses to attend and give evidence.*

CII. And be it further enacted, that if any person after having been paid or tendered a reasonable sum of money for his costs, charges, and expences, shall be summoned as a witness to give evidence before any justices of the peace touching any matter or fact contained in any information or complaint for any offence against this act, either on the part of the prosecutor or the person accused, and shall refuse or neglect to appear at the time and place for that purpose appointed, without a reasonable excuse for his refusal or neglect, or appearing shall (after having been paid or tendered a reasonable sum for his costs, charges, and expences,) refuse to be examined upon oath and give evidence before such justice of the peace, then and in either of such cases such person shall forfeit for every such offence any sum not exceeding five pounds.

*Forfeitures, costs, and charges may be levied by distress and sale.—Application of penalties.*

CIII. And be it further enacted, that all penalties and forfeitures by this Act inflicted or authorized to be imposed for any offence against the same, and all balances due from a surveyor, and all costs and charges to be allowed and ordered by the authority of this act, (the manner of levying, recovering, and applying of which is not hereby otherwise particularly directed,) shall, upon proof and conviction of the offences respectively before any two or more justices, either by the confession of the party offending, or by the oath of any credible witness or witnesses, (which oath such justices are in every case hereby fully authorized to administer,) or upon order made as aforesaid, be levied, together with the costs attending the information, summons, and conviction, by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the offender or person liable or ordered to pay the same respectively, by warrant under the hands of two or more justices before whom the party may have been convicted (which warrant such justices are hereby empowered and required to grant); and the overplus (if any), after such penalties, forfeitures, and fines, and the charges of such distress and sale, are deducted, shall be returned, upon demand, unto the owner or owners of such goods and chattels; and in

case such fines, penalties, and forfeitures shall not be forthwith paid upon conviction, then it shall be lawful for such justices as aforesaid to order the offender or offenders so convicted to be detained and kept in safe custody until return can be conveniently made to such warrant of distress, unless the offender or offenders shall give sufficient security, to the satisfaction of such justices as aforesaid, for his or their appearance before such justices on such day or days as shall be appointed for the return of such warrant of distress, such day not being later than seven days from the time of taking any such security, and which security the said justices as aforesaid are hereby empowered to take by way of recognizance or otherwise; or in case it shall appear to the satisfaction of such justices, either by the confession of the offender or otherwise, that he hath not goods or chattels within the jurisdiction of such justices sufficient whereon to levy all such penalties and forfeitures, costs and charges, such justices may at their discretion, without issuing any warrant of distress, commit the offender for such period of time, and in such and like manner, as if a warrant of distress had been issued, and nulla bona returned thereon; but if a warrant of distress shall be issued, and upon the return thereof it shall appear that no sufficient distress can be had, whereupon to levy the said penalty, forfeiture, or fine, and costs and expences aforesaid, and the same shall not be forthwith paid, or in case it shall appear to the satisfaction of such justices, upon the confession of the offender, or otherwise, that he hath not sufficient goods and chattels whereupon such penalty, forfeiture, or fine, costs, and expences, could be levied if a warrant of distress were issued, such justices shall not be required to issue such warrant, but in such case such justices are hereby required, by warrant under their hands, to cause such offender or offenders to be committed to the common gaol or house of correction of the county, riding, or place where the offender shall be or reside, there to be kept to hard labour, for any term not exceeding three calendar months, unless such penalties, forfeitures, and fines, and all reasonable charges attending the same, shall be sooner paid and satisfied; and the penalties and forfeitures, when so levied, shall be paid, the one half to the informer, and the other half to the surveyor of the parish where such offence, neglect, or default shall happen, to be applied towards the repair of the highways thereof, unless otherwise directed by this act; but in case the surveyor shall be the informer, then the whole shall be applied towards the repair of such highway.

*Satisfaction recoverable for special damage; but distress not to be deemed unlawful for want of form in the proceedings.—Plaintiff not to recover for irregularity if tender of amends be made.*

CIV. And be it further enacted, that where any distress shall be made for any sum of money to be levied by virtue of this act, the distress itself shall not be deemed unlawful, nor the party making the same be deemed a trespasser, on account of any default or want of form in any proceedings relating thereto, nor shall the party distraining be deemed a trespasser *ab initio* on account of any irregularity which shall be afterwards done in making the distress, but the person aggrieved by such irregularity may recover full satisfaction for the special damage in an action on the case: provided always, that no plaintiff shall recover in any action for any irregularity, trespass, or wrongful proceedings, if tender of sufficient amends shall be made by or on behalf of the party who shall have committed or caused to be

committed any such irregularity, trespass, or wrongful proceedings, before such action brought; and in case no such tender shall have been made, it shall and may be lawful for the defendant in any such action, by leave of the court where such action shall depend, at any time before issue joined, to pay into court such sum of money as he shall see fit, whereupon such proceedings or orders and judgment shall be had, made, and given in and by such court as in other actions where the defendant is allowed to pay money into court.

*Appeal may be made to quarter sessions against rate, &c.*

CV. Provided also, and be it further enacted, that if any person shall think himself aggrieved by any rate made under or in pursuance of this act, or by any order, conviction, judgment, or determination made, or by any matter or thing done, by any justice or other person in pursuance of this act, and for which no particular method of relief hath been already appointed, such person may appeal to the justices at the next general or quarter sessions of the peace to be held for the county, division, riding, or place wherein the cause of such complaint shall arise, such appellant first giving or causing to be given to the surveyor or surveyors, or to such justice or other person by whose act such person shall think himself aggrieved, notice in writing of his intention to bring such appeal, together with a statement in writing of the grounds of such appeal within fourteen days after such rate shall have been made, or cause of complaint shall have arisen, and within four days after such notice entering into a recognizance before some justice, with two sufficient sureties, conditioned to try such appeal at, and abide the order of, and pay such costs as shall be awarded by the justices at such general or quarter sessions; and such justices, upon hearing and finally determining the matter of such appeal, shall and may, according to their discretion, award such costs to the party appealing or appealed against as they shall think proper; and their determination in or concerning the premises shall be conclusive and binding on all parties to all intents and purposes whatsoever: provided nevertheless, that in case there shall not be time to give such notice and enter into such recognizance as aforesaid before the next sessions to be holden after the making of any rate or the cause of complaint shall have arisen, then and in every such case such appeal may be made to the next following sessions, and shall be then heard and determined: provided also, that it shall not be lawful for the appellant to be heard in support of such appeal, unless such notice and statement shall have been so given as aforesaid, nor on the hearing of such appeal to go into evidence of any other grounds of appeal than those set forth in such statement as aforesaid.

*Provisions of 41 G. 3. c. 23, applicable to this Act.*

CVI. And be it further enacted, that in all cases of appeal against the rate or assessment made in pursuance of this act, the several provisions and enactments contained in a certain act made and passed in the forty-first year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the Third, intituled *An Act for the better Collection of the Rates made for the Relief of the Poor*, shall be applicable thereto, as if the same had been repeated and re-enacted in this act with respect to such appeals.

*Rates and Proceedings, not to be quashed for want of form.*

CVII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, that no rate, nor any proceeding to be had touch-

ing the conviction of any offender against this act, or any order made, or any other matter or thing done or transacted in or relative to the execution of this act, shall be vacated or quashed for want of form, or be removed or removable (except as herein mentioned) by certiorari, or any other writ or process whatsoever, into any of his Majesty's courts of record at Westminster.

*In case of appeal, sessions may grant a special case.*

CVIII. And be it further enacted, that in any case of appeal the court of quarter sessions before whom the same is heard and determined may, if they think fit, state the facts specially for the determination of his Majesty's Court of King's Bench thereon, in which case it shall be lawful to remove the proceedings, by writ of certiorari or otherwise, into the said Court of King's Bench.

*Limitation of actions.—Defendant may plead the general issue.—Costs.*

CIX.—And be it further enacted, That no action\* or suit shall be commenced against any person for any thing done in pursuance of or under the authority of this act until twenty-one days notice has been given thereof in writing to the justice, surveyor, or person against whom such action is intended to be brought, nor after sufficient satisfaction or tender of satisfaction has been made to the party aggrieved, nor after three calendar months next after the fact committed for which such action or suit shall be so brought; and every such action shall be brought, laid, and tried where the cause of action shall have arisen, and not in any other county or place; and the defendant in such action or suit may plead the general issue, and give this act and every special matter in evidence at any trial which shall be had thereupon; and if the matter or thing shall appear to have been done under or by virtue of this act, or if it shall appear that such action or suit was brought before twenty-one days notice thereof given as aforesaid, or that sufficient satisfaction was made or tendered as aforesaid, or if any action or suit shall not be commenced within the time before limited, or shall be laid in any other county than as aforesaid, then the jury shall find a verdict for the defendant therein; and if a verdict shall be found for such defendant, or if the plaintiff in such action or suit shall become nonsuit, or suffer a discontinuance of such action, or if, upon any demurrer in such action, judgment shall be given for the defendant therein, then and in any of the cases aforesaid such defendant shall have costs as between attorney and client, and shall have such remedy for recovering the same as any defendant may have for his or her costs in any other case by law.

*Amount of fees.*

CX. And be it further enacted, That the several fees hereafter limited and expressed, and no others, shall be taken by the clerk of the peace, clerk to the justices, or others, for their several respective services in the execution of this act; (that is to say), the sum of sixpence for every information; the sum of one shilling for every summons or warrant, and sixpence for the service thereof; the sum of sixpence for every notice, and sixpence for the service thereof; the sum of one shilling for every order, and sixpence for the service thereof; the sum of two shillings for every warrant of distress; the

\* The limitation of action will be reckoned from the time of sustaining the injury, and not from the time of the act done. *Sutton v. Clark*, 6 Taunt. 29.



sum of one shilling for every appointment ; and the sum of two shillings for every conviction : Provided always, that in no place regulated by a local act of parliament, when the amount of the fees to be taken by the clerk to the justices, or others, in any proceeding for the recovery of any rate shall be less than the fees herein-before mentioned, shall it be lawful for such clerk to the justices or others to demand or take a greater fee for any similar proceeding under this act than the fee which may be mentioned or directed to be taken by such local act.

*Expenses for defending prosecutions agreed upon at a vestry meeting, how to be paid.*

CXI. And be it further enacted, That if the inhabitants of any parish shall agree at a vestry to defend any indictment found against any such parish, or to appeal against any order made by or proceeding of any justice of the peace in the execution of any powers given by this act, or to defend any appeal, it shall and may be lawful for the surveyor of such parish to charge in his account the reasonable expenses incurred in defending such prosecution, or prosecuting or defending such appeal, after the same shall have been agreed to by such inhabitants at a vestry or public meeting as aforesaid, and allowed by two justices of the peace within the division where such highway shall be ; which expenses, when so agreed to or allowed, shall be paid by such parish out of the fines, forfeitures, payments, and rates authorized to be collected and raised by virtue of this act : Provided nevertheless, that if the money so collected and raised is not sufficient to defray the expenses of repairing the highways in the said parish, as well as of defending such prosecution, or prosecuting or defending such appeal as aforesaid, the said surveyor is hereby authorized to make, collect, and levy an additional rate in the same manner as the rate by this act is authorized to be made for the repair of the highway.

*Limiting powers of 57 G. 3. c. 29.*

CXII. And be it further enacted, That nothing in this act contained shall be construed to abridge, repeal, alter, amend, or interfere with the powers and provisions contained in an act passed in the fifty-seventh year of the reign of King George the Third, intituled *An act for better paving, improving, and regulating the streets of the metropolis, and removing and preventing obstructions therein*, or the powers and provisions contained in any act relating to any particular parish or place for any of the purposes in this act mentioned.

*Not to extend to turnpike roads, or to roads under local acts.*

CXIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this act contained shall apply to any turnpike roads, except where expressly mentioned, or to any roads, bridges, carriageways, cartways, horseways, bridleways, footways, causeways, churchways, or pavements, which now are or may hereafter be paved, repaired, or cleansed, broken up, or diverted, under or by virtue of the provisions of any local or personal act or acts of parliament.

*Not to affect the Universities ;*

CXIV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this act contained shall extend to alter or in any manner to affect any of the rights or privileges of the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge, or any of the powers vested by charter or

otherwise in the chancellors, masters, and scholars, and their successors, of the said Universities.

*nor the rights and liberties of the City of London ;*

CXV. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this act contained shall extend to alter or in any manner affect the City of London and the liberties thereof, or the rights, interests, privileges, franchises, or authorities of the mayor and commonalty and citizens of the City of London, or their successors, or the lord mayor and aldermen of the said city, or the lord mayor of the said city for the time being as conservator of the river Thames or otherwise, or to prohibit, defeat, alter, or diminish any power, authority, or jurisdiction which at the time of making this act the said mayor and commonalty and citizens, the said lord mayor and aldermen of the said city, or the said lord mayor for the time being as conservator of the river Thames or otherwise, did or might lawfully claim, use, or exercise by any act of parliament or otherwise, or to vary or alter any of the provisions or regulations thereby made, directed, or provided, within the said City of London and the liberties thereof, anything herein contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

*nor the act 1 G. 4. c. 7.*

CXVI. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this act contained shall extend to alter or in any manner affect the provisions of an act passed in the first year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the Fourth, intituled *An act for regulating the repairs of bridges in the county of Montgomery*, so far as the same relates to the repairs of so much of the highways as lie next adjoining to any ends of any bridges within the said county of Montgomery, the repairs of which have already been made chargeable upon the rates of the said county under the provisions of the said recited act.

*Powers of commissioners of sewers not abridged.*

CXVII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this act contained shall extend to or be deemed or construed to extend to alter, affect, restrain, or abridge the powers or authorities given to the commissioners of sewers by any act of parliament whatsoever, or to vary or alter any of the provisions or regulations thereby made, directed, or provided, anything herein contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.

*Concerning the forms of proceedings.*

CXVIII. And be it further enacted, That the forms of proceedings relative to the several matters contained in this act, which are set forth and expressed in the schedule hereto annexed, shall be used upon all occasions, with such additions or variations only as may be necessary to adapt them to the particular exigencies of the case ; and that no objection shall be made or advantage taken for want of form in any such proceedings by any person whomsoever.

*Commencement of act.*

CXIX. And be it further enacted, That this act shall commence and take effect from and after the twentieth day of March one thousand eight hundred and thirty-six.

*Act may be altered this session.*

CXX. And be it further enacted, That this act may be altered, amended, or repealed in this present session of parliament.







of the highways, and that the said *A.B.* hath refused to permit the same to be dug, got, taken and carried away; and the said *A.B.* having been duly summoned to appear before us, to show cause why such permission should not be granted, and having appeared before us accordingly, [or having sent his steward or agent, or *C.D.*, on his behalf, to attend us on that occasion, or, but not having appeared,] we have heard what has been alleged, and taken the said matter into consideration, and are of opinion that the said materials are necessary, and ought to be dug, got, taken, and carried away for the purposes aforesaid: therefore we do hereby give our licence to the said surveyor [or surveyors] to dig, get, take, and carry away the same accordingly, the said surveyor making satisfaction for the same, and also for the damage done to such lands, in the manner directed by the said act. Given under our hands the day of one thousand eight hundred and

J. P.  
K. P.

No. 11.

*Licence from justices at a special sessions for the highways to get materials for the repair of the highways in another parish besides that wherein such materials are to be employed.*

To wit, { At a special session for the highways held at in the hundred, &c. of in the said county, by justices of the peace for the said county acting within the said hundred, on the day of

It appearing to us, upon evidence this day received, that sufficient materials cannot conveniently be had within the waste land, common grounds, rivers, or brooks, nor in the inclosed lands or grounds, lying within the [parish, &c.] of in the said hundred, for the repairs of the highways within the said [parish,] nor in the wastelands, common grounds, rivers, or brooks within the [parish] of adjoining to the said [parish] of we do hereby give our licence to the surveyor [or surveyors] of the said [parish] of to search for, dig, get, and carry materials within the inclosed lands or grounds of *C.D.* within the said [parish] of to be employed in the repair of the highways within the said [parish] of it appearing from evidence before us, that there are proper materials within the said lands for the purposes aforesaid lying convenient to the said highways, and that after such materials shall be so taken there will be sufficient left for the use of the highways within the said parish of upon the said surveyor [or surveyors] making satisfaction for the same, and also for the damage done to such lands, in the manner directed by the act made and passed in the fifth and sixth year of the reign of king William the fourth, intituled "and act," &c. [here set out title of act,] subject to such restriction as are therein contained. Given under our hands the day and year above written.

J. P.  
K. P.

No. 12.

*Information to enable justices to fix boundaries of highway lying in two parishes.*

[See Plan.]

County of, { At a special sessions for the highways holden, &c.

*I. S.*, the surveyor [or one of the surveyors] of the parish of *A.*, came before the justices aforesaid, and informed them, that there is in the said county a certain common highway leading from *M.* to *N.*, and

that there is a certain part of the said highway, that is to say, so much thereof as lies between a certain place called *C.*, and a certain other place called *D.*, being in length [as the case may be,] one side of which last-mentioned part of the said highway adjoining to the parish of *A.*, lies within the said parish of *A.*, and is to be and of right ought to be repaired by the said parish of *A.*, [or by, &c., describing the body politic or corporate, or person, liable to the repair,] and that the other side of the same part of the said highway adjoining to the parish of *B.*, lies within the parish of *B.*, and is to be and of right ought to be repaired by the said parish of *B.*, [or by &c.,] and stating that the repair of such part of the said highway is very inconvenient to the parishes aforesaid, and the want thereof detrimental to the public; and therefore praying, that such part of the said highway may be allotted and apportioned for the repair thereof by the justices aforesaid to the said several parishes of *A.*, and *B.*, [or to &c.,] in the manner directed by an act passed in the fifth and sixth year of the reign of King William the fourth, intituled "an act," &c., [set out title of act.]

(Signed) *I. S.*, one of the surveyors of Parish of *A.*

The above application was made to us the day and year first above written.

J. P.  
K. P.

No. 13.

*Summons to be subjoined to a copy of the above information.*

County of } To the surveyor (or surveyors) of the parish of *B.* in the said county, any or either of them.

Whereas a certain information has been given to us, his Majesty's justices of the peace for the said county at a special sessions for the highways, by *I. S.*, the surveyor (or one of the surveyors) of the parish of *A.* in the said county, a true copy whereof is above written: these are, in his Majesty's name, to summon you, any or either of you, to appear before us, at in the said county, on the day of to show cause (if any) why an allotment and apportionment of the highways therein mentioned should not be made according to the provisions of the act referred to in the said information. Hereof fail not. Given under our hands this day of

J. P.  
K. P.

No. 14.

*Final order and adjudication, to be filed with the clerk of the peace.*

Whereas, &c.

1.—State the original application.

2.—The summons.

3.—The appearance, and that the parties were heard, or their nonappearance.

Now we, the justices aforesaid, having fully heard and understood the premises, do declare, adjudge, and order, that the said highway shall be divided in the following manner; (that is to say,) that at the distance of measuring from the place called *C.*, there shall be erected certain posts or stones, *E.* and *F.*, on each side of the said highway, and the whole of the said highway from the place called *C.* to such posts or stones shall be from time to time and at all times hereafter repaired by the parish of *A.* (or by, &c.), and the whole of the said highway from such posts or stones to the place called *D.* shall from time to time and at all times hereafter be repaired by the parish of *B.* (or by, &c.)



In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands this day of

J. P. (L. S.)  
K. P. (L. S.)

No. 15.

*Notice from surveyor to remove nuisances.*

To C. D. of

In pursuance of the directions given by an act passed in the fifth and sixth year of the reign of King William the Fourth, intituled "an act," &c., I, A. B. &c., the surveyor (or one of the surveyors) of the parish of do hereby give you notice forthwith to remove the (filth, dung, ashes, rubbish, &c.) placed by you on a certain part of the king's highway, lying between and in the (parish) of to the obstruction and annoyance of the said highway.

Dated this day of

A. B. &c.

No. 16.

*Order of two justices for widening a highway.*

(to wit) } We, two of his Majesty's justices of the peace for the said county, acting within the (hundred, &c.) of within the said county, having, upon view, found that a certain part of the highway between and in the (parish, &c.) of in the said (hundred), for the length of yards or thereabouts, and particularly described in the plan hereunto annexed, is for the greatest part thereof narrow, but may be conveniently enlarged and widened by adding thereto from the lands and grounds of and of the length of yards or thereabouts, and of the breadth of feet or thereabouts, particularly described in the plan hereunto annexed, which we think will widen and enlarge the same, and be much more commodious to the public, do hereby order, that the said highway be widened and enlarged accordingly, and that the surveyor (or surveyors) of the (parish, &c.) of where the said old highway lies, do forthwith proceed to treat and make agreement with the said and for the recompence to be made for the said ground, and for the making such ditches and fences as shall be necessary, in such manner, with such approbation, and by pursuing such measures and directions in all respects as are warranted and prescribed by the statute made in the fifth and sixth year of the reign of King William the Fourth, intituled "an act," &c.; and in case such agreement shall be made as aforesaid, we do order an equal assessment, not exceeding the rate of in the pound, to be made, levied, and collected upon all and every the parties liable to the payment of the highway rate in the said (parish, &c.) of and that the money arising thereupon be paid and applied in making such recompence and satisfaction as aforesaid, pursuant to the directions of the said act.

A. B.  
C. D.

No. 17.

*Certificate from the said justices to the court of quarter sessions.*

[This is to be written upon the above order when no agreement can be made.]

To the justices of the peace at their general quarter sessions to be held at in the said county, the day of one thousand eight hundred and

We, the within-named A. D. and C. B., do hereby certify to the said court of quarter sessions, that we made and signed the within order, and that with our approbation and by our direction the said surveyor [or surveyors] has [or have] treated with the

said and for the said lands required for the purposes aforesaid, but was not able to make any agreement for that purpose with them or either of them, and that he tendered to the said the sum of and to the said the sum of as a recompence for the said ground, and for the making the said ditches and fences, which he [or they and each of them] refused to receive.

A. B.  
C. D.

No. 18.

*Consent from the owner of the land through which a new highway is proposed to be made.*

I A. B. of in the county of, being the owner of the lands described in the plan hereunto annexed, through which part of a certain highway lying between and is intended to be diverted and turned, in consideration of the sum of to be paid to me for the said land and soil thereof, do hereby consent to the making and continuing such new highway through my said lands.

Given under my hand this day of one thousand eight hundred and

No. 19.

*Form of notice of diverting, &c. highway.*

Notice is hereby given, that on the day of next application will be made to his Majesty's justices of the peace assembled at quarter sessions in and for the county of at for an order for [if the order be for turning, diverting, and stopping up, &c. here to state it, and describe the road ordered to be turned, diverted, and stopped up; if the order be for stopping up a useless road, here to state it, and describe the road ordered to be stopped up]; and that the certificate of two justices having viewed the same, &c., with the plan of the old and proposed new highway, will be lodged with the clerk of the peace for the said county on the day of next.

A. B. } Surveyor [or Surveyors]  
C. D., &c. } of the parish of

No. 20.

*Summons for any person or persons to attend a justice or justices.*

To A. B.

(to wit.) } Whereas complaint and information hath been made upon oath before me C. D. one of his Majesty's justices of the peace for the said [county, &c.] by E. F. of that, &c. [here state the nature and circumstances of the case, as far as it shall be necessary to show the offence and to bring it within the authority of the justice; and, in doing that, follow the words of the act as near as may be]: these are therefore to require you personally to appear before me [or the justices to be assembled at their petty sessions (or special sessions for the highways) to be holden at in the said county, &c.] on the day of next, at the hour of in the noon, to answer to the said complaint and information made by the said E. F., who is likewise directed to be then and there present to make good the same. Herein fail not.

Given under my hand this day of

No. 21.  
*Information.*

(to wit.) } Be it remembered, that on the day of A. B. of in the said county, in formeth and maketh oath before me one of his Majesty's justices of the peace for the said county, that of in the said county,

[here describe the offence, with the time and place, and follow the words of the act as near as may be, contrary to the statute in the fifth and sixth year of the reign of his Majesty King William the Fourth, intituled, "An act," &c. Here set out the title of the act,] which hath imposed a forfeiture for the said offence.

Taken and sworn the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ before me, \_\_\_\_\_ A. B.

## No. 22.

## Form of conviction.

(to wit.) } Be it remembered, that on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year of our Lord \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ in the county aforesaid, A. B. came before us \_\_\_\_\_ of his Majesty's justices of the peace for the said county, and informed us, that E. F. of \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ now last past, at \_\_\_\_\_ in the said county, did [set forth the fact in the manner described by the act], whereupon the said E. F. after being duly summoned to answer the said charge, appeared before us \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the said county, and, having heard the charge alleged against him, declared that he was not guilty of the said offence; but the same being fully proved upon the oath of G. H. a credible witness, it manifestly appears to us the said justices that he the said E. F. is guilty of the offence charged upon him in the said information: it is therefore considered and adjudged by us the said justices, that the said E. F. be convicted, and we do hereby convict him of the offence aforesaid; and we do hereby declare and adjudge that he the said E. F. hath forfeited the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ of lawful money of Great Britain, for the offence aforesaid, to be distributed as the law directs according to the form of the statute in that case made and provided. Given, &c.  
[This to be inserted when the party refuses to appear upon the summons.]

[After the words, "being duly summoned to answer the said charge," insert "did not appear before us pursuant to the said summons," or "did neglect and refuse to make any defence against the said charge;" but the same being fully proved, &c. as before.]

[This is to be inserted when the party accused confesses the charge.]

[After the words, "charge alleged against him," insert "acknowledged and voluntarily confessed the same to be true;" and it manifestly appears to us the said justices, &c. as above.]

## No. 23.

## Warrant to distrain for the forfeiture.

This to be varied according to the act in each particular case.

{ To the constable [Headborough or Tithing-man of \_\_\_\_\_

Whereas A. B. of \_\_\_\_\_ in the said county [Yeoman, &c.] is this day convicted before us, two of his Majesty's justices of the peace in and for the said county, upon the oath of G. H. a credible witness, for that the said A. B. hath [here set forth the offence, describing it particularly in the words of the act, as near as may be], contrary to the statute in that case made and provided; by reason whereof the said A. B. hath forfeited the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ to be distributed as herein is mentioned, which he hath refused to pay: these are therefore in his Majesty's name to command you to levy the said sum of \_\_\_\_\_ by distress of the goods and chattels of him the said A. B.; and if within the space of four days next after such distress by you taken, the said sum of \_\_\_\_\_ together

with the reasonable charges of taking and keeping the same, shall not be paid, that when you do sell the said goods and chattels so by you distrained, and out of the money arising by such sale that you do pay one half of the said sum of \_\_\_\_\_ to E. F. of \_\_\_\_\_ who informed me of the offence, and the other half of the said sum of \_\_\_\_\_ to I. K. the surveyor of the parish [township or place] where the said offence [neglect or default] happened, to be employed towards the repair of the said highways, returning the overplus, upon demand, to him the said A. B., the reasonable charges of taking, keeping, and selling the said distress being first deducted; and if sufficient distress cannot be found of the goods and chattels of the said A. B. whereon to levy the said sum of \_\_\_\_\_ that then you certify the same to us, together with this warrant.

Given under our hands the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ C. D.  
E. F.

## No. 24.

Return of the constable to be made upon the warrant of distress when there are no effects.

I A. B., constable of the [parish, &c.] of \_\_\_\_\_ in the county of \_\_\_\_\_ do hereby certify and make oath, that by virtue of this warrant I have made diligent search for the goods of the within-named \_\_\_\_\_ and that I can find no sufficient goods whereon to levy the within sum of \_\_\_\_\_

As witness my hand the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A. B.

Sworn before me the day and year &c. C. D.

## No. 25.

## Commitment for want of distress.

(to wit) { To the [constable] of \_\_\_\_\_ in the said county, and to the keeper of the common gaol [or house of correction] at \_\_\_\_\_ in the said county.

Whereas A. B. of \_\_\_\_\_ in the said county, Yeoman, was on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ convicted before us, two of his Majesty's justices of the peace in and for the said county, upon the oath of E. F. a credible witness, for that he the said A. B. [here set forth the offence], contrary to the statute made in the fifth and sixth year of the reign of king William the fourth, intituled "an act," &c. [here set out title of act,] by reason whereof the said A. B. hath forfeited the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ : And whereas on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year aforesaid we did issue our warrant to the [constable] of \_\_\_\_\_ to levy the said sum of \_\_\_\_\_ by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of him the said A. B., and to distribute the same according to the directions of the said statute: and whereas it duly appears to us upon the oath of the said [constable] that the said [constable] hath used his best endeavours to levy the said sum on the goods and chattels of the said A. B., as aforesaid, but that no sufficient distress can be had whereon to levy the same: these are therefore to command you the said [constable] of \_\_\_\_\_ aforesaid to apprehend the said A. B., and him safely convey to the common gaol [or house of correction] at \_\_\_\_\_ in the said county, and there deliver him to the keeper thereof, together with this precept: and we do hereby also command you the said keeper to receive and keep in your custody, and to keep to hard labour, the said A. B. for the space of \_\_\_\_\_ unless the said sum shall be sooner paid, pursuant to the said conviction and warrant; and for so doing this shall be your sufficient warrant.

Given under our hands the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year of our Lord \_\_\_\_\_ C. D.  
E. F.



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Form of appointment, page 429

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To repair and keep in repair the several highways liable to be repaired by the parish, 6

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To have the same power of recovering rates as the overseers of the poor, 34

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May obtain materials in any waste land or common ground, 51

By license from the justices, and after notice, may get materials in inclosed lands within the parish, 54

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With the consent of vestry may sell lands, where the materials are exhausted, 48

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To forfeit not exceeding 5*l.*, and double the money due, for refusing to deliver up books, &c., to his successor, 42

Monies due from surveyor to be paid by his executors in case of his death, and recoverable by action, 43

Not to have any interest in any contract for highway works or materials, or dispose of any without license from two justices, under a penalty of 10*l.* and being incapacitated as surveyor, 46

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To forfeit not exceeding 5*l.* for laying heaps of stone on highway, and allowing them to remain without precaution, 56

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**TREASURER.**—Board of directors may appoint treasurer and take security from him, 18

All monies paid to the treasurer to be drawn by drafts or checks of the board entered by the clerk, 18

**TREES.**—No tree, bush, or shrub to be planted on any carriageway, or within fifteen feet from its centre, under a penalty of 10*s.*, 61

If the surveyor shall think any highway prejudiced by trees, any justice may summon the owner to the special sessions, 65

If at the special sessions the obstruc-

tion is ordered to be removed, and the owner shall not comply with the order, he shall forfeit not exceeding 40*s.*, 65

And the surveyor may remove the obstruction at the owner's expense, to be levied by distress, 65

No person compelled to cut hedges except between last days of September and March, 66

Nor fell timber trees in hedges, except when the highways are ordered to be widened and enlarged, 66

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Nor other trees, except in December, January, February, and March, 66

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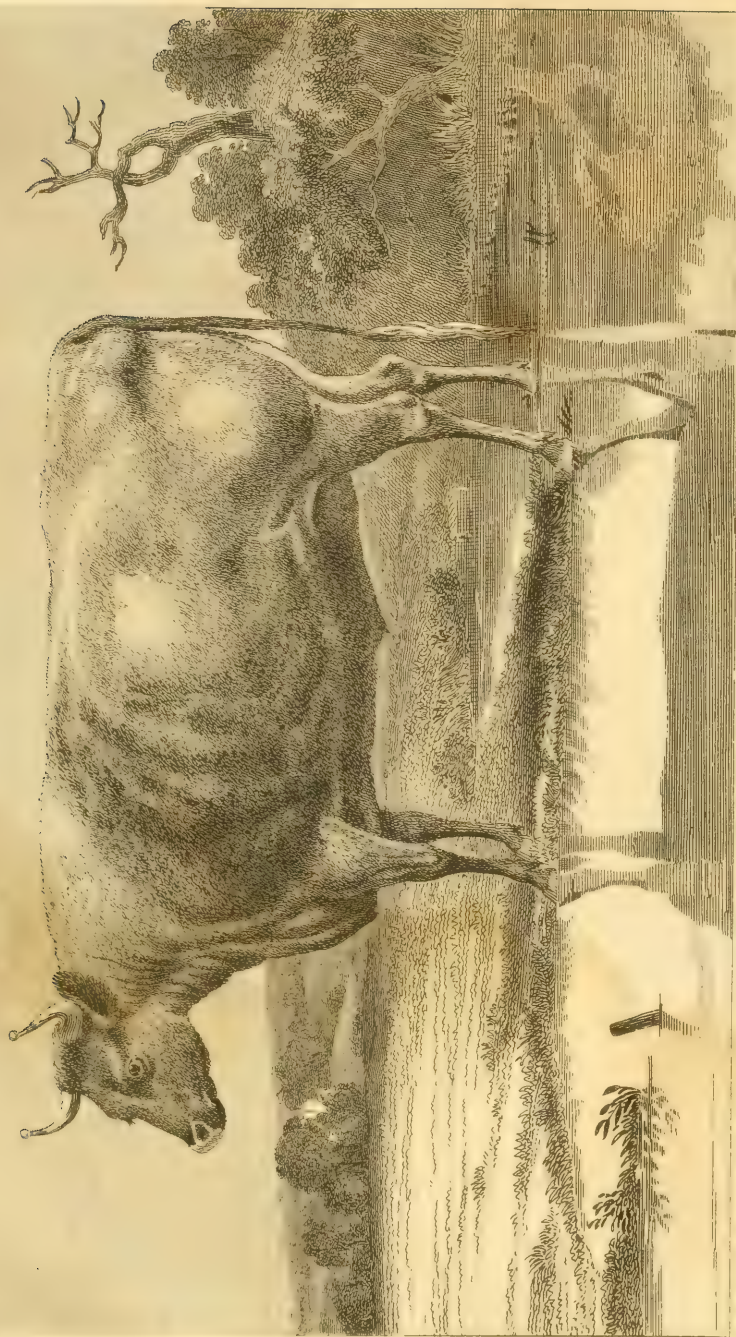
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NORTH DEVON HEIFER.

The Report of Mr. James Durrant, written and published by the Agricultural Society, 1835.

# THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

DECEMBER, 1835.

No. 6.]

[Vol. III,

## THE PLATE.

CURIOSITY, a Devon Heifer, bred by Mr. JAMES QUARTLY, got by Commander, d., (Duchess), by Mr. FRANCIS QUARTLY'S Protector, out of Graceful.

This beautiful animal is considered to be one of the most perfect specimens of the Devon breed, with regard to symmetry, smallness of bone, and other essential qualities. CURIOSITY is rising four years old, was fed eight months upon grass, and obtained the prize given by the DEVONSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, for the BEST FAT HEIFER.

## ORIGINAL LETTERS.

No. XII.

### ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE NEW POOR LAW.

"Our whole connexion with the poor, should tend to awaken in them consciousness of their moral powers and responsibility, and to raise them in spirit and hope above their lot. They should be aided to know themselves, by the estimate we form of them. They should be rescued from self-contempt, by seeing others impressed with the great purpose of their being! *We may call the poor unfortunate, but never call them low. If faithful to their light, they stand among the high.* They have no superiors, but in those who follow a brighter, a purer light; and to withhold from them respect, is to defraud their virtue of a support, which is among the most sacred rights of man. Are they morally fallen or lost. They would still learn, in our unaffected concern, the worth of the fallen soul, and learn that nothing seems to us so fearful as its degradation".—*Taken from a lecture delivered by Dr. Channing, at Boston, U. S., on the 9th of April, 1835.*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

Sir,—The lecture from which the above extract is taken, was delivered by Dr. Channing before the benevolent Fraternity of Churches; in Boston, and in language of the most refined taste it advocates the cause of the 'poor,' on principles of strict Christianity, and of the soundest philanthropy. It is a production worthy the perusal and best attention not only of every American, but of every educated person throughout the globe. It is an appeal which will be responded to by every wise head and feeling heart on either side the Atlantic, and it is to be fervently hoped, that the high moral duties therein inculcated, may receive the especial attention of the poor law commissioners of England and Wales, and that through them the reflection of the virtue of humanity may extend to their assistant commissioners, and by *their* precept and example to the several boards of guardians throughout the kingdom. I will now proceed to make a few ob-

servations on the first annual report of the poor law commissioners, which is dated the 8th of August 1835, and addressed to Lord John Russell as Secretary of State for the Home Department. The report commences by setting forth the difficulties which occurred to the commissioners from the misapprehension of magistrates and parish officers, in various parts of the country, as to the responsibility they were either relieved from, or placed under, by the new law, and the commissioners then state the precautionary measures taken by them to supersede this difficulty and to explain the real application of the act. The commissioners in this emergency appear to have acted alike with all possible industry and discretion, and these efforts on their part were attended with complete success; for no sooner were the different parish officers apprised of the fact, that they were bound to continue their offices entirely subject to the Central Board, (whose deputy the assistant commissioner, was shortly to be amongst them) than an immediate and magic-like improvement was observable in the distribution of all parish funds. A circumstance that at once speaks to the truth of the existence of the abuses which had entwined themselves into the old system. But it was also discovered that where these voluntary changes were made by the parish officers, the *considerable* saving was effected by adopting the most rigid economy towards infirm and old persons, from whom resistance, of a violent nature, was less likely to occur, than from the young; the strong, and the idle. This fact at once, I think, exemplified the necessity for the appointment of authorities for administering the poor laws, not in any degree locally connected; and this object was effected in the persons of the assistant commissioners. The report then states that one of the first instructions issued from the Board, to parish officers, as a preparative to the final adoption of the system, which it was the view of the legislature to carry into complete operation, was the gradual substitution of re-



lief in kind, that is—bread and other necessities—instead of relief in money; and this is stated to have been found a self-acting test of the validity of the claim for relief. I do not think the influence of this step was of so decided a nature as the report seems inclined to attribute to it, and which assuredly it would lay claim to, provided it could be shewn that it had the effect of a greater share of the pauper's allowance reaching his family, and then, which would of course follow, a less part reaching the beer-shops. But be the effect what it may, I think it is a very fair distinction to make between the payment of the allowance to paupers, and the payment of the wages of the employed labourer, because it is obviously necessary by every fair means to impress the fact that *they are paupers* on the minds of nine-tenths of the receivers of the poor-rate. From the payment of relief in kind the report proceeds to the mention of the work-house system, which it advocates on strong and able grounds, and places not only the *policy* but the necessity also of adopting this means of relief, as a principle beyond all reasonable doubt and question. The conduct of the assistant commissioners in respect to the formation of unions appears to have been guided with considerable caution and sagacity. That they have caused in some few instances dissatisfaction and complaint by their proceedings, is not a matter of surprise, when the extent of their undertaking is remembered, together with the conflicting interests and opinions they had to contend with, and in some cases the strong prejudices they had to combat, violently opposed to the uniting of parishes. There can I think, be no doubt but that the extending the area of management does wonderfully facilitate in all its stages, the object of providing for the poor of any section of country, far beyond any advantages which will arise either to the payers or receivers of poor-rate, in having the fund raised for every separate parish, separately distributed. In the words of the report—"where the districts are small, the dispensers of relief are more closely within the sphere of their own connections. Proprietors are more frequently called upon to decide upon applications from their smaller tenants or dependents. Occupiers who serve parochial offices are exposed to solicitations from their own labourers; and all retail shopkeepers have too frequently to decide upon claims to relief preferred or supported by their own customers."

In reference to the arrangements they have made for the discontinuing of all out-door relief, the commissioners state they intend "making the most speedy advance to a sound system that the circumstances of each district will allow." Now it certainly is the general impression that it is the intention of the commissioners *immediately* to stop all out-door relief, and consequently the allowance of flour usually made for *years past* to poor persons with large families will be stopped. How far it will appear to the commissioners that the "circumstances of each district will allow of this proceeding" remains to be shewn; but it certainly seems to me *impossible, suddenly*, to discontinue this practice without causing great and general distress. Nothing I am aware can be more reprehensible than the custom of allowing pay for children,

except where the statistical circumstances of a county will admit of a premium on increase of population; but at the same time this evil practice having been adopted and continued for many years, it is only bare *justice* that it should be *gradually* broken off. In fact, many of the arguments which were used in the House of Commons with *truth and effect*, in opposition to Mr. Daniel Whittle Harvey's motion for an inquiry into the pension list, might, with equal justice be applied to the long standing custom of allowing pay to large families. When Mr. Harvey brought his motion before the house, Mr. Frankland Lewis, the senior poor-law commissioner, was then in parliament, and although I have not at this moment the means of ascertaining the fact, I have no doubt he gave his vote in opposition to this measure, and consequently, it is fair to infer, from the high situation which this gentleman's character has now raised him to, that he is not a man capable of dealing out *law combined with equity to the state pensioners, and law devoid of justice to the parish pauper*. Let us hope that so much want of consistency and principle cannot exist in such a quarter, and that in respect to the allowance system to large families, we shall find Mr. Frankland Lewis disposed to extend the same consideration to the circumstances of the paupers, that we have found him disposed to extend to the circumstances of the pensioners.

The report states the considerations which mainly influenced the central board in the selection of their assistant commissioners, to have been the possession of sound practical knowledge, and experience of the subject matter of this commission, or the possession of acknowledged talent and general aptitude for the despatch of public business, &c.; and the report continues,—“Our assistant commissioner first visited West Sussex, upon the application of the local authorities, in consequence of a commotion which had arisen apparently on the approach of the change of system in the administration of relief, but really in consequence of the reduction of the ordinary wages of labour.” Now this is not exactly the fact. The reduction of wages at the period alluded to, occasioned by the reduced price of wheat, had undoubtedly some effect in causing the disturbances which occurred at that time, in this county; but it was the apprehension of evil to arise from the change of the poor laws, which was the chief cause of the discontent. The possession of the qualifications, which the report states “mainly influenced” the commissioners in the appointment of their assistants, was most assuredly wanting by the individual who was charged with the superintendence of this district. Unlike the principle, in the fable of the “Old man and his Ass,” who endeavoured to please everybody—the Western Sussex assistant commissioner, did not endeavour to please anybody, and yet exactly like the hero of the fable, in the result—for he pleased nobody. His task, I admit, was peculiarly a difficult one, but in the hands of a man of sound discretion, and possessing a mind capable of falling back upon itself in case of emergency or difficulty, instead of acting from rule,—which circumstances will constantly defeat—the real object of the amendment bill would have been for-

warded to a stage, considerably beyond its present progress.

In alluding to the formation of the unions, the words of the report areas follows :—"It is satisfactory to us, to be enabled to state, that in scarcely any instance have the measures thus submitted for a change of system in any district, failed of obtaining the concurrence of a large majority of the meeting. In the greater proportion of cases, the measures proposed have met with almost unanimous approbation." Now for all I know, the foregoing extract from the report, may be strictly the fact; but it is somewhat extraordinary as the measures of the commissioners were accepted in "*almost every instance*," that *two* exceptions from this rule, should occur in the immediate neighbourhood of which I reside. The union at Preston and the union at Sutton—both having been incorporated for many years past under Gilbert's act—*entirely rejected* the interference of the commissioner, and stoutly refused to dissolve according to his recommendation, in order that they might be re-united, and so become more immediately within the jurisdiction of the central board. As I have before observed, it is a little extraordinary, as there were "*scarcely any instances*" throughout the kingdom, in which the proposals of the assistant commissioners were *not unanimously adopted*, that in so confined a district of country as I have mentioned, these proposals for a change of system, in two instances, should have been unanimously rejected. Still the report of the commissioners may be strictly true. One swallow does not make a summer—and if the assistant commissioners only experienced in their several operations throughout the kingdom, the two cases of opposition which I have mentioned, they in perfect truth, might assert that they had met with "*scarcely any instance*" of opposition. But if I might venture to view the capabilities possessed by the Western Sussex assistant commissioner for the situation he filled as a fair sample of the qualifications for their situations of the fifteen individuals who are appointed as assistant commissioners, and if I might also be allowed to view the success of this one commissioner (at the several meetings of magistrates and guardians, which he had convened for the purpose of forwarding the object of the amendment bill,) as a fair sample of the aggregate success of the whole fifteen—the conclusion I should arrive at would be directly at variance with two material parts of the report, viz., the possession of the qualifications therein enumerated, and which it is stated the central board had secured in the persons of their assistants; and the assertion that these assistant commissioners had met with "*scarcely any instance*" of opposition. The truth is, it was the detestable table of St. Georges, Hanover square, the indiscriminate parting of man and wife, and the expedient of joining several parishes together, to get to any medical man whose tender for the job happened to be the lowest, which had the effect of raising the fears of this neighbourhood, that the remedy for the evil which the commissioners intended to apply, was alike violent and injurious, and this calling forth an independent and successful opposition to submitting to their yoke.

All the objections set forth in the report to the continuing of the unions which have been formed under Gilbert's act, may, and I think do, apply strictly to the question; but these objections in my mind, are certainly of less importance than the objections to the new system which I have enumerated above, and in this feeling I certainly do not stand alone, as the result of the attempt of the commission to dissolve the two unions I have mentioned, for the purpose of re-unionising them more immediately under the jurisdiction of the central board, fully exemplifies. The observations which are submitted to Lord John Russell, by the commissioners in their report, in defence of their separating able-bodied married couples in the workhouses, apply exactly to, and thoroughly justify this course in the case of the willing, and if I may use the term, *professional paupers*, but in every other instance, in my mind, these observations are completely inadmissible as a justification of such a proceeding, but the grounds which are stated in the report, why the application of the rule should be extended to the old and infirm, are alike ridiculous and unfeeling. The commissioners to support their views in this instance favoured his lordship with the evidence of Benjamin Quarterman Simons, master of the workhouse of Aylesbury, and who by stating to the commissioners that two old married couples had requested for their mutual comfort to be separated, had satisfied the commissioners that there was no hardship in an objection to follow this course—no violation of the laws of nature, and no disregard to the respect, and kind, and considerate feeling due to gray hairs in poverty and misfortune.

I recollect when I was at school, that a boy who was proverbially careless in his studies, had to present to the master his first attempt at Latin versification, which he had performed in a sort of new writing book expressly supplied to him for that purpose. There was a dead silence in the school, an event was expected—and it soon arrived in the shape of the reverend gentleman throwing the book at the boy's head, so immeasurably unmeasurable was the performance, as the result has shown, of the embryo scholar. Now I am not aware what form it was requisite for the commissioners to go through in presenting their report to Lord John Russell, but if all form was dispensed with, and one of the commissioners merely marched up to Lord John Russell with the report, as the hapless boy did to the pedagogue with his verses, and if Lord John Russell's eye had by chance fallen on the evidence of Mr. Benjamin Quarterman Simons, and he had not immediately thrown the document at the head of the commissioner, I would at all events have given him the credit of possessing far more philosophy and self-restraint than the schoolmaster I have mentioned had at his command. Before the poor law commissioners draw up their next annual report I hope some chance may draw their attention to Bloomfield's simple story of "Richard and Kate," and which will I trust operate on their minds as a sort of counteraction to the famous evidence of the master of Aylesbury workhouse, respecting those notable personages, old Evitt and his wife and old Hearn and his wife, who it seems



wished to live separately, and who because they happened to possess unnatural feelings, are made subjects of the poor law commissioners especial attention, and introduced as becoming objects to influence the commissioners in deciding on a principle which will affect thousands.

I must now take my leave of the *report for the present* on which I wish to make some further observations on a future occasion, but which I shall be prevented from doing in my next paper, as I then hope to give you an account of the cattle shows at Arundel and Chichester.

In my last letter, your printer has made several errors. Promised Lord, for *promised land*, in the first paragraph; for "in partially applying," read *practically applying*; for "reputation of a man and his wife," read *separation of a man and his wife*. There are several other trifling mistakes.

I am sir, your obedient, and very humble servant,

AGRICULTUR.

Sussex, 17th Nov., 1835.

### No. XIII.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

It is the very error of the Moon;  
She comes more near the Earth than she was wont;  
And makes man mad. OTHELLO.

SIR,—In this age of wonders we daily find some conjuror discovering something so out of all character, that it is well we can give a reason for men spinning cobwebs out of their brains in the manner they do. It is the Comet! nothing but the Comet! and we may suppose Mr. Robinson, M. P., must be particularly under the Cometary influence when he gets up and tells the world it is "absurd to say there is general distress amongst the agriculturists."—A fact admitted on all hands, and acknowledged in the speeches from the throne, without contradiction. Upon what ground does he deny this distress? Why he has travelled from Worcester to Leicester, and saw no distress, and some one has told that further North things were better. Now this worthy gent. travels in his carriage probably with both windows up to prevent his having the tooth-ache, or a sore throat, and in travelling in this way some hundred miles, at the rate of ten miles an hour, do not you think he has had sufficient opportunity to form a correct judgment of the state of the farmer? Perhaps as he was thus taking care of his valuable carcass and conning over in his mind how he is to astonish the house he espies a character well known in the Southern counties under the denomination of a Scotch drover. Sawney is enjoying his crowdy by the road side, and the M. P. thinking this a fine opportunity to learn something which may be of use in his forthcoming speech, orders his drivers to pull up. Note Book in hand, he commands his inquiries, and Sawney tells him of wonders sufficient to enable the hon. gent. to contradict all the statements of the farmer's distress, and prove to the world though he, if selling his produce on an

average thirty per cent. less than it costs him, still his situation has little to complain of.

Now really, Mr. Editor, can this sapient M. P. be in earnest, or can he be in jest? Does he ever read such a thing as the advertisements of the country newspapers, because the weekly announcements there of the sales of farming implements and stock must be sufficient to convince any one whose head is not as thick as a plough beam, that from his speech the other day at the Worcestershire Agricultural Meeting he had been most egregiously imposed upon by some body. However, as he seems convinced of the authenticity of his information, he will probably be kind enough at some early period to tell your readers in what part of England it is to be found that happy spot, which can afford to grow wheat at 37s per quarter, mutton at 4d per pound, and beef at 5s per stone? Even rent-free, when he can prove these is such a place in England—the world will give him credit for having used a microscope to discover it.

But, Sir, he tells us the farmers must give up many of their enjoyments to meet the times. This is just was gents. of his creed want to be at. They want the farmer to be pauperized, that gent. manufacturers, and traders may ride over them with impunity. They want the farmer to be reduced to a pair of clogs, a smock frock, and a gill of small beer; whilst the man who has had the good fortune to be apprenticed to a ribband weaver, or a pin maker, cannot be expected to drink anything inferior to claret, or wear a coat cut by a less fashionable maker than Stulz. They want to engross all the law making business to themselves; as if their shop-boards had inspired them with all the wisdom in the nation. It seems curious enough that, because a man employs his skill and capital in the cultivation of the soil, whatever his education may have been, whatever his capital, and almost, whatever his family, he should be considered of a different genus, reduced to a clod-hopper, a mere bacon *chawer* and brought to a level with the beasts he grazes; and every fellow who retails an ounce of snuff can claim precedency of him and pretend to laugh at his awkward attempts to keep time in the new Contra Dance called the March of Intellect.

But, Sir, there is one thing in the farmer's power will put all these fellows right: let every farmer immediately reduce his expences to the smallest possible amount, as regards purchasing goods or tradesmen, let him live within himself, and let him curtail the ribband and silk purchases of his establishment; very soon Mr. Richardson's clique will find new ideas, see with a different vision, &c. knowledge our distress and find us a remedy. Touch the tradesmen's return and reduce their profits, you will soon hear of something to be done for us. The minister of the day will readily make an advance of Exchequer bills to the tradesmen to prevent his prices being depreciated, and the farmer may ask to have a small slice of this favour; a boon which if it had been granted two years ago would have prevented many a manly bread from being torn by distresses; many a helpless widow and orphan from being turned into the world and to die in a ditch.

Yes! says the free trade advocate, but you know they were only farmers. I am,

Yours, respectfully,

A YORK'S FARMER, OCCUPYING 500 ACRES.

N. B.—What really amuses me in this matter is, that these tradesmen expect we clodhoppers to breed horses for *them*, but not to ride ourselves; to grow white wheat for them, whilst we eat rye bread; to send them our poultry, eggs, in short the whole of our produce at almost half the price it costs us and think ourselves highly honoured by their condescending to eat it!

No. XIV.

#### TO THE EDITOR OF THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

SIR,—Walking over my farm the other day, I observed that part of my spring seeds which was sown with barley, to be looking much better than that sown with other grain, and as each was from the same sample, and manured alike, I cannot satisfactorily account for the different appearance. The same fact, I believe, occurs in most counties, and I shall be much obliged, if, through the medium of your Magazine, any of your correspondents will favour me with their opinion as to the probable cause of the difference.—I remain, Mr. Editor, your obedient servant, J. B. C.

#### ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Some time since, we suggested the propriety of establishing a Central Agricultural Association in the metropolis, for the purpose of communicating with all the local associations throughout the kingdom, in order to concentrate the strength of the agricultural body, and render efficient that force which, for want of organization and union, was utterly inefficient. The necessity of such a course having attracted the attention of several gentlemen, many of whom are members of Parliament, and all deeply interested in the cause of agriculture, a provisional committee has been formed for the purpose of establishing a Head Society in the metropolis, to be styled "THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY." The primary object, as stated, will be to form a centre of communication for the societies established throughout the United Kingdom, whereby the interests of the farmer may be protected, and, when necessary, brought under the notice of government with more effect than can be accomplished by partial or local exertion, and, as specified in the language of one of the resolutions of the *provisional committee*, "to promote the introduction and enactment of such measures as may be deemed beneficial to that great interest, *so far as may be consistent with the prosperity of the other branches of industry.*" The vast advantages which Scotland has derived from the "Highland Agricultural Society," leave no doubt that great practical improvement may be effected in the science of agriculture, by the exertions of a society similarly constituted. The main object of a Central Society

being to secure the aid of the local associations, communication has been had with many of them, but the "East Suffolk" is the first at which the propriety of co-operating with a Central Society has been openly discussed, and at which a deputation from the *provisional committee* attended. Resolutions approving highly of the proposed plan were carried unanimously, and several gentlemen, members of the "East Suffolk Society," were appointed to co-operate with the Central Society. It is fully expected that most other societies will follow the example of the "East Suffolk," and that (thanks to the low price of produce) the yeomanry of England will at last "arouse themselves." It cannot be for an instant doubted, that a body thus organised, having no *political object* in view, and acting on the principle of protecting its own interests, "*so far as it may be consistent with the prosperity of the other branches of industry,*" may be productive of eminent national advantage. Its success, however, will depend upon the discretion of those individuals who constitute the local associations, but most of all upon the temper and judgment of the Central Society. We have had a remarkable instance in the last session of Parliament, of how much may be effected by mutual concession and community of purpose. The difference of opinion which exists among agriculturists on the Malt Tax and the Currency, is not greater than that which subsists, and still subsists, between the Whigs and Radicals upon many important political points. They consented to merge their differences for one common object, and they succeeded,—so will the agriculturists if they *strictly* follow the example. We regret, however to be compelled to observe, that the commencement made at the East Suffolk meeting was by no means auspicious, and we notice it as a warning to those who may take part in the proceedings of other societies. There are modes of relief upon the propriety of which all parties are agreed, and which, although not sufficient to place the agriculturist in his proper station, will afford him some benefit. These are attainable,—they should be made the primary object, to the exclusion of all others upon which parties are divided, or the failure of which may be clearly predicted from recent experience. The mooted of such questions at agricultural meetings creates a division, and thereby displays a weakness which cannot fail to delight the enemies of the agricultural interest. But above all, the use of intemperate language towards, or abuse of other *interests*, whether commercial, manufacturing, or monied, is not only in direct opposition to the principle of protecting their own interest, "*so far as it may be consistent with the prosperity of the other branches of industry,*" but must of necessity induce those interests to unite against them in self-defence. The introduction of the Currency question at the "East Suffolk" meeting was injurious to



the object of the meeting, and most injudicious in those who anticipate benefit from bringing it forward. If we are credibly informed, when the subject was introduced a majority of the individuals comprising the meeting retired, leaving about thirty persons only in the room. It really does seem to us that if the advocates of an alteration in the Currency had desired to bring the subject into disrepute, they could not have hit upon a better plan. It is not the discussion of the question which we object to, but the *time and place*. A meeting of deputations from various Agricultural Associations, was held at Aylesbury, on Thursday, November 12. The Marquis of Chandos presided, and after having stated the object of the meeting, impressed with great earnestness upon the minds of his hearers the absolute necessity of avoiding the introduction of all collateral questions, and adhering rigidly to the single subject of agricultural distress. His words were, "Depend upon it you will fail in your object if you mix other questions with that of agricultural distress." The Noble Marquis demonstrated most clearly the certainty of success which must result from pursuing a course which would insure UNION, and the irretrievable ruin to the cause which must follow a *division* of strength. "In this county," said his Lordship, "our society is united—we have felt the good effects of it. But if the agricultural societies are divided amongst themselves—if they think differently as to the modes of obtaining relief, we shall most decidedly fail. *If we once become disunited we lose our strength never to gain it again.*" (*Hear, hear.*) This is the deliberate opinion of one who from his devotion to the cause of agriculture is very generally, nay, almost universally styled "*the farmer's friend.*" Will not the farmers then, and more especially those gentlemen who have been delegated from the several agricultural societies, rely upon his judgment, and for a while at least commit themselves to his guidance? We expressed our regret at the introduction of the currency question at the East Suffolk meeting, and we cannot but express our astonishment that, in despite of the advice of the Marquis of Chandos, supported by Sir W. Young and several other gentlemen, the currency question should have been introduced at the Aylesbury meeting, and that too by a gentleman whose extensive knowledge and habits of business must have taught him, that in the ordinary pursuits of life the success of an undertaking is often blasted by the want of judgment of its projectors, even when ample means of carrying it into effect are possessed. Inquiry into the *means* of obtaining relief for the agriculturists forms no part of the duty of a meeting called "to consider the propriety of co-operating with a Central Society." That will be the proper subject of discussion for the delegates of the local associations, when formed into a Central Society in London, and should be left to

their discretion. If the opinion once prevails that the agricultural body is about to establish a system of co-operation and union for the purpose of advancing its interest by tampering with the interests of other classes, there will be an outcry raised from one end of the kingdom to the other, which will prove fatal to any attempt at legislative interference. The course proposed at Aylesbury is certainly most prudent and rational, namely, to obtain as early as possible in the next session of Parliament a committee to inquire into the causes of agricultural distress. There is little doubt but that such a motion will be carried, and if upon a patient investigation of the subject the evidence shall lead to the conclusion that the alteration of the currency is either one of, or the sole cause of, the existing distress, the committee will report accordingly. For the present, however, we have the authority of the *Standard*, a newspaper especially noticed at the East Suffolk meeting, as an able advocate on the currency question, for saying, that "the best service that can be rendered to the agricultural interest is to fasten upon their minds the conviction that they have no hope from an enlargement of the currency, because such an enlargement is a *moral impossibility.*" It is not by any Utopian plan, not by any schemes which may shake the national credit, or convulse the highly artificial state of our monied, manufacturing, or commercial relations, that relief to the agriculturists can be obtained, but by the adoption of such measures as, by their propriety and justice, will bring conviction home to the minds of men of ordinary understandings and business-like habits. Upon the whole the meeting at Aylesbury was satisfactory, and we rejoice to find that the most zealous advocates for the establishment of a Central Society are resolved as far as possible to assimilate it to the Highland Society of Scotland. We subjoin the prospectus put forth by the *Provisional Committee* of the Central Society, for the consideration of our readers, and shall, in our next publication offer some further observations upon the plan.

It is proposed, under the auspices of the King, his Government, the Nobility, and the Landed Interest, to form in the Metropolis, the great seat of activity and knowledge, a Head Society, to be under the direction of a BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, for the following objects:—

1st. To watch over, superintend, and protect the general interests of the Local Agricultural Societies throughout Great Britain and Ireland; and to enable them, when necessary, to press these interests on the notice of the Government, or the Legislature, with greater effect than it is possible to accomplish by partial or isolated remonstrance.

2nd. By means of central and district Boards of Correspondence to call forth, combine, and direct the exertions of the Agriculturists, as a body, whenever their interests are assailed, or whenever any measure may be brought forward by the Government or the Legislature, which may be thought to be injurious to the prosperity of Agriculture; and, on

the other hand to promote the introduction and enactment of such measures as may be deemed beneficial to that great interest, so far as may be consistent with the prosperity of the other Branches of National Industry.

3rd. To procure a Public Building, to be called "*The Royal Institution of Agriculture*," to contain a Library, Museum, Lecture Hall, and other Apartments, where periodical Meetings of the Society may be held, to hear read the Reports from the various Committees of the Society, and from the Local Corresponding Societies; also Lectures, Essays, and Papers, upon subjects connected with the theory and practice of Agriculture, and rural economy in general.

4th. To patronize, arrange, and superintend a Grand Annual Meeting of the Society, in some County of England, for purposes similar to those which take place yearly in Scotland under the direction of the Highland Society, and in Ireland under the Agricultural Society of Ireland.

5th. To examine the progress of Mechanical Locomotion in its various bearings upon Agriculture, Trade, and Commerce.

6th. To form a centre of communication for the Societies established throughout the United Kingdom, that have for their object social improvement, and to correspond with Foreign Societies. Further, the Institution would serve as a focus of resort and intercourse for all members of Local Agricultural Societies, visiting the metropolis, or resident in it.

7th. To give Premiums and Medals for such objects as fall within the scope of the Society; for improved Implements or Machines for Agriculture; also for inventions generally of national utility; for Essays, Papers, &c., upon subjects of national importance.

8th. To promote the establishment of Agricultural and Veterinary Professorships, Experimental Farms, and Schools throughout the Country, for the instruction of Farmers' sons in the Sciences applicable to Agriculture, &c.

9th. To take in all the Periodical and Scientific Publications upon subjects that fall within the scope of the Society's object.

## ON AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS.

MR. EDITOR,—Having been led to forward you some observations on the State policy during a remote period, as being contrary to modern practice, I proceed to shew the effect of supply and demand on prices, in hopes of removing an erroneous opinion as to the effect of the change of the currency, and to shew that unless we have ample protection from foreign competition this country can never be prosperous. That alone, I admit, is not sufficient; but as a national question it is the most important.

per qr.  
During 8 years from 1747 Wheat averaged 64s 11d  
During 8 years from 1747 but..... 32s 10d

The cause of the *high price* of Wheat in the 16th century is stated to be from the produce being but threefold; viz., they sowed 4 bushels, and reaped but 12 on an average, from inferior tillage, from the crops being frequently infested with smut, and other blights; viz., the supply did not equal the demand.

The cause of the *low price* in the 17th century is related by Thomas Simpson, Esq., of Cleveland. He says, that the distemper carried off one half of the horned cattle over the kingdom in 1715, and that the pastures were broken up, and that the

increased breadth and ample produce of the new lands caused the supply to exceed the demand, and reduced the price. It was two years before it was suitable to the growth of Wheat.

But that in 1747, 266,906 qrs Wheat were exported.  
1748, 543,387 ditto.  
1749, 629,047 ditto.  
1750, 947,600 ditto.

And that during the four following years export decreased in nearly the same ratio as it had increased during the previous four years, from the less and less produce of the lands from being worn out by successive cropping, as was the practice at that period: but during the 8 years 4,133,456 qrs were exported. *Here export ceased, and import soon began*, and we have imported ever since.

In 1795 Wheat rose to 74s 2d per qr, and in 1796 to 77s 1d per qr, and unlimited import in foreign vessels was permitted, and 2,826,947l had been paid in bounties, in 7 years; and the value of Foreign Corn imported from 1792 to 1803 was 58,634,435l, the whole of which was paid for in gold.

From the facts here recorded, we find that war in itself does not raise prices, as the price of corn was lowest during the American war.

From 1795, during the French war, there was more difficulty and greater expense in importing corn; and thus it ruled high till 1802. The London average price of

|               |      |     |      |      |         |
|---------------|------|-----|------|------|---------|
| Wheat in..... | 1800 | was | 123s | 11d  | per qr. |
|               | 1801 |     | 116s | 8d.  |         |
|               | 1802 |     | 69s  | 11d. |         |
|               | 1803 |     | 59s  | 11d. |         |
|               | 1804 |     | 67s  | 2d.  |         |

The variation in price during this short period shews more clearly the effect of supply and demand, and of a continental war, than any heretofore. There was no "tampering with the currency" then. The paper currency was in full operation, and credit upon credit interminable during 1803 and 1804, yet the price fell to nearly one-half the former amount, and had the peace continued, would have fallen as low as in 1822, and as at the present moment.

"In 1802 grain and flour to the amount of 10,149,098l was imported into this country, and in 15 years, ending with 1813, the sum of 46,582,776l was paid to foreigners for grain and flour."—*Vide Ipswich Journal*, Sept 10th, 1817.

The effect of the short peace and import is as follows:—

In July 1801 the price of wheat was 143s per qr. and receded to 66s in November. In July 1804 but 55s per qr, and in November, 102s per qr. This shews the *instant effect of peace and war*, when it interferes with import; and it must be so whilst we continue habitually dependant on foreign supply.

From 1804, prices ruled high from the difficulty of import, and the cost of insurance, freight &c., and highest during the operation of Buonaparte's Berlin decrees, prohibiting all nations under his controul from having any intercourse with us.

The London average for 1812 was 131s 6d per qr, and for 1813, 111s 9d per qr. In July, 1813, the average was 124s per qr; in August, 108s per qr, but receded to 75s in October.—(See Major Moor's Monthly and Yearly Averages.)

Here we see the effect of *even the prospect of peace and the continent being opened to us*; and the still greater effect of its reality. The average in



1814 was 52s, and in 1815, 52s 6d. (I believe however, this was the general average.) There was no lack of paper money or credit at this period, and the farmers could hold their corn from having capital unemployed, and the merchants and millers could speculate to any amount; hence it is evident that Mr. Pitt's Suspension Act did not cause the high price of produce.

The ruinous effect of unlimited import induced the Parliament, in 1814, to consider of the best means of meeting the emergency of the case, and Sir Henry Parnell proposed 105s as the import price; this was opposed, and the Bill was delayed chiefly through the neglect or opposition of Mr. Rose, and it stood over till 1815, when an inefficient Bill was passed, but during the delay a great import had taken place; and the more, no doubt, from the subject being discussed in 1814, as, if the ports were closed, it would insure a profit on free foreign corn. A short Bill should have been passed to prevent import, to give time to consider so important a subject.

Thus far, the mere relating of facts is sufficient to shew that import was the sole cause of the depreciation of prices below the natural standard of value, or remunerating price. That price which would continue to stimulate to produce till our own growth was equal to the consumption, and create a demand for labour, and goods, and wares, and increase the consumption of colonial produce, and thus increase the revenue.

The crooked policy which has been pursued of late is a more difficult matter to treat of; whether I shall venture to proceed, I cannot say; but thus far, "I hope I don't intrude,"

And remain your humble Servant.

CHAS. POPPY.

### ON AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS.

Mr. Editor,—I find it is considered that my last letter ended where I need only to have begun. On the contrary, I think that by shewing by facts and figures, that Mr. Pitt's Bill did not uphold prices one hour after the war ended in 1801, nor at the end of the war in 1813, it must be evident that it was not the paper currency which caused the high price during any period of the war, and that we may infer that Mr. Peel's Bill of 1819, was not the cause of the fall in prices; but I find more proof is required.

I am told, that I am "rather hardy," in maintaining my opinion in opposition to Cobbett, Attwood, Lord Western, and ninety-nine out of a hundred other persons!

I am not aware, that when the Corn Bill of 1815 was under consideration, that even one Member of either House of Parliament supposed that the currency had any effect on prices; or why pass the Bill? It would have been a dead letter—it would have had no effect if the currency ruled prices.

In 1822, when a new Corn Bill was passed, the currency was not supposed to have caused the fall in prices; or why alter the Bill? Or why not adopt a free trade system?

Petitions, containing 100,000 signatures, praying for protection from foreign competition were presented during the session of 1822, and it never entered the heads of the petitioners that Peel's Bill of 1819 had caused the fall in prices of produce. Counter-petitions from the manufacturing districts and towns poured in against protection, from which we may infer that the currency was not thought of as being the means of reducing the price.

Thus, I am not "*singular in my opinion*;" but, on the contrary, every class, and everybody, shew by their acts and deeds, that they believe that the currency has no effect on prices, and every day we live, facts stare us in the face to convince us that supply and demand only rule prices.

It is significantly hinted to me, that from my last letter it appeared I did not intend to proceed in reviewing past events.

I certainly did not, because I considered I had given a sufficient outline of my arguments in favour of my well-known opinion, to enable those who differ in opinion to detect where my error lay, or their own; but, lest it may be inferred that I foresaw any difficulty, I will proceed to shew the cause of the fall and rise in price from 1817 to 1825. In 1817, the price of wheat rose from 53s. to 112s. 2d., and dropped to 74s. from the promising appearance of the crops causing speculation, and the sudden change of weather in June reversing the prospect. The currency did not cause the rise. During 1818, and up to February 19th, eight million quarters of corn were imported, and we having imported but two millions of quarters of wheat per annum during a series of years previous (and this during the waste of war) it was evident that this immense import would glut our markets for years; and in lieu of this being a difficult period to ascertain the real cause of the fall and subsequent rise in price, it is the only extended one where no difficulty exists, whether failing or abundant crops, false rumours, &c., occurred at other times; but here nothing of the kind happened. The farmers held back their corn in 1818 and 1819, in hopes of better prices. In 1820 and 1821, the price still continuing to fall, more and more corn was brought on the markets, both by the farmers and the corn-merchants, who had stored what they had bought, by which numbers were ruined. The foreign speculator had fed the markets cautiously, just below the home supply, but began to be alarmed, and sold freely. In 1822 a general panic ensued. Members of Parliament, in their places, asserted, that we grew more than we wanted, and that protection was of no use to us, as we had no import since 1819, and the price receded to the minimum; viz. a hog-feeding price, for which purpose it was extensively used, and thus it was wasted, and the surplus cleared off.

What effect, I would ask, could "Peel's Bill of 1819" have on prices during this long-continued depression? Those who had not money or most credit were the greatest losers, and thousands were ruined by having credit, and many ruined those who lent them the money to enable them to hold, and if the corn could have been held, it would only have protracted the depression.

The extension of time allowed for the circulation of one pound notes prevented the markets being glutted, just after the harvests of 1823—4, and 5, but the corn so kept back came upon the markets at a future time and prevented a further rise in price, as a one pound note circulation always would do, during a short duration of glut and low prices: it prevents extremes occasionally, but has no effect on average prices. Inefficient protection gives us an inefficient average, and nothing but ample protection can give us remunerating prices, viz., a legitimate price according to cost of production; and if foreign corn was prohibited, the price would be no higher than a remunerating price, because ample profits would induce exertion to raise produce till the supply exceeded the demand. This is a sub-

ject the community in general do not understand, or they would not object to protection.

The holders of foreign corn, it seems, are about to petition (or to endeavour to obtain an order in council,) for permission to grind it and make it into biscuits to export; but half of it would be sold as offal, and come in contact with oats, &c. This would put cash into their pockets to purchase more foreign corn, and tend to reduce our prices; they would not import wheat just now, but oats or other grain that may be at a fair price. This brings to mind a similar circumstance in June, 1826. The Liverpool merchants raised an alarm of scarcity, and got Mr. Huskisson (the then Member for Liverpool,) to obtain an order in council to liberate 700,000 quarters of wheat, and this meeting our new crop in the market, put down the price 20s. per quarter, and thus blighted the hopes of the English farmers of recovering a portion of their former losses, and a million and a half was put into the pockets of these legal smugglers, to renew their baneful trade. There was no even-handed justice, no order in council, no short bill, to stop the import, whilst thousands of farmers were ruining in 1818; nor last year, to stop the import of barley, oats, and beans and peas, which did not fetch a remunerating price, as they were failing crops, and thus still more reduced the price of wheat. Wheat was at a minimum last year, viz., a hog-feeding price, but the lowest price to which it can recede, is, to that point at which it pays better to feed hogs, and cattle, and horses, than other corn, and thus, had we had no import of other grain to keep down the price, wheat would have been used for feeding at a higher price. The minimum price of wheat is not a fixed standard, but relative to the price of other grain; thus, wheat is still lower this year than the last, because other grain is lower. I am, Sir, &c.

Witnessham.

CHAS. POPPY.

### THE CURRENCY.

MR. EDITOR,—When great distress prevails in a country, or amongst any considerable portion of the community, the political economist seeks for the cause, in order that a remedy may be devised for the evil. It is, I believe, generally admitted, that the agricultural interest of this kingdom is in a state of great depression; and it is of the utmost importance to ascertain the true cause of that depression, lest, by groping in the dark, the friends of agriculture, waste their time and energies in combating shadows instead of attacking the substance.

Your correspondent, Mr. Poppy, thinks "*supply and demand only (alone) rule prices*," and the "*currency has no effect on prices*," and consequently Mr. Poppy thinks, that to prohibit the importation of foreign corn would remedy all the ills of the agriculturists.

I do not deny that prices are affected by supply and demand, though I may be allowed to suggest, that the true criterion of prices is the cost of production; and that when prices are lowered by a glut in the market, or increased by an unexpected brisk demand, these are the exceptions, and that cost of production is the rule by which prices are regulated.

It is not my intention to follow Mr. Poppy through his "facts and figures," though I believe it would be very easy to show, that most if not all, the great fluctuations in the price of corn, within the last forty years, may be traced to the changes

in the currency. Leaving that, and supply and demand, and cost of production out of the question for the present, I wish to put a question to Mr. Poppy on the subject of the currency.

Suppose this country produced sufficient corn for its consumption, and that there was little or no importation or exportation of corn, and that the circulating medium, consisting of paper and gold, amounted to twenty millions, wheat being at 60s. the quarter (fluctuating, of course, in some degree, by the plenty or scarcity of the harvests; ) and suppose, on a sudden, by withdrawing the paper and by the failure of supply from the mines, or other causes, the circulating medium of the kingdom should be reduced to two millions, I would ask Mr. Poppy the following question:—Would wheat continue at 60s. the quarter?

Without meaning any disrespect to Mr. Poppy, whom, on the contrary, and whose motive I respect, I must say I should think him "*rather hardy*" to answer this question in the affirmative.

I am aware that such a change in the circulating medium as above supposed, would not materially derange the affairs of a country, if there were *no existing liabilities or unperformed contracts*; seeing that the only consequence would be, that the quarter of wheat, which before sold for 60s., would sell for only 6s.; and the last which the farmer had previously purchased at 20s., would cost only 2s. But if such country were burdened with a debt, the annual interest of which amounted to upwards of thirty millions of pounds, when the circulating medium was twenty millions, and that such a debt continued in full operation when the circulation was reduced to two millions, it requires no conjuror to discover, that the productive interests of the country must suffer, and in many instances be entirely ruined, whilst the unproductive classes, and those who lived upon the taxes, &c., of the country, would reap the benefit of the change and riot in luxury. Whether the situation of any country in the globe at all assimilates to this picture, I leave to every one to form his own opinion.

Mr. Poppy thinks the currency has nothing to do with the distress of agriculture. I think it almost the only cause—of course, an enormously large debt, and other things, operate against the productive classes, but Peel's Bill alone is amply sufficient, in my opinion, to cause the present distress. I remain your's, &c. L.

Hon. Secretary to the Committee of Baronets.

Hadleigh, Nov. 3, 1835.

### AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS.

At a meeting of the Land-owners and Occupiers of Land connected with the county of Worcester, held at the Crown Inn, in that city, on Saturday the 17th Oct. Sir Anthony Lechmere, Bart. in the chair, it was resolved that the following Address to his Majesty be adopted, and signed by the Chairman on behalf of the meeting, and that the Earl of Coventry and Earl Beauchamp be requested to take the earliest opportunity of presenting it to his Majesty:—

"To the King's Most Excellent Majesty

"To your Majesty we earnestly look, and we confidently expect at your Majesty's hands to receive that relief of which we stand in the most extreme need, which is so justly our due, and which we have in vain long sought to obtain both from your Ma-



jesty's Ministers and from Parliament. That your Majesty well knows the deep distress under which the landed interest has long been suffering, and now continues to suffer, your Majesty's most gracious recommendation to Parliament to take the state of that important interest into their consideration fully evinces; and your Majesty's gracious condescence with that once encouraged, but now neglected interest, frequently expressed in your Majesty's speeches to Parliament, afforded great alleviation to us in our difficulties, and encouraged us to follow the recommendation of a Committee of the House of Commons in 1833, to rest our hope of melioration rather on the cautious forbearance, than on the active interposition of Parliament.'

"We beg most respectfully to submit to your Gracious Majesty, that two years have elapsed since that recommendation was made—that the prices of produce declared by that Committee to be then ruinous to the landed interest, have since greatly decreased—that the burdens which press peculiarly upon the land may be said to remain the same, so very trifling have been the reductions, while in the mean time several most important reductions have been made in those taxes affecting the commercial and manufacturing interests—interests which your Majesty had the happiness of being enabled to state to Parliament were then in a highly prosperous situation. That the landed interest should have thus been overlooked in the reduction of taxation is enough of itself to fill us with alarm; and we cannot refrain from laying before your Majesty the serious apprehensions we are under that it is not intended to grant us any relief, but that we are to be left to our fate. Under that impression, we presume to approach the Throne with our humble and earnest request that your Majesty will be pleased to direct your Ministers to institute an immediate, full, and impartial inquiry into the cause of that distress, which every one now admits overwhelms the landed interest; and that your Majesty will not suffer that interest, which the soundest politicians of every age have held to be the most important of every country, to be neglected and destroyed.

"We beg humbly and dutifully to call your Majesty's most gracious attention to the circumstance, that distress first attacked the landed interest when the present standard of value was adopted—a standard of value which never had been the standard of value in this country, but was a new and arbitrary standard, although it was adopted under the specious pretext of returning to the ancient standard;—that the effect of adopting that standard has been more than to double all the then fixed burdens and incumbrances, and to lower the value of land and the price of produce to one half, and that nothing can save the landed interest from ruin but the adoption of a just and practical standard. We also beg to represent to your Majesty, that it would be a great mitigation of the evils under which the farmers are suffering, if they were permitted to malt inferior grain, the produce of their own farms, for the food of cattle on their own premises, duty free. In conclusion, we earnestly and humbly, but at the same confidently implore your Majesty to be graciously pleased to take into your Royal consideration the distress under which the landed interest in general, but especially the laborious and meritorious tenants, are now suffering; and that your Majesty will not permit those whom you may see fit to call to your councils any longer to trifle as they have done, and are now doing, with that once valued and flourishing interest, but command the adoption of measures calculated to restore its prosperity, a result in which

all the other great interests are equally concerned; for unless the impending ruin be averted, it will overwhelm every other interest, and involve the country in anarchy and confusion."

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHAMPTON MERCURY.

SIR,—Will you allow me to offer a few remarks through the medium of the Mercury, upon the malt tax. It is possible that my views may not coincide with your own upon this subject, but I am sure you will not consider this an objection to my stating them. Two important questions deserve consideration—First, in what way would a reduction of half the malt duty benefit this country? Secondly, will the state of the revenue admit of such a reduction? With respect to the first question, I beg leave to submit the following answer. It would reduce a tax that presses heavily upon the farmer. In order to gather in the fruits of the earth it is necessary to give the labourers good beer; during the last harvest it would have been impossible to have dispensed with it—the expence of this wholesome beverage is very great; no tax designed for government purposes presses with equal weight upon the farmer—should it be reduced one-half he would be greatly benefited.

It would increase the comforts of honest and industrious labourers. Perhaps no class is more deserving a respectful notice; on their efforts to a very great extent depend a supply for all classes of society; "The King himself is served by the field." By reducing this tax one-half, labourers may brew their beer at home, and enjoy themselves in the bosoms of their families, and have something to strengthen them to perform their daily labours. It would also have a tendency to check public house tipping, and thus be conducive to the morals of society. It would, I think, have a beneficial effect upon agriculture in general. That agriculture is in a languishing state none who are acquainted with it will attempt to deny. Many farmers within a very few years have been ruined; others have become insolvent, and but a few are to be found who have not suffered a great diminution of capital; owing to a very expensive harvest and declining prices for corn, numbers are depressed and filled with fearful forebodings respecting the final issue. Under such circumstances is it not highly desirable that government should afford every possible relief? That a reduction of half the duty on malt would benefit agriculture would appear by a great increase in the consumption of barley, which would require a greater quantity of land to produce a supply; as more land would be sown barley, less would be sown wheat, and thus create a small advance in the prices of all kinds of grain; that a small advance in the prices of corn is desirable—that it would be easily borne—and that it would be for the general good, few persons, I think, will attempt to deny.

It would be performing an act of justice towards a well-deserving class of society. Under the present circumstances I do not plead for the total repeal of the malt tax: malt liquor some consider a luxury, as well as necessary of life, and, consequently, a fit article for taxation; but, being a necessary of life, justice requires, when all other articles of consumption are reduced, a great reduction of this tax. It demands it for the consumer. Wages being greatly reduced, an exorbitant tax upon any one necessary of life, places it out of the reach of the consumer, or else he must have other necessaries at a far inferior

price ; thus mechanics and agricultural labourers, who take beer as a necessary of life, must have bread very cheap. Justice requires it on behalf of the producer. Owing to this heavy tax he suffers two ways—he cannot make so much of his barley on account of a limited consumption—he cannot make so much of his wheat because the consumer is obliged to give so much for beer. A reduction of half the malt tax would give general satisfaction. Many taxes have been reduced to relieve trade ; but a reduction of the malt tax would relieve all. If farmers received the greatest benefit it must be admitted that their circumstances require it. To reduce this tax would convince the agriculturist that government had his interest in view as well as that of other classes—this would tend to remove prejudice, and check those jealousies that have for some time existed, many supposing that a liberal government was more favourable to trade than to agriculture.

It would tend to remove a strong temptation that prevails to evade these duties, but as this is so clearly proved by the commissioners of excise inquiry, I shall not enlarge upon it. From the preceding observations, and others that might be made did the limits of your paper admit, I think it may be fairly inferred that a reduction of half the malt tax, would be a great benefit, and give general satisfaction. In reference to the second question—Whether the state of the revenue will admit of a reduction of half the duties on malt ? I beg to remark that in the report of the commissioners of excise inquiry, it is stated as probable “that a reduced duty would, by means of an increased consumption, yield as great revenue as that which is obtained from the present duty,” but “that there is no probability of a reduced duty being followed by such an increased consumption of malt as would prevent a loss to the revenue, so long as the importation of foreign barley is restricted.” From these extracts it appears that the opinion of the commissioners is, that in order to a reduction of these duties, the country must be inundated with foreign barley ; thus, instead of relieving the British farmer by a reduction of the malt tax, the benefit would be transferred to the foreigner. To this kind of reasoning I reply, in the first place, let the British grower of corn have a fair trial. If by a reduction of the malt duties a greater demand for barley should be created, and the prices obtain a small advance, it is what is necessary to save the farmer from ruin. But can it be maintained that the British isles are unable to produce a sufficient supply ? Let the candid reader look to the glutted state of the markets—the declining prices for all kinds of grain—the resources of Ireland—the large tracts of uncultivated land in this country—the skill and ingenuity of the British farmer, and then say, that if government has an opportunity of conferring a favour it must pass from the British grower of corn to foreigners. I am at a loss to understand the policy of attempting to remove the duties from foreign grain whilst it can be grown in such abundance and so cheap in this country, and employ such vast numbers in producing it ; and yet, articles of general consumption, even necessities of life, which cannot be produced in this country, are encumbered with heavy duties, without any attempt being made to remove or reduce them.

Again, the present corn laws are quite sufficient to prevent exorbitant prices. If, in consequence of a reduction of the malt duties there should be a better sale for barley, and a greater demand render it necessary to sow more barley and less wheat, and advance the prices of both, it will let in foreign corn, and in proportion as the price advances the duties will be reduced ; whilst the revenue would be benefitted.

Further, it is absolutely necessary that the present duties on malt should be paid into the revenue ? Supposing the amount to exceed four millions, is not this in times of peace far too much ? By reducing these duties one-half, there can, I think, be no doubt, owing to an increase of consumption, that three millions may be depended upon ; the agriculturist benefitted, and trade receive no injury. It may be asked, how is the one million and odd to be made up ? In reply, I ask, cannot government give up one million to the farmers ? Trade has been relieved by a reduction of the window and other taxes, and surely it is not too much to bestow one million to relieve agriculture, but by reducing the malt duties it would not only be relieving the farmers, but the country in general. Should a deficiency still be found, I would suggest the propriety of appointing commissioners to examine all sinecures, pensions, and salaries paid by government, that they may if possible, be reduced. Those land proprietors who have acted upon the principle of justice, have in many instances, reduced their rents from 20 to 30 per cent. Acting upon the same principle, is it not reasonable, owing to the reduced price of provisions, that a reduction should be effected in the pay of those who receive emoluments from government ? Should this plan be adopted the malt tax might be reduced one-half, and public credit maintained. In conclusion is it not desirable that petitions should be presented at the next session of parliament, for a reduction of half the duties on malt, without any alteration in the corn laws ? Yours, &c.

October 26.

C.

## RECEIPT FOR CURING SCAB AND DISEASE OF SHEEP.

TO THE FARMERS OF KENT, AND GRAZERS OF SHEEP.

Owing, in a great degree, to the very dry summers and shortness of food, many sheep in Romney Marsh, and other places in East Kent, were infected with the scab and other disorders.—Now, by dressing the fresh-brought-in sheep before putting them with the original flock, which is a general custom in other sheep counties at the fall of the year, would be the means of saving hundreds and thousands from inoculation. The dressing is not only used for the scab, but also for long-wooled sheep, as a remedy for killing the ticks and lice, which so often harbour in the wool during the winter months, making them poor and unkindly, and destroying a portion of that valuable staple commodity. The dressing kills all insects, nourishes and improves the wool, and if any disease exists which may not be perceivable at the moment, it will also eradicate that, and leave the sheep in a much more healthy state. If it was a general thing in this country, as in many others, to dress sheep annually, it would do away with much of the unpleasant feeling which now exists amongst neighbours, and be of great satisfaction to all owners of flocks. The dressing may be applied with effect, if done in dry weather, for the trifling sum of 6d per head, which will be three-fold recompensed in the wool alone.—I am, your humble servant,

A FRIEND TO WOOL AND MUTTON.

RECEIPT.—Ten gallons of tobacco liquid ; boil a quantity of green broom, chopped fine, in ten gallons of water three hours ; put in one pound of hellebore root, half of a pound of arsenic ; add to this ten gallons of broom liquid, to ten gallons of tobacco liquid ; put half a pound of oil of tar to the twenty gallons, which will be a sufficient quantity to dress an hundred sheep.

P.S.—The tobacco liquid may be bought at 1s per gallon, at most of the wholesale tobacconists in London ; and the preparation ready for use at Mr. Farmer's, of Ashford.



[The proceedings at the agricultural meetings recently held having had especial reference to the causes which occasion the present depressed condition of the agricultural interest, as well as to its remedies and to a consideration of the course which should be pursued in the ensuing session of parliament, we have again devoted more than the usual space allotted to such reports. As, however, it is of little use to be skilled in growing grain or rearing cattle unless the produce can be disposed of at a price which will afford a reasonable compensation for the investment of capital and a fair reward for labour, we trust our readers will not think we have erred in deviating somewhat from our usual plan.—We have many valuable communications upon our table which shall appear as early as possible.—ED. FARMER'S MAGAZINE.]

### YORKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

On Saturday, the 14th November, the Yorkshire Central Agricultural Association held their annual meeting, and at half-past two o'clock upwards of 120 gentlemen and influential farmers sat down to dinner, in the Merchant's-hall in that city.

The President of the society, E. S. Cayley, Esq., M.P., was in the chair; supported on his right by the Hon. W. Duncombe, M.P., G. L. Fox, Esq., Wm. Garforth, Esq., M. Staplyton, Esq., James Walker, Esq., Thomas Price, Esq., Hon. Octavius Duncombe and Robert Denison, Esq.; on his left by Sir E. M. Vavasour, P. B. Thompson, Esq., M.P., Hon. C. Longdale, Sir George Cayley, W. C. Harland, Esq., M.P., Henry Preston, Esq., and Mr. Alderman Smith. Amongst the gentlemen at the table on the right of the Chairman were George Lloyd, Esq., R. Bower, Esq., Thomas Barstow, Esq., George Hudson, Esq., Ed. Dixon, Esq., Rev. J. Overton, Hewley Graham, Esq., John Agar, Esq., Captain Ewbank, E. S. Copley, Esq., William Worsley, Esq., J. Dodsworth, Esq., John Roper, Esq., &c. At the table on the left were Colonel Croft, Dr. Wake, Mr. Sheriff Cattle, the Recorder of York, H. Darley, Esq., Charles Howard, Esq., Dr. Hey, Captain Waller, D'Oyley Saunders, Esq., Mr. Sheriff Hanson, Mr. S. Herbert, Mr. S. P. Wilks, the Rev. H. Chaloner, &c. The Vice-Presidents were Thomas Laycock, Esq., of Colton-lodge, and Thomas Hodgson, Esq., of York.

After the customary toasts,

The CHAIRMAN said the next that he had to propose was "Success to the Yorkshire Central Agricultural Association." He was exceedingly gratified to see so numerous an assembly all joining heart and hand in the same disposition—to obtain relief to the agricultural districts. It was impossible for any person, however short his acquaintance with the company, not to know that great diversity of political opinion existed among those around him, and he gloried in it, because the time was now come when it was necessary to be unanimous and united, to join with each other, Whig, Tory, or Radical, for the purpose of obtaining redress for the evils which surrounded them. (*Cheers.*) The agricultural question was not a party question; all were desirous of supporting the agricultural interest, all were aware of its paramount importance, and all were ready to drown secondary feelings, to unite at the same table, and each assist to put down every enemy, and emancipate the landed interest from its present degraded and fallen state. (*Cheers.*) The politics of the farmer were these—when he found that his produce would not sell at such a price as paid for

the labour, and met his rent, then ought he to raise his voice and contend for his rights; these were the true politics of the farmer, the true rights of an Englishman, when he felt oppressed, to offer up his prayers to the legislature for a redress of his grievances. It was true that they had petitioned the legislature, and that they had not been relieved, but he believed that that was not to be imputed to an unwillingness on the part of the legislature, but because they were not united in their prayers. (*Cheers.*) It was therefore necessary that there should be a nucleus, a central association in London or elsewhere; and he trusted they would not sit down content with what they had done, but endeavour to persuade other societies to join them, and thus form one solid compact body, remembering that "union is strength." (*Cheers.*) Two days ago there had been held elsewhere a great agricultural meeting, and Lord Chandos had summoned deputations from different parts of the country to it, to consider the best means to be pursued. He was happy to say that he had that day received intelligence from Aylsbury, and he could inform them that deputations from various counties met and deliberated. After much discussion it was proposed and carried, that a change of currency was the main cause of the distress; and that it would be desirable for agricultural associations to concentrate their forces, and form a central association in London. (*Cheers.*) He hailed these resolutions with satisfaction. It was necessary that an inquiry should be made into the cause of their distresses; this feeling began in Cambridgeshire, it was seconded by Suffolk, and followed by Kent, Buckingham, and Shropshire; all these were determined to call for an unfinching and thorough investigation into the cause of their present distress. (*Cheers.*) He had an opinion as to that cause, and believed that it was the state of the currency. After a lengthened discussion of the merits of our present currency, the worthy chairman, in conclusion, said, that he trusted there would be from this association some decisive expression of feeling, that they were determined to have an investigation into the causes of their distress. It was impossible for them to go on as they were—agriculture was on the brink of ruin; but he trusted there was spirit enough among the yeomanry of the country, not only to demand but command relief to their distress. (*Loud cheers.*)

The CHAIRMAN having proposed the health of his honourable colleague,

Mr. DUNCOMBE returned thanks. He said that the marked and enthusiastic manner in which his health had been received, was not owing to any merits of his own, but because he had discharged in a humble and faithful manner his duty as their representative. He believed he need not assure them that ever since he had had a seat in parliament, he had felt it to be no less his duty than his interest to promote especially the agricultural interest of the county. He would do nothing to disparage any of the other great interests, but because he considered and felt that the prosperity of the community at large depended on the support and prosperity of the farming and agricultural interest, he had ever given it his first attention. He need not say that since he had been returned for the North Riding, that large and influential agricultural district of this mighty county, with which he was connected by every tie, he had given his support, without reference to any party feeling, to all the measures which had been brought into parliament for ameliorating the condition and alleviating the burdens of the owners and occupiers of land. (*Loud cheers.*) He need not express his regret when he found that every measure which had been brought forward for the landed interest had been unavailing, and that the efforts of the farmers' friends in parliament had not been crowned with success. He knew that there was a wide field open for discussion,

but he would not go out of his way to introduce topics upon which great difference of opinion existed. The hon. member then took a glance at the various questions, affecting the agricultural interest, which were discussed in parliament during the last session. The first was that introduced by his hon. colleague (Mr. Cayley) for an inquiry into the currency; to this motion he gave his support, without considering that he pledged himself to all the views and opinions of his hon. colleague. He had not the same unqualified confidence in this measure, as being one which would lead to relief, but he was ever ready to say that a large number of the difficulties under which they now laboured, arose out of the contraction of the currency by the bill of 1819, and therefore it was due to all parties, equally to the public debtor and public creditor—it was due to all the interests of the country, that there should be instituted in parliament an inquiry, with a view to ascertain whether the present system was the best that could be established, or whether a material alteration would affect the productive classes of society. On that view, knowing the depreciation under which the agricultural interest laboured, and being an independent member of parliament, he gave the resolution his support. The motion, they were aware, was negatived by a large majority. Whether his hon. friend intended to bring forward again this motion, he knew not; but he considered that in the present diversity of sentiment which prevailed upon it, he did not think he should be justified in holding out any sanguine hopes that the opinion of the house was likely to be reversed; therefore it behoved them to consider whether or not some other means of relief could not be obtained. (*Cheers.*) Next, his noble friend (Lord Chandos) brought forward his motion for the repeal of the malt tax, and this also met with his support. He had supported the repeal of the malt tax on a former occasion, and, notwithstanding the able arguments made in the speech of Sir Robert Peel against the motion, although he was anxious to give every support to that right hon. baronet's government, yet, not considering his arguments sufficient to warrant his changing his opinion, he again gave his vote in favour of the repeal of the malt tax. He was of opinion that the repeal of the malt tax would be the greatest boon which could be conferred on the agricultural interest. It would be of essential relief to the farming interest, and would confer a benefit on all the productive and labouring classes of the community, who would then be enabled to enjoy a wholesome English beverage, instead of frequenting beer shops, where they contracted habits fatal to industry. But it was said that this tax produced 5,000,000*l.*, and where was to be found a substitute? As he was not Chancellor of the Exchequer he did not feel it to be his duty to find one; but it was the duty of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, when he found the meritorious classes labouring under excessive pressure of taxation, to review all the taxes of the country, to endeavour to remit the public burdens, and distribute them more equally among all classes. (*Cheers.*) He was convinced that the repeal of this tax would be a moral, social, and political benefit. (*Cheers.*) The hon. member next alluded to the motion of the Marquis of Chandos, on the 25th of May, for an immediate removal of the burdens which press upon the land in the shape of general and local taxation; and the amendment of Lord John Russell, which was adopted, that 110,000*l.* should be voted from the Consolidated Fund, and charged to the county-rate, for defraying the charge on the conveyance of transports and prosecution of felons. This was all the relief which the supporters of the amendment intended to the farmers. He contended it was a mere drop in the ocean, and that it was absurd to suppose that such a relief could raise the agricultural and farming interest to a prosperous state. (*Applause.*) They were aware that Sir Robert Peel, whilst Prime Minister of this country, proposed a plan for the commutation of tithes, but his premature secession from office caused that to be abandoned as a government measure, and nothing had since been brought forward on the subject. He trusted, however, that soon it would be again intro-

duced, as he considered it would be a benefit to the agricultural interest, if proposed on a just, equitable, and honourable principle. (*Cheers.*) He next dilated upon the necessity of petitioning parliament, and of a unanimity in their prayer, and declared his readiness to promote in any way any petition from the Yorkshire Central Agricultural Association. Before he concluded, he begged to observe that more societies were rising up, and in the justice of their cause, notwithstanding that clouds now hung over them, he saw a dawn in the horizon, which he trusted was the harbinger of brighter days. In conclusion, he expressed his attachment to the farming interest of the country; and begged to assure the meeting that they would always find him, at all times, whether in prosperity or adversity, in public or in private station, proud to be enrolled among them as their advocate, their labourer, and their friend.

During the evening petitions to the two houses of parliament, setting forth the distressed state of agriculture, and praying for relief, were very numerous signed.

### SHROPSHIRE CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

On Saturday, 14th Nov., the members of the Central and General Agricultural Association for Shropshire held their anniversary dinner at the Lion Inn, Shrewsbury. This dinner excited much attention amongst the landed interest, in consequence of the avowed intention of the Earl of Darlington to state his opinion as to the course he would advise the agriculturists to pursue in the ensuing session of Parliament relative to the currency. The attendance was in consequence very great, and more numerous than on any former occasion.

The Earl of Darlington, as President of the Society, took the chair, and the Hon. R. H. Clive, M.P., and W. O. Gore, Esq., M.P., officiated as Vice-Presidents. Near the chairman sat R. A. Slaney, Esq., late M.P. for Shrewsbury; Colonel Wingfield, J. A. Lloyd, Esq., Major Bayley, John Bather, Esq.; Charles Emery, Esq.; the Rev. Mr. Drury; W. Lawley, Esq., W. E. Jeffreys, Esq.; John Minor, Esq.; John Edwards, Esq., &c., &c.

After the customary toasts,

The noble CHAIRMAN said, that, as President of their Association, he felt it his duty to state his opinions as to the aspect of the times with respect to agriculture. (*Cheers.*) He was glad to see assembled together so large a body of landed proprietors and occupiers, each taking a lively interest in what concerned the well-being of all; but still in so mixed an assembly there must of necessity be a variety of opinions as to the cause of the distress under which agriculture now laboured. It was right, however, to hear the opinions of all before they attempted to apply a remedy. (*Hear.*) As to the extent of the distress, there was very little difference of opinion among them, but as to the cause and remedy there was much. Did he not think that Parliament had the power of in some degree relieving the distress of the farmer he should not now address them. He disagreed with those who asserted that the agriculturist must alone look for relief from his present situation by an improved cultivation of the land, and by an adjustment of rent between himself and the landlord. With respect to this latter, indeed, it was a matter of private arrangement between the parties, and not, therefore, a subject which would admit of much discussion in public. He appeared before them as a Member of Parliament, and first let him ask what it was that the farmers most complained of? He believed they would all agree that it was the "low prices of produce." (*Hear, hear.*) And, that being the evil, in order to remedy it they must



have recourse either to some mode of raising the prices, or reducing the costs of production. (*Cheers.*) He would begin by a consideration of the latter remedy. The first and most material item perhaps in the farmers' expenses was rent. With respect to those rents which were enhanced during the war, they had, generally speaking, been reduced from 30 to 40 per cent., though certainly this was not the case as regarded all. If the landlord, however, were to be called upon continually to reduce his rents he would shortly have none left at all. But he believed he should be able to show them that if rent were remitted altogether they would not be in so good a condition, owing to the present very low price of produce, as they formerly were. This might appear a bold assertion, but he would quote in proof of it a statement made by a man who, if he excepted Mr. Coke, knew perhaps as much of agriculture as any man in the kingdom; he alluded to Lord Western. The chairman here read a statement made by Lord Western to the Chelmsford Agricultural Society in June last, in which he supposed a farm of one hundred acres of well-cultivated arable land on the four-course system, which, during the war, was 35s per acre, making 175l for the farm. The price of wheat from 1797 to 1819 averaged 80s per qr, and the fifteen years preceding 1819 it averaged 95s per qr, whilst in the fifteen years subsequent the average was 55s. He took it, therefore, that wheat had fallen 30s per qr, and barley, peas, and beans 20s per qr, and the diminution of price for one year's produce of the farm would stand as follow:—

|                         |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Wheat .....             | £131 15 0 |
| Barley .....            | 125 0 0   |
| Beans and Peas .....    | 42 0 0    |
| Clover .....            | 15 0 0    |
| Turnips and Tares ..... | 12 0 0    |
|                         | <hr/>     |
|                         | 325 15 0  |

the total diminution in the prices of produce, as compared with the war prices. It was quite evident, therefore, that the tenant must not only have his farm rent free, but must have 150l. presented him into the bargain, in order to place him on the same footing as prior to 1819. (*Loud cries of "Hear, hear."*) So much for rent. Next came tradesmen's bills, machinery, and implements. There had been very little diminution since the war in these, nor did he see much prospect of their being further reduced. With respect to the costs of labour he had no doubt but that the Poor Law Amendment Bill would ultimately prove very beneficial in this respect to the farmer, but it would of course be gradual. The main feature of the Bill was to make the labourers support themselves and families by their own industry, but in order to do that their wages must not be diminished, but rather increased. (*Hear.*) The charges he had already mentioned did not come under the control of the Legislature. He now came to the consideration of other burthens, such as county rates, highway rates, poor rates, and tithes. Of the latter he would only say that he was anxious for a commutation; but still the benefit, in a pecuniary point of view, to the farmer would not be very considerable, for the clergyman must still have his stipend. There was every reason to believe that Government would effect such an alteration in county rates as to give some trifling benefit to the farmer; it could not be much, for the county rate, throughout the kingdom, did not average more than 4d. in the pound on rent, and if all were taken off it would be but as a drop in the ocean. (*Hear.*) The highway rate certainly pressed very heavily, and he believed the farmer would find himself much benefited by be-

ing relieved from a greater part of statute duty. (*Hear, hear.*) As to poor rates, he thought it would be far better to make it a State tax, rather than a local one; but there was no hope of such an alteration being effected, unless it were introduced by Government, and he did not see much prospect of that being done. It seemed, then, that it was next to hopeless to think of relief by a diminution of the cost of production, and the only other remedy was a raise in prices. It was said by some that the fall in prices was caused by the sudden transition from war to peace. That certainly might have accounted for it in the first year of peace; but not in the twenty-first. (*Hear, hear.*) The war virtually ended in 1814, The years 1817 and 1818 were years of as great prosperity as the farmer perhaps ever knew, or could expect to know. In 1819, what was called Peel's Bill, was passed, having for its object the curtailment of the currency. Immediately prices fell, and continued to fall, until 1822, at which period the farmer suffered more than at any former or subsequent time. (*Hear, hear.*) The distress, indeed, was universal, it rang in the ears of Parliament, and the Government at length took up the subject, and by a forced issue of four millions from the bank, quickened the circulation. All prices immediately rose, and, in 1824 and 1825, agriculture was flourishing. At the end of the latter year, however, came the panic, which arose in a great measure from overtrading, causing the exchanges to be against us. Upon this the bank took fright, and suddenly withdrew their issues to the extent of three millions, and then came the panic. After this they went up and down till the year 1830, with no great complaint from the agriculturists, but ever since that time things have been getting much worse, the reason of which was, that the latter part of Peel's Bill, prohibiting the issue of country bank notes, took effect in 1829, and produced the effects now unhappily so apparent to all. He might be wrong in his opinion, but what he had stated were facts, and by which they might learn that, whenever money was plentiful, prices were good, and when it was contracted, prices were low. He would take that opportunity of correcting a mis-statement which had been made in both the Shrewsbury papers, with reference to what he said at Bridgenorth. He was reported to have said, that he wished the currency to be placed on the same footing as it was in 1815; that was, an issue of Bank notes without any responsibility. Now, no person could deprecate that system more than himself. What he wanted was, that there should be an alteration in the standard, instead of being compelled to abide by a gold standard only, and that too at a fixed and arbitrary price, even though it should end in utter ruin. (*Cheers.*) He wanted an alteration of the standard from gold to silver, which he believed would be productive of the best results. He would listen to no other basis for our currency than a metallic one. It was well known that the Bank of England regulated all the money transactions of this kingdom. How then was it situated? The greater quantity of notes they issued, the larger their profits, but the greater also their peril, because they had to regulate the foreign exchanges. So long as the exchange was in our favour all was right, but let the case be reversed and the Bank would be called to pay its liabilities in gold, and how was that possible, seeing that they had but six millions to meet eighteen millions? (*Hear, hear.*) It was therefore absurd to say that the public might obtain gold for their notes at the Bank. Suppose at quarter day, when the dividends had to be paid by the Bank, amounting to about eight millions, the parties receiving them were to

demand them in gold, what would be the consequence? The Bank must stop payment. Every foreign country had a silver standard; we, alone, were determined to have a gold one, and to super-add the absurdity of confining it to the fixed price of 3*l.* 17*s.* 10½*d.*, an ounce. Suppose a war were to break out at Paris, (which was only a forty-eight hours' journey from this country), and gold should be suddenly in demand there, occasioning it to fetch 4*l.* per oz., was it to be supposed that the gold would not leave this country? It certainly would, for there was nothing to prevent it, and this would compel us to alter our system. (*Hear.*) This was one reason why we should have a silver standard; another was, that experience proved it was not liable to the fluctuations incident to gold. But some might ask how it was possible to meet all our engagements and paper credits with silver? The reply was, that a silver standard would not drive away the gold, but would rather assist in retaining it, and when wanted for any particular purposes it could be had. These, then, were some of the reasons why he thought a change in the currency desirable. An alteration in 1819 occasioned the fall of prices, and they must now have another alteration to effect a rise in prices. He saw no other way open for substantial relief from the difficulties which were now pressing so heavily upon them. He had thus stated his opinions freely; he was aware they differed from those of others, but he could assure them that they were the result of much thought and attention, and holding the situation he did, he felt himself bound to state them. (*Hear.*) There was one other point to which he wished to allude before he sat down. The principal distress was among the small farmers—men who had but little capital, and who were often compelled to take their produce to market at the most unseasonable time of the year. Now this of course operated most injuriously. The time at which there was the greatest glut of corn was between harvest and Christmas, and he thought it would be a great relief to the small farmer if the landlord would ascertain the amount he wanted to raise by taking his stock into the market, and instead of suffering him to do so, place so much to his credit, until a suitable season, when he could take his grain to market, and obtain a better price. (*Cheers.*) He threw this out as a hint for the consideration of parties, as a means of affording some temporary relief to those who were suffering most. (*Cheers.*) He thanked them for the attention they had paid him, and should now be glad to hear the opinions of other gentlemen. His lordship sat down amid loud cheers.

—BICKERTON, Esq., said he most cordially agreed in some of the opinions expressed by his lordship, but differed in others. At the last meeting his lordship told them they must wait and see what parliament would do for them. Now, they had waited with a patience which would have done honour to Job himself (*laughter*), but nothing had been done. (*Hear, hear.*) His lordship now told them he saw no hope of relief but in a change of the currency. That, however, he thought, was a question not exclusively for the agriculturist, but which interested the community at large. (*Hear, hear.*) He (Mr. Bickerton) was once of the same opinion, but it had been much shaken by, among other things, the perusal of a paper he held in his hand drawn up by Sir G. Shugburgh and published by the Royal Society, and which gave the price of wheat from the year 1050 down to a late period, and also an account of the quantity of bank notes from the first establishment of the bank; and on comparing these he by no means found the currency theory made out. It also gave an account of the gradual growth of the national debt from the year 1334, when it was 60,000*l.*, to the year 1815, when it was

1,121 millions. In the year 1830 it was 771 millions. His lordship had said that he saw no mode of reducing the cost of production; not did he (Mr. B.) so long as the interest of this enormous debt had to be paid out of the productive industry of the country. (*Hear, hear.*) This it was which caused such heavy taxes and duties to be laid upon every thing which entered into a man's consumption, and thus increased the cost of producing agricultural produce. Labour was four times the price it was in their fathers' days in consequence of the heavy taxes the labourers had to pay, and yet he did not complain that they had any too much. (*Hear.*) In fact, he believed that they were both clothed and fed worse than they used to be. (*Hear.*) At the present time there were more depressed in agriculture than any other branch of industry. He was fully convinced that the whole system of taxation must be revised before agriculture could be placed on its proper basis. (*Loud applause.*) His lordship had stated that rent was the first payment a farmer had to make. In his (Mr. B.'s) opinion it ought to be the last (*laughter*); and if so, then he was quite sure there would not be one shilling rent left for the cold heavy lands. (*Loud cries of "hear," and cheers.*) He considered that the farmers had been thrown overboard by all parties in parliament. Sir Robert Peel, who was a Tory, inveighed against the repeal of the malt tax in a speech which had been considered unanswerable. Lord Stanley, who was neither Whig nor Tory, had said they must not look to parliament at all for relief, but that the landlord and tenant must settle the matter between them. He should very much like to know, however, whether he imagined that the farmers would cultivate the land out of pure patriotism. (*Cries of "hear," and laughter.*) Then, again, the government, which was composed of Whigs, said they could do nothing more for them, except some paltry reductions in the county rate. A great boast had been made of the reduction of poor-rates. For his part he wondered they were so high, seeing that provisions were so low. (*Hear, hear.*) Mr. Bickerton concluded by complaining of the broken promises of members of parliament on the question of the malt tax, which complaints were loudly re-echoed by the assembly.

JOHN BATHER, Esq., said they had had a very dry argument, and he proposed, therefore, "The health of their noble chairman," and when that was done he should have the pleasure of telling his lordship how much he differed from him. (*Loud laughter and cheers.*)

The toast was drunk with three times three, and Lord DARLINGTON very briefly returned thanks.

Mr. BATHER then continued—They had heard the opinion of a nobleman who would eventually be one of the largest landowners in the county, and also the opinions of a practical farmer, and they would now allow him, who had an equal interest as landlord and tenant, to state the result of his studies on this vital question. They had often said "Let us see what relief we can get from parliament, and try to get the repeal of this tax and that tax, and then see what adjustment ought to take place as regards the relative situation of landlord and tenant." The time, however, was now come when the bull must be taken by the horns. (*Cheers.*) The time was come when, as honest men, they must alter the relative condition of landlord and tenant. (*Loud applause.*) The landlord must understand upon what ground his right to rent rests, and ascertain the broad principles upon which it must be adjusted. The landlord was a capitalist of land, and the farmer was a capitalist of money, skill, and labour. The landlord must, therefore, give the farmer the occupancy of so much land as would repay him interest for the outlay of his money, skill, and labour, or he would soon have the land to cultivate himself, and he would then speedily find it out. (*Hear.*) He admitted the rent of the land was a matter of private arrangement; but then they must refer to some broad principle by which to make that arrangement. There might be lands so poor as not to repay even the cost of cultivation; and what right had the owner, under such circumstances, to look for benefit from it? He is the owner of something of no value, and it is his misfortune. (*Hear, hear.*) He did not mean to say that both land-



lord and tenant might not go with effect to parliament; but then let everything which can be done between them be done first. (*Hear, hear.*) Let the landlords who are members of parliament go with clean and honourable hands—let them be enabled to say “We come not here, having wrung the last shilling from our tenants, to ask you to give them another shilling, that we may wring that from them also” (*loud cheers*); but let them say “We come here to ask relief, after having reduced our establishments and curtailed our luxuries, and after having done every thing, in short, which honourable men can do, for the sake of our tenants.” Let them do this, and no sneering merchant would then say of them—“Look here at these stranded Leviathans, who come and ask us to take them in tow;” but they would look upon them as men of honour, and entitled to consideration. (*Cheers.*) There was a courage much superior to that which enabled a man to wield a sword or level a pistol, and that was moral courage, which men much lacked. The landed proprietor, who found he could not now live as he used in his mansion, instead of going to a smaller dwelling, and foregoing some at least of his luxuries, in order to accommodate himself to altered circumstances—instead of adopting this rational course of proceeding, he must fly to the Continent in order to make his income go farther than it would here. (*Hear.*) The same might be said of the farmer, who now seems ashamed to put his hand to plough; his daughter’s fingers are too taper ever to become acquainted with the milk-pail or the cheese-vat, and his son would scarcely be seen leading the horse to the blacksmith to be shod: of course they find they cannot do this, and away they go to Canada, where they soon discover that they have to labour hard in a comparative wilderness. (*Cheers.*) The fact was, both landlord and tenant must make up their minds to return to the habits of their ancestors, one of which, let him remind them, was to keep the labourers in the farm houses, which had now unhappily grown into disuse, and produced so many evils. (*Hear, hear.*) With respect to the currency, he agreed to a certain extent, with the noble lord, that the change which took place in 1819 was the proximate cause of the distress, but that was no reason why, after all this lapse of time, when things had adjusted themselves to the new standard, they should go back. As to his lordship’s particular plan of alteration, he might call it “silver standard,” or whatever name he pleased, but it was simply and truly depreciating the currency. (*Hear, hear.*) And was not money, he asked, in great plenty? If it were not so, depend upon it Three per Cent. Consols would never be at 91. He did not agree with the last speaker that the farmers had been thrown overboard. The members for this county had done their duty like wise, discreet, and honest men. (*Cheers.*) He advised them not again to go for a repeal of the malt tax, since men of all grades of opinions, Whig and Tory, had thought proper not to grant its repeal.

ORMSEY GORE, Esq., M.P., next addressed them, and said he had voted with his lordship in the chair on the questions of the repeal of the malt tax and the currency. (*Cheers.*) He was far from attaching so much importance, however, to the repeal of the malt tax as some gentlemen did, and it was right they should know there were many very experienced farmers who were against it. He had voted for a committee to inquire into the currency question, and he should do so again, though he, too, must confess he did not understand the subject so fully as to enable him to decide either for or against the adoption of a silver standard. He must say he thought highly of the plan for converting the poor rates into a state tax, and he believed it would greatly benefit the agricultural interest, nor did he see why funded property should be exempt from this tax. (*Cheers.*) In speaking of this subject, of making the poor rates a national tax, to Lord Melbourne, in the course of an interview which he (Major Gore) had with his lordship a little while ago, he allowed that the plan was a good one, but alluded to the great difficulty there would be in carrying it into operation. He

mentioned this to show that Lord Melbourne was alive to the subject. (*Cheers.*) The hon. gentleman concluded by strongly recommending the formation of a board or committee of agriculture in London, to watch over and promote the interests of the farmer.

R. A. SLANEY, Esq. (late M.P.) next addressed them. He commenced by congratulating them on the excellent temper and spirit with which the discussion had been maintained, and also that some of the false causes of their distress, which were loudly talked of last year, were not now mentioned. He was friendly to a commutation of tithe, and believed it would be accomplished next year, for there now seemed but little difference between Whig and Tory respecting it. He highly approved of the new Poor Law Bill, which was working extremely well for all parties, the labourers included, and which they themselves now confessed. He concluded by hoping they would soon have a board of agriculture in London to watch over and protect their interests.

ESSEX.—A ploughing match between six *crack* men, came off upon the Oak Farm, Woodham Walter, on Saturday week. The following three—Bannister, in the employ of Mr. Barrett, of Hazeleigh Hall; Webb, ploughman to Mr. John Sanders, of Purleigh; and South, in the service of Mr. Ling, of Hatfield, entered the field against—Hawkes, ploughman to Mr. Wilson, of Althorne; and John Bones and Wm. Stebbing, both in the employ of C. Comyns Parker, Esq. of Woodham, Mortimer Place. The judges, Mr. Bewers, of Sandon, and Mr. Robert Babbs, of Tillingham, decided in favour of the first-named three, and particularly noticed the superiority of Bannister’s work. The match was got up, we understand, by two gentlemen patrons of the plough, each backing his three men for three sovs.

HIGHLAND ESTATES.—A striking instance of the increased value of Highland pastoral districts occurred last week in the sale of the Cromarty lands in Ross-shire. The Fanich lot, which rents at 180*l* per annum, sold for 6,550*l*, being about thirty-seven year’s purchase. The Lochroom lot sold for 9,200*l*, being a thirty-four years’ purchase. The sale took place on Wednesday, in Edinburgh, and was pretty sharply contested. The upset price of the two was 13,150*l*; it rose 2,600*l* higher, when they were knocked down, the two lots at 15,756*l*, to Murdo Mackenzie, Esq., late of Ardross, now of Dundonnell. The principal cause of this high price (which a very few years ago would have been considered ruinous in the Highlands) is undoubtedly the spirit and intelligence with which sheep-farming is prosecuted in the north, and the present prosperous state of the country, particularly of that branch of our national trade. The improved means of communication, the excellent roads which traverse the country, and the steam-boats which approach its remotest shores, have also, though not particularly applicable to the case in question, contributed generally to produce these favourable results. Before the opening of the Caledonian Canal, the Glengarry property did not produce above 1,000*l* a-year, and it now approaches to 8,000*l*. The property of Redcastle, in Ross-shire, in 1790, sold for 25,000*l*; in 1824 it was resold for 135,000*l*! Instances of a similar kind might be multiplied in scores. The present system of sheep-farming was introduced, roads were made, and immediately a change was effected. Trade and agriculture began to revive from their languishing condition; the plough was driven into many a new soil; lakes, streams, and bays, were well finished for the southern markets, and belts of planting began to encircle the hill-sides. At the present moment, we believe, many Highland proprietors derive a greater revenue from their moors alone, for grouse shooting, than their whole rental amounted to “sixty years since.”—*Inverness Courier*.

## BREEDING FOR THE TURF, THE FIELD, AND THE ROAD.

Notwithstanding the splendid animals which constantly appear on our race-course, I feel an unqualified conviction that breeding for the turf has never yet been pursued upon a correct system of philosophy, or rather, perhaps I ought to say, upon the true principles of physiology; and that, consequently, there is much yet to learn upon this highly interesting and very important subject. In mentioning *Breeding for the Turf*, it will easily be perceived that I mean it to be understood as the concise aggregate for the saddle horse; for, although in the mode of going, and even in form, a difference is clearly perceptible, yet the courser, the hunter, the troop horse, and the hack, form merely so many shades, or trifling ramifications, of the horse, and a parity of reasoning will apply to each. I am well aware of the difficulty of arriving at conclusions mathematically correct upon the subject which it is here proposed to discuss, however plausible our system may appear upon paper; nor have we indeed any right to expect such a consummation, since experience abundantly proves, that our limited faculties are inadequate to the task of unravelling the mysterious operations of nature. Yet, such a consideration ought by no means to deter us from investigation; perseverance, directed by acute perception and good sense, has frequently accomplished what had been regarded as impossible of attainment; and, if our faculties be limited, as no doubt they are, the fact itself impresses indelible conviction on the mind that we are utterly unconscious of the boundary to which they extend, and that very circumstance ought to operate as a stimulus to our industry.

It may, and no doubt will, appear a startling doctrine to the old turfite, or breeder for the turf, to assert that the correct system of breeding is not understood; and he will immediately point to the Godolphin Arabian, (or rather to his stock) to Eclipse, to Childers, to Shark, to Sir Peter Teazle, to Smolensko,\* and many other remarkable specimens or examples, as the most positive and silencing contradictions to our audacious and insulting presumption: his countenance would assume a bitter sneer, a sardonic grin of contempt, and he would most likely not only decline further controversy, but set us down in his own mind as well qualified for a lunatic asylum. But we are not to be thus driven from our purpose; where truth seems to lead the way, we will follow, in defiance of the sneers of the unreflecting, the scoffs of presumptuous, unlettered, and dogmatic ignorance; and if we attain not to perfection, if we reach not the very apex of the science

which we are endeavouring to cultivate, we shall scarcely fail to arrive at interesting and satisfactory conclusions, which will most amply repay the trouble of investigation.

Although I have admitted our ignorance as to the abstruse, or rather inscrutable, operations of nature, yet it cannot be denied that the indefatigable perseverance of the human mind has removed the screen from much that would otherwise have never been discovered and consequently not understood, and formed a basis to the present inquiry at once solid, satisfactory and immutable. In this case, then, it will easily be perceived that from a proper foundation upon which to erect our edifice, we must look to those alterations or improvements which have been accomplished where nature has been judiciously assisted by art, or rather by human genius. Pigeons, as the fanciers of these birds will tell you, can be bred to a feather; or, in other words, they can be made to assume a variety of sizes, a variety of forms, and a variety of colours; and indeed so well understood is the system of breeding pigeons, that the form, size, colour, and feather can be anticipated with tolerable accuracy. We are presented with another striking example of the influence which is exercised upon nature in the endless varieties of the dog tribe which are incessantly offering themselves to our observation. There can be no question that the varieties of the dog, in a state of nature, were very few, and such merely as resulted from the effect of climate, nor have I the least doubt, that the dog, in a state of nature, at the present day, is precisely similar to his progenitor two thousand years ago: but if we contemplate our present race of what, for the sake of a better expression, I may call our domestic dogs, we shall find, that, while we can classify some dozens or scores of admitted and well known varieties, there still remains a countless multitude, differing from each other, but yet not susceptible of specific arrangement: or at least, which have not been admitted to the distinction of acknowledged classification.

Observations similar to the above are equally applicable to the hog tribe. It is true, we can easily enough trace in the form and features of our domestic hogs, the original progenitor, either in the wild animal of Europe, or the fiercer and smaller hog of the East, or in a mixture of the two: yet the endless variety of our swine impressively demonstrates the accommodating pliability of nature to the advantage, the wishes, or the caprice of man.

Pursuing this train of reasoning, we instance that indispensable creature, the sheep, as another incontestible proof of the progress of improvement, where the operations of nature have been directed and assisted by human genius. The wild sheep of Africa and the East can scarcely be recognized as the source whence have sprung the present highly improved varieties. On this subject, it would

\* One word, however, *en passant*: in these cases, the circumstances of success have been purely accidental, and have been, by no means, the result of solid judgment, founded upon the true principles of physiology: more of this anon.



amount to a species of semi-treason to omit the name of Bakewell, to whom we are indebted for the most beautiful and the most valuable sheep in the world. This gentleman (when living) resided at the small village of Dishley, two miles from Loughborough, Leicestershire; and by unwearied perseverance, sound judgment, and at the expense of a moderate fortune, succeeded in producing that beautiful animal of the tribe under consideration, known by the name of the Leicestershire sheep. By crossing the Charnwood Forest sheep with the Lincolnshire breed: that is, by repeated crosses, he produced the beautiful snake-headed form, a large, and comparatively fine, fleece, and more flesh upon the same weight of bone than had ever yet been seen. It should be mentioned, however, that his attention was directed also to the improvement of horned cattle, draught horses, and farming stock in general.

The effect of human cultivation is remarkably perceptible in horned cattle; and indeed observations similar to the preceding may be applied to every animal, which man has taken under his protection and rendered domestic. Nor need we stop here: since, if we contemplate the vegetable kingdom, we may reasonably enough be astonished, as the vast improvements effected by human genius directing and assisting the operations of yielding and beneficent nature. If it has never yet been ascertained how far improvement may be carried, (and in all probability this is a point which never can be ascertained with precision) sufficient has been accomplished to stimulate to further exertions those who feel an interest in conferring benefits on mankind, and who have the means of carrying their laudable intentions into execution.

The preceding observations appeared necessary for the elucidation of the object under consideration, and particularly to show the complying disposition of nature, and that the most astonishing results may be produced when her operations are assisted (not outraged) by the energies of human genius, or what may be called the homogeneous influence of art. In regard to the animals we have enumerated, and which, under human cultivation, have experienced so great a change, inasmuch as their structure or organization was less complex than that of the horse, less subject to disease, and their domestication less at variance with simple nature, the changes that were wrought in them were accomplished with much less difficulty than similar results can be obtained in the animal peculiarly under our consideration.

It has long been the practice of those who breed for the turf to choose animals for this purpose of a particular family; or what, in the phraseology of the school, would be called *blood*; that is, the blood of a certain favourite family: without that attention to form which is indispensable to improvement or perfection. Thus, if a horse happen to be

successful on the turf—if he happen to win the St. Leger for instance, he becomes a favorite stallion; and the leading principles of breeding *may* be thus superseded: I say *may*, as it by no means follows that such will be the case, since it will frequently be found, on examination, that these successful horses possess superior animal organization; in fact, this *must* be the case, or they could not win; and therefore, it must be admitted, the breeders were not in the wrong (supposing the horse was not diseased) though they could give no other reason for their conduct than that the horse was a successful racer. Whenever a horse becomes pre-eminently distinguished as a racer, his superiority is unreflectingly attributed to his *blood*, instead of his *form*. For my own part, were I a breeder, my attention would be directed to the form and quality of the animal: if I found his form consistent with the principles of power and speed, that his tendon was large and well defined, his joints large, that his bone, upon the touch, gave the impress or idea of ivory, that his feet were well formed, his eye full and clear, his breathing free and noiseless; in fact, if I felt satisfied with his form, texture, and soundness, I should scarcely think it necessary to inquire concerning his *blood*, that is, to ask whence he sprung,—I should feel no anxiety to trace his pedigree, though I might ultimately find, that he united the blood of the Godolphin and the Darley Arabians. Once more, however, I must observe, that what is called the best blood in the country will be uniformly found to exhibit the finest forms; and consequently the animal organization and texture demonstrate what is generally termed *blood*. But if a horse or a mare presented the finest possible form, with bone and tendon of the best quality, I would not breed from either the one or the other, unless free from blemish; that is, free from any blemish that would be likely to be communicated from the parent to the offspring. The strong sympathy which operates on the foetus from the mind of the parent is demonstrated in a countless variety of instances, to say nothing of the doctrine which Darwin has propagated on the subject, and which, however romantic and fanciful it may appear at the first blush, will be found, on investigation, physiologically correct: how, for instance, would the kid or the fawn be aware, in the earliest period of its existence, that the lion and the tiger were its unrelenting enemies, if the intelligence had not been previously communicated? But such is the case, as they (instinctively, as it is generally expressed) fly from their enemies the first moment they behold them, or even (by means of their olfactory organs) perceive their approach. Similar observations will apply to the mouse and the cat, the rat and the weasel, the pigeon and the hawk; and indeed the most casual observer, if he reflect for one moment upon the subject, will be abundantly convinced of the incontestible truth of the doctrine of what I may be al-

lowed to call sympathetic communication. It is true, we are unacquainted with the mode in which the information is thus mysteriously and wonderfully transmitted, but the fact is nevertheless incontrovertible; and therefore, since the *modus operandi* is placed beyond the reach of human investigation, we ought to rest satisfied with the result, which we see demonstrated, in numberless instances around us. Now, since we see the sympathetic operations of the cerebral organs thus transmitted from parents to offspring, how much more likely is any defect or disease of the animal organization to descend to the progeny? and how careful therefore ought we to be in making our selection, that the sire and dam should be as perfect as possible.

In regard to the horse, a sire or dam may be blemished on the knee from jumping a wall or some such circumstance, and such blemish, as far as relates to breeding, would amount to nothing; but, if the said blemish was caused by a fall, arising from malformation (from an upright shoulder, for instance), the produce of such an animal would be very likely indeed to present a similar defect.

If we select one hundred horses which have finished their racing career, we shall find ninety at least, on an average, with faulty fore legs; and indeed diseases of the fore legs generally appear before they have left the turf. The hind legs are not so liable to give way or become diseased as the fore legs, in my opinion for the following reason:—in galloping, the whole weight of the animal is forcibly thrown on the fore legs every stride or stroke; and as the racer is trained to go as close to the ground as possible before (to become a *daisy-cutter*), the shock must be very considerable, very great when the ground happens to be hard; and therefore the injury that must consequently ensue where the bone and tendon have not received half their development may be conceived perhaps, but no form of words can image it impressively or correctly on the mind. In speaking of the fore legs, I intend to be understood as including the fore feet also, since it is the delicate and complex mechanism of the foot that generally sustains the most serious injury. The celebrated Buckle (now no more) when called upon to ride a horse with which he was not acquainted, uniformly examined his fore feet, and if he felt himself satisfied, mounted without hesitation. When anything is amiss forward, it will be detected by an experienced eye, though it will frequently be found very difficult, if not impossible, to state the precise nature of it, or the exact spot where it is situated.

For reasons already given, it will be easily perceived that the hind legs are less liable to injury or disease than the fore legs; yet, when it is considered that an animal which does not attain its maturity till the age of seven, is forced to the severest exertion when, and frequently before, it has attained its second year, it is by no means surprising that splents,

curbs, spavins, and capped hocks should make their appearance. In the first instance, each of these will generally be found to have originated from overstrained exertion; and if the produce of animals thus affected do not present any thing of the kind in the early period of their existence, they generally inherit a predisposition or susceptibility for their easy reception, and they seldom fail to make their appearance on the most trifling occasion. Curbs will be found to appear more frequently, where the animal presents that form of the leg and thigh which gives to the hock a more angular appearance than usual.

As to *frushes* or *thrushes*—choose which name you will, since the terms are used indiscriminately—if the foot be well formed (as round as possible), I think but little of them; I have found them generally to arise from filth and inattention; and I have also found that they more frequently make their appearance in the feet of greedy-feeding horses, than those of a contrary description. Yet here again we must admit that, as like produces like, so the stock of greedy-feeding horses is very likely indeed to receive or inherit a similar disposition. Frushes would appear, according to my notion, to be the overflowings of the juices, produced by too much food, which the ordinary channels of nature are unable to carry off. Greedy-feeding horses are liable to scurf and scab in the hollow of the pasterns, arising, I apprehend, from the same cause; but I would not refuse a greedy-feeder, but rather prefer a horse of this description, since frushes will seldom make their appearance where proper attention is paid to the animal. Delicate feeders can never endure much fatigue; it is true they appear alert, lively, and even spirited, when first brought out, because their stomach and intestines are never loaded, generally half empty; they are what I call slight-ribbed horses, are light in carcass, will show speed for a short distance, but cannot maintain it. They may win a short race; but they are ill-calculated for military purposes, incapable of the fatigue of the chase, but may answer for hacks, where long-continued exertion is not called for. A shy feeder is frequently troublesome, as such an animal will be often found to require stimulants to appetite.

*Roaring* is a common disease among race-horses, more commonly found on the race-course than in the hunting or military stable, or indeed anywhere else. There must be a cause for it: the racer is frequently on the muzzle; this produces crib-biting; the throat of the horse is bound with a strap to prevent the disgusting practice of crib-biting; does not, therefore, this constant use of the strap frequently produce that constriction which causes the animal to emit the discordant noise called roaring?

*Roaring* is a disease which descends from one generation to another. I am aware that the late Mr. Cline entertained a different



opinion; but innumerable instances have proved the incorrectness of it. The scientific Percevall particularly notices the subject in his lectures, but his observations throw very little light on the cause of this incurable disorder. It is, however, an incontestible fact, that a stallion afflicted with roaring will generally produce roars. The disease may not make its appearance at first, but inasmuch as there exists a predisposition in the system, it generally shows itself at an early period, particularly if the animal is put to severe exertion.

Similar remarks will apply to the eyes: a blind stallion, it is well known, will produce stock with eyes which generally lose their sight at an early period of life. It is necessary, however, to state, that if, by accident, the horse has lost his sight, it alters the case; but where from the smallness, muddy or bad quality of the eye, the animal becomes blind, it is very injudicious to breed from him.

The principle of *like producing like* prevails not only with respect to animal organization, but also to the disposition, or what perhaps may be more powerfully expressed, if I be allowed to use the term, by *mental temperament*. Vicious and restive horses generally communicate those evil qualities to their progeny: of the incontestible truth of this doctrine, we have many living examples, particularly in the stock of the powerful grey horse Friend Ned, who died some few years ago; and of the living Lottery, purchased some time since by Louis Philippe of France, for £1,500. I have seen a few good-tempered animals descended from Friend Ned; but by far the greater part of his stock manifest that hurly-burly restive disposition for which the horse himself was so remarkable. Restiveness arises from laziness, a disinclination to exertion, since nothing can be quieter in the stable than these Friend Neds; nothing can be quieter on the road, if allowed to proceed at their own pace; but when pressed to more severe exertion, they testify their unwillingness in a manner very unpleasant to the rider, and of course not unattended with danger. The vice of Lottery is of a different description. He is as dangerous in the stable as he was uncertain and dangerous on the course; and the greater part of the stock which he has left behind him in this country manifest much the same vicious propensities as their sire.

These observations might be extended to many more instances, were it necessary, which it is not, as sufficient has been stated to show how highly advisable it is to avoid breeding from horses of a restive or vicious disposition.

Having already noticed the defective or diseased fore legs, which are generally found in racers, we must here observe, that, although in the first instance the disease or defect might be produced by precocious or over-strained exertions, yet it becomes hereditary, and is communicated from the sire to his progeny. Champion, a horse of acknow-

ledged superiority, became, in the language of the school, *amiss before*; in nine instances out of ten he communicated the disease, and though he was the sire of Signorina and several good racers, yet, generally speaking, the fore legs of his stock *would not stand*.

Instances might be given, were it requisite, to prove to demonstration, not only that the vicious temper is transmitted to the offspring, not merely that the form descends to the progeny, but that almost all the diseases (if not the whole catalogue of them) of which the horse is susceptible are also visited upon the produce.

If a horse prove successful on the turf (supposing him to be quite free from blemish) he continues to run as long as he has a chance of success. His age very soon takes him out of all the great stakes, when he is named for the cups; and as these are, for the most part, handicapped, he is weighted to reduce him to a level with inferior competitors, and he must be an extraordinary animal indeed that can continue to support for any length of time, the overload which he is thus doomed to carry. Speaking on the broad principle, the horse either *breaks down*, is *stumped up*, or *battered to pieces*, before he has arrived at maturity, before he has reached his seventh year; very often before he has attained his fifth year, or perhaps his fourth, or perhaps his third. However, let his age be what it may when he leaves the course, if his performance has been such as to entitle him to distinguished notice, he is announced as a stallion. He is thus announced, be it repeated, after having had his tendons strained to their utmost tension—even to cracking; after having, from over-strained exertion, become a cripple before, and thrown up curbs and spavins behind; after having had, in fact, his constitution destroyed, and his vigour consequently irreparably injured. Can a healthy vigorous stock be expected under such circumstances? Certainly not: yet such is the present state of the turf!

That very superior horse Birmingham was destroyed by over-exertion. Beardsworth his original owner, advertised him for sale in the early part of 1833, and he came into the possession of the late Mr. Scarisbrick, of Lancashire, at the price of fifteen hundred pounds; shortly after suspicions were entertained as to his soundness. I saw him come out for his first race in 1833, at Chester; I saw him take his gallop early in the morning, two days previously to his running, and became thoroughly convinced that he laboured under the first degree of roaring. At the latter end of the summer of the same year, on the demise of Mr. Scarisbrick, this horse was purchased by a Russian agent for the Emperor Nicholas. He will unquestionably produce inferior and diseased stock; his legs are battered and his wind diseased, that is, he is by this time a confirmed and inveterate roarer. The Russian agent was a miserable judge; he had no idea of sympa-

thetic physiology, or he would not thus have spent his master's money; but, indeed, he laboured under much the same degree of ignorance as all these agents do with whom I have had an opportunity of conversing; they form their opinion principally from the successful races which the horse has run, a criterion upon which dependence should never be implicitly placed.

From what has been stated, it is very evident that few of our successful racers are calculated to produce good stock. Let us look for a moment at the manner in which a racer is prepared for the course; at the physic which is administered to him; at the sweatings, the bleedings, &c., to which he is subjected: let us consider these circumstances, physiologically or philosophically, and we shall arrive at the conclusion, that where a horse or mare has been kept on the turf for a series of years, the constitution must have sustained so much injury as to preclude healthy or vigorous stock. Further, let it be kept steadily in mind, that some of our best racers have been produced from animals which had scarcely ever appeared on the turf,—in some instances where they had never appeared, perhaps had never been trained.

I could specify several, if not many, living instances of battered and diseased stallions, whose produce are sure to inherit the defects of the sire, but it might appear invidious, and I shall therefore proceed to state, that any breeder anxious to obtain a healthy, vigorous, promising stock, should select the parents, both sire and dam, in the first place for their vigorous health, and in the next, for their form and animal organization. Should the dam be defective in any point, if, for instance, she be too light in the hind quarters, a sire should be chosen of an opposite form. Should the sire be rather upright in the shoulder, select a dam remarkable for the slope of that part, and thus proceed to counteract defects in form. If the form of both be perfect, nothing more can be wished on that score. It is very injudicious to breed from a very old horse or a very old mare, particularly the latter.

The thread of our story brings us again to notice the Godolphin Arabian, Eclipse, Sir Peter Teazle, &c. The stock of the Godolphin Arabian (contrary to expectation, since his trial as a stallion was merely the result of accident) proved excellent runners, and healthy vigorous animals, though the horse was held in no estimation prior to the appearance of his first-born, Lath; but, although the Godolphin Arabian could not race himself, yet, as he had never been put to any over-straining exertion, was altogether a healthy vigorous animal, and had attained maturity, he produced excellent stock—at least till he became feeble from age, when his stock degenerated in the same ratio.

Eclipse, more celebrated than any horse for the superiority of his stock, did not make his appearance as a racer till he was five

years old; and such was his power and speed that he won all his races merely going at his rate—he was never touched with either whip or spur. His career on the course was short; no person would name in a stake in which Eclipse appeared; and the horse was therefore withdrawn from the turf in the very vigour of life, free from blemish. His stock proved of the very first description for some time; and such was the unreflecting infatuation of the times, that much surprise was expressed when this extraordinary horse, enfeebled by extreme age, no longer answered the ignorant calculations of the breeders.

Sir Peter Teazle, the property of the Earl of Derby, left the turf with a constitution unimpaired; he became a favourite stallion, and answered the expectations entertained from his extraordinary performances, till, like the horse mentioned in the preceding paragraph, enfeebled by age, similar results and similar disappointments were experienced.

The next object of consideration is the degrees or degree of consanguinity, which should be remote, or perhaps better avoided altogether. The system of breeding in-and-in is generally acknowledged to be injudicious; yet I am inclined to think there is too great a proximity in our present racing stock. The first conjunction upon the in-and-in system will produce no falling off in beauty, though a decrease in vigour and energy will be perceptible. The second conjunction will exhibit a very distinguishable inferiority. If the system be pursued for several successions, the procreative faculties fail. If we look at human nature, we shall find that about the third conjunction of the in-and-in system, imbecility ensues, and this is succeeded by idiocy; something similar may be observed in the horse. The Earl of Derby continued to breed upon the Sir Peter Teazle strain till he could produce nothing. Disease, particularly scrofula, is produced by the in-and-in system. If we look at many of the secluded villages in various parts of the kingdom, which are seldom visited by strangers, and where the inhabitants intermarry with each other, we shall find that the greater part die of scrofula, frequently at an early period of life, and as far as relates to numerical strength, we seldom find an increase. If we look at the feathered creation, or animals in a state of nature, we shall find that each seeks his mate amongst strangers, a manifest indication of the wise decree of Providence to prevent the extinction of the species.

From what has been already stated, it would seem that an importation of Arabian blood might be beneficially introduced into our racing stock; and such is my opinion: but the breeder will urge as an objection the inferior size of the genuine Arabian, and that it will take several successive removes before that length of stride can be obtained, for which the English racer is distinguished above all horses in the world. And there certainly



is great weight in this objection, unless some of those horses mentioned by Bruce could be procured, and which have been already noticed in former numbers.

In breeding for the turf, the great object to be attained is speed, and the power or capacity of maintaining it. In the troop horse and the hunter, more substance and more strength are requisite, united with as much speed as possible. The racer is taught or trained to throw all his force forward, and to go as near the ground as possible for the purpose of attaining the greatest possible speed. The troop horse and the hunter are taught to acquire a more lofty action for the purpose of safety. The hack forms another variety; a thoroughly good hack is seldom met with. Cobs seem at present to be the favourites: a hack should be a strong compact animal, and a safe goer.

Let it not be forgotten that the mode of going in the horse is the effect of education; and that a thorough-bred horse will just as easily acquire the more lofty action of the war horse, the hunter, or the hack, as the daisy-cutting method of the course.

Now, if I could so rule it, I would have the four varieties which I have enumerated thorough-bred or full blood, since from the superior form and texture of the thorough-bred horse he is capable of enduring more fatigue, his paces are lighter, more elastic, and consequently easier to his rider. But in the thorough-bred horse, great difficulty is experienced in attaining the requisite bulk. However we seldom meet with a saddle horse, at the present day, destitute of blood; and as the English are distinguished above all other people for their attachment to horse flesh, and since we have many incontestible proofs of the extraordinary improvements in physiology effected by genius and perseverance, we may perhaps at no distant period, witness this consummation so devoutly to be wished, nothing but blood under the saddle. In such a case our cavalry, at present superior to that of any other nation, would be invincible.

It is, however, to the race course that we are to look principally for improvement; for to such perfection has racing arrived, that out of vast numbers bred for the course, few are found to possess the requisite qualities, and consequently come into the hands of the fox-hunter, the stage-master, &c. &c.

So convinced, indeed, have foreigners become of the superiority of our horses, that for some time back several German noblemen have imported many of them for the purpose of improving the inferior breed of their own country. They have also, in imitation of this country, established races, aware that the best (if not the only) method of acquiring and keeping up a superior breed of horses, must arise from the excitement and indefatigable emulation which they call into action. Many of the French nobility and men of wealth have energetically entered into the spirit of improvement in their breed of horses: I have

already mentioned that Louis Philippe purchased that magnificent animal Lottery; the form of this horse is almost everything that could be desired: his temper alone is to be dreaded; and, if it can be neutralized in his progeny, by far the most likely mode of accomplishing that object is crossing him with foreign stock. Even as far as relates to consanguinity, if the nearest degrees were placed in early life in different climates, and the food varied (according to the circumstances of the climates), and afterwards brought together for the purpose of procreation, the defective or diseased stock which, under other circumstances, would not fail to ensue, might perhaps be in a great measure avoided.

The French Monarch is no sportsman; so far from it, he does not hesitate to express his aversion for the sports of the field; and a similar remark will apply to him in regard to the turf: yet, from an ardent desire to improve the horses of his country, and particularly those used in the cavalry, he becomes the patron of the race course, as well as a spectator of its animating operations.

However, our Continental neighbours would do well, when they are importing horses from this country, to import grooms also, and indeed jockeys, if they are anxious for eminence on the course; since, in regard to these two classes, they are placed at an immeasurable distance. This, in fact, they have done to a certain extent; but adopt what plan they will, a century at least must elapse before they can enter into any thing like rivalry with the English turf. The system of grooming in England (as far at least as relates to the race-horse) is frequently overstrained, of which the plan pursued by the Chifneys is a striking illustration. As far as relates to jockeyship, it has attained the acmé of perfection, as exemplified in the riding of Robinson, of Chifney, of Day, of Darling: these men have reached the head of their profession, they constitute the first class: the second class is composed of such men as G. Edwards, W. Scott, Pavis, Conolly, Chappell, Lye, Spring, &c.: in the third class may be placed Wheatley, Nelson, Templeman, Lear, &c. The very worst class of the English jocks are, beyond all comparison, superior to those of France and the Continent. The latter do not understand the method of husbanding the horse's powers, of taking a pull at him, of lifting him along, and of bringing him well home when beaten; in fact, they have no idea of the finishing touches of the art.

The Americans have of late years entered into turf affairs with unparalleled intensity and spirit; they have, like the English, imbibed an invincible passion for horse-racing. I have several times observed, in the course of this paper, that *like produces like*, and hence we perceive the same feeling in the Americans which has long been so strikingly characteristic of their progenitors. Our transatlantic brethren have spared no expence in

procuring horses from this country; and, as might be expected, have at times been most egregiously duped. The most barefaced trick which has, perhaps, ever been successfully played upon them, is the case of Autocrat; a grey horse, bred by the Earl of Derby, from whom he was purchased for twenty-five pounds, by Jackson, the person who brought to this country those unparalleled trotters, Rattler and Tom Thumb. Autocrat never distinguished himself as a racer, nor, indeed, was such a circumstance possible, as he exhibited not one single good point. It is something more than two years since I saw him at Liverpool, in the stable of Mr. Lucas, immediately prior to his embarkation for America. Autocrat is an inveterate crib-biter, a confirmed roarer, and has the worst fore legs I ever saw; from an attentive examination of this horse, I came to the conclusion, that his blood had become impure, his constitution diseased; effects similar to what may be expected from the system of breeding in and in. Recurring to the maxim, that like produces like, what mischief must ensue, since, at this moment, this Autocrat, this rotten horse, is the favourite stallion in the United States! Jackson took with him, to America, papers which he got printed in this country for the purpose of deception, and, by this and similar manœuvres, so far did he succeed in the fraud, that he sold a share of the horse for a large sum, if I be not mistaken, for something approaching one thousand pounds. This same Jackson also purchased Hedgeford, a third-rate weedy horse; yet has this man, by means similar to those already mentioned, contrived to raise this horse also in respect as a stallion. These are convincing proofs that the Americans have much to learn in regard to turf affairs; that, in fact, they are incapable of forming a correct opinion for themselves, since a very indifferent judge of horse flesh would not fail to turn with contempt from the two animals in question. Jackson, however, has already realized a little fortune by the double cheat!

But our Transatlantic brethren obtained a valuable acquisition in Fylde, bred by the late Mr. Clifton, of Lytham, Lancashire, Fylde proved himself a very superior racer: his legs are perfect (a rare circumstance) his constitution good, his form fine; he is something above sixteen hands, accompanied with action as light and as pretty as possible. Yet has this splendid horse been thrown into the back ground by such a diseased ugly brute as Autocrat.

The Americans have received several valuable animals from this country, besides Fylde, particularly through the medium of Mr. Thos. Conah of Liverpool, nor can the Trans-Atlantic turfites do better than trust their commissions to this gentleman, Mr. Connah was anxious to have purchased Lettery, but was outbid by the king of the French. Mr. Corbin, a gentleman from Virginia, not long since purchased Sir Hercules, as well as

several other thorough-breds for the American stud.

Once more let it be remarked, that those who breed from imperfect or diseased animals ought not to expect good stock. The main and leading principle should be to select the sire and dam with fine forms, sound constitutions, free from blemish, and in the vigor of life: then, and then only, can satisfactory results be reasonably anticipated. If we take a glance at vegetable nature, we shall find that the agriculturist, from long experience, has become well aware that if his seed be defective, diseased, or of an inferior quality, he cannot expect a good or healthy crop: hence, the grain which he deposits in the earth is selected with the greatest care. It need hardly be observed how powerfully this principle applies to the object under consideration.

#### CONCLUSIVE OBSERVATIONS.

From what has been stated in the preceding pages, if the reader will reflect for one moment, he will perceive, that, as the thorough-bred horse exhibits a very superior animal organization, inasmuch as his bone is larger and more solid, his tendon stronger, and much better defined, his muscle more firm and more elastic: in fact, as his form and quality are so much superior, it results that he is much more active, much more fleet and much more powerful, than any other variety of the tribe. In consequence of this admirable concentration of superior qualities, he will not only perform much more labour in a given space of time, repeat the task oftener, but comes much quicker round again if he happens to be over-marked; that is, when over-fatigued, he sooner becomes re-invigorated than an animal of inferior blood. When a horse of the latter description has been over-marked, his spirit sinks, and he frequently dies under it; should this not happen, his recovery is slow, and his restoration seldom, if ever, complete.

If we pursue the investigation, we shall find that the thorough-bred horse is as remarkable for his instinctive sagacity as for the superiority of his animal powers: he is more susceptible of education than others of his tribe, and is consequently sooner instructed in whatever may be required of him, arising no doubt from his superior energy and courage, qualities which uniformly produce great confidence. If we look to other varieties of animated nature, to birds for instance, we shall find that the bolder and more courageous the bird, the more easily is he taught the lessons which man chooses to impart. Of the truth of this maxim, those beautiful birds, the Peregrine Falcon and the Merlin Hawk, are incontestible illustrations. No person can contemplate the impression (or *expression*, perhaps, would be a better term) of the Peregrine Falcon without feeling a conviction of the bird's undaunted courage: to say nothing of the peculiar mode in which he is armed for war or rapine, his erect attitude, his very



large bold eye, its clear, vigorous, and unquailing expression, unite in producing the idea of a very superior and a very energetic spirit. The Merlin Hawk may be regarded as a dwarf Peregrine Falcon: similar in form, form and expression, similar in plumage, similar in habits, the difference in these birds may be said to result merely from the size, the Peregrine being thrice as large as the Merlin. In one respect, however, they perfectly agree: they immediately become familiar with man, and evince a susceptibility of education which will be vainly sought in any other class, variety, or ramification, of the feathered creation. I believe, indeed, that it will be found to obtain, throughout animated nature, that the more courageous the animal, the more easily is it domesticated, and, induced to assume habits at variance with its original destination.

Hence, we may very reasonably conclude, that, as the thorough-bred horse possesses greater courage than the baser breeds, so is he more capable of receiving instructions. I must recapitulate:—being more powerful, more active, more fleet, more capable of enduring fatigue, more courageous (and consequently more tractable, and an apter scholar), than any other variety of his tribe, he is consequently infinitely better calculated for military purposes.

If we take a slight glance at the period when the Turks first rushed into Europe and cut to pieces the disciplined legions of the emperor of the East, we shall find that they uniformly placed their principal dependence on their cavalry, which was numerous; and (though, as far as related to military movements, was what might be justly termed irregular) proved invincible. Their horses, though not exactly what we understand by the genuine Arabian, were, nevertheless, nearly allied to him, and infinitely superior to those of their opponents; further, they were more tractable—they obeyed the most trifling motion of the rider with astonishing alacrity; consequently the latter, owing to the little trouble he experienced in the management of his horse, was enabled to use his scimeter with more activity and effect. When the Turks, after they became possessed of Constantinople, invaded Italy, their army consisted chiefly of cavalry, and, though they thus opposed themselves to the best disciplined troops and the most skilful leaders of those times, the Italian soldiers, both horse and foot, were utterly unequal to the task of successfully opposing these active, though semi-barbarous, horsemen. To the very same cause we may attribute the overthrow and destruction of Crassus and his army by the Parthians.

What is the present mode of providing horses for the British army? It is accomplished through the instrumentality of agency. When horses are wanted, persons are employed to procure them at a stipulated price. It becomes the object, therefore, of those persons to

procure the horses at the lowest price possible, in order to enhance their profits: so long as the animal will pass, it is sufficient for their purpose—it is all they aim at; and it need scarcely be remarked, that the sinister influence which such a system is calculated to bring into active operation, must be productive of the worst consequences. To say nothing of the speculation which will not fail to result, the horses appointed for a particular regiment will be uniformly found ill-assorted individuals. The colour may not be an outrage upon the order received; the height and the age may be equally unobjectionable; but in what manner have these animals been educated?—that is, for what purpose have they been employed prior to the period when they came into the hands of the contractors for the army? Not in any thing analogous to the military manege or military manoeuvres, but, as they have arrived at that age when their habits may be said to have become fixed, they are consequently ill calculated for the purpose for which they have been brought together: and therefore it is impossible for our cavalry to reach that degree of perfection which, under other circumstances, (that is, under a correct system of breeding, training, and management,) might be confidently anticipated; which might, indeed, most certainly be accomplished; and that, too, at a much less expence than the government is at present called upon to pay for an establishment of a very inferior quality.

If we look at human nature, it is very well known, that one person will excel as a mechanic, another as a musician, and so on; and that it is utterly impossible for the same individual to become an adept in every art and science; and, above all, that when once habits have become fixed, that when a man has exercised any art for a considerable length of time, it is no easy task for that person to abandon his established occupation and acquire a tolerable knowledge of a profession differing very widely from it. No; if we are anxious to attain perfection in any art or science, we should pursue that, and that only. If, therefore, we apply this reasoning to the brute creation, we ought surely to make every allowance for the horse, whose faculties can bear no comparison with those by which human nature is so pre-eminently distinguished.

It will naturally enough be asked, how I would remedy the evils of which I complain? To which I answer,—I would breed the horses for military purposes, and train them exclusively for that employment. A horse that has been trained to the course and raced for several years, very rarely, if ever, makes a good hunter. His business as a racer has taught him a mode of going, inconsistent with the character of the chase, and the horse therefore experiences the utmost difficulty in abandoning what, from “habit, has become second nature,” and substituting an action to which he has never been accustomed, and which he consequently does not understand.

I have often heard it remarked, that the thorough-bred horse seldom jumps well, an idea which has arisen from the racer having been removed to the hunting stable, and been forced into a new profession, with his racing habits and modes confirmed upon him.

The quality of cavalry must mainly arise from the horses. This indispensable part of an army, to be absolutely efficient, must be mounted accordingly. I would therefore have horses bred purposely for the military, as I have already observed: I would have them trained for that purpose, and that only, and, inasmuch as their attention would be always directed to the same system, a degree of superiority, or comparative perfection, would be attained which it is impossible can result from the present, or, indeed, any other, plan. When I say that I would have the horses thorough-bred, I shall be asked how I would contrive to produce them with sufficient bulk for military purposes? To which I answer, that, having shewn the surprising alterations (not to say improvements) which have been effected in animals; having also instanced the hunters of Mr. Little Gilmour, (to which I could add those of Mr. Wynne, of Shrewsbury: of the late Mr. Scarisbrick, of Scarisbrick Hall, Lancashire: those of Sir J. L. L. Kaye, of the Grange, Yorkshire; and a score of other instances;) I entertain not a shadow of doubt of being able to produce thorough-breds sufficiently bulky, not only for the Dragoons, but for the Horse Guards Blue, and the Life Guards also. Let it, however, be steadily kept in mind, that bulk, without blood, amounts to nothing, as far as relates to the present subject; or, in other words, quantity (measurement or dimensions,) will not supply the deficiency of quality. A square inch of bone from a thorough-bred horse is much heavier than a square inch from a cart-horse, the latter being more porous, or less solid, than the former. The same remark will apply to the tendon and the muscle. Consequently, a thorough-bred horse will be stronger than a cart horse, in little more than half the compass. It is asserted (and I have no doubt of the fact,) that the thorough-bred horse can support a greater weight on his back than the cart horse. Prior to the commencement of the late war, and for some time after it broke out, the Blues (and the Life Guards also,) were mounted upon absolute *cart horses*, and became convinced from woful experience, that such animals would not answer the purpose. The Blues were sent to Flanders in the early part of the war, when it became manifest that their horses were miserably deficient in activity; that they were unable to endure the fatigues, or support the privations of campaigning. The greater part of them died. But I must honestly confess that I should not like to be confined to the colour of the horses which are used by the two last-mentioned regiments, were I to be employed for the purpose in question, as I feel a paramount objection to black—it is a

presumptive proof of base blood. I shall be told that black racers have been seen on the course: I have seen them myself, but never saw a superior racer of that colour. Black-and-all-black, I shall be told, was a superior horse, and a similar remark may be extended to several others: but as I never either saw or heard of a genuine black Arabian, these black thorough-breds shew that they have inherited the colour, at least, from base blood; and where the baser colour appears, I should be suspicious of the quality.

This country affords every facility for carrying the plan into execution, of government breeding horses for military purposes. It would be quite unnecessary that horses bred for our cavalry should, in early life, be artificially fed to repletion, like the racer; on the contrary, when the foals were sufficiently old and strong to leave their dams, they might be allowed to run in the different forests and crown lands (under proper management, be it remembered,) during not only the early part, but for a great period of their education. I shall not go into a minute detail of the plan, as I do not imagine it is likely to be carried into execution, though the circumstances of the times are well calculated for such an undertaking: nor can any doubt be entertained by those who are capable of forming an opinion on the subject, that an *invincible* cavalry might be thus formed at less than half the expence at which it is at present got together.

### PHRENITIS IN SHEEP.

By MR. J. TAIT, PORTSOY.

(From the *Veterinarian*.)

Some time ago I was requested to look at a flock of sheep belonging to a farmer in Forfarshire. Upon inquiry, I found that the sheep, owing to the dry season (1826,) had been considerably stinted in their food in the summer time, and that they had been, about a month before I saw them, staked in a field of very fine turnips. The appearance of the sheep was rather strange; for about a minute they appeared quite dull, and then all at once became quite frantic, dashing themselves on the ground, and running at every person within their reach; others would all at once spring from the ground and fall down and die.

I caught one, and bled her copiously, which seemed to relieve her much. I then gave her a dose of Epsom salts, which in a few days produced a cure, and by such simple treatment many of the sheep recovered.

On examining those that died, they invariably presented the following appearances:—On opening the abdomen the peritoneal covering of the bowels appeared more vascular than in its natural state, and there was some black spots on the mucous membrane of the small intestines. The lungs were very much congested. On opening the cranium, I found the vessels of the brain turgid, and almost in a bursting state, and in fact, in some cases, rupture had actually taken place, for there was an effusion of the blood on the surface of the brain:

The flock was immediately removed from the turnip field, and turnips were given to them more sparingly, which soon put a stop to the epidemic, if I may so term it.



## SPEECH OF THE EARL OF DARLINGTON

AT A DINNER GIVEN TO HIM BY THE AGRICULTURISTS OF THE SOUTH DIVISION OF  
SHROPSHIRE, on the 17th OCT.

The Earl of DARLINGTON rose, and, after a few preliminary remarks, said he must confess there was a time, and not a very distant one, when he hoped that he might now have stood in a situation to congratulate them on better days, or at least on the early prospect of them. (*Hear, hear.*) He was sorry to say, however, that his expectations had not been realized: and he regretted it so much the more, as the manufacturing, commercial, shipping, and every other interest except the agricultural interest was thriving and prosperous. The agricultural interest alone was in a state of suffering and depression. This would appear more extraordinary when he assured the meeting that at the present time—he spoke from authority—there was a most decided majority in the House of Commons of friends to the protection of agriculture. (*Hear, hear.*) He said this would astonish them, inasmuch as they would naturally ask, why, if this were the case, something had not been done for their relief? (*Hear, hear.*) He would fairly state what, in his opinion, was the only circumstance why this had not taken place—viz. that although there was a decided majority for agricultural protection, and although that majority was firmly united against any competition of foreign corn, they were not united as to what was the real cause of agricultural distress, and still more were they disunited as to what were the proper remedies for that distress. (*Hear, hear.*) He was warranted in saying this, from what had taken place this very session in the House of Commons: many distinct propositions had been brought forward, but from want of union amongst their friends it had been impossible to carry any of them. (*Hear, hear.*) What had these measures been? It was far from his wish to countenance any delusion, or lead them to believe that it was in the power of parliament suddenly to convert a state of adversity into a state of prosperity; but parliament had at least in its power to do a little, and to raise the drooping spirits of the farmers, and to make at least a beginning in the good work. (*Cheers.*) Three distinct propositions had been made for the relief of the farmer during the past session of parliament; first, it was proposed to mitigate his burdens by means of reduction of taxation. Now he was free to say, with regard to general taxation, that there was but one tax which pressed heavily on the farmer individually, and that was the malt tax. (*Hear, hear.*) The motion for the repeal of that tax was made by the Marquis of Chandos on the 10th of March last. The way in which it was brought forward caused a great deal of disunion in the agricultural camp; for though it was readily admitted that the repeal of the tax would, in certain districts, give great relief, yet that such relief would not affect agriculture generally, but partially, inasmuch as there were many districts in which no barley was grown, and some counties in England in which but very little or no malt liquor, was consumed by the labouring classes. To Shropshire, however, it would be of great advantage, not only to the growers of barley, but to the consumers of beer, and he was therefore one of those who had exerted themselves most strenuously for the repeal of this tax. (*Loud cheers.*) The arguments were, however, very strong against them, and excited a very general feeling not only in parliament, but throughout the kingdom, that the relief which it

promised would not at that time compensate for the great defalcation of revenue which it would occasion. The second question was the relief of the agriculturists by the reduction of local burdens. It was the opinion of those who supported this mode of relief, that there were certain local burdens which now fell peculiarly on the farmer, which ought to fall generally on the community at large; and although the relief, if obtained, would, after all, have been to a small amount, yet that was a greater reason why it should not have been denied. The Marquis of Chandos again brought forward a motion for relieving the farmer from part of the highway-rate, and a small part of the county-rate, which, perhaps, in all, would not have amounted to 200,000*l.* a year—a mere drop in the ocean of taxation (*hear*); yet this motion even was violently opposed, and lost by a large majority. Now in considering what measures might be brought forward to relieve the farmer of local burdens, which fell peculiarly upon him, there was one above all others, and that was the poor-rate. (*Hear, hear.*) The poor-rate at present amounted to somewhat like 6,000,000*l.* a-year. The way to do justice to the farmer was not to make it a parish tax, as it now was, but a state tax. (*Cheers.*) Then every man, every interest—the manufacturing, the moneyed, and all other interests—would contribute their share to that which now fell almost wholly upon the farmer. Nothing was more absurd than the assertion that this rate was not paid by the farmer. He was perfectly aware that to a certain extent it fell upon other interests: but all the other interests combined did not pay more than one-sixth part of the whole, whilst the remaining five-sixths were paid by the landed interest. (*Hear.*) That was allowable certainly at the time when poor-rates were first instituted, and when they were very properly made payable mainly out of the land; for at that time the land was almost the only source of wealth, and it was perfectly fair that all such burdens should be thrown upon it. Now the case was widely different. Now there were many other employments, far more profitable; and, depressed as the agricultural interest now was, if not relieved in this way, it was very difficult to see how it could be relieved at all. (*Hear, hear.*) Then came the third question, that of an alteration in the currency. (*Hear, hear.*) On this point he would not at present enter into detail, but would reserve himself for an early occasion, when he would take the opportunity of delivering in full his sentiments upon this most important branch of the subject. He was convinced that almost all the causes of agricultural distress proceeded from the existing state of the currency. It was, however, a complicated subject, one in which a great variety of opinions existed, and one in which it would be very difficult to effect any alteration. At the same time necessity knew no law, and it could not be denied that Mr. Peel's bill of 1819 had made a much greater change in the prospects of every interest, especially the agricultural, than had ever been anticipated by the warmest promoters of it. (*Hear, hear, hear.*) The time had indeed arrived, when every landlord and landed occupier in the country would be totally ruined unless some alteration took place. (*Hear, hear.*) That was the state of the case at the present moment. His object had been not to advert to general politics, but to set before them the existing state of the agricultural interest, and to suggest for their more mature consideration those measures which, in his opinion, were calculated to remedy the evil (*cheers*); and he would, in conclusion, assure them, that so long as he continued

a member of the House of Commons, his unabating, zealous, and undivided attention should be given to their service. He would in every respect devote himself to their cause, and never sleep on his post, but diligently watch every measure affecting them; he would to the utmost of his power promote their individual interest, convinced that in so doing he would only do his best to promote the true interests of the community at large. (*The noble earl sat down amidst general cheering*).

ULSTER.—The generality of persons passing under the denomination of farmers in this part of Ireland are nothing more than cottier tenants, holding from year to year small patches of land, which vary in extent from six, ten, fifteen, to twenty acres. In some instances, and those not a few, the rent is as high as 3*l* or 4*l* an acre, and the agent of the landlord (a person called a bailiff in England) is rigorous in enforcing payment to the last penny. Now the present price of the best wheat that comes to market is not more than 8*s* the cwt. (112*lb*), and the prices of pork, butter, and every other article of agricultural produce, were never within the memory of man known to be so low as at this moment. You may judge, then, of the extreme difficulty which such a farmer as I have described finds in meeting the demands upon him, even though he toils incessantly from morning till night, and except on very rare occasions, denies himself and his family a morsel of that pork, or a particle of that butter, which he disposes of to such little account in the market. Having always, however, the fear of ejectment before his eyes, he contrives somehow or other to be prepared for the visit of the agent, for the face of his landlord he scarcely ever sees, and the rent-day is this and in every other quarter, from Ballycastle to Crookhaven, is like anything in the world but that delightful picture which the graphic pencil of Wilkie has so admirably painted. Instead of seeing parties with gladsome countenances grouped together in the Squire's parlour, and the butler preparing to supply them with libations of his master's best port while they are regaling themselves, you here behold persons whose faces never look gloomy or anxious, except when the Squire's agent is expected. In remote districts, where he has no general place of rendezvous for all the tenants to assemble, he goes round from cottage to cottage with a pen and ink at his button-hole, like a tax collector. He enters with an air that tells the inmates his visit must be short, as his time is precious. His brow bespeaks the very sternness of exaction. The farmer (if I might so call him), anticipating his arrival, has already in his hand a little bag tied at both ends. In the one corner rolled up in a piece of soiled paper are three or four bank notes, and in the other a quantity of silver, with copper money enough to make up the fractional part of whatever may be the sum due. The whole is instantly transferred from the poor man's bag to the agent's well-lined pockets, and not one farthing is ever remitted in consequence of bad crops or low prices. The word "abatement," according to the English interpretation of it, is not known in the agrarian vocabulary of Ireland. This is all that the tenant knows of his landlord, or sees of his landlord's agent, until the next period of payment comes round, unless, being either unprepared or refractory, he should hear from both through a third character, termed a "driver," in which case he will do so at the expense of his house and home.

BEEs.—A hive of bees belonging to Mr. Fletcher Greenip, of Portinscale, near Keswick, was taken some time since, which weighed 100*lbs*., the hive only weighed 62*lbs* when the raiser was taken off. Such was the situation of the hive, that but one raiser could be placed under it, which compelled the bees to sit on the outside for more than a month before it was taken. They swarmed on the 20th of June, and were therefore little more than 60 days in the hive; a more extraordinary short period for the production of so large a quantity of honey was scarcely ever known.

## DEVON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Fourth Annual Ploughing Match for the premiums offered by this Society, took place on Tuesday, Oct. 20th, in a field on Raddon Court Barton, Thorverton, the farm of Mr. Reynolds; when the premiums were adjudged as follows:—

|                                                                                      | £. | s. | d. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| First prize to No. 6, John Cousins, Ploughman to J. H. Ley, Esq., Trehill.....       | 2  | 2  | 0  |
| Second ditto, to No. 11, Thos. Coles, Ploughman to Mr. James Gould, Broadclyst ..... | 1  | 10 | 0  |
| Third ditto, to No. 21, John Hill, Ploughman to Mr. S. Drew, Exminster.....          | 1  | 0  | 0  |
| Fourth ditto, to No. 14, Wm. Embury, Ploughman to Mr. Charles Drew, Bradninch.....   | 0  | 15 | 0  |
| Fifth ditto, to No. 24, Daniel Field, Ploughman to Mr. George Field, Sandford....    | 0  | 10 | 0  |
| Sixth ditto, to No. 20, John Grant, Ploughman to Mr. Pridham, Cheriton Fitzpaine..   | 0  | 7  | 6  |

### OX PLOUGHS.

|                                                                                      |   |    |   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----|---|
| First prize, to No. 4, George Ewings, Ploughman to Mr. John Tremlett, Sandford ..... | 1 | 0  | 0 |
| Second ditto, to No. 3, Thomas Granger, Ploughman to Mrs. Griffin, Broadclyst..      | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| Third ditto, to No. 5, John Harding, Ploughman to Mr. John Upcott, Thorverton .....  | 0 | 10 | 0 |

The Judges recommended No. 17, Wm. Horwell, ploughman to Mr. Ware; and No. 18, John Tothill, ploughman to Mr. Fisher, to the notice of the Committee; and also No. 15, William Chamberlain, servant to Mr. Reynolds; and No. 19, William Jerand, servant to Mr. Hutchings, (both lads,) to each 5 shillings were awarded by the Committee.

The President was John Hipsley Tuckfield, Esq.; Vice President, Edward Simcoe Drew, Esq.

The Judges were Mr. John Wippell, Mr. Francis Pratt, Mr. Thomas Milton.

The competition was exceedingly good, and the ploughing was pronounced to be superior to any ever before witnessed in the County.

## HEREFORDSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

At the Annual exhibiton, after the Judges had inspected the Stock, the Prizes were awarded as follow:—

1. Best two-year-old Heifer, a cup presented by T. A. Knight, Esq. was awarded to W. C. Hayton Esq.; but the Prize was withheld in consequence of it not being adjudged to a Herefordshire man, and two cups will be presented next year for the best Heifer.
  2. Best pair of yearlings, a cup presented by Sir R. Price, Bart. M. P. awarded to W. C. Hayton Esq.
  3. Best pair two-year-olds, a cup presented by E. T. Foley, Esq. M. P. was awarded to Mr. Turner, of Noke.
  4. Six best yearling Steers, a cup presented by Kedgwin Hoskins, Esq. M. P. awarded to Mr. Thomas Yeld, of the Broom.
  5. Best pair two-year-old Steers, a cup presented by W. C. Hayton Esq. awarded to Mr. Turner, of the Noke.
  6. Four best yearling Ewes, a cup presented by Society, to Mr. Robt. Tully, of Huntingdon.
  7. Four best yearling Wethers, a cup by the Society, to Mr. John Tench, of Bromfield, in this county.
  8. Four best yearling Ewes, a cup by the Society, to Mr. Robt. Tully, of Huntingdon.
- Amongst the extra Stock exhibited this day, and



which attracted universal admiration, was a fat cow of extraordinary merit, bred and fed by Mr. John Turner of Noke, brought in a caravan to the Show; and one of the fattest ewes ever seen at the Show, the property of Mr. Culsha, of Eign Hill near Hereford.

The cattle sent by the following gentlemen also excited general admiration;—Six Steers belonging to Mr. Tench, but disqualified for the prize, Mr. T. having gained it last year.—Cattle sent by Mr. Adams, Marden, Mr. C. A. Mason, Tarrington, Mr. Morris, Stockton, Mr. Peary, Monkland, &c. &c. and Sheep by Mr. Phelps, Sellack, P. Jones, Esq., Sugwas, Mr. Hewer, Above Eign, &c. &c.

In the evening a numerous and highly respectable company sat down to a sumptuous dinner at the Hotel, P. Jones, of Sugwas, Esq. in the chair, the worthy President, Sir G. Cornewall, Bart. we regret to state being prevented from attending owing to indisposition; every seat at the tables in the great room was occupied, and several were obliged to dine in an adjoining apartment. The evening was past in the friendly discussion of various topics connected with agriculture, and festive enjoyment enlivened the cheerful board till a late hour.

## NEW FACTS IN PROOF OF THE ADVANTAGE OF SPAYING MILCH COWS.

By M. REGERE, M. V., BORDEAUX.

(From the Veterinarian.)

Several instances have been related in your Journal of the good effect resulting from the spaying of milch cows. I would beg leave to add some cases which have come under my own observation. The cows were taken from the best dairies, but, for obvious reasons, I selected those that had met with some accident at the time of calving.

CASE I.—A large cow fifteen years old, had calved on the 24th January, 1834, and had, a few days after parturition, given from three to four gallons of milk per day. On the 22nd of April following, she yielded only two or two and half gallons. I then operated upon her. The pain of the operation, and the restricted diet to which she was afterwards subjected, diminished the produce to half that quantity.

As soon as the consequent inflammation had disappeared, and the cow returned to her usual food, the flow of milk rapidly increased; and, in fifteen days after the operation, the wound having healed, she yielded daily from two to two and a half gallons, and that quantity has not yet diminished. She has also taken on a disposition to fatten, and is in better condition than she ever was before. She has once shown a desire for the bull, but was not sent to him.

CASE II.—A small cow, six years old, calved on the 26th of March, 1834, and at that time yielded two gallons and a-half of milk per day. On the 30th of April she gave two gallons, and she was then spayed. She suffered little from the operation; her milk did not diminish, and she yields the same quantity to the present day. She has not shewn any longing for the bull.

CASE III.—A little cow calved on the 12th of April, 1834.—Some days afterwards she yielded two gallons of milk per day, and she was operated upon the 13th of May. She seemed, for a considerable time afterwards, to be in a poor state of health; her skin became yellow; the hair fell off in patches, and particularly about her fore-quarters. She moaned sadly from time to time, and her appetite considerably diminished. The quantity of milk remained the same.

On June 20th she seemed to be really ill, and yielded, during seven days, little more than a gallon of milk per day. The quantity gradually lessened after that period and continued to decrease until the end of July, when she was evidently dropsical. She was sometimes better, and sometimes worse, until the 4th of September, when she died.

Two pounds of a bloody serosity were found in the thorax. The lungs contained numerous tubercles; some hard, and even stony, and some soft, and others filled with purulent matter.

On opening the belly it contained, at least, seven gallons of a similar fluid. The fourth stomach and some of the intestines were softened and black, and the food contained in the first stomachs was fetid. The liver, enlarged and yellow, was softened, and it also contained many tubercles, hard or soft.

The womb was unaffected, except the extremities of the two cornua, which were of a yellow colour, and hard. Few traces of the operation of spaying remained, unless in the sublumbar region, in which a spot of a blackish colour was seen where each ovary had existed. A white tenacious tissue had united the incision made through the abdominal muscles, and caused the parietes of the abdomen to adhere strongly to the skin.

This examination after death proved that the cow was not lost from any morbid consequence of spaying, but from ascites, produced by the lesions stated, and which had existed before the operation.

CASES IV & V.—Two cows were operated upon in the month of May of the same year. One eight years old, and giving two gallons of milk per day, and that had calved on the 10th of April, was spayed on the 8th of May. She suffered from the operation, and did not give more than two or three quarts per day; but she soon recovered, and when the wound was healed, yielded her usual quantity, and which she continues to do unto the present period.

The other aged ten years, and that had calved on the 15th of April, and gave, a month afterwards, nine quarts of milk per day, was spayed on the 15th of May. In four days after the operation she gave again her usual quantity of milk; this increased to ten quarts, and she yields that unto the present day.

These cows showed a disposition for, and went to the bull several times after the operation; and, being incapable of conceiving, the oestrus returns on them periodically. The first has been with the bull four times, and the other twice.

These five cows have continued to yield the same quantity of milk which they gave at the time at which they were spayed; and this, on a fair calculation of the usual gradual diminution of the secretion, is double the amount that would otherwise have been obtained in the whole period. We must not yet go farther than this, but if cows that have been spayed should continue to yield such an extra quantity of milk as long as they live, the operation will be valuable indeed.

Recueil, June 1835.

TRIFOLIUM INCARNATUM.—We have witnessed what appears to us a very improved method of sowing that estimable crop for green fodder, the Trifolium Incarnatum. The land was ploughed, and effectually cleared of weeds and couch. The surface was then rolled till it became very solid, and in that state was very correctly harrowed, the teeth of the instrument forming straight shallow drills. In these half of the seed was sown: then the field was cross-harrowed, and the remainder of the seed was sown in these second drills; finally, the ground was harrowed the third time to cover the seeds. The season was the middle of September: the sowings were made broad-cast; but as in all such cases, the major part of the seeds fall into the drills. It is evident that this method must secure the grand desiderata of clean well-moved land, and a state of solidity which suits the plant. It has been said that it will not prosper in moved ground, but we know that this opinion is incorrect; and it is at best a slovenly practice to sow upon stubble, which has been merely raised by the scarifier. It is now too late to sow Trifolium but it may answer if the season be deferred till March.

## AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS.

TO THE LANDOWNERS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

My Lords and Gentlemen,—The arduous Parliamentary duties in which many of you have been engaged, and all interested, being over, you are for a while relieved from your attendance and anxiety, and have retired into the country, there peacefully to repose amidst your neighbours and tenantry, and much as you have heard of agricultural distress in both Houses of Parliament, and much as you have read in the public prints, you must be convinced that all you have heard falls far short of the reality, for agriculture is drooping and decaying on every hand. Being, doubtless, well prepared, as well as anxious, to adopt any reasonable plan to relieve and ameliorate, if you are not able altogether to remedy, this appalling situation of things, I take the liberty of thus addressing through you the medium of the press, for the purpose of unfolding the causes and origin of it; for on our knowing this all our probabilities of successfully applying a remedy depend.

The low price of corn;—the pressure of the poor rates; and the want of confidence in the markets, are beyond dispute, the causes of the deficiency in the farmer's return for his labour and capital, and which, of course, hastens him rapidly to ruin. But what originated two of these evils, and increased the other? This is the question for your consideration. I assert without fear of successful contradiction, that it is the *large farm system*. You may probably startle a little at this, but examine immediately, and you will see whether or not I am able to maintain the opinion. The low price of corn, and the pressure of the poor rates, depend so upon, and are connected so with, one another (as I shall presently show,) that I shall not attempt to separate them in examining their bearing upon the present state of things.

You are all aware, my Lords and Gentlemen, that the present large holdings arose during the time when corn was selling remarkably high, at the expense, and to the destruction, of a number of small farms, which monopolists endeavoured to unite; and not a few by means of bribery, and connexion with the land agents; and by taking them over the heads of their less influential neighbours, and thus grasping as much as possible of the profits resulting from farming at that period. And what became of the small holders? They were obliged to live upon their little capital as long as it lasted, and then apply to the parish to keep them, their wives, and their families. Now they can only be kept by the land, and the question is, whether they are to be supported by their own honest and independent exertions; or by the contributions from the land in the form of poor rates, to encourage idleness and vice? But what was the effect of this? It increased the number of labourers in the parishes, and they apply to the large farmers for employment, perhaps upon the very land, of which, had the moderate size system been encouraged, they might have been masters. But no; he has no employ for him: the large farmer has his thrashing machine, and wants far fewer hands than the small farmer employed, who thrashes all with his flail. It matters little to him that the farmer can afford to sell his produce for less money by this—he has nothing to buy it with, but what comes from the parish funds, and here then is another way in which the system presses upon the poor-rates. Now it must be evident that any thing which increases the poor-rates, *must increase the expense at which the farmer raises his corn*; it is in fact a tax upon his produce, and a tax which Ireland, which supplies us with corn duty free, does not pay.—Poland does not pay it; nor is it paid by any of the foreign corn which is imported into this country; and so long as the poor-rates continue to press upon the land in the extensive and increasing manner they do, the English farmer cannot compete either with Ireland, or our continental neighbours, in the growth of their corn. But the large farm system causes a less consumption of farm produce. The almost extinguished small farmers are dragging out a miserable and heartless existence upon parish pittance, and they do not consume near so much of any kind of farm produce as

they would do, were they independent small farmers. It is a fact which cannot be doubted, that Great Britain now produces more corn than it consumes; and yet our population is vastly increasing, and our land is not extending; this is a paradox, and solved only by the fact, that the poverty of many consumers disables them from consuming as much as they otherwise would do; and to what is this referable but the above mentioned cause. This is the true cause of the un-remunerating price of corn, as well as that of the pressure of the poor rates, and no remedy for agricultural distress will be at all availing, unless a blow be struck at this mainspring of the evils under which agriculture groans. The moral effects of this system is equally terrible. Idleness, pauperism, dishonesty, incendiarism, and disobedience, are but small evils compared with what it produces, and then there is the maintenance of all this, and the prosecution of crimes attendant upon it, all fall upon the land, and all increase the expense of raising the corn. The large farmer too has an *unfair undue influence upon the markets*, and by his connection with corn dealers, his quantity in hand, and his procrastinating, speculating plans, and what it unsettles confidence, but actually influences the sale of the smaller farmer's produce. Now my Lords and Gentlemen, you have it in your power to stop this dreadful havoc which it is making, and destroying the very vitals of agriculture. Your land agents may approve, and contend for large farms, because they are less trouble to them, but heed them not. No farmer should occupy upwards of 150 acres;—it is as much as any man moderate in his wishes would desire;—and as much as any man of ordinary capacity, can well manage. Every three-hundred acre farm you divide, will evidently be creating an honest and independent livelihood for one more family, the head of which is perhaps as capable, and more capable of conducting it, than the large occupier, but whose means do not enable him to occupy one of twice that extent. The remedy I say is in our hands, examine how far the principle is correct, and then set fearlessly and earnestly about it, and you will be repaid no doubt, by the gradual improvement of agriculture. But if you do not, the small freeholders must petition the legislature;—and *they will petition* because *they feel*, the opinion is rapidly gaining ground that the large-farm system is the source of almost all the miseries under which agriculture groans.

I have the honour to be, my Lords and Gentlemen,

Your humble obt. servant,

W. E. N.

**HOP DUTY.**—EAST RETFORD, Oct. 28.—The hop duty for the North Clay district has just been made up, and we subjoin the amount; for the sake of comparison, we submit the sums collected yearly for the last eight years, being the whole duty of 188 8d per cwt:—

|          |       |    |   |          |       |    |    |
|----------|-------|----|---|----------|-------|----|----|
| 1828.... | £2727 | 6  | 4 | 1832.... | £1621 | 2  | 4  |
| 1829.... | 393   | 3  | 4 | 1833.... | 1621  | 17 | 0  |
| 1830.... | 1790  | 3  | 8 | 1834.... | 4870  | 10 | 10 |
| 1831.... | 3762  | 11 | 2 | 1835.... | 347   | 16 | 2  |

The trade in the North Clay hops here is in a very stagnant state, the business done being upon a limited scale, at prices similar to those quoted at our October fair, say from 6l to 7l per cwt. Most of the private families have been liberally supplied from Kent and Sussex, at prices varying from 3l 12s to 4l 10s and 5l. per cwt.

**USEFULNESS OF A PIG.**—He is the most useful beast in the whole creation, inasmuch as food is the first of man's wants; and a pig is food from top to toe. He is fattened in a shorter time, and at less expense, than any other animal, and there is no part of him which cannot be turned to account. Poultry of all kinds claim companionship with the pig, and are improved by his society: and no fish can fry without his lard. His skin serves us for saddles; his bristles clean our teeth, and brush our coats; and to sum up all, he multiplies his species in a degree proportioned to his utility.—*Captain Blakiston's "Twenty years of Retirement."*



## THE MALT TAX.

(To the Editor of the Suffolk Chronicle.)

SIR,—I was surprised at the official report on the probable effect of taking off *half* the malt tax. Sir R. Peel's "unanswerable arguments" are scattered to the winds; and supply and demand are admitted to rule prices, and not the Government money in the hands of the maltsters, or the currency!! But this new light portends no good, and we must beware of "the poison in the pot."

Taking off *half* the malt tax, might probably induce the distillers to use a greater portion of malt, as spirit drawn from malt is worth 2s per gallon more than such as is drawn from raw grain; but if more malt was used, by so much less raw grain would be used, and thus the consumption of grain would not be increased—and if the reduction of duty was accompanied by a repeal of the duty on foreign barley, the means of the farmers and labourers to consume would be reduced or annihilated, and thus the revenue would not be increased by taking the duty off *barley*, and we must infer, that the alteration proposed is intended as a stepping stone to a free trade in corn. It makes no difference whether one grain is admitted duty free, or all; the effect is the same *in the end*. We should be inundated with foreign barley if the duty were repealed at such a low price as to disable the home growers to compete with them; and thus the land must be appropriated to the production of other produce, and thus glut the markets, and reduce the price of every species of produce to the relative standard with barley; and as more and more land would be appropriated to pasture produce, as grain depreciated in price, or was supplied by import, more labourers would be thrown out of employment, and less demand for agricultural tradesmen's productions would ensue, and less taxed articles consumed.

Hitherto we have not had such a ruinous import of barley, as of wheat, (the present price of wheat is no criterion, the cause is easily explained, but requires more space than I can spare.)

The fluctuations in the price of barley, is fatal to the speculators in foreign barley. Wheat may be stored for years without injury; on the contrary, barley is spoiled for *malting* purposes by keeping; but if foreign barley was admitted duty free, and the *duty on malt reduced one-half*, we should always have a stock on hand ready to supply and glut the markets long before barley rose to a remunerating price. We may, as an outline, state—foreign barley, 18s per quarter; duty, 10s 4d; malting, granary charges, &c. 8s per quarter; total, 36s 4d; and as malt improves by keeping, it is clear that it would become a favourite speculation; the cost would be less than wheat, and the chance of profit greater.

We must refer to history for price current, cause of price, and relative prices. The land is fenced, drained, and brought into cultivation to our hands; houses, out-buildings, bridges, roads and canals are made for us; churches and other public buildings are built for our accommodation; and blest with a salubrious climate and fertile soil, yet we are in difficulties; "one-sixth of the population are in penury," and pauperism and crime increasing. Surely all these facts must be a convincing proof that a change of policy must have led to this state of things. During the rule of the Tudors, one-half of the arable lands, converted to pasture, were forfeited to the Crown, "to prevent want of employment for the poor."

In the reign of Charles II., an Act was passed to permit the export of wheat when at or under 44s per quarter, and of barley and malt, when at and under 24s per quarter, and all other grain in corresponding terms; and this act was amended in the 1st of William and Mary, and wheat was permitted to be exported, when at or under 48s per quarter, with a bounty of 5l per quarter; and barley and malt, when at or under 28s per quarter, with a bounty of 2s 6d per quarter, and all other grain in like manner. And as the Act recites "to encourage tillage to give employment to the poor." Thus it will be seen that 28s per quarter was considered to be the lowest price at which wheat could be grown,

to profit at that remote period, that to encourage the export of one grain was useless, unless extended to all—that the price of one grain always did bear a relative price to other grain, (on an average of years,) and that malt was then at the same price as barley. The ridiculous arguments as to the duty increasing the price of barley, by enabling the maltsters to purchase, is confuted by the above facts, and the demoralizing effects of labourers being enabled to brew their own beer, never entered the heads of our forefathers. No Ministry can long rule, that advocate free trade, or that do not give *ample protection* to the productive classes; whilst the monied interest is dominant in the councils of the state, free trade will be advocated; low prices double their incomes, and the incomes of the placemen, pensioners, &c., and virtually double the National Debt, "when consumers fix prices, the producers are badly paid." The present Ministry is not an united Ministry, or they are free traders to a man. The President of the Board of Trade, Mr. Poulet Tompson, and Mr. Spring Rice, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, are both advocates of free trade; and were with Dr. Bowring, Mr. Hume, and Mr. Buckingham, spoken of in no measured terms at the late Spitalfield weavers' meeting, "a sign of the times"—"a pressure from without," (when combined with the observations of the Marquis of Chandos—with the resolution of the Cambridge Agricultural Association—of the Ipswich Agricultural Meeting—the correspondence and bearing of the "Industrial Magazine," and Central Association,) which it behoves the Ministry to seriously consider. Tories, Whigs, Radicals, Reformers, non-Reformers, and Neuters, are laying aside all party motives, and making common cause.

I am, Sir, your humble servant,  
CHARLES POPPY.

## PREPARING THE SEED FOR SOWING.

(From Sinclair.)

With a view of bettering the future crop, husbandmen have attempted, in various ways, by preparing the seed for semination, to accomplish four objects;—1. The discovery of weak or faulty seed; 2. The preservation of the seed from the attacks of vermin of various sorts;—3. The promoting of the germination and growth of future plants;—and, 4. The prevention of certain disorders, to which they might otherwise be liable. The fourth point shall be the subject of future discussion;—the other three shall be briefly considered in this place.

1. In order to detect and separate imperfect and disordered seeds, from those which are sound, and fit for sowing, it is only necessary, to pour the grain, gently, either into common water, or into a solution of salt and water. In this way, the imperfect and disordered seeds, from being lighter, are soon discovered; for they swim on the surface, and can easily be skimmed off, either when at first poured in, or every time the mass is stirred. Common water is in general considered to be sufficient; but the addition of salt is of use, by increasing the specific gravity of the liquor, and consequently bringing up grain, in a lesser degree deficient in weight. The solution should be made so strong that an egg will swim in it.

2. Steeping seed for its preservation against vermin, (as insects, birds, field mice, &c.) is principally effected, by employing some article, as train oil, stale urine, &c. that has an offensive smell, and deters them from approaching it. For that purpose, the Romans used the lees of oil, decoction of cypress leaves, juice of house-leeks, &c., and they placed great dependence on the virtues of these applications. In modern times, saline and caustic

particles are applied to the seed of barley and oats, as well as to wheat, to preserve it from the attacks of vermin, or to destroy such as may venture to eat it.

3. Attempts have also been made, to promote the germination, and the growth of plants, by steeping them in water, and other substances, with a view of securing in spring a few day's start in vegetation.

Some farmers have steeped barley in pure water, from sixteen to twenty-four hours, if it is to be sown in light soils where there is not a likelihood of sufficient moisture being in the land to promote germination; and some accounts have been published of considerable success attending that practice. It is very hazardous, however, to oversteep the seed, least it should destroy the embryo plant: and it is recommended, to roll the soil afterwards, that the moisture in it may be retained. The application of dung-hill water, however, to seed-corn seems to be still more useful, more especially if the urine of cows is made use of; but as it contains a great proportion of ammonia, no seed can be safely kept in it above an hour.

Gardeners frequently steep beans to accelerate their growth, and some farmers have found it of advantage, in late situations, to adopt this practice to a considerable extent.

They have a practice in Switzerland, of steeping the seed of clover, in common oil, for an hour or two, to prevent the attacks of insects. It should then be mixed with powdered gypsum, to promote a rapid vegetation. The same plan might have similar effects on turnip seed, and prevent those risks to which the crop is liable in its early stages. Oil is peculiarly destructive to insects when applied outwardly, as it stops up the pores of the skin, by which their respiration is performed. When taken inwardly, it is not so injurious.

#### SEASON FOR SOWING.

The period of sowing the different grains, varies so much, according to situation,—soil,—climate,—species,—and a number of other circumstances, that it is impossible to lay down any general rule, but this "That early sowing is, on the whole to be recommended." It has been found, by a number of accurate experiments, registered in Dr. Hunter's Geographical Essays, that in England, from the middle of September to the middle of October is the best time to sow wheat. It is true, that all farmers cannot complete their seeding within this time, but it is important, that they should attend to it as far as it is practicable.

On several accounts it is desirable to sow before winter, or early in that season, to as great an extent as circumstances will admit of: 1. Because, when a good deal of work is over in winter, there is less to do in the spring;—2. Because, when the seed is sown in winter, a less quantity will suffice;—3. Because, the crop will be ripened earlier, which, in times of scarcity, may prevent the calamities of famine;—4. Because, when a crop is sooner ripe, it is less liable to disease in its progress, or to injury in time of harvest; and, 5. Because, it may be possible to obtain a second crop in the course, even, of that year. This is frequently the case in Flanders, and even in England, where "stubble turnips," as they are called, are often raised.

On all these grounds it is well entitled to the consideration of the farmers of Great Britain and Ireland, whether two sorts of grain, barley and oats, commonly sown in spring, may not, to a certain extent, be sown previous to winter.

In regard to barley, the two rowed grain will not answer; but there can be little doubt that the four-rowed, or the six-rowed varieties, would succeed. The Flemish derive great advantage from the cultivation of *sucrion*, or winter barley, which they greatly prefer to the spring. It ripens earlier, is more productive, sells at a higher price, and yields a greater quantity of malt liquor, or spirits. A valuable crop of turnips may likewise be raised after it.

#### TO AGRICULTURISTS.

GENTLEMEN,—I am induced to trouble you with a few observations, in consequence of a report having reached me, that several persons have, either through enmity or ignorance, been crying down "Hickling's Prolific Wheat," saying that it is found by millers to be steely, and no better than the Rivett's, and that its productiveness is considerably overstated. Such reports have deterred some from buying the stock, and done them an injury as well as impugned the account I gave of it. The first objection that it is steely, I can positively deny as perfectly untrue. I have the testimony of four millers, who have ground some within the last three weeks, and they all agree that there never was kinder or better wheat ground, or that made more or better flour. One baker who tried a bushel, states "he never had flour that took so much water." So much for its being steely. Now as to its productiveness. It is well known that, in times like these, it requires care and caution in purchasing a new species of wheat, and its price one-third higher than other sorts; some may suppose it is a puff—others a trick to sell, and many entertain strong prejudices, that no better can be discovered than what we have. This is to be expected. Every body knows that discoveries of this kind make but slow progress; for instance, the Chevalier barley was discovered many years before its excellence was acknowledged and propagated. This was obtained precisely in the same way as Hickling's wheat; yet no one is justified in stating that which is untrue. Now it would be great folly either to expect or suppose that every person is to grow thirteen or fourteen coombs per acre. The fair way is to try it in comparison with others: this is the only true test. I believe it will not be denied that it exceeds any other from two to four coombs per acre; but so strong is prejudice, that an excellent practical farmer, who had a small field of eight acres, half sown with Hickling's, and the other with his usual stock—at harvest—yes, even when it was cut, believed his own would yield the most. It was thrashed; his cast eight coombs per acre—Hickling's THIRTEEN! Surely such proof establishes its superiority. I will only relate one other fact as to its productiveness, and let people either believe or disbelieve it; my object was to make the wheat known as an important discovery for the general good: and I am not aware of a single instance where it has failed. David Slate, Esq., of 44, Chiswell Street, London, sent two bushels to his brother in East Lothian, last season; and in a letter I had from him this day, (for twelve coombs more) he says, "I had a letter from my brother the other day, (Oct. 10) who had two of the bushels sent to East Lothian last season, and he expresses himself highly pleased with the result. He had TEN QUARTERS, TWO BUSHELS from the quantity sown as you directed, on land that had been summer fallowed." This is a fact probably never equalled, and if such will not silence the tongues of those busy and ill-natured persons, nothing will. With my sincere wish for your prosperity and happiness,

I am, Gentlemen, yours very obediently,  
JOHN RICHARDSON.

Heydon, Oct. 22, 1835.

[We fear Mr. Richardson will lose the sale of much of his wheat this season, from the want of facilities in procuring it. We have applications at our office about it daily by persons desirous of purchasing for seed, but there being none in London they go away disappointed.—Editor of Mark Lane Express.]



# REMEDY FOR INCENDIARISM.

(From the Hampshire County Newspaper.)

SIR,—I have frequently addressed you on agricultural subjects, and on the apathy of farmers to the dangers and ruin by which they have been long surrounded. The present alarming period, however, imperatively calls on every man of sound mind and body to take a decisive part in endeavouring to stem the torrent by which the whole race of farmers is threatened to be swept away. I may be told that farmers should meddle not "with things too high for them;" that they should never think on public matters; that they should stay at home, and sedulously follow or watch their own plough. This sage advice might have been attended to in my grandmother's days, when equal justice was dealt out to all; when men could live by their industry, and by prudence lay by a comfortable provision for their rising families; and when they might retire to rest at night, without being haunted by the fear of roasting in their beds before morning. But, Sir, now that we, oppressed as we have been for so many years, suffering under the withering effects of *partial* taxation, both local and general, and every hour in danger of perishing ourselves, and losing our property by the torch of the midnight incendiary, it is high time this centenarian cry was disregarded; and seeing the old proverb—"If you don't take care of yourself, no one else will"—fully realized, that we shake off that culpable lethargy I have so often (too unsuccessfully) railed at. If no leaders can be found from among the ranks of the landed proprietors, let us endeavour to find some few among ourselves, who, although wanting the art of oratory in delivering polished nonsense to a gaping multitude, possess a determination to assume a resolute attitude, or ability to carry measures necessary for self protection into effect.

Our first step should be to adopt measures for the purpose of extricating ourselves from the miserable state of anxiety and danger we are continually in from the spirit of disaffection which has been so long abroad, and which is, and I am convinced will, if no better remedy than the new Poor Law Bill be applied, be daily increasing.

As a preliminary step, I would recommend a deputation of some dozen farmers to wait on our County Members, one of whom is no stranger to the present Ministry, and urge upon them the necessity of some instant measures to eradicate the fiendish spirit of incendiarism. In the multitude of council there is wisdom; and I should be happy to bow to any proposals of my brother farmers, which, on mature consideration, shall appear better calculated to accomplish the desired object than any suggestions of my own; but I am so thoroughly satisfied that this diabolical spirit might, in a short time, be utterly annihilated by carrying into effect two measures of justice, that I would venture my own neck as a ransom for any incendiary fire which should occur at the hands of a farm labourer, at the expiration of two years from their adoption; these measures are simply—UNIVERSAL Employment at present wages, and REPEAL of the MALT TAX.

With reference to the first, the Poor Law Bill provides none; it gives guardians no power of discriminating between honest poverty and wilful idleness; the offer of a certain amount of relief, or the work-house, is made to ALL applicants, which, miserably small as the pittance is for the really indigent, is too much for his often companion, the imposing vagabond, who will take to

his heels the moment you talk of work. Employment is the ground on which the bill should have been founded; it would then, with the expulsion of some of its most obnoxious clauses, have been a measure of justice. Some may ask, why do not the farmers employ the superfluous hands? I answer, because they are at last beginning to see that as long as they are simpletons enough to employ every hand Peel's Bill has brought to pauperism, their last shilling will be expended before they get any relief. Why should the tenantry be called on to employ more people than their business requires, while manufacturers, traders, and the gentry, are exempt from the burden? Or why should landed property, which, in many instances, has been nearly devoured by the spoliation bill of Peel, be compelled to support, exclusively, the ever accumulating mass of paupers? Justice dictates that the superfluous unemployed should be set to work through the means of a general fund, derived from every description of property, in equal proportions. Indeed, had farmers the inclination, they have not the power, to continue to bear this burden, as will appear from the following table, extracted from an article addressed by me to Mr. Spring Rice, in July last, which is to be found in the *Farmer's Magazine* for August:—

|                                               |     |    |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| Farm, 500 Acres Arable, annual produce, say:— |     |    |
| 80 Acres of Wheat, 6 sacks per acre, at 18s   | 432 | 0  |
| 100 ..... Barley 8 sacks at 12s 6d ..         | 500 | 0  |
| 40 ..... Oats 10 sacks at 10s.....            | 200 | 0  |
| 60 ..... Grass at £3 per acre.....            | 180 | 0  |
| 25 ..... Sainfoin at £4 5s per acre.....      | 106 | 5  |
| 70 ..... Turnips fed .....                    | 0   | 0  |
| 60 ..... Vetches fed .....                    | 0   | 0  |
| 30 ..... Grass fed .....                      | 0   | 0  |
| 60 ..... Old Feed fed .....                   | 0   | 0  |
| 15 ..... Sainfoin fed .....                   | 0   | 0  |
| On which farm shall be kept, 400 Ewes and     |     |    |
| 150 Tews .....                                |     |    |
| For sale 175 Lambs, at 20s..                  | 175 | 0  |
| 150 Ewes, at 25s..                            | 187 | 10 |
| 550 Fleeces, taking ten to the tod, at 35s..  | 96  | 5  |

£1877 0

## Per Contra.

|                                                                                 |     |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| Rent and Tithes, 25s per acre.....                                              | 625 | 0  |
| Poor's Rate.....                                                                | 100 | 0  |
| Seven constant labourers, at 9s per week ..                                     | 163 | 16 |
| Grassmowing, turnip hoeing, and harvest extra                                   | 100 | 0  |
| Four carters, at 10s per week .....                                             | 104 | 0  |
| Under carter 5s, five boys 3s per week....                                      | 52  | 0  |
| Shepherd 10s per week, two boys 3s each..                                       | 41  | 12 |
| Keep of 15 horses, at 9s per head—52 weeks                                      | 351 | 0  |
| Seed wheat, 3 bushels per acre, at 4s 6d....                                    | 54  | 0  |
| Seed barley, 5 bushels per acre, at 2s 6d....                                   | 75  | 0  |
| Seeding 80 acres grass, at 9s per acre.....                                     | 36  | 0  |
| Seed oats, 40 acres, 6 bushels per acre, 2s 6d                                  | 30  | 0  |
| Seed vetches, 3 bushels per acre, at 7s ....                                    | 31  | 10 |
| Blacksmith, carpenter, wheelwright, harness-maker, farrier, and turnpikes ..... | 70  | 0  |

£1833 18

|                                                                                                                             |     |   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|---|
| Value of live and dead stock £2000, on which 10 per cent. is allowed by custom, for reparation of losses, wear and tear.... | 200 | 0 |
| Further amount of capital invested in ploughings, manure, &c. and other preparations, £100, at £5 per cent.....             | 50  | 0 |

2083 18

1877 0

Loss, ..... £ 206 18

Observations follow this statement which space will not allow to be introduced here, and I must therefore content myself by challenging either the Chancellor, landlords, or landlords-lawyer-stewards, to controvert the facts in any material point. It will be granted, then, that farmers would be only fit inmates for St. Luke's were they to attempt employment for labourers with such a prospect before them, beyond what they actually want; but I strongly contend that employment ought to be afforded by some authorized parochial or government agents, for every man willing to work; labour is the poor's man only property; its value is no more than a bare sufficiency for food and raiment with which the Giver of all good has commanded man to be content; but he has also said, "man shall live by his labour." This property, then, is as fully entitled to protection as that of the richest Jew in the land; but how wide the difference in the protection afforded!

Next comes the repeal of the malt tax. All the good effects to be expected from constant employment will be nullified, unless the labourer can obtain that necessary for life, beer, without being driven for it to the beer shop, or public house. The revenue ought no longer to be raised at the expense of the souls and bodies of the population.

We know, the malt tax repealed, that beer houses, gin palaces, spirit licenses, and all the taxable connection must fall. Oh! what a fall is there, exclaims the Chancellor of the Exchequer. But, Sir, the pure spirits of heaven witnessed not with more joy the expulsion of rebellious Satan, with his warring crew, from the celestial regions, than virtue, morality, religion, and good government, would hail the downfall of these many-headed monsters; from their ashes would arise a more beneficial change in the disposition of the people than all the power of precept, bayonet, or scaffold, will ever be able to produce.

I care not what measures of vigilance or coercion are introduced—with however great diligence the enactments of the Poor Law Bill may be enforced—with whatever subterfuges the real evil is sought to be avoided; all, all, will fail, unless the labourer is employed, and the temptation to expend his earnings in sinks of vice and infamy removed. That the farmer cannot provide the former I think is manifest; but the legislature can, and ought immediately to attempt both. By refusing employment, we first render the labourer unhappy. The transition from this state to disaffection is short; and shorter still from disaffection to desperation. Here we make the fuel, and the beer shops and drinking houses are the torches which set this fuel in a flame.

Let me, then, through the instrumentality of your journal, desirous as I hope you are for the comfort and welfare of this agricultural county, endeavour to rouse my brother farmers from their lethargic slumbers, by calling on them, deserted as they are, boldly to face the danger which besets them; to make a determined plunge from their trammels, and be no longer the pivot on which the screw of oppression, both democratic and aristocratic, turns, and under which all must inevitably perish, unless assistance be shortly afforded.

The duties of Parliament are now in abeyance. Now is the time for concocting plans to open the campaign in the spring, should no urgent circumstances call us together before. Let a retrospective view of the last 15 years be taken, and where is the man who can deny that distress among the farmers—misery among the poor—distrust, dis-

affection, and crime, among the community in general—have gone on increasing? Does it not, then, behove the people, the reasonable, intelligent, state-supporting, middle classes, constitutionally to insist that the public time be no longer wasted in the furious strife of Whig and Tory for power, while the interests of agriculture, the mainstay of the nation, are going to pieces upon the rocks of a disorganized society? Let the farmers lay down the broad sword, and take up reason; and instead of wasting their time in defending abuses which are about to engulf them in one common ruin; let them call for a parley, make known their complaints, and peaceably, yet firmly, *insist* on a hearing, for which purpose I shall be happy to make one humble instrument, and to communicate with any *practical* farmers, by way of a beginning, to form the nucleus of a society, having for its object relief from the burdens which oppress us, and more especially the attainment of the points to which I have alluded—UNIVERSAL Employment and the REPEAL of the MALT TAX.

Possibly I may be supposed to have formed exaggerated notions of the mischief which surrounds us and the country, in its fancied security, and some may smile at my apprehensions. Time, the great expeditor, will decide. Nothing would please me better than to acknowledge that I was wrong; that indifference by farmers to passing events was justified; and that the dangers apprehended were but the chimaera of my brain.

I am, &c.

FAIR PLAY.

Whitchurch, Oct. 8, 1835.

#### REPORT OF THE LIVE STOCK AND AGRICULTURE AT SWAN RIVER.

RECEIVED FROM HOBART TOWN, BY THE LAST ADVICES OF THE 12TH OF JUNE.

The number of acres employed in the growth of Wheat are 546; in that of Barley, 100; ditto, Oats, 116; Kaffre Corn and Maize, 29; in that of Potatoes, 15; other crops, 94; fallow, 118; Vines, half an acre.

We have 84 horses; 78 mares; 307 cows; 95 working cattle; 97 steers and bulls; 3,545 sheep; 492 goats, and 374 pigs. Amongst the horses we must remark, that we have some of your own thorough-bred English stock, namely:—*Grey-Leg*, and *Chateau Margeaux* and four mares, and the horse *Napoleon*; two cart horses of Mr. Bull and Mr. T. W. Hardley, and Mr. Peel's *Punch*. Of cart mares we have of Mr. Brockman's, two; of Mr. Bull's, one; Mr. Lennard's, two; Mr. Lewis's, two; Mr. Phillips's, one; Major Nairn's, two; also Mr. Smith's fine half-bred mare.

Of cows and bulls we possess a good many of the fine English breeds, and even short-horns, Yorkshire, Durham, Alderney, Ayrshire, &c.

Of sheep we have the fine ewes and rams imported from Saxony by M. M'Dermott, at a great expense with their descendants; and the pure merinos from the flocks of the late Mr. Joshua Trimmer and others. It is gratifying to know, that the good breeds of the stock above-mentioned bear such a proportion to the inferior that have been, and may be imported from the neighbouring Colonies, that we have, within ourselves, the foundation for an unlimited number of first-rate horses, cattle, and sheep.

Of wool the small quantity hitherto exported has been, of course, of a very mixed description, and much of it very dirty and badly packed, from obvious causes; it appears not to have fetched in the London market more than 2s 2d per lb. The clip of the present season may be rated at about 5,884 lbs, and we are happy to say that a large proportion of it is fine, and that much more pains have been taken with it than formerly.



## SEASON FOR SOWING.

*(From Sinclair.)*

As to oats, autumnal sowing is strongly recommended by its success in Ireland. The plan is not calculated, however, for cold or poor soils, but in rich and fertile land, there can hardly be a doubt of its success. The oats should be sown in September, or the beginning of October. As the crop will tiller in the spring, about half the usual quantity of seed will be sufficient. This practice answers best in a dry soil; but where moisture is likely to be injurious to the crop, the furrows should be gone over by a plough, without a mould plate, and the mould or loosened earth, should be thrown, by spades or shovels, upon the land sown with the oats. If the crop is too luxuriant in spring, it may either be cut with the scythe, or fed off with sheep, in the months of February or March. This is of use to the crop, though it may retard the ripening. But after all, it will be a fortnight or three weeks earlier for the sickle than the spring sown, and the produce will be more abundant. If possible, seed should be procured from a crop that had been sown in winter, as such oats will produce plants of a hardier nature, than could be obtained from spring-sown corn. The Tartarian oat, as being of a sort peculiarly hardy, has been strongly recommended for trying the experiment.

## SOWING BROAD-CAST.

The most advantageous mode of depositing seed in the ground, and of covering it afterwards, is one of the most interesting subjects of agricultural inquiry. It has of late attracted particular attention, and has been discussed, not only in various publications, but at numerous meetings of intelligent practical farmers. It may be considered under three heads.—1. Sowing broad-cast;—2. Drilling;—and, 3. Dibbling.

Sowing broad-cast.—This mode of sowing, was originally almost universal. It is still very generally adopted in many districts in these kingdoms, and is the usual practice in the greater part of the Continent. To execute, however, the process well, is attended with much difficulty; nor is it possible, from any description, to form an idea, of the measured step, the regular handfuls, and the artificial cast which the sower requires, and which can only be learnt, by inspection, imitation and practice. A skilful and experienced sower, regulates the prescribed quantity of seed to the acre, with wonderful precision, and distributes the seed over the ground, with the most exact equality. It is often however, very imperfectly executed: and even where it is done well, it must depend upon the subsequent operation of harrowing, whether the seed is deposited at the proper depth so as to germinate with advantage.

It is objected to this process, by those who have adopted a more correct one, that it is slovenly; that it is difficult to conduct it properly in windy weather, that the seed is placed at unequal depths;—that a very large proportion of it is either left but thinly covered, or is sunk too deep in the soil;—that a heavy loss must be sustained, from the quantity that is exposed to the attacks of birds, and to the injury that may be sustained from great droughts, or severe frosts—and that unless skilfully done, a part of the ground may remain unoccupied.

Notwithstanding these objections, the broad-cast system has continued to prevail in various

districts, not only on account of its simplicity, and its requiring less expensive machinery, but where the climate is unfavourable, or the seasons unusually backward, from the expedition with which it is executed, and the greater certainty of affecting the object in any season. Indeed, where the climate is unfavourable, any additional time and labour required, more especially during the seed process, are very important considerations to farmers. Their establishment of men and horses, (the heaviest of the charges on agriculture), is economically proportioned to the work of the whole circle of the year; and, independently of all other considerations, the sowing by the drill, requires more time than the surface sowing.

Instead of sowing broad-cast by the hand, machines for that purpose have been invented. By them, the corn is delivered with great regularity, from a horizontal trough, ten feet in length, by brushes, upon a turning axle, worked by the rotation of the wheel of the machine. The most improved kind that has two wheels and is drawn by a mule, or light horse in shafts. A great saving of seed, and equable sowing, result from the use of this implement. Such machines are likely to be particularly useful for clover, and other small seeds, which are distributed, by the hand, with more difficulty.

After the seed has been deposited on the surface, there are two modes of covering it: 1. By the harrow; and 2. By the plough.

1. Harrows are of great use, not only for pulverizing the soil, and clearing it of weeds, but also for covering the seed after it has been sown on the surface. Of late, the form of this implement has been greatly improved. Still, however, the seed cannot be so advantageously deposited as under the drill system.

2. In the greater part of England, where drilling does not prevail the seed is not harrowed but ploughed in, or covered by a furrow. This is often done on light soils, by a light one horse plough, immediately after the seed is scattered over the surface. But in many of the heavy soils of England, the seedsman follows the plough, scattering the seed by hand, in trenches of each furrow, as they are successively formed, (called straining in, or spraining,) and on the return of the plough, the seed is covered with earth. As a preparation for this plan, the land is commonly fallowed, and cleared of weeds; it receives, where the process is properly conducted, five summer ploughings, the three first to the depth of seven inches, and the two last shallower, sufficient to bring into a completely pulverized state, a quantity of mould for covering the seed, as soon as it is deposited. The bottom contains from four to five inches of comparatively firmer texture; but yet considerably tempered, on which the seed may rest. It is thus inserted at a proper depth, and deposited on a bed, the most congenial that can be devised to promote germination, and the most favourable to its first efforts of growth. The substratum gives an admirable anchorage for the roots in the soil, and the fine earth by which it is covered, gives the least possible obstruction to its upward shoots. It is likewise protected from being root-shaken by frost, and from all those depredations which are made upon seed sown on the surface, and afterwards merely harrowed. By this method of preparation, therefore, many advantages are obtained, and a crop so conducted, may reasonably be expected, to be both luxuriant in growth, and abundant in produce.

# REMARKS UPON THEORIES ON THE FAILURE OF POTATOES.—By MR. TOWERS, Author of the Domestic Gardener's Manual.

(From the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture.)

The failures in the potato crops of these last two or three years require some remarks, in consequence of the stress that is laid upon the subject in the Essays presented to the Highland Society, and published in the last number (xxix), of their Transactions. In the general summary, page 45, there are some very pointed and interesting observations; one of which, at page 47, possesses peculiar interest: it is as follows:—"The potato," says Mr. Anderson, "lying in the ground during the winter, becomes perfectly matured, retains its juices, is preserved from fermentation, and germinates at the natural season; and we have found that the plant proceeding from it is luxuriant and healthy."

Of this fact there can be no manner of reasonable doubt; every grower must have observed that he cannot clear his ground from tubers, some always remain, and these germinate at different periods of the spring, according to the climate and temperature of the place. We are but too apt to pass over facts and phenomena in matters of ordinary occurrence; but whoever will be at the trouble to investigate those sprouting tubers that have been left in the ground during a winter, perhaps two, will be taught a lesson of the mode in which the potato germinates. Such stray tubers may indeed be wounded by the fork, or cut by the spade at the time of the general autumnal digging; but they usually are found to be entire. I have recently had occasion to take up a very considerable number, and, with scarcely any exception, have perceived that the protruded shoots emerged almost exclusively from the crown or rose-end, where there are about four or five buds or eyes collected in a small compass. This end, the one opposite to the root, or that point by which the tuber was connected with the parent plant, is, in common with vegetable bodies in general, the soonest excited, and the shoots protruded from it are the earliest shoots. Owing to this circumstance it is that when frosts, during the early spring, destroy the first shoots, the plant recovers and produces others. It is not that the same eyes push again; but, as in the case of trees, the excision of a leader by the pruning knife, causes lower buds to break, so the loss of the primary shoots of the tuber (which in fact is not a root, but, as now admitted, a species of underground stem,) leads to the production of new shoots from the lateral eyes. This remark leads us to consider the advantage or disadvantage of planting entire potatoes. The learned secretary to the Horticultural Society of London has recently undertaken a series of minute experiments; and the results are published in their Transactions. By these reports, it appears that sets produce a comparatively greater yield of potatoes. Of this simple fact no one can doubt who has witnessed the culture of potatoes under a variety of modes of planting, and for the obvious reasons that, if the leading primary shoots from an entire tuber advance uninjured, the lateral eyes rarely push at all; but then, though it must be admitted that one whole potato will not produce a yield equivalent to that which the eyes of the same tuber would produce, if each were cut out and planted separately, yet the yield is greater and better by far than it would be from any single eye, the safety of the crop is more efficiently secured, and the chance

of failure, even in one solitary instance, almost completely obviated. If seed be scarce, potatoes must be cut into sets, but if it be abundant, the small extra cost by the purchase of whole tubers, is more than covered by the excellence of the yield, and the security of the crop. Before I proceed to state my idea of one certain cause of the failure of a plantation, I must remark, that on every ground of philosophy, tubers cannot be too ripe: nature, by the evidence of the certain germination of stray tubers, as wisely noticed by Mr. Anderson, confirms this theory. Again if cut sets (with two eyes at the least) be planted, it is extremely doubtful whether any advantage has ever been derived from suffering them to become hard and dry. Some persons to obviate the loss of time, have recommended the application of powdered air-slaked lime to the recently cut surfaces; but I think there may be danger in this process, and would advise the use of gypsum or plaster of Paris as a substitute. This is a neutral salt of lime, possessing no corrosive properties, but merely an affinity for water. A very thin coat of this substance would form a secure covering, if any be needful, without danger of effecting decomposition; but if the tubers be thoroughly sound, I conceive that no application need be made, as nature proves that a potato cut by the spade, in the ground, never becomes rotten, or fails to germinate.

Among the numerous reasons ascribed for the late failures, the most forcible and conclusive appear to be those which embrace the question of injury to the tuber, which causes rottenness of the parenchyma. But all the causes of injury are not enumerated, and one which I have repeatedly urged, though not in this Journal, is not in any way alluded to. The external coating (*epidermis*) of the potato is extremely susceptible of injury from two very opposite agents, *heat* and *cold*. At one time persons were recommended to prevent the germination of the eyes by immersing the tuber for a single second in scalding water; it was stated, that potatoes so heated would never sprout, but be found good for the table throughout the spring and early summer. I tried this scheme, and though I perceived no immediate effects, I, in a week or two, discovered that the pulpy substance to the depth of 1-16th of an inch below the skin, became soft, pappy, and then advanced rapidly to decomposition; in fact, the cellular substance was seriously injured, and the vital preservative principle destroyed: so much for the vague *dictum* of a visionary wild hypothesis. In 1833, while gathering the remains of a fine crop of many new varieties which I had been favoured with by the President of the Horticultural Society, and a Cornish variety received from a distant county, I had collected the whole into separate heaps to dry and harden. At 5 or 6 p. m. the digging and separation were finished; about 7 p. m. the thermometer had fallen to 2 or 3 degrees below the freezing point, but alarmed by the rapid decrease of temperature, I had hurried the different parcels under cover. However, some time was lost, because it was needful to secure each parcel apart, in order to register the numbers. Many of the parcels were secured before rime appeared upon the grass, but others were exposed too long, and frosty particles glittered upon the skin. I thought no more of the circumstance at the time; and in fact, the cause of alarm existed for a very short period, for the evening became cloudy, and the frosty appearances vanished before 10 p. m. However, when we came to examine the different numbers in March 1834,



many were found injured, the skin soft, the mass pulpy and loose, and exactly resembling that of the scalded potato.

Now, it is certain that slight frosts occur frequently at the end of October, and through the course of November; if then, the potatoes be exposed, some must be attacked, and sets taken from such potatoes are very likely to decay in the soil. I do not mean to assert, that disease may not have prevailed in consequence of other causes in a few districts; but of this the reader may be assured, that one certain cause of decay may be traced to frost; and, therefore, it is the duty of every planter to be on his guard, and always to have fern, litter, mats, or some protecting materials at hand, in order to cover the heaps, whenever the evenings threaten to prove severe.

In reference to *radical secretion*, the potato perhaps approaches to an exception; as it can be proved, that the same spot of ground has been cropped with the tubers, for many successive years. The same thing may be asserted concerning the onion. May not these facts lead to the surmise, that if any seed-bearing crop produce fibrous roots only, the exuded fecal matters are deposited in the soil; whereas, if bulbs or tubers be formed, the descending laborated fluids are appropriated to the formation of those processes? It is certain that all edible roots (as they are termed), whether they be tuberous, spindle-shaped, or bulbous, are highly sapid, and abound with the peculiar aroma of the plant: fibrous roots are usually insipid, or at least they yield little else beside vegetable extract, void of specific flavour. The subject requires strict attention, for it may lead to many interesting results; however, though successive crops of tubers and bulbs may be produced on the same land, yet I believe they are found to deteriorate after a time, and therefore ought to be alternated occasionally with others which have a system of merely fibrous roots, in order to afford the land every chance of retaining itself in full condition.

### CREDITON PLOUGHING MATCH.

On Monday, Oct. 2, this interesting trial of agricultural skill took place in a field called Higher Winshort, on Jews Hollacombe Barton, the property of Mr. Daniel Tremlett. The field was a piece of lay, about 13 acres. The work commenced about ten o'clock, there being 17 ploughs, of which 12 were driven by men and 5 by boys. The Judges were Mr. Upham, Combe Lancy, Sanford; Mr. James Francis, Shute, Shobrook; and Mr. Thomas Herring, Creedy, Newton St. Cyres. There were a number of persons present in the course of the morning amongst whom were J. W. Buller, Esq., J. Sillifant, Esq., and many of the neighbouring gentry.

The work ended at one o'clock and was pronounced to be very well executed.—The whole party then returned to Crediton. The committee were indefatigable in their attention to the various duties devolving on them. They had determined that the first man of each class who gained a prize or premium should have a testimonial to that effect from them. These were framed and glazed, being written on ornamented cards in an admirable manner by Mr. T. Brown, the Secretary. To the apprentices were also presented written unframed cards. A substantial dinner was provided for the ploughmen and boys. —The large room at the Ship Inn being got ready,

about 120 sat down to an excellent dinner, J. W. Buller, Esq., took the chair, supported on his right by Sir H. P. Davie, Bart., Rev. Mr. Russell, Rev. Mr. Manley, &c., &c.; and on his left by John Yard, Esq., John Sillifant, Esq., B. Cleeve, Esq., Rev. Mr. Gregory, T. Pring, Esq., J. Davy, Jun. Esq., &c., comprising the wealth and respectability of this influential district. Mr. Wm. Ward, Langridge, was the Vice-President, supported on either hand by Mr. Reynolds, Uton, and Mr. Richard Brown, Dunscombe.

The President, after the usual toasts, in an able address, proposed "Success to the Crediton Ploughing Match Association," which was drank with the greatest enthusiasm.

The Secretary read the list of prizes as follows:—

#### FOR MEN ABOVE 21 YEARS OF AGE

|                                                                                                                   |   |    |   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----|---|
| Best prize, 2l in money, and a hat and a coat value 2l, to S. Horrell, ploughman to Mr. Partridge, Goldwell ..... | 4 | 0  | 0 |
| Second ditto, to J. Jackman, ploughman to Mr. Lee, Keymelfords .....                                              | 2 | 0  | 0 |
| Third ditto, to John Spear, ploughman to Mr. Tucker, Westacott .....                                              | 1 | 10 | 0 |
| Fourth ditto, to J. Lock, ploughman to Mr. R. Browne, Dunscombe .....                                             | 1 | 0  | 0 |
| Fifth ditto, to R. Turner, ploughman to Mr. Mr. Norris, Trapp's Farm .....                                        | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| Sixth ditto, to J. Hutchings, ploughman to Mr. Francis, Moor .....                                                | 0 | 10 | 0 |

#### FOR YOUNG MEN UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |   |    |   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----|---|
| First prize to J. Easterbrook, ploughman to Mr. Francis Moor .....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 1 | 10 | 0 |
| Second ditto, to T. Hooper, ploughman to Mr. J. Harris, Chapeldown .....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1 | 0  | 0 |
| Third ditto, to W. Dyer, ploughman to Mr. T. Reynolds, Uton Barton .....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| Fourth ditto, to G. Gribble, ploughman to Mr. S. Wreford, Hollacombe .....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Fifth ditto, to J. Bennett, ploughman to Mr. Tremlett, Hollacombe .....                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 0 | 7  | 6 |
| To the agricultural labourer, belonging to this parish, who has lived the longest time on the same farm, with one or more masters, and who brings good testimonials of honesty, industry, and general good conduct, from his present employer, to Wm. Bullaford, who has served 61 years with Mr. D. Pridham, Rock ..... | 1 | 10 | 0 |
| To the agricultural labourer who has lived in the next degree as above, and brings satisfactory testimonials, to James Lendon, 55 years with Mr. Lee, Holwell .....                                                                                                                                                      | 1 | 0  | 0 |
| To the mechanic belonging to this parish, who shall have been the longest time in the employment of the same master, or in the same establishment, and who brings a good character for honesty, industry, and general good conduct, to Wm. Chappel, 55 years with Messrs. Davy, Fordton .....                            | 1 | 10 | 0 |
| To the mechanic in the next degree as above, to Wm Ableton, 50 years and upwards with Mr. Daw .....                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1 | 0  | 0 |
| To the agricultural labourer, who has brought up the largest family with the least parochial aid and who can bring testimonials of general good character, to J. Galling, 6 children .....                                                                                                                               | 1 | 10 | 0 |
| To the agricultural labourer who in the next degree has done as above, and brings a character of general good conduct, to Abm. Quick, 8 children .....                                                                                                                                                                   | 1 | 0  | 0 |
| To the mechanic who has brought up the largest family with the least parochial aid, and who can bring testimonials of general good conduct, to Wm. Stephens, 8 children .....                                                                                                                                            | 1 | 10 | 0 |
| To the mechanic who in the next degree has done as above, John Burrridge, 8 children .....                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1 | 0  | 0 |

Also five shillings each according to the discretion of the committee, to eight male and female parish apprentices who have faithfully served out their times, and whose indentures expired between Michaelmas 1834, and Michaelmas 1835, on their producing from their masters certificates of their having done so, with a character of general good conduct.

The President, on the successful competitors being called forward, delivered suitable addresses to them, amidst great applause.

Several songs were sung, and the evening passed off in the most convivial manner.

## HOP GROWING, &c.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORWICH MERCURY.

The following correspondence will be found generally interesting; the remarks contained in it being applicable to many other counties in England besides Norfolk, to which it is especially directed.—*Edit. Farmer's Mag.*

SIR,—In compliance with my promise I will now relate to you the substance of my conversations with the Kent and Surrey hop growers, first observing how very politely they behaved to me, though an entire stranger to most of them; and how readily they answered the questions I put to them concerning a cultivation for which they have so long been famed. My object in introducing the cultivation of the hops into this county, as I mentioned in my last letter to you, is to find a profitable employment for the surplus labour of my parish, and being aware that none of our workmen here were acquainted with the nature and cultivation of that plant, I thought it requisite to visit the two celebrated counties of Kent and Surrey myself, and there collect all the information I could, so as to become competent to instruct those under me in my young hop garden. Having spent nearly a month during the last and this year inspecting the performance of every department of the work, I started this spring on my own ideas of the proper treatment of this plant, having received no very satisfactory system from any one whose gardens I visited. I have selected from my memoranda the answers to my several questions of a grower of many years' experience, and a person upon whose good intention to assist me in this, my new undertaking, I could place the greatest reliance. I will now give you them precisely as they occurred.

Is there any one soil more suitable to the growth of hops than another?

The condition of the soil has certainly much to do, not only in the quantity, but quality. I cannot say I know what the precise nature of the soil should be, as there are frequent instances of the finest hops growing in very indifferent ones. Clays, black gravels, peats, and sandy loams have all produced good crops.

Is not depth of soil, be it what it may, absolutely indispensable, particularly in a dry season?

Undoubtedly.

Do you consider the hop gardens in Kent and Surrey generally moved deep enough at first?

Certainly not, the expense deters many from doing so.

Would not the plant require less manure if it had a better ability given it to extend its roots in search of food, in a deeply moved soil?

Perhaps it might, but we like to keep the roots as near the surface as possible, though the soil be ever so deep.

Then pray for what purpose had this long-lived hardy plant the power given it, of such an immense extension of root as you have just now shown me at the bottom of the *rag stone* pit, which was certainly twenty feet deep or more? Does not the inclination of the plant seem to be to place its root out of the reach of the sun's influence or Winter's cold?

It does indeed appear natural to the plant to extend its roots in the manner I see you would encourage it to do, to avoid the frequent changes of the surface temperature—but I do not feel positive that we should obtain either so great a crop, or hops of so good a quality, by allowing the plant to grow more in conformity with its native wild habits. This then remains to be proved. I think it does.

Is not shelter from South-west winds necessary.

Yes—for this wind is apt to bruise the hop during its passage up the pole, and even as late as at picking time it injures the hops themselves.

Are the set or plants cut properly with 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 eyes indiscriminately, as potatoes formerly were?

They may not be, although I never regard the number of eyes if I have but two good ones.

Will not a cutting or set, with five eyes or joints close to each other, break at two or more of them?

Very likely it may.

And will not a weaker bind appear in consequence of this?

Yes—and on reflection I should think one joint or pair of eyes would be better than two?

And do you not suppose that the eyes which are cut at for next year's growth are smaller and weaker than if the plant had made but one break the first year?

They may be, but we never study the subject so closely as this—the hop is such a weed it grows any how.

Now supposing two eyes only broke of a five-jointed cutting, the one at the top and the other at the bottom of it, if the crown of the plant be kept level at the next spring's pruning, the lower shoot must have several more pairs of eyes than the upper one—will not this be the case, and if so, would there not be a great inequality from such irregular work next summer?

I must confess I never noticed the consequence of starting with one or more eyes the first year, but what you say seems founded on common sense, and I think you have been a hop-gardener before.

No—I am as yet quite unacquainted with this branch of cultivation, but having been fond of gardening in general all my life, I may perhaps possess greater advantages towards acquiring a more perfect knowledge of this subject than can be expected from an entire stranger to horticultural pursuits. I have made the vine one of my particular studies, and I think I see a great similarity between this fruitful and hardy plant and the hop.

How many bedded sets or plants do you put into one hill?

Three or two, if very good, will make a strong hill.

How many cuttings do you put into one hill?

Five.

Why so many as five?

Because I do not expect all to strike and live.

Does not this uncertainty arise from the careless manner in which the sets are cut?



Perhaps it may, but the wire-worm frequently destroys some of the plants, so we like to put in a few too many for them.

I understand you—just as a young gardener sows his early peas too thick, to allow some for the mice.

Pray observe this cutting—the boy has cut through both the top eyes; they are destroyed, are they not?

Yes—but the others below will live.

So then, you have four inches of this wood above your two lower sound eyes to rob them of the sap—have you not?

I was not aware that the food belonging to the lower eyes would pass them to feed those at the next joint, but I suppose you are right.

It certainly would in this case only attempt to do so, the buds having been destroyed; but you must have observed this principle daily, that the buds on all shoots break at the extreme ends first.

It is evident in almost every plant in nature—even the potatoe breaks first at the crown end, leaving the eyes behind dormant, and just in such proportion as those eyes furthest from the natal part are removed, so the backward ones will break to the very last.

You said you planted two bedded sets in one hill, these you know will both live, so that I may suppose you would only wish two of the cuttings out of the five to do so?

Two or three would be enough, if strong ones.

Did you ever try *one plant*?

Never.

Why not?

Because I should perhaps lose two or three years; my hills would not be strong enough to throw sufficient bind for a crop.

I must differ with you on this point, for I consider your two or three plants but parts of plants, crippled in every way, entangled head and root. Collectively they may produce more for the first few years than a single one can—but I think we shall live to see the day when every hop planter in Kent will have but one plant in a hill.

Did you ever try one cucumber or melon against the old-fashioned number of three in a hill?

No—I know little or nothing about cucumbers and melons, but I should not consider them at all analogous to the hop.

They are not precisely, but sufficiently so to suit my argument, that one plant of any sort standing alone will far surpass in produce any other number, the single one being entire and perfect, and the others but distressed parts of plants. Well, whether one or more sets be planted, do you not think that if there were greater pains taken, that a year's growth would be gained by introducing a finely prepared soil to receive the infant roots, instead of the rude clods usually in close contact with them?

We never expect either plants or cuttings to make much show the first year.

No, not as you at present plant them; but I repeat the question—do you not think a finely prepared soil being brought to each hill, would perhaps gain a year or more in growth?

Certainly I should expect a greater growth, but I fear the expense would be too considerable.

I am sorry to hear a word about expense from a Kent hop-planter; if one of our turnip farmers cried out I should not be so much surprised. When I have the pleasure of seeing you again, I shall prove to you I think that my cuttings will

have paid for being well nursed, for certainly I shall plant them in the best prepared soil I can make.

I shall be pleased to hear the result of your nicety in planting.

Do not you Kent gentlemen prefer what is called a bedded set—that is a rooted plant of year to a spring cutting?

Many do.

Why?

Because it is sure to live, while we always doubt the certainty of a cutting, and besides we imagine we gain a year by planting a bedded set.

Do you not think that in the very act of taking up these bedded sets, destroying all the roots as you must, that there is much mischief done to them?

No—they will make new fibres immediately on planting; we always trim off all the last year's roots.

Then, in short, you actually begin with little better than a cutting?

No—we still consider a bedded set, divested as it may be of its roots, preferable to any cutting, because we have proved it will strike.

Can transplanting in any case be right? Is not every plant, from the oak to the lettuce, checked and injured most materially, by losing its first roots?

Perhaps so—but as I said before, the hop is such a weed it grows any how.

So I observe—but though such a weed, I fancy it is still susceptible of a kinder treatment than has yet been shewn to it, and for which I think I shall find it grateful.

Do you not agree with me?

I am only afraid you would make it too luxurious.

I am aware that coarseness of bind must be avoided, but the strength I should give it would be natural, which seldom leads to coarseness. I am not for intoxicating the plant with old London rags and dung after it is once well established. I only wish to see more assistance given it in its infant state, and I think it would run alone the stronger and sooner.

Well, I suppose it might; but the expenses you will incur with all this nicety will ruin you.

I think otherwise; I have never yet found any cultivation that did not pay for doing properly. My maxim has always been, “do it well or not at all.”

Very true; I sometimes think we might make improvements, and among others getting rid of the blight of all sorts; that would be the job for you to undertake.

Aye, indeed it would, and I fear a very difficult one, for unless I had the entire control over the elements, I should fail in attempting to arrest the ravages done to the hop by the innumerable vermin that infest it.

Now allow me to ask you when the binds appear above ground, does the person about to weed the surplus and tie the proper number to the poles, know from which of the plants the binds proceed?

No.

Then may he not select too many from one plant, and too few from another?

I never thought of this before—but it must be so.

And may not the unevenness often to be observed in a hop garden be caused by thus working in the dark? May not the weakness of one pole

be attributed to its having too many binds belonging to the same plant, and the coarseness and fruitless state of another to the opposite cause? the first having too much and the second too little work to execute.

I should not be surprised if this were the case.

Should I not get rid of this difficulty if I had but one plant?

I think it probable, but as I said before, time, and consequently rent and taxes would be going on, while your single plant was gaining power to form a strong hill.

Then time must prove my experiment?

Just so.

The binds having reached the height of eight or more feet up the poles, is there not a practice among some (I believe many Kent growers) called shredding, that is, tearing off at one cruel stroke with the hand, all the laterals and primary leaves, with five or ten inches of bark at the same time?

Many do this.

I have seen it performed, and was quite astonished that any plant, however hardy, could be so cruelly used. I asked the grower what was his intention for so doing, and the answer I received was, to encourage the bind to proceed up the pole. I certainly thought this a most extraordinary mode of effecting it. What do you say so?

Why, I do not know that I ever saw much harm or good done by it.

Well, I must still think it the very last way to accomplish the desired end. What! rob the plant of all its lower foliage and bark, to encourage the head. Never was there such a theory heard of, but in a hop garden. Should there be any disposition in the lower laterals to rob the head or leader, instead of taking them all off thus abruptly, I would remove them with a knife, two or three at a time, not tearing off the primary leaf and bark with them, but leaving one joint of the laterals, at which there are two buds seated; these will not break again, if the head be disposed to take off the thus enlarged supply; and in performing this operation, the planter must be guided by the increased growth of the leading joints. The lateral in the hop, as in the vine, is only the index of a surplus power, which the head cannot take, and which does not appear until the root has furnished more food than can be disposed of upwards. At the same time I am quite aware that if these lower laterals were not removed, in some instances they would entirely stop the leader, but it is with the manner of doing it, and not with the act itself I find fault. I fear you will think me opinionated on this part of our subject; but I feel myself so much at home upon the proper treatment of this lateral shoot, that I have said more perhaps than I ought.

Not at all, but the truth is, we Kent hop-growers are not so fond of experiments as you seem to be. We go on much as our predecessors have done, though perhaps we might do better.

Allow me to say, that the fact is, you are wise enough to let well alone, but in our days that will not do; we must try and make well better still.

I have now followed the cultivation of the hop with my friend nearly as far as harvest, for there seems nothing to be done in the garden, but to keep it clean from the time the binds are up the poles, until they are severed from the hill, and given up to the pickers. This operation is so simple, that I need say nothing about it—besides,

almost every one has witnessed the merry and interesting scene. The drying and bagging are also simple processes; of course, like every thing else, they may be done well or ill; but let us once grow hops in our county, and there will be no fear of preparing them properly for market.

If I have trespassed too far on your liberality, in allowing me to occupy a space in your paper of this week, you must forgive me, and attribute it to the interest which you have exhibited in my new undertaking, and for which I again return you my sincere thanks. I am happy to say another, and a very spirited horticulturist, is about to commence the formation of a hop ground at Dereham. Mr. Ward, who has already shewn such ability in the culture of the vine, has selected a very sheltered and appropriate spot, and I do not doubt his success, indefatigable as he has already shewn himself in many other departments of gardening.

I remain, My dear Sir, yours very truly,

RICHD. CRAWSHAY.

Honingham, Sept. 3rd, 1835.

### TO RICHARD CRAWSHAY, ESQ. HONINGHAM.

Sir,—Fully concurring with you in whatever may benefit so deserving a class of men as the Norfolk farmers, I beg to contribute what knowledge I possess as to the probable growth of hops in this county, and as far as soil is concerned, I see not the least obstacle—the Kentish growers are totally indifferent on this point—they grow them on every kind of soil that county produces, but not so as to situation, being generally near large towns, hence so many hop gardens near Canterbury and Maidstone, and this evidently arises from the quantity of manure annually required. This great demand for manure would be fatal to a Norfolk farmer, who if he robbed his other land for his hops, would probably suffer more than the farmer of any other county. Again, it is evident so many hops are grown in Kent, because that county abounds with woods, which woods are cultivated solely for the poles, and pay better than any other produce of the woods. The sweet chestnut is the most valuable, being the most durable; how far Norfolk can produce sufficient poles, I am unable to say.

Being on the subject of introducing something new, perhaps nothing would tend more to the benefit of the Norfolk farmers than the introduction of the Devonshire dairy system, especially as they feed their cows so entirely with turnips; probably you are acquainted with it; but as possibly this may be read by the generality of Norfolk farmers who are not, you will excuse the liberty I take in stating this method for their perusal. I believe it is allowed on all hands that the butter of that fine county is the best in England; it is brought weekly more than 200 miles to London, and there fetches a better price than any other. And what will the Norfolk dairywoman say when I tell her they have neither churn nor copper? The method is this—the two meals of Monday's milk are on the Tuesday placed over a clear fire till they begin (as they call it in Devon) to pimple, *i. e.* till all the cream has arisen, which it will do when it attain the heat of 170 degrees Fahrenheit in winter, and 150 in summer. If they are heated beyond this heat the whole fails, but experience will soon teach the dairywoman when to take the pan off the fire. On the Wednesday these two meals are skimmed, and is called clotted cream,



being as near butter as may be. This is put into a flat wooden keeler, and being stirred round and round by the hand only one way, quickly becomes butter; if the dairywoman have a hot hand she uses a common bottle to stir it with—in summer filling it with cold water. The pans are all of tin, holding 22 pints each, and cost in Norwich 3s. each, but in the long are cheap, never breaking, and may be new-bottomed; the pail is also of tin, and costs 5s. 6d. Now the advantages of these utensils being tin are very great—they are in a few minutes effectually cleaned, a kettle of water, hot enough for the purpose being all that is wanted, and clean they really are, being tin. Now, the advantages of this system are three—first, certainly a greater quantity of cream, for you get it all, more especially in winter; secondly, not only the quickness, but the extreme cleanliness of the method, for it is all done in a few minutes; and lastly, the superiority of the butter—for as three days are only required to obtain the cream, and as making it into butter is so quick an operation, they make the butter always three times a week, and sometimes daily—hence its sweetness; but there is another consideration particularly worthy the attention of a Norfolk farmer—I am inclined to think it will get rid of the horrid turnip flavour—to do so in Norfolk they scald the cream, I should therefore think scalding the milk would have the same effect; having only had a summer's experience I am unable to speak to this point.

Being on the subject of new introductions, and the crop of apples for the last two years having been great, I hope to be able to introduce the Devonshire method of making cider, and it is merely method, for not one particle of any one thing is added to the juice of the apple—it is simply the expressed juice, and a most delicious liquor it is, but we can only learn the method by having the maker from Devon. Racking constitutes a great part of the improvement, which is frequently done seven times. Whoever has tasted the Devonshire cider when they have no better apple for the purpose than our own, must admit it is a knowledge worth having. How the juice is got out is no moment—its management every thing. With apologies for the length of this letter,

I am, Sir, yours very obediently, T. B.

To T. B.

SIR,—In the Norwich Mercury of last week I find a letter addressed to me under the signature of the above initials, upon three distinct subjects, viz.. Hop-gardening, the Dairy, and Cider-making. My reply to you must be short, for I feel ashamed to trespass again so soon upon the liberality of our Editor.

I am glad you think with me that we have soil in this county suitable to the growth of hops—so far we agree; but you say that hop gardens would rob other crops of their manure, because they might not be situated in the neighbourhood of a large town like those round Canterbury and Maidstone. Now allow me to remark, that the hop gardens near these and other smaller towns bear no proportion whatever to those situated where no extra town-manure can be purchased.

The Kent and Surrey hop-growers procure rags and various valuable manures from London, which they can well afford for this crop, while they would grudge such expenditure for any other. Have we not the same advantages, as to situations near large towns, that the Kent and

Surrey growers have? Is there not as much manure of all sorts made in Norwich, as in Canterbury and Maidstone both put together? Have we not a great resource from our herring works? Have we not as many small towns as they have in Kent, where purchased manures may be had, supposing these were the only situations that you consider would pay for the cultivation of this plant? I feel confident you will on reflection admit that we have just the same sources as to locality for the supply of manure from towns, as they have in Kent; and further I contend that Norfolk produces a greater variety of soils in close neighbourhood to each other than any other county, and I need not observe what great advantages may be gained by mixing them. Thus our strong clays are made perfect by the addition of peat, and our light soils by the introduction of clay and marl. I cannot leave this subject without again asserting as I did in my letter of the 3rd of September to our Editor, *that the hop plant would not require one quarter the manure it is now furnished with, if the land were moved deep enough when first planted.* I consider the hop plants of Kent and Surrey confined as in a flower-pot, and of course must be fed accordingly, *having no means of furnishing themselves with food from extension of root.* Now as to the poles. The best pole is not from the sweet chesnut as you state, for the larch is allowed by every body to be more durable, and the hop works on its rough bark better than on either the chesnut, ash, or withy. The joints in the larch are a great support to the bind, which in heavy rains and wind is often liable to slip down. They are now growing the larch both in Kent and Surrey for poles, having proved this wood to be superior to any other; therefore we have as good an opportunity of providing ourselves with poles as other hop growers have—our soil being well adapted to the production of this plant, saying nothing of those produced in our native woods, which alone would furnish a great supply.

I think I must now have removed your two objections to the introduction of hops in this county—if not, pray come and see what I have done, and still am doing towards proving my assertion, that *"as good and as cheap hops can be grown in Norfolk as in any other part of England."* I court inquiry, and should not feel the least daunted by a visit from the oldest hop-grower in Kent or Surrey; and if want of manure be again offered me as an objection, I would ask where the 905 acres of hops round Farnham found their manure? Certainly not from the clean *little street* running through that parish.

I fully agree with you that there is a field for improvement open, both in our dairies and in our manufacture of cider, which subjects I hope at some future period to have leisure to discuss with you: in the meantime, I remain, with thanks to our Editor for this indulgence,—Your obedient servant,  
R. CRAWSHAY.

Honingham Hall, Oct. 23, 1835.

P.S. I have shown a sample of the few hops I grew this season to some of the best judges in London, and I am happy in saying they were pronounced *equal to any in the market.*

A WHITE RAT.—On Saturday Mr. J. Hagyard, farmer, of Londesbrough, near Market Weighton, killed a beautiful white rat. This animal is of the ordinary species found about farm yards, and differs in no other respect than in colour.

## DEVON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY GRAND CATTLE SHOW.

The Eighth exhibition of cattle, sheep, and pigs, of this most useful society, took place on Thursday, November 5, in the Castle-yard, Exeter. The exhibition was chiefly confined to bullocks, including bulls, oxen, dairy cows, heifers, and fat cattle; and of these there was the finest display we ever witnessed, exhibiting in the greatest perfection, the pride of our country, the North Devon breed. There was a large number of cattle, and most of them were splendid specimens, which elicited the highest commendation from a number of eminent breeders and practical agriculturists, who, together, with a number of gentlemen and yeomanry of this county, as well as others from the neighbouring counties, were present. Amongst the greatest attractions, were the

**YEARLING BULLS**—exhibited for the ten guinea Sillifant Prize, which showed a considerable improvement over those presented at the last meeting. This affords sufficient proof of the accurate judgment of Mr. Sillifant in encouraging the breed of this most useful animal, as of the first importance in keeping up the much admired qualities of the Devon cattle, for which our county has been so long and so justly famed. The whole of these young animals exhibited were of a most superior description, and gave promise to become first-raters. Mr. Quartly, of Molland, presented one 18 months old; Mr. J. Bodley, of Stockleigh English, one 16 months old; Mr. J. Tuckett, of Stockleigh, one 18 months old; and Mr. Comer, of Thorverton, one 16 months old. There was also of

**OLD BULLS**—a noble display; two of which were the largest, and in every respect the best, ever before exhibited in this county.—The proprietors of the bulls were, Mr. James Quartly, Mr. W. Mudge, Berry Pomeroy, Mr. James Parsons, Lifton, Mr. W. Tapp, Twitching, and Mr. John Tuckett, Stockleigh.

**FAT CATTLE**.—There was a prime assortment of fat oxen, but we think, on the whole, not quite equal to what we have before seen, with respect to one quality, thickness across the shoulders and back, which was said to arise from the very unfavourable season we have had for grazing. From the qualities of those exhibited, however, we think there is no danger of a falling off in the Christmas beef. There were some capital fat specimens of the true North Devon breed of oxen, shown by J. S. Newton, Esq., of Bridestowe; Mr. John Whippell, of Brenton, Exminster; Mr. John Pidsley, Pinhoe; Mr. Thomas Beedle, Upton Pyne; Mr. E. Trood, Exminster; Mr. Robert Browne, Exeter; Mr. R. Mortimer, Silvertown; Mr. Thomas, Rose Ash; Mr. H. Ellis, Sampford Peverell; &c. There was also a lot of the largest fat oxen ever seen in this county, a supposed cross of the South Devon, by Mr. Newton, of Bridestowe,—there were not only immense, but very fine animals. Of fat heifers there was the finest display ever witnessed. Mr. J. Quartly, of Molland, exhibited one of the most beautiful specimens for symmetry, smallness of bone, and other essential qualities,—indeed it is almost superfluous to speak of the Quartly stock, which are so celebrated, and with which this exhibition was so much enhanced in interest, there being 21 head of fat cattle, (oxen, heifers, and steers,) in the yard, the property of Mr. Francis, and Mr. James Quartly. Mr. Robert Rookes had two prime fat heifers, and a capital fat cow; one of the former, a very beautiful animal, for fatness and smallness of bone, was purchased by Mr. E. Knapman, butcher, Exeter. There was a very superior fat heifer exhibited, by Mr. John Davey, of Rose Ash; Mr. Cleeve, tanner, of Rewe, had some fine fat heifers; and good specimens were presented by Mr. Wm. Whippell, Mr. H. Ellis, of Sampford, Mr. J. Gould, Poltimore, Mr. J. Tuckett, Stockleigh, Mr. A. Smith, Traisbeare, and there were several other good specimens in the yard, the names of the owners of which we did not ascertain; and also several prime dairy cows and heifers in milk, from the stock of Messrs. Quartly, Mr. John Davey, Rose Ash, Mr. J. Bodley, Stockleigh, Mr. T. Cleeve, Rewe, Mr.

G. Newton, Mr. Thomas London, Netherex. Of milch cows of any breed, except the Devon, there were some fine useful animals shown by Captain Adney, Lympstone; H. F. Bidgood, Esq., Rockbeare; W. Ley, Esq., Woodlands; Mr. J. Surridge, Sampford Peverell; Mr. John Drew, St. Thomas; Mr. Brinsden, Powderham.

**SHEEP**.—There were but a small number of sheep, but those in the yard were exceedingly select, and most beautiful specimens. A pen of ten sheep from the flock of J. Ley, Esq., Trehill, were much admired; as were also two pens of extraordinary fat wethers, shown by Mr. J. Huggins of Shobroke, and Mr. Phillip Francis, of Crediton.

**PIGS**.—The swine exhibited could not be called “a multitude,” but though small in number, those produced were pictures. There was a very fine fat pig of the Devon breed, from S. T. Kekewich, Esq., two years old; Mr. Robert Spark, as usual, produced an extra stock, a monster, 18 months old, an extraordinary animal, not only for fatness, but smallness of bone and symmetry: it was a son of the celebrated Berkshire boar-pig exhibited by Mr. Spark, and which carried off the prize two years following: Mr. Spark was deprived of competing for the prize, in consequence of his being two hours too late in entering the animal. Mr. T. Beedle also produced two of his tenants of the sty, of the Devon breed, not twelve months old, which, for size, fatness, &c., were remarkably fine animals.

The exhibition, taken altogether, was most creditable to the county, being pronounced to be equal, if not superior, to any show of cattle which has taken place in the kingdom.

For the names of the successful competitors for cattle, sheep, and pigs, we must refer to the Prize List.

### THE DINNER,

Took place at Cockram's New London Inn. The attendance was the most numerous we have witnessed on any occasion since the formation of the Society, being composed of Baronets, Magistrates, influential Landholders, Gentlemen, and a large and highly respectable body of the independent Yeomanry of the county, together with many gentlemen and eminent agriculturists from other counties.

JAMES WENTWORTH BULLER, Esq., of Downes, was in the chair; he was supported on his right by M. E. N. Parker, Esq., M.P., H. Tuckfield, Esq., &c. &c.; and on his left, by Sir J. B. Y. Buller, Bart., M. P., Capt. Locke Lewis, &c. &c. The presidents of the side tables were J. H. Ley, Esq., and J. Sillifant, jun. Esq.; and the Vice-Presidents' chairs were occupied by B. Fulford, jun. Esq., A. Stowey, Esq., and Mr. N. Foote. We also observed, among those present, Sir H. P. Davie, Bart., J. Kennaway, Esq., J. Milford, Esq., E. S. Drewe, Esq., J. S. Pitman, Esq., Dr. Shapter, &c. &c.

The cloth being removed, and “the King,” and other loyal toasts, having been drunk and duly honoured,

The *Chairman* (J. W. Buller, Esq.) said, in rising to propose the toast which stood next on his list, he must claim their indulgence, for he never rose with feelings of greater diffidence, seeing that he was surrounded by gentlemen of so much more practical experience in all that concerned agriculture, and who were therefore, far better acquainted with the subject on which they had met than he was. He would however remark, that, residing as they did, in a county the soil of which was so capable of yielding in abundance, almost every kind of produce, and which had been long famed for its cattle—(cheers),—it seemed to him that nothing was wanting but union and cordiality among them, to raise our native Devon to the highest rank of any in the kingdom for agricultural produce of every description.—(Loud cheers.) He was most happy to say that such a desirable feeling did actuate all present and the county at large, and he would assure them there was no one more deeply satisfied on the great importance of agriculture, or more desirous for its prosperity, than himself.—(Cheers.) And it was because he was satisfied that this



society was most beneficial to the cause of agriculture, that he was desirous of giving it all the support in his power.—(*Great applause.*) He rejoiced to see so many eminent judges of farming in all its branches, from different parts of the county, meeting together to give their united experience for the public benefit, because he was well aware, that by such means Devonshire, which had in past times in many respects much to learn, would hereafter be enabled to give to other counties the benefits of her experience and improved agriculture—(*Hear, hear.*) No one could now view the different parts of this beautiful county, and see that in all kinds of crops we could vie with any district, and see our cattle,—of the superiority of which full proof had been given by the splendid specimens exhibited in the Castle-Yard that day—(*cheers.*)—without feeling an honest pride in Devonshire, and being satisfied that we had, within the last few years, made great progress in improvement. With regard to the excellence of the stock exhibited, he might mention that part of the county (the North) more favourable for grazing; yet it must not be forgotten that there had been presented many excellent specimens from other parts of the county.—(*Hear, hear.*) That the Devon Agricultural Society had been the cause of much of the improvement that had taken place he thought could no longer be doubted, and it must be gratifying that other district Societies had sprung out of it from which much good had resulted. He congratulated the county upon the success which had attended their exertions, and he congratulated the large and most respectable assemblage which had now met together to support this central society, because it augured well for their future progress, and showed that instead of receding they would continue to advance and extend their beneficial operations.—(*Great applause.*) The great point for the attention of this society was the improvement of their stock, which had indeed, been long and justly celebrated; and he might again allude to the exhibition that day, in proof that they had not flagged.—(*Cheers.*) Whatever might be the state of agriculture at this time, it was gratifying to find that the same energy, the same talent, and the same anxiety, as ever, was exerted, to keep up the fair fame of Devon with regard to its stock. Another point of importance was the improvement of the land, and although in this we might not have reached to perfection, yet he believed this society would prove one of the best means to bring about that most desirable object. He was always gratified to see individuals laying out their capital in improving their land, if a fair return could be made in produce; because it must be obvious that an estate in high cultivation benefited the labouring class, as well as the master, and the more produce there was, the better it would be for the country at large. He wished to see the great interests of the country going hand in hand.—(*hear, hear.*)—and as many improvements had been making, and were still making in machinery, for the purpose of manufactures, let those who were particularly concerned in the great staple interest of the country, agriculture,—upon which all others hinged and depended,—(*cheers.*) go on in the same march of improvement, which would enable them to maintain their ground, and to keep pace with other interests. He had before noticed their stock, but he could not help returning again to that subject, when he recollected the liberal Sillifant Prize—(*long continued cheering.*)—for yearling bulls, which had excited much interest, and which it must be obvious would prove of the greatest benefit in keeping up the breed of their stock.—(*Cheers.*) There was one topic more, upon which the former Chairman had much enlarged, and therefore it was unnecessary for him to detain them longer upon it,—he meant the prizes to agricultural labourers and servants of good character.—(*Cheers.*) Great and important advantages had accrued not only to the labourers themselves, but to society at large, by the encouragement thus given to the honest, industrious, and well-conducted of this most useful class; and he was most happy to see that this subject had been taken up by the parishes, where ploughing-matches had taken place. Whilst, however, he would say let the best men in the parish be rewarded, he would also say,

let the best men in the county be rewarded, which was the case by the plan of this central society; for the more the labourer was encouraged and stimulated to good conduct, the better it would be for his employer, and for all ranks. He knew of no class of society in which he could point out more instances of sobriety, or industry, of good conduct in all the relations of life, and indeed of all the qualities which ennobled human nature, than among the British labourers.—(*Loud cheering.*) He knew the labourers had been subject to many privations, but they had been faithful to their employers, and from their general good conduct deserve the respect and esteem of all. He hoped the rewards distributed on this occasion, would have the effect of stimulating others to imitate the good example of those who, from their long and faithful service and excellent characters, had been the successful candidates, and that it would show them, that those who moved in a higher sphere of life were most anxious for their welfare.—(*Loud applause.*) The worthy Chairman having touched upon a variety of other topics of interest connected with the business of the day, expressed his gratification at having been requested to preside on this occasion, and concluded by proposing “the health of the Right hon. Earl Fortescue, the President of the Devon Agricultural Society, and prosperity to the institution over which he presides,” which was drank with three times three, and continued applause.

The Secretary, Mr. Robert Dymond, then read the following

#### LIST OF PRIZES.

##### CATTLE.

The best old bull, 10l 10s to Mr. Tapp, Twitching, North Molton.  
 Second best ditto, 5l 5s to Mr. Pidler, Hittesley.  
 The best Yearling bull, not to exceed to years old on the 1st January 1836, 5l 5s to Mr. J. Tuckett, Stockleigh Pomeroy,  
 Second best ditto ditto, 3l 3s to Mr. John Bodley, Stockleigh Pomeroy.  
*Premium given by John Sillifant, Jun. Esq.*—For the best Yearling bull, not to exceed two years old on the 1st of January, 1836, the property of, and exhibited by the breeder thereof, a piece of plate, or 10l 10s, to Mr. Francis Quartly, Molland.  
 For working oxen no premium was awarded.  
 The best pair three-year-old working Steers, bred in the county, 3l 3s to Mr. J. Quartly, Molland.  
 Second best ditto ditto, 2l 2s to ditto.  
 The best two dairy cows, 6l 6s to ditto.  
 Second best ditto, 4l 4s to Mr. Francis Quartly.  
 Best single dairy cow, 3l 3s to ditto.  
 Second best ditto, 2l 2s to Mr. James Quartly.  
 Best three-year-old heifer, in milk, 3l 3s to Mr. F. Quartly.  
 Second best ditto ditto, 2l 2s to ditto.  
 Best two-year-old heifer, 3l 3s to ditto,  
 Second best ditto 2l 2s to ditto.  
 Best Mich cow, of any breed except the Devon, 2l 2s to Mr. J. Surridge, Sampford Peverel.

##### FAT CATTLE.

Best pair of fat oxen, to have been in the possession of the exhibitor nine months, 5l 5s to Mr. T. Beedle, Upton Pyne.  
 Best fat ox, ditto ditto, 3l 3s to Mr. Thomas, Rose Ash.  
 Second best ditto ditto, 1l 11s 6d to Mr. T. Beedle.  
 Best fat heifer, ditto ditto, 3l 3s to Mr. J. Quartly.  
 Second best ditto ditto, 1l 11s 6d to Mr. J. Gould, Poltimore.

##### FAT SHEEP.

Best pen of not less than three fat wethers, under three years old, 2l 2s to Mr. J. Huggins, Shobrooke.  
 For wethers under two years old, no premium given.

##### PIGS.

Best fat pig, 2l 2s to Mr. J. Beedle.  
 Second best ditto, 1l 1s to S. T. Kekewich, Esq.  
 The pig No. 1, property of Mr. Sparkes, would have been entitled to a premium, had it been entered for a prize.

The judges desired to state that had one of the pair

of oxen No. 1. (Mr. J. Pidsleigh) been entered as a single ox, they would have felt it their duty to have awarded it a prize; they also desire to call particular attention to the pair of oxen, No. 2, (J. G. Newton, Esq.) as highly deserving of notice. The fat heifers No. 4 and 2 (Mr. J. Gould, Poltimore, and Mr. A. Smith, Honiton's Clist) also possess great merit.

#### AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS, &c.

5/ 5s to Mr. William Lake, servant to Messrs. Leach, of Kentisbeare. Uninterrupted servitude 61 years; total length of servitude 80 years—age 89 years.

3/ 3s to James Hellier, servant to Mr. Thomas Yelverton, of Ven Ottery. Total length of servitude 58 years—age 66 years.

5/ 5s to William Bassett, servant to Mr. Hugh Brant, of Shebbear. 11 children—total length of service 41 years—age 49 years.

Extra premium of 3/ 3s given by Capt. Lewis, to John Stidwell, servant to the Rev. John Bampffield, Rector of Bradford. 9 children—length of service 18 years—age 78.

3/ 3s to Robert Brock, servant to Mr. John Hole, of Bow. 10 children—length of service 16 years.

The master who has retained a servant in husbandry under his own roof for the longest period, a silver medal, to Mr. John Parsons, of Bridestow—retained James Parsons, a servant in husbandry, 52 years.

2/ 2s to James Parsons, servant to Mr. John Parsons, of Bridestow—total length of service 52 years—age 70 years.

3/ 3s to John Blanchard, servant to Mrs. Mary Davy, of Cheriton Bishop—total length of service 70 years—age 77 years.

2/ 2s to Sarah Morrish, servant to Mr. Ewings, of Crediton—total length of service 40 years.

1/ 1s to Jonas Stoneman, servant to Mr. John Partidge, of Bow—total length of service 34 years.

The renting farmer who has paid the greatest sum for agricultural labour in proportion to the size of his farm, from 30th Sept. 1834, to 30th Sept. 1835, a silver medal, to Mr. Richard Gardner, of West Worlington.

The farmer of his own estate, who shall have paid the greatest sum for agricultural labour, in proportion to the size of his farm, from 30th Sept., 1834, to 30th Sept., 1835, a silver medal, to John Gubbins Newton, Esq., of Bridestow, who has paid for agricultural labour, on his own estate, of 260 acres, the sum of 637/ 10s 2d.

The case of a venerable labourer, named Hookway, of the parish of Okeford, was represented to the meeting: he had reared up *twenty-two children*! and had no relief whatever, until after his wife had given him the twenty-first child, when she sustained a long illness, himself being unfortunately attacked with illness at the same time. He was entered too late to compete for a premium. The announcement was received with the most vehement cheering, and at the suggestion of the secretary, which was immediately responded to, it was determined that he should be rewarded; and a subscription was entered into, when three guineas were given him, amidst the cheers of the meeting. He was present, being between 70 and 80 years of age, and excited much interest.

**THE JUDGES.**—For cattle, Mr. Nicholas Foot, Cornwall; Mr. John Passmore, Mr. John Bindon.—For fat cattle, Mr. James England, Mr. Thomas Reynolds, Mr. Robert Browne.

The industrious and deserving labourers who had obtained the premiums were presented to the chairman, who addressed them in a most suitable manner, after which he proposed, "A honest peasantry, their country's pride." *Drank amidst much cheering.*

The CHAIRMAN then spoke in warm terms of commendation of the judicious and praiseworthy course pursued by those who had gained the silver medals, and again dwelt, in forcible terms, on the great advantages of laying out capital in the improvement of land. He concluded by proposing "The health of the successful competitors for the silver medals," which was drunk with great applause.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the health of Capt Lewis—(*great cheering*)—he was entitled to their warmest

thanks, not only for his great exertions in the management of the business of the society, but because he had been a coadjutor with them in the distribution of prizes to the labourers; for on examining the testimonials, and finding a deserving character to whom they were not enabled to award a prize, the Captain most liberally supplied it out of his own pocket. (*Tremendous cheering.*)—Capt Lewis's health was then drunk with *three times three, and a breeze.*

CAPTAIN LOCKE LEWIS rose to return thanks, and was again greeted with loud cheers. He expressed his acknowledgements for the honour done him by the President who had proposed his health in such handsome terms, and to the company present who had received it in so cordial and so gratifying a manner; and proceeded to give an interesting detail of the proceedings of the society since he was elected a member of the committee, in the course of which he spoke in warm terms of the liberal conduct of Mr. Reynolds at the society's ploughing match at Thorverton, in having handsomely entertained those present, many of whom were strangers, with a sumptuous collation; and also noticed the manner in which Mr. Beare, of Kenton, entertained in his own house the eminent artist Mr. Shiel, and afforded him every facility in executing the admirable paintings of the native sheep which now graced that room. Capt. Lewis announced that the Sillifant Prize would be continued by Sir T. D. Acland, which was received with much cheering; and in conclusion, he proposed the health of Mr. Shiel, which was drunk with great enthusiasm; and acknowledged in a brief but appropriate address by that gentleman.

The CHAIRMAN spoke in high terms of praise of the prize given by Mr. Sillifant, as one of the most important and judicious of the society, and having warmly eulogised the Hon. Gentleman for his liberality, and his zeal in promoting the interests of agriculture, proposed the health of John Sillifant, jun. Esq., amidst the most vehement and long-continued cheering.—The toast was drunk with three times three, and repeated applause.

Mr. SILLIFANT returned thanks in an admirable speech, in course of which he observed that he did not approve of quackery in anything, and therefore he did not approve of quackery in agriculture; but although he never believed, as some had, that these societies were to be a panacea for all the depression of the agricultural interest, yet *this he did believe, if their land was better cultivated, if their stock was improved, if they looked into their local expenditure, and took advantage of the best manure, these things united would have the effect of relieving agriculture.*

—(*Cheers.*) And by attending such meetings as these twice a year, where they brought their experience together; they could not but benefit each other, and the agricultural interest at large. He expressed his gratification that the prize for yearling bulls would be continued by Sir Thomas Acland, and desired, with the leave of the President, to propose the health of that Hon. Baronet, who not only supported the agricultural society, but every other institution which had the good of the country for its object. The health of Sir T. D. Acland was drunk with three times three, and continued cheering.

"The health of the judges of each description of stock, and thanks to them for their exertions on this occasion."—Mr. BINDON returned thanks.

Sir J. B. Y. BULLER, Bart., M P., rose, and was greeted with the most tremendous cheering; and after a variety of observations in support of the society, having warmly eulogised Mr. Buller, proposed "the health of the worthy President, with thanks to him for the ability with which he has presided this day."—Drunk with three times three, and continued cheering.

Mr. BULLER returned thanks, with much eloquence and feeling, and again expressed his readiness at all times, to come forward in support of the society.

"The health of the successful candidates for cattle, with three times three;" acknowledged in an able manner, by Mr. QUARTLY.

"Success to agriculture and trade," with great applause.

"The health of the unsuccessful candidates," with



three times three.—Mr. ROBERT ROOKES, being loudly called on, rose amidst loud cheering, and returned thanks in a most manly and admirable manner.

E. S. DREWE, Esq., in an able address, in the course of which he alluded to the great benefits arising from the ploughing matches, proposed, "success to the central and local ploughing matches, and may they be extended throughout the country"—Drunk with three times three.

J. H. LEY, Esq., being loudly called on, acknowledged the toast, in a brief but appropriate speech, in the course of which he observed that those excellent practical farmers, Mr. Gibbings and Mr. Whipple, were entitled to the credit of being the first projectors of ploughing matches, and he proposed their healths, which was drunk with great applause.

Mr. GIBBINGS returned thanks, amidst loud cheering.

The healths of Sir J. B. Y. Buller, Bart., and E. M. Parker, Esq., the members for South Devon, was drank with the most enthusiastic applause, after which the Hon. Members severally returned thanks in able and eloquent addresses. The healths of Sir H. Davie, Bart., Mr. Fulford, the Vice-Presidents, and Mr. Ley were proposed, and drunk with loud cheering.

The health of the indefatigable secretary, Mr. Robert Dymond, was proposed by the Chairman, who warmly eulogised that gentleman for his distinguished services, and great attention to the business of the society; after which the toast was drank with three times three, and continued cheering. Mr. Dymond acknowledged the compliment in the most appropriate terms.

### ON ROT IN SHEEP.

(To the Editor of the *Quarterly Journal of Agriculture*.)

The attention of your readers having again been called to the internal rot of sheep, I would humbly offer the following remarks to their consideration, hoping they may be of some use in leading either to a prevention or cure of that distressing disease which has been the means of ruining so many of our poor farmers, and perhaps of injuring the health of many of our people, who have been fed with unwholesome mutton. I first, then, would recommend your readers to read a small book published in 1823, at Berwick-upon-Tweed, by a Lammernuir farmer,\* not that I agree with him as to the cause of the disease, but he gives many interesting facts and useful hints. He supposes that the rot is occasioned by feeding in a luxuriant after-growth of grass, but I have yet to learn that a luxuriant after-growth of clover occasions this disease. The fact I believe to be, that it is some particular plant which affects the animal. It is surely no longer believed that it is wet or cold; for if a ewe when giving milk, does not suffer, is she more likely to escape the effects of cold than another sheep? But I believe it is admitted by medical men, that women giving milk are not so apt to suffer from poison as other persons; so also with sheep. I am inclined to believe that the butter-cup (*Ranunculus*), is the plant which is the cause of the mischief. Green, in his *Universal Herbal* says, that all the parts of this plant are exceedingly acrid. In the Isle of Sky, it is used instead of Spanish flies to raise a blister. Curtis

states that when cattle are tempted or forced to eat it their mouths become sore and blistered; and according to Linnæus, sheep and goats eat this plant, but cattle, horses and even pigs, refuse it. Geese also eat it. Now, sheep and geese are more apt to have enlarged or diseased livers, than any of the other graminivorous animals that I am acquainted with.

But to return to the Lammernuir farmer. He recommends salt as a decided cure for this disease. the dose is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ounce of common salt, given in  $\frac{3}{4}$ ths of an English pint of water, to a sheep with an empty stomach, for three or four mornings. Limewater is also good. I have seen both given; and, on killing the sheep that had two doses of the salt, there were about 160 flukes taken out of its liver, most of which were dead. But as a preventive is better than a cure, I would call your attention next to White, that close observer of nature. He says in his *Natural History of Selborne*, that "worms seem to be the great promoters of vegetation, which would proceed tamely without them, by boring, perforating, and loosening the soil, and rendering it pervious to rain and the fibres of plants, by drawing straws and the stalks of leaves into it; and, most of all, by throwing up such infinite numbers of lumps of earth." Again, he says, "that the earth without worms would soon become cold, hard-bound, and void of fermentation." But more applicable still to the case of your correspondent, in p. 232, where he says, "Lands that are subject to frequent inundations are always poor, and probably the occasion may be, because the worms are destroyed." Now I observe, from your correspondent's remarks, p. 503 of vol. v. of your Journal, that his meadow, although well laid down in grass, soon appeared starved, after having been irrigated; so it is well worth his examining whether or not the worms have been destroyed by frequent irrigation? If so, I have no doubt he has got rid of the moles also, as the latter feed chiefly on the former. The Ettrick Shepherd says, vol. ii. p. 700 of your Journal, that it is his opinion, as well as that of shepherds, that the extirpating of moles, or doing away with mole-hills, was the primary cause of the disease amongst sheep, known by the name of pining. Now the conclusion to which I have come in my own mind is, that earth is necessary for the general health of sheep, be it in the shape of mole-hills or worm-casts. True it is, that there are no moles in the sister island Old Ireland, and the sheep there are in general, I believe, sound, but there must be plenty of worm-casts. Your correspondent strengthens me in this opinion, that earth is good for sheep, when he states that folding them occasionally in fallow, is sometimes a means of preventing the rot.\*

I watered a field of old grass in summer 1833, which I stocked chiefly with sheep, and I found they soon became all tainted, although those of a neighbour from the same breeder, were perfectly sound. The shepherd, who had known my field for many years, said he was not aware that sheep had ever suffered in the field before from the rot; and I now think it very probable that I erred in not stocking the field sufficiently, thus by the length of the grass preventing the sheep from getting at the worm-casts or other earth. It occurs to me, that one reason why the disease of the rot is more common in England than in Scotland is, that they do not feed their grass so close as we do. Besides, they do not clean their

\* This is an excellent practical treatise on the management of sheep in upland pastures. Its author, the late Mr. John Fairbairn, of Hallyburton, we had the pleasure of knowing well; and many will bear us out when we state that no Lammernuir farmer could show a better flock of Cheviot sheep than he had. We may mention, as our correspondent only alludes to the former paper on rot arising from water meadows that this paper came to hand too late for insertion in our last number.—Editor.

\* Buckbean (*Menyanthes*.) class 5, Ord. 1, is said to be a cure for the rot in sheep.

fallows so well, and have more butter-cup, having older and richer pasture. The meadows in the neighbourhood of your correspondent are entirely new, so perhaps the worms are not yet destroyed, which may account for no rot being in these pastures; and those that are watered by other streams may perhaps be supplied with mud or earth from such streams.

It is a custom at the Duke of Montrose's, and with others who feed pigs, to give them occasionally ashes or cinders; and as a pig is very apt to overeat itself, and to take all sorts of mixtures, it ought always (when prevented by confinement from getting at the earth of the field) to be provided with some alkali, to correct the acidity in its stomach. I had some time ago a large fat hog, which was confined, and kept very clean, getting nothing to eat but meal of various kinds, with milk; and just about the time I intended to kill it, I was prevented by its becoming very costive and unwell. I did not know how to administer any opening medicine to so strong an animal, but in turning it out of the sty I found it begin to eat earth and lime; I therefore immediately mixed some magnesia with milk, and it soon took a sufficient quantity of it. I would also mention, that when the root of the bitter cassava is given, in the West Indies, washed to pigs, it kills them, but when they make their way into the provision grounds, and take plenty of earth with this root, it has apparently no bad effects on them.

It ought to be generally known whether potatoes, when given raw to pigs or cattle, should be washed. I know not what is the best corrective for the poison of the solanum family, but an alkali is given to counteract the bad effects of meadow saffron and prussic acid. At all events, some earth may be the means of preventing swelling in cattle, when feeding either on turnips or potatoes.\* I remember a butcher in the West Indies telling me, that he found cattle which were fed in pastures, through which a pure running river passed, had their livers always diseased, whilst those cattle which had water to drink out of filthy stagnant ponds, in which they stood for many hours in the day, had their livers quite sound. He and I both thought at the time, that it was the difference of temperature in the water, but I am now inclined to think that the earth was the means of keeping the liver sound.

I hope these few remarks may be of some use to your correspondent, or may be the means of drawing out some information from others. Whether the rot is occasioned by some particular plant, or by a luxuriant after-growth, occasioning a fermentation in the stomach of the animal, my firm conviction is, that salt or earth, or both, are of use to gaminivorous animals, as grass is occasionally to dogs and cats. Every observer must have seen horses eagerly chewing the roots of grass with earth, and grooms are aware that it is a bad sign of the state of the horse's stomach. Chalk is given to calves, and lime or shell gravel to fowls.

I would now ask, what takes place if a sheep eats some earth? does it not absorb the acid in its stomach and form a salt, thus in part agreeing with the recipe of the Lammernuir farmer? He mentions a striking fact (in his book before referred to), that the sheep herds in Spain, while feeding their flocks on land

with limestone, do not give salt to their sheep, but have occasion to do so when feeding them on any other soils; which I could account for by the lines correcting the acidity and forming salt. I may here mention the way in which salt is given to sheep in the West Indies; a large cask without ends is laid upon its side on the ground, a small hole being dug for the swell of the cask; four stobs or stakes are then driven into the ground, two on each side of the cask, to keep it steady; the salt is then put into it, and so protected from the rain. Those who give salt in this way, and feed their pasture close, so that the sheep can get at the worm casts, need not, I think, be much afraid either of the internal or foot-rot.

I have thus attempted to say a word in favour of the worm, as the kind-hearted Eitrick Shepherd stood forward in defence of the mole, rook and wood pigeon. I recollect destroying almost all the vermin in a large district of country in Perthshire, with a view of increasing the game; but the rabbits multiplied to such an extent as to become an immense nuisance. By the way, may not the increase of field-mice in a district in France, mentioned in the miscellaneous notices of your last number but one, be accounted for in the same way. I would recommend to them a large importation of owls. If man sets his wisdom in opposition to the all-wise Lord of the Universe, and destroys in a small degree the balance of creation, every thing suffers from it. We are indeed wonderfully connected together; yes, the meanest and most grovelling animal is needful for the well-being of the whole. S. W.

## ACUTE FOUNDER IN THE FEET OF A MILCH COW.

(From the Veterinarian.)

Immediately after calving the animal caught a "chill," as the man termed it, which at first settled itself in the udder, and partly in the feet; but, by some topical application that he used, it left the bag and went to the fore feet, thereby causing the poor beast to hobble along like a foundered horse; indeed, she was so lame that she could scarcely stand.

Notwithstanding all this, the proprietor did not send for a practitioner until a fortnight after it first happened, nor did he either bleed or purge her, but thought she would get well without the help of medicine. He, however, at last, sent for me. I had her soles thinned, and her hoofs rasped. I bled her in the toe of each claw, and gave her a purging drench. I afterwards administered small doses of sulphur, from three to four ounces, with tonics and stomachics.

The cow is now very well, constitutionally speaking, but is still lame and tender in her feet, and loses flesh, from the pain and irritation of these parts. I likewise ordered poultices to be applied, but with no apparent good results.

It is very remarkable that she never flinched when her feet were compressed by the pincers, or the hoof was struck with the hammer, nor do they feel unusually hot. The joints are perfectly free from heat, tumefaction, or tenderness; so that it cannot, I conceive, be any affection of those parts. Here, then, I am fixed in a professional labyrinth, hardly knowing what to do. Perhaps some of your readers may throw a little light upon the case at some future time.

\* A large quantity of earth, particularly in wet weather, eaten with turnips or potatoes, will cause cattle to scour, a small quantity will not; but scouring prevents swelling from either root.—EDITOR.



## EAST SUFFOLK SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF AGRICULTURE.

The Third General Annual Meeting of the EAST SUFFOLK SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF AGRICULTURE took place on Tuesday last, the 3rd of November, in the Great Room of the ancient castle of Framlingham.

The meeting having been called by advertisement, to take into consideration,—“whether, under the continued and increasing depression of Agriculture, it was advisable for the East Suffolk Society to unite with the Cambridgeshire and other Agricultural Associations, with the view of forming a general confederation of the Landed and Productive Classes throughout England, having a CENTRAL BOARD OF COMMUNICATION in London,—for the purpose of instituting a rigid inquiry into the real causes of the present distress, and of procuring by all lawful means some beneficial change in the state and prospects of the Landed, Farming, and General Productive Interests of the Kingdom,” and deputations having been invited to attend from the neighbouring Agricultural Societies, the proceedings of the Meeting were of an unusually important character. Numerous letters were laid on the table expressive of regret on the part of the writers for their non-attendance; amongst others, from Lord Henniker, M. P., and Edward S. Cayley, Esq. M. P.; letters were also read from the East Kent Agricultural Society, fully approving of the general objects of the proposed CENTRAL SOCIETY; and from the Royal Bucks Agricultural Society, inviting a deputation to attend the Great General Agricultural Meeting, to be held for a similar purpose at Aylesbury, on the 12th instant. The Meeting was attended by a numerous and highly respectable body of the Landowners and Tenantry of the country, though from the circumstance that the South Suffolk Society for the Encouragement of Agriculture, held its first annual meeting on the same day, the attendance was by no means so numerous as otherwise would have been the case. On the platform we observed John Moseley, Esq., Sir C. B. Vere, Bart. M. P., Sir Edward Kerrison, Bart., M. P., J. Thurnall, Esq., President of the Cambridge Agricultural Society, T. C. Brettingham, Esq., President of the Harleston Agricultural Society, Norfolk, R. Broun, Esq., Hon. Secretary to the Committee of Baronets, R. Barthropp, Esq., F. Hayle, Esq., Mr. Wase, Mr. Pierson, R. N. Shawe, Esq., W. A. Shulldham, Esq., F. White, Esq., Captain Shafto, Colonel Bence, C. Lillingston, and G. Twiss, Esqrs.; the Revs. Mr. Crutwell, and J. H. Groome; and Messrs. R. and A. Ransome, Poppy, Flowerdew, Newson, &c. &c.

J. MOSELEY, Esq., the President of the Association, took the chair. He said it was his duty to trespass upon their patience for a short time, while he made some observations upon the question which they had been brought together to discuss. He had so often addressed them upon the subject of the general distress of agriculture, that it would be now

totally unnecessary on his part to occupy their time with any repetition of his observations. He should therefore proceed to offer some remarks upon the object of the meeting, as stated in the advertisement, and in doing so, he could not help referring to what he had stated to them at the commencement of that institution, namely, that the agricultural part of the community, although they might be powerful in wealth and in population, and their welfare most important to all the rest of the productive classes, still they were less influential and less powerful than others, in controlling the objects or measures of the Government. The reason why they were less attended to, and were less successful in their applications than other branches of the community, arose from the circumstance that the latter had their committees, their directories, and their unions, in a state of organization, ready at any moment to resist or to promote the success of any bill that was proposed in Parliament, which could in the slightest degree have a tendency to affect their interests. (*Hear, hear.*) The tocsin of clamour was sounded by these unions, and directories, and committees, and through them it reached the ears of the government itself, which was compelled to listen to their demands. He had stated the necessity which existed that they (the agriculturists) should adopt the same course, that they should also establish unions, and that they should set an example and induce other counties to follow in their steps. Unless they did this, it was useless to expect that they could make any impression upon the Government, by any single petition, or by any single remonstrance. They had tried petitions to Parliament, and they had also tried addresses to the Throne, and he was sorry to say, that these had produced no good result, either to that Association or to the country at large, (*hear, hear*); it had therefore become apparent to all, that it was only by a concord of different counties, and these counties appointing a central power, located in London, that they could now hope to obtain redress of the grievances of the agriculturists. (*Hear, hear.*) The object of the meeting, then, was to consider whether they would join other counties in the project which they had in contemplation, namely, to form a Central Board in London, to watch over and protect the interests of agriculture. The shipping, the manufacturing, and the commercial interests, have had for a number of years boards for their protection. In 1815, the agriculturists had also a board for the same object; and through the means of that association, the farmer obtained in Parliament a protection for wheat from foreign competition up to 80s. per quarter, as well as a protection for every other sort of grain in a similar proportion. That board had unfortunately been abolished, and since its deposition, agriculture had continued gradually to decline in prosperity. (*Hear, hear.*) It was for the re-establishment of such a board that they were now called together. He should mention also, that when the board of agriculture was dissolved, (for what cause he knew not), the interests of agriculture were placed under the control of a board, the most hostile that could possibly have been selected, namely, the Board of Trade, at the head of which was Mr. Huskisson, the champion of free trade, and to accomplish that

object, he need not tell them, that the reduction of the price of corn was a necessary ingredient. (*Hear, hear.*) At the death of Mr. Huskisson, he was succeeded by Mr. Grant who was a still greater enemy to the prosperity of agriculture. He, in bringing forward the question of importation of foreign wheat, defrauded the farmer of 6s. per quarter, in consequence of an erroneous calculation: to use no harsher term. That gentleman had, however, been removed to a higher situation, and they had now fallen into the hands of Mr. Powlett Thompson, (*loud laughter,*) who, at his late election for Manchester, stated, that he would try to do away with all monopolies, and more especially the monopoly of farmers, viz., the the Corn Laws. (*Hear, hear, and cheers.*)

Mr. SHULDRAM rose to move the first resolution, and in doing so he said he should travel a little from it, and give a history of what they had done, and trace step by step the means by which they had arrived at the question which they had been called together to discuss. On the 21st of July last, a meeting of the Society was held at the Crown and Anchor. It was called to petition Parliament; and after some discussion, it was agreed to petition Parliament. Mr. Lilington on that occasion presented an able petition, and, after some discussion, they agreed to petition, but the prayer was not palatable to the feelings of several who were present. He (Mr. S.) then took a bold step—a step which he should not hesitate to take were he a member of the House of Commons—he proposed at once, that the Members for the County be requested to move in the House of Commons, that the supplies be stopped until his Majesty's Ministers applied their attention to that part of the Royal speech which regarded relief to agriculture. (*Cheers.*) The petition, adopted by the meeting, was presented, he was happy to say, by Sir Chas. Vere, and he (Mr. S.) tendered the thanks of the meeting to the hon. and gallant Member, for his having on this occasion done so much for them. (*Applause.*) But the unfortunate resolution, which went to strike at the root of the evil—to stop the supplies, unless the principal and most important interest in the country received the attention of his Majesty's Ministers—that resolution, he said, died a natural death. (*Laughter.*) He heard no more of it. He tried to urge a member of the house to come forward at once, and present it, and to take the consequences. He could be prejudiced neither in family, fortune, nor in any other way. That resolution would have enabled them to ascertain with certainty who was at the head of the agriculturists of England. (*Applause.*) They heard a great deal of the Marquis of Chandos, and of others who were ready to head a party in Parliament, and it was of no little importance to have 100 votes ready to support them; but they, the agriculturists, wanted to know, who it was that would apply himself to ascertain the cause of the depression of agriculture? (*Loud Cheers.*) Time, he had no doubt, would prove that the Marquis of Chandos was a staunch friend to the agriculturists; but at present he had not pledged himself so decidedly, as the motion he (Mr. S.) proposed at the meeting, to which he had already alluded, would undoubtedly have done. As he had before said, his motion died a natural death, and feeling that they should not remain passive under that neglect, and anticipating that there would be a large meeting at the Ipswich Lamb Fair, he undertook upon his own responsibility to become public agitator for Suffolk. (*Applause, and laughter.*) A meeting was called by him (Mr. S.), and having previously read a work by Mr. Bernard, and being struck with the

able manner in which he had laid before his readers the real state of the country, he invited that gentleman, and others, to attend. Mr. S. then narrated to them the proceedings of that meeting, and read the resolution adopted: that the present House of Commons was unworthy of the confidence of the country. (*Hear, hear, and cheers.*) But, notwithstanding this, they were no forwarder as to the real object sought to be attained. The proceedings got only so far as the Ipswich papers, and as far as they circulate, they were laid before the public. It was now necessary, therefore, that they laid their hands decidedly upon the main spring of agricultural distress, and devise some mode of subverting the thralldom, under which all Ministers, of all parties, who had ever ruled the country, appeared to be held. (*Loud cheers.*) He alluded to that powerful interest, the monied interest; and until they could make some head and front against that interest,—the non-producers, or the money-monster, so called by public writers—he said, until they could contend against that body, they could produce no real good to the agriculturists of England. (*Cheers.*) Societies might be established by the land-owners and the farmers, but they could never be efficiently protected unless they had the means to attack those who attacked them; and their measures should assume a character, defensive, or otherwise, as occasion should require. This being the case, they had taken the steps to which he had alluded; and he had been commissioned by the meeting held at Ipswich, to represent to this meeting their opinion, that it would be advisable on its part, to enter into a combination or confederacy with other societies in other counties, such combination or confederacy to be under the direction of an effective head Society in London. Such was the tenor of the resolution which he had the honour of bearing as a sort of ambassador from the meeting held at Ipswich, to that association. (*Laughter and cheers.*) They would now have to decide whether they thought proper to form a general confederacy. (*Loud cheers.*) For his own part he thought it highly desirable; for without some means of making their wishes and their sentiments known in Parliament, they might as well breathe them to the winds. He should conclude with proposing a resolution to which he thought there could be no reasonable ground of dissent, namely, "That the agriculture of the kingdom being the first of all its concerns, it is essential for the peace, welfare, and security of all classes of society, that it should be relieved from its present state of overwhelming distress, by an early and active interposition of Parliament." The hon. gentleman sat down amidst loud applause.

Colonel BENCE seconded the resolution.

Mr. MOSELEY put it to the meeting, and declared it to be carried unanimously.

R. BROWN, Esq. then rose and spoke in the following terms:—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—I consider myself highly favoured by being permitted to take a part in your proceedings on an occasion so honourable to yourselves, and so important, I trust, to the agricultural cause of the nation, as that which has assembled us together. For some time past, in conjunction with various eminent individuals, I have been occupied in laying the foundation of a Central Society in London, for the objects stated in a prospectus which is now under the consideration of the committees of the various local agricultural societies in England; and being desirous to embrace some favourable opportunity of personally recommending it to the attention and support of the landed interest of the United Kingdom, I have



availed myself, for that purpose, of an invitation to meet you upon the present occasion. This I am the more gratified to do, not simply because this society has been the first to distinguish itself by calling a meeting with a special view to considering the resolution which I shall have the honour to submit, but because, whether as regards zeal, intelligence, enterprise, or decision, I am not aware that the agriculturists of any other division of the kingdom are better entitled to take the lead in the important work for which I am solicitous to enlist the common services of the body, than are those of the great agricultural counties whose interests are here represented by their deputations. Gentlemen, in claiming for a short time your attention, my apology for an indulgent audience must be the circumstance that my co-adjutors and myself belong to a large number of enquiring men, who, afflicted by the distressed condition of all classes of their industrial fellow-subjects, are labouring in the cause of social reformation. But after many years, during which they and we have laboured in vain, we have come to the conclusion—a conclusion warranted by the whole state and circumstances of public affairs—that all isolated endeavours, whether by individuals or by local societies, whether by the press or by the legislature, will prove unavailing. Could principles of sound social economy—principles which, if practically adopted, would have increased the comforts, rewarded the industry, and improved the state of all our families—have saved us, our condition to-day would have been happy and prosperous; for such principles have been impressed on society in every form of argument, and reiterated in every combination of words. But, gentlemen, such is the unhappy perversity of intellect that prevails in a nation in which the doctrines of the Anarchist, the Mammonist, the Emigrationist, and the Utilitarian, whether of the Ricardo, the Malthus, or the Huskisson school, reign supreme, that were an angel of light to come down from heaven to propound a perfect system of domestic polity, such is the temper of the times that his mission would be vain. (*Loud cheers.*)

Nevertheless, gentlemen, though the individuals with whom I have the honour to co-operate have for years cast their bread upon the waters, we do not despair that it shall yet be found after many days. Though seasons of usefulness have passed by us like leaves on the stream, never to return, still we hope, and 'bide our time'; confiding in the integrity of our endeavours, and reposing in confidence on the maxim, that 'Great is truth, and that eventually it shall prevail.' We cannot believe that the industrial classes of this great nation will be allowed to perish of want in the midst of plenty; or that the gracious Providence which has ever enlarged the destinies of Britain, which has carried her forward through difficulties which seemed insurmountable, which has made 'her merchants princes—her traffickers the honourable of the earth,—which has stretched out her hand over the sea, and made her the mart of nations,' will fail even at the eleventh hour to raise up men who shall remove 'the burden upon the crowned isle,' even the circumstance which has made the

"Voice once heard

Delightfully, 'increase and multiply.'

Now death to hear; since what can we increase

Or multiply, save penury, and woe, and crime."

Gentlemen, it is my firm conviction—a conviction warranted by the whole course and tendency of events—that the only means by which, under the Divine blessing, we can work out the salvation of

our common country—by which we can counteract evil by good, ignorance by knowledge, wrong by right, idleness by industry, dissatisfaction by contentment, poverty by wealth, and improvidence by economy, is by the formation of a Central Society in the seat of government, to watch over, superintend, encourage, and protect the general interests of the classes connected with the soil. A Central Society which shall concentrate the power, disseminate the wisdom, control the operations, stimulate the activity, and render effectual the objects of the local agricultural societies; and which, without having any respect to political opinions, or any purpose except social amelioration, shall, like that great, enlightened and patriotic body which has so long and so beneficially presided over the rural economy of Scotland, comprise the prince and the peasant, the peer and the yeoman, the land owner and the land occupier, the employer and the employed, the noble, the good, the learned, the skilful, the scientific and industrious of all ranks, professions, and occupations in the community. (*Loud cheers.*)

The nucleus, gentlemen, of such a Central Society has been formed, and the particular object which I have now before me is to claim for it your adhesion and support. In doing so I shall not occupy your attention by giving you, on the one hand, my own views as to the various causes of agricultural distress, or on the other, the various remedies which I could propose for their removal. Dis-united, broken-spirited, and weak as the agriculturists are, were I to do so now I would only expose my opinions to have them run the gauntlet through that vampire portion of the public press, whose vocation it is to ring the changes upon every measure except such as are calculated to promote the peace and welfare of the country. But gentlemen, let that union be effected, which I am here to advocate, which would destroy in a short time those circumstances which have so long and so fatally conspired to make the agriculturists of England as a body the most socially blind, the most improvident, the most inactive, and the most unprosperous of all the producing orders of the state, and please God I shall embrace a future opportunity to bring my views in detail before you. Allow me on this point simply to remark, that neither the extension of the currency alone,—nor the repeal of the malt tax,—nor the consolidation of the road trusts,—nor the settlement of tithes,—nor the diminution of poor rates,—nor poor laws for Ireland,—nor the breaking up of the meal trade monopoly, will amount to a permanent and effectual relief. (*Cheers.*) That relief alone will prove permanent and effectual which comprising all these shall in addition by legislative means—1st, liquidate all those imposts affecting the price of food which constitute rent, over and above that portion of it which goes into the pocket of the landlord, and which imposts are perhaps, not less than two-thirds of the whole; 2nd, alter the present system of acquiring and accumulating wealth,—a system which exceeds in enormity every other evil that bears the name of fraud; and 3rd, compensate the industrial classes for that capital which the operation of the Monetary Act of 1819 has unjustly abstracted. (*Cheers.*) These, gentlemen, are measures which the exigency of our affairs render imperative—which honesty, humanity, and policy require—and which the nation has the power to accomplish, whenever it shall possess the will. They are measures in which the agricultural body, if primarily interested, are not solely interested; nor are they to be effected simply by the co-operation of the agricultural societies, but by the joint co-operation of all the industrial classes of the

state. For this purpose you must cease to consider yourselves as an exclusive interest: you must drop your isolated designation of *food growers*, and put yourselves at the head of the *food eaters* of the land. Believe me, the interests of the producing orders, by whatever denomination they may be called, are one and indivisible. When God laid the merciful doom upon our race, that out of this goodly isle from which we are sprung, we shall eat bread in the sweat of our brow even until we return to it again, He never intended that whilst so occupied the mouths of all his children should not be filled with food, and their hearts with gladness. In seeking to repeal the withering curse which the money-mongers have imposed upon us, we contemplate an object which is to bless and better the condition of all the families of the land; and it is one for which it is alike the interest and the duty of all the families of the land to co-operate. (*Loud cheers.*)

Gentlemen, we have for years talked about social distress, and done nothing but talk; for years sat by the side of the rapid stream of that patricidal opinion which is fast undermining all our social institutions, waiting, like the countryman in the fable, until it shall run past! For years, innumerable writers have been sowing the seeds of profitable advice, and if they have fallen into good and honest hearts—as here we deem they have so fallen—the time is near at hand, when we hope to find that they shall ripen to a harvest. (*Cheers.*) Yes! long have the agricultural interest been passive and inactive—long acted on the defensive—never on the offensive. If circumstances have arisen in consequence under which it becomes a duty to counsel a departure from this rule, I can do so with the greater confidence, and the better grace, that by so acting *you never can act except for the well-being of the whole community.* “Agricultural prosperity is the foundation of the national prosperity in every other matter by which that prosperity is produced.” (*Cheers.*) I recognize this to be a grand axiom of social happiness which ought to be practically illustrated in all the domains of economic existence—not laid up on a shelf with a forgotten report of a parliamentary committee. Never let us cease to remember that we cannot illustrate the “*Munity of Members*,” without experiencing that with the *belly* the agriculturists, must perish the *arms* the manufacturers, the *legs* the traders, the *head* the aristocracy, and the *feet* the working classes. (*Hear.*) If then the agriculturists must arouse from their torpor, and enter upon a social campaign, the warfare which you will wage shall be a war against poverty, a war against injustice, a war against idleness, a war against that system which has divided society into two extremes—*usurers and paupers*—to the danger alike of our constitution, our altar, and our throne. (*Cheers.*) Gentlemen, the industrial classes of England are waiting for a sign—be it yours the honour and the manhood to give it. In this county the genius of agriculture has long fixed her abode—whilst on the spot on which we are met, the spirit of chivalry has still I trust something besides a local habitation, and a name. Shake off then your fatal lethargy. Be up and doing! Erect this day the Standard of Social Reformation; inscribe upon its banner the golden economic rule of our blessed Redeemer, “Act by your neighbour as you would be acted by;” and invite to your aid all the producing orders of the state. (*Cheers.*) Powers omnipotent for good, and omnipotent for evil, are marshalling for the conflict—and it behoves the faithful and the wise, the industrious and the just, the loyal and the true, to choose their position and to make their stand. A battle

against WANT must be fought and won; and nobler names are to be acquired by the ploughshare on the fields of Britain than have ever been won by the sword on the cannoned deck, or on the tented plain. (*Cheers.*) A reward greater than sceptered hands ever conferred—even the blessing of a people ready to perish—claims our acceptance, will animate our exertions, and crown our end. (*Cheers.*) What we want alone is confederation; that achieved we shall shortly enter upon a blessed career of patriotic philanthropy, of christian benevolence, and of social love. (*Cheers.*) Gentlemen, believe me, unless we shall so act, the end of the monarchy is nearer than what is conceived. Let us then gird ourselves for the contest. It was once the proud boast of England through the nine centuries during which she extended her dominion over the splendid portions of the globe that acknowledged her sway, that she could expect “*every man to do his duty*,” and never was disappointed. Let it not be said of the present generation, that they allowed their country to perish, because in her own hour of need, when assailed by domestic calamity and civil broils, her demand that “*that every man shall do his duty*,” was unresponded. (*Loud cheers.*) I have now, gentlemen, to thank you for the favourable manner in which you have heard me, and beg to move, “That it is the opinion of this Association that the formation of a Central Society in London, for giving full effect to the objects of the Local Agricultural Associations, which are now comparatively ineffectual from want of union and direction, will be of the greatest utility to the agricultural interest, and that such society will receive the support of this meeting.”

Mr. LILLINGSTON rose amidst applause to second the resolution. He could not say that he addressed them with mixed feelings on that occasion, for he did feel happy and proud, that the day had at length arrived when he could congratulate the County of Suffolk in making some stir, some effectual move, in order that their claims for relief may at length be brought before the attention of the Country and the Government. He had attended meeting after meeting, and whether Conservative or Reform Meetings, he could only say that his sole object had been—whether as Conservative or as Reformer, or by whatever other denomination that had been fixed upon him—he said his only object had been to bring about the time when they should take the first step towards the restoration of national prosperity. (*Loud cheers.*) He felt assured, that all who knew him, knew that that had been his undivided object. (*Cheers.*) He had sought time after time to bring the subject of agricultural distress—to force it upon the unwilling ears of many who, to that day, if their tenantry had not taken a bold stand—(*cheers*)—would have still lent a deaf ear to their complaints—who would have still told them that things would come round again—(*laughter*)—that the poor-rates would be diminished, and that church and highway rates would be taken off, all of which had been as so many lures thrown out to the ox, to induce him the more readily to enter into the slaughter-house. (*Hear, and loud cheers.*) It had been said, that the farmer must come down in the world; and it had been held by one of the Representatives in another part of the county, that the way to relieve the distress, is for every farmer to come back to the Leather Jerkin. (*Hear.*) To such an opinion he would not concede, for never would he say, restore prosperity by reducing the farmer to such a state, unless he saw the gentry themselves begin and show the example. (*Cheers.*) But to come to the point more immediately before the meeting—they had assembled that day, to unite, not discuss what particular measures were best calculated to afford relief: because unfortunately no twelve men could be taken promiscuously from that room who would agree what those measures should be, for in a meeting like the present, it was difficult to argue such a question;



first, because the subject required great attention and deliberation, and would occupy not only the whole of that day, but a fortnight or a month. It was not, therefore, in a meeting like the present, that they could apply the force and test of reason to contrary opinions. With regard, however, to any leading principle, it was important that they should declare it in the face of the whole country. They were agreed on the first point, that the distress of the agriculturists was so great and so unparalleled, and that it had gone on progressively increasing to such an extent, as to render it a matter of paramount necessity that some decisive step should be taken to avert that final doom which appeared to hang over it. (*Hear.*) He would ask, and he should do so with regret—he would ask, how was it that they should have met that day, when they had what was called a Reformed House of Commons—that they should again meet to form a Parliament for themselves—for what was the Central Association, in reality? What was it but a Committee which ought to have been formed by the Reformed House of Commons, and which ought long ago to have been granted? (*Cheers.*) It had been admitted that the agriculturists were in a distressed state; but those who made that admission, hoped that the force of circumstances would produce general amelioration, and that this, that, and the other which nobody understood, would in some way or other produce the effect desired; and lastly, that the whole was to be obtained, more from cautious forbearance, than from active interposition. (*Hear.*) Parliament had not granted a Committee to inquire into the causes of agricultural distress, and they must be aware when they proposed themselves to form a Society, which was to stand in the place of a Parliamentary Committee, having for its object to recommend the adoption of those measures, not only which they desired, but afterwards, from that day which they would command,—for he said, when a Society constituted as that was to be, having for its members the gentlemen who had been that day selected, going to London to meet other delegates, to determine what they wanted, and having done so, he asked, would not that determination sound within the walls of Parliament, and astonish, and overwhelm, and force to the ground all those opponents who had hitherto walked out of the house, or had it counted out, whenever the subject was brought forward, or the moment the subject of inquiry into the distress was commenced? (*Loud cheers.*) It was with regret that they found themselves compelled to adopt this course; but how was the House of Commons constituted? Could they look to one party with more confidence than to the other? For he regretted to say, that whilst on every other question they were divided and in opposition, yet on the other hand, whenever agricultural distress was introduced, they came forward, shook hands, and made common cause. (*Hear, hear.*) He looked upon the Central Association as highly necessary and expedient, as being the only means of averting that most dreadful and awful catastrophe which he saw approaching; for if the occupier of land were no longer able to grow a sufficiency of food for consumption, how were we to be supplied, and what must be the consequence when the supply of food began to fail? It might be said that they could get it from foreign countries. But he answered, they could not do so; for what had three-fourths of the population got to give in exchange? (*Hear, hear.*) Whilst upon this subject, he would allude to Mr. Caley's motion. The object of that Hon. member was, only to get a committee to inquire how far Parliament did or did not possess the power to afford effectual relief to agriculture, and whether an alteration of the currency would be effectual? That motion was directly opposed by the present ministry, and Sir Robert Peel, as usual, backed them in their opposition. The hon. bart objected to it on this ground, "It is clear you have mixed up the currency with agriculture; it is quite clear you mean nothing but the mere depreciation of the currency, which we will not listen to, and we will not go into it." (*Hear, hear.*) It was well known that Sir Robert Peel had more than doubled his own fortune by the very measure of which he was the supporter, and

which is called *PEEL'S BILL*; but of which he did not mean to say he was the originator. Sir Robert Peel, who had reaped these advantages, was the person to decide on their distress! He had said it was impossible permanently to depreciate a metallic currency—that all persons who have considered the question know that the country can fix what standard it likes. It was well known that he fixed the standard which brought every thing down; and we want such a standard as will enable us to realize remunerating prices. (*Cheers.*) He (*Mr. L.*) had only stated these facts to shew the way in which Sir Robert Peel had met the whole question. The Hon. Baronet had said too, that the Commercial Interest would receive a severe shock if they went into the inquiry; but he (*Mr. L.*) contended the shock would be received by the Monied Interest, who were holding in thralldom not only the productive classes of the land, but the Manufacturing Interest also. It had always been the fashion and the habit at these meetings, when he or any other person who thought with him, proposed to inquire into the matter, to put a direct *veto* upon it. Had they ever brought any thing forward—any plan by which the agriculturist could be relieved, or to raise the agricultural community from their present depressed state? (*No no.*) Then would it not be manly to put his opinions to the test by full, free, fair, and open discussion. (*Loud cheers.*) He was sorry that Mr. Shawe would not consent to be one of the delegates. Although that gentleman did look to go to Parliament again, still he (*Mr. L.*) was very much disappointed that he would not accept the office. He knew that he had one decided object in view, to promote the prosperity of agriculture. He wished that he had consented to be one of the delegates to go and urge first the amount of distress, then the cause, and thirdly, the only possible remedy. He then proceeded to observe, that the system under which they had been suffering had had the effect of neutralizing the intentions of that Almighty Providence which had blessed us with peace and abundance; (*hear, hear,*) for, under the existing laws, let men be industrious and frugal, nay, let them work "double tides," as they were in the manufacturing districts at the present moment—let the manufacturer, or the farmer, toil—let him expend as much capital as he please—yet the more food the one assists in producing, and the more manufactures the other turn out, it is only attended with this effect, to throw into the hands of the monied interest more and more of the good things intended for the community at large, and to abstract still more from the productive classes, those benefits of which it was intended they should participate, and those blessings that were meant for all. (*Loud cheers.*) He trusted that other counties besides Cambridgeshire and Buckinghamshire would follow the example of Suffolk, that they would no longer send petitions to be spurned by Poulett Thompson, and that the landed interest would demand retribution for all the evils under which it had suffered. (*Loud Applause.*)

Mr. LEWIN claimed the attention of the meeting for a short time before the resolution was put from the chair. He said he could not make a very long speech, for the march of intellect was not much in fashion when he was a boy. (*Laughter.*) He then proceeded to allude to Mr. Poppy's letter, inserted in the *Suffolk Chronicle* of Saturday last. Mr. Poppy had said that Peel's bill had not lowered prices; but he thought this was opposed to fact. The late Sir Robert Peel, Lord Western, Mr. Attwood, and many very able men in Parliament, as well as hundreds and thousands out of it have foretold, that it would operate exactly as it had done, namely, ruin the landed interest. Mr. Bernard, Mr. Cobbett, Mr. Cayley, Mr. Crutwell, and Mr. Lillingston, and many other of the most able writers had proved clearly the lamentable fact over and over again and again, the wrong and robbery which it had occasioned, and which was still going on plundering in all its bloom and beauty. (*Laughter, and cheers.*) He would put it to the meeting, had not every 60*l.* put into the funds 20 years ago, become 60*l.*? and had not every 60*l.* invested in land become 30*l.*? and in many thousand of cases, nothing at all? (*Cheers.*) He had at-



tended most of the political and agricultural meetings around him for the last 20 years, and he had always brought the question forward, if no abler person did. He had always found 3-4ths of the middle classes agree with him. (*Cheers.*) They were weak enough, however, to be prevailed upon by their opponents, who said, "wait awhile," and they had waited and been deluded. (*Hear.*) They had uniformly asked and begged for fair prices, but he would now say ask, and beg no more—demand your rights—a fair living from the land which they had cultivated long for the benefit of others, to the loss and injury of themselves and families. (*Loud cheers.*) Moses, by the command of God, said, "Thou shalt not muzzle the Ox that treadeth out the Corn." They were then entitled to fair protection, and this had never been grudged or disputed so long as this country was governed by straight-forward honest Englishmen. (*Loud cheers.*) But (said Mr. L.) when the greatest of all the great enemies (in my humble opinion) England ever had, wound themselves like vipers into our bosoms—the *Frenchified* Huskisson, Poulett Thompson, the Jews, Ricardo, Rothschild and Co., the Scotch Lord Brougham—(*laughter*)—and though last, but not least, the Irish Beggarman, O'Connell and his tail—(*loud laughter*)—who for a long time had governed the Government—will you, I ask, as honest Englishmen, stoop to beg of this Beggarman? (*No, never! and great cheers.*) They had long been amused by one person saying we grow too much corn, and in the same breath exclaiming, "We have too many mouths to eat it." Another would amuse us by shifting the tithes from the clergyman to the landlord. One would save a farthing per acre by the church rate; another a farthing per acre by the county rate; and, lastly, another a farthing per acre by a new poor law, and screw the poor to save it. (*Hear, hear.*) He would say, away with the paltry stuff, the nonsense, and the humbug! Stand up like bold Britons, and demand what they actually wanted to save them all from ruin. They wanted not their farthings, but their pounds per acre; they wanted 300l. more for the produce of every 100 acres of land; and then they would have, not high, but fair prices, which no honest Englishman would grudge to give. (*Loud cheers.*) He would advise them to sit no longer calling upon Hercules, but let them put their own shoulders to the wheel: they had waited until they could wait no longer, and some great good must be done for them, or something too dreadful to contemplate must soon follow. (*Hear.*) But some of their opponents cried out, keep the public faith, and his advice was, join in the cry—not in the French, Scotch, Irish, or Jew logic—keep the public faith for a few, whilst they plundered the many—but in the old English fashion, of truth and justice. (*Cheers.*) He had always told them that Ireland must be raised to a level with England, or England must fall to a level with Ireland. The farmers and yeomen were the marked men; they were the first to be sacrificed, and the landlords with their labourers, as serfs and slaves, were to follow. Their opponents were straining every nerve to bring the curse of God upon them, as it was now upon the Irish, "thou shalt grow corn and raise flocks and herds, but thou shalt not taste thereof." (*Hear, hear.*) Humble, as I am, said the speaker, my ancestors, (the Llewellyns of old,) were a bold and a brave race, and my Welch blood boils within me when I see my country about to be sacrificed at the shrine of Jews and money-jobbers. (*Loud cheers.*) Will you quietly submit to such degradation? (*No, no.*) He called upon the middle classes, the tradesmen, farmers, and yeomen, the strength and body of the country, to arouse themselves, for the cause of their opponents was oppression, wrong, and robbery; whilst their's was truth and justice, and if they persevered, they must prevail. (*Loud cheers.*)

The resolution was then put from the chair, and carried unanimously.

Sir C. B. VERE, M. P., rose amidst loud applause, to move the third resolution. He said that it was necessary that he should say a word or two regarding the petition and resolution, adverted

to by Mr. Shuldham. He was desirous when he presented the petition, to have such an attendance of members as would give weight to its representations. Many opportunities were lost, though he had given notice, owing to the pressure of public business. On the occasion, however, of the budget being brought forward, he resolved, not being able then to present the petition, at all events to speak to the purport of it. He dwelt at considerable length on the necessity of relief, and as he found no possibility of obtaining relief last session, he urged the government during the recess to take into consideration the mode by which the agriculturists might receive assistance, and that some measure having that object, be brought forward when parliament should meet again. He did that which he should always do: he stated strongly that the agriculturists did not require any thing at the expense of other classes: that all they wanted was that which was their fair right to claim; for he did believe that the agriculturists and the land-owners were labouring under a greater proportion of taxation and local charges than any other class in the community. (*Cheers.*) With regard to the resolution, he trusted whenever the occasion called for it, he should not be backward in moving that or any resolution which he thought would be beneficial; and he also hoped he should not be backward in that determination which was necessary to support and second such a resolution; but he did assure them that, taking into consideration the position of parties in the house, if he had moved the resolution, he should have been giving the hand to those who are decidedly opposed to the agricultural interest; and instead of being one of the head of the agricultural interest in that house, he suspected that he should have found himself at the tail. (*Laughter.*) He was sure that all was intended for the best, and he trusted they would give him credit for that feeling. (*Cheers.*) He cordially concurred in the object of the Central Society, for it had always been his strong and earnest desire that the landed interest should have a representative body in the metropolis. (*Loud cheers.*) That society should contain, if possible, as many members of the House of Commons concerned in the interest and prosperity of the land as could possibly be brought together. They might meet together at Framlington to arrange matters, but still after all, unless they could carry their voices to the House of Commons, they would do nothing. (*Cheers.*) He was satisfied a great deal was to be done, by looking at agriculture simply as an agricultural question: he trusted this had always been done; but in saying this, he did not mean that it must necessarily exclude the consideration of many topics and subjects which belonged to the interests of the community at large, whether the capitalist, the trader, or the farmer. (*Cheers.*) What he would advise was, that they should not attach themselves to any particular topic; but give ample time and opportunity to bring every question before a committee of the Central Society, in order that with cool and deliberate judgment, it might be distinctly ascertained where the burden pressed most, and how the relief was the more readily to be obtained. (*Cheers.*) They knew very well it was an old complaint that they had been deceived and disappointed in every quarter. Though succeeding Governments and succeeding Parliaments had repeatedly admitted the distress that existed, they were still in the same state, but every year an impression was made on those who were opposed to their interests. There was now a silence where there used to be a clamour, and that silence indicated a conviction of the state of their distress. The petty relief with regard to the county rate was an indication of this; but he never concurred in the propriety of allowing only half, when the whole was recommended. After some remarks upon the Marquis of Chandos's motion, he said, with regard to Sir Robert Peel, he thought his friend who dwelt upon the conduct of the Hon Bart., in the House of Commons, was a little harder upon him than they would naturally suppose he (Sir C. V.) was willing to admit of. But setting all party feeling and everything of that kind aside: he had himself listened to Sir Robert, without at all being convinced



with his argument, (*cheers*); he had always expressed his opinions upon that subject, and he entertained them still, notwithstanding what Sir Robert Peel had said to the contrary. ("The malt tax," from a voice.) Yes on that subject he would say one word. Desirous as he was to remove that tax, and important as was the question, still he felt he could not, under the circumstances, without acting contrary to his duty, give any other vote than he did. After some other observations, he proposed the following resolution:—"That this society do give its assistance towards forming a Central Association, and do name some of its members to arrange with those gentlemen who are understood to have consented to take part in a committee in London, the best mode of carrying it into effect."

F. WHITE, Esq., rose to second the resolution, and hoped the Central Society would be the means of promoting that union which was essential to the prosperity of the agricultural body.

R. N. SHAW, Esq., rose, and said, he should not have made one remark, but for the circumstance of having been asked to go up to London as one of the deputies to meet the Central Association. The reason he did not accept the appointment was, that a gentleman acknowledged that the formation of it was to depreciate the currency; and as he was opposed to that measure, he felt bound not to commit himself before he knew the specific objects of that Association.

The CHAIRMAN said, that Mr. Broun had declared that that was not the only point, and that the society had other objects.

MR. SHAW—The gentleman from Cambridge stated, that that was the ground of their proceedings.

MR. TWISS—You are not correct. (*Order*.)

MR. SHAW—You will have an opportunity of answering me afterwards. I asked the question, whether that was not the purpose for which the society was formed, and one of the gentlemen said, that that was an object, but not the only one. No person could be more anxious than himself to support the interests of agriculture by every means in his power; if the object of the Association was found beneficial to the agricultural interest, and to the community, no man would be more happy than himself to turn round, and to say, that he had been mistaken. (*Cheers*.) But entertaining a contrary opinion, he would honestly support it, and not concede to any one for the sake of gaining a little ephemeral popularity.

The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

MR. R. RANSOME rose to propose the next resolution, viz.:—"That the following gentlemen be requested to attend the Committee of the Central Agricultural Association, for this Society:—John Moseley, Esq., Lord Henniker, Sir C. B. Vere, Sir E. Kerrison, W. A. Shuldham, Esq., H. B. Bence, Esq., Chas. Lillingston, Esq., the Rev. Mr. Crutwell, R. Barthropp, Esq., Mr. Lewin, and F. Hayle, Esq.: and that the proceedings of this meeting be printed and forwarded to each of the Local Agricultural Societies."—He said, he could not let the present opportunity pass without expressing a hope that the union of the agricultural body, as proposed, would be the means of bringing about those beneficial results which were contemplated by the meeting. It was by temperate and persevering efforts that they could hope that good would be done to the cause; and, as one of a firm deeply interested in the welfare of the agriculturists, he esteemed it a privilege to be allowed to unite in any effort that had that object in view, being fully persuaded that the success of trade depended upon agricultural prosperity. (*Cheers*.)

MR. J. WASE (Brusyard) seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The Rev. Mr. CRUTWELL said, that whilst in the room at the Crown and Anchor, he was surprised, at the commencement of the business, at the extraordinary reluctance displayed to any allusion being made to the question of the currency. He should not now enter upon the subject; but he was willing to give his attendance at any time within a distance of 20 miles from his residence, to meet any number of gentlemen, and give them an opportunity to hear what, in his opinion, was essential to their interests. He would go into the investigation, and put the question on such a footing

that every man of plain understanding and of ordinary attention would see his way clearly, and arrive at a certain conclusion, that it is the only means by which any hope can be derived for affording relief to the general distress.

MR. LILLINGSTON rose to move a resolution. Part of the public press (and he need not remind them of its immense power) had taken a firm and decided part in behalf of the agriculturists, and another portion of it had taken the part of their enemies. One of the London papers which had invariably supported their interests—he said he knew, that one of the great money holders, one who had been grasping the vitals of the land until they had been nearly destroyed, had been making overtures to the *Morning Herald*, to induce it to desert the interests of agriculture, and to go over to its enemies. The *Morning Herald* had, however, stood firm, and he should therefore propose "that the cordial thanks of this Society be given to the managers of the *Morning Herald*, the *Standard*, *Mark Lane Express*, and all others, for their hearty and earnest support of the landed interests in these times of its greatest need and poverty, and more especially for the manly and independent manner in which they had time after time called attention to the ruinous effects of Peel's Bill on all the productive interests of the country, and that they had done this at a time when so large a portion of the press had lent itself to support a system, which compromised the interests of all the industrious classes of the community, and had lent themselves to protect the rapacious money interests, which was daily engulfing within its vast vortex, the production of the industry of the whole country. And lastly, that the Secretary be requested to transmit the same to the respective offices that it may be inserted in the opening above the leading article.

MR. SHULDHAM suggested, that the thanks of the meeting be also given to the *Suffolk Chronicle* and to the *Ipswich Journal*; for when they spoke of Papers advocating the cause of agriculture, and of doing good service, he could not stand by and suffer those two Papers to be omitted. Whatever little bickering there might occur between the Editors, who had entered upon a contest of rather conflicting principles, he must say that whenever any public meeting had taken place, or any measure had been proposed, in that county, for the relief of the interests of agriculture, he had always seen a most able and praiseworthy advocacy of the cause in both.

After some discussion the motion was carried.

MR. TWISS then moved a resolution to the effect that the change in the currency had been the primary cause of agricultural distress, and that a return to a sound paper currency afforded the only prospect of an effectual remedy, and that no government which would not entertain that question deserved the confidence of the farmers. This, he said, was the opinion entertained by the Yorkshire Society, by the Cambridge Society (a deputation from which was then present), by the Kentish and Worcestershire Societies, and was in fact the opinion which was entertained by a large majority of the agriculturists, and one let their opponents strive as they might, which they would no longer refrain from acting on.—It was proved clearly by facts that the contraction of the currency reduced the value of the produce of labour, and consequently the wages of labour. Nothing could be plainer than that a man who at one time had only half as much money as he had at a former period, could not afford to pay so much for food as when he had twice the money to go to market with; and as corn was a perishable article, and one which must be sold, they had at once the solution of the mystery of low prices. It was susceptible of clear proof, and he was now stating not merely his own opinion, but the opinion of the Cambridgeshire Association, as recorded in a letter of their Chairman, that there was now 100,000,000*l.* less of circulation than in 1818, the whole of which sum was of course deducted from the value of the produce of British industry. (*Hear.*) The various remedies which had been alluded to might, indeed, be productive of some good to them, and they were reductions to which the farmer was entitled; but it would be quite absurd to imagine that they could fill

up this immense vacuum. With the national debt, the burden of which was so great, and for which, be it remembered, the soil of England was mortgaged (*no, no! and yes, yes!*) nothing but an expansion of the currency could meet the difficulty—an expansion to be effected by an issue of notes by the Bank of England, and by the country bankers, and by coining the sovereign at two-thirds of its present value, so that the ounce of gold should make six sovereigns, as it ought to do. (*Hear, hear.*) This certainly would bring home the absentees; but where was the harm of that? Millions were now spent abroad which ought to be spent in this country, and nobody would be injured by the change but the mere money holder and money dealer, whose interest it was to reduce the price of every species of the produce of industry to the lowest pitch. The shipping, the manufacturing, and trading interests, must also receive protection from foreign competition by the imposition of foreign duties, or, if necessary, even by total prohibition. (*Hear.*) The immediate consequences of this step would be good prices, good profits, and good wages. (*Hear.*) This was the unanimous opinion of the numerous members of the Cambridgeshire Society, and they were determined that their opinions should reach the legislature: for they were resolved in future to support no candidates who did not uphold these views; and if all other societies would adopt the same course, and follow the example of the men of Cambridgeshire, the question would very soon be settled. (*Loud cheers.*)

Mr. LILLINGSTON seconded the resolution, and observed that the farmers of Suffolk had now the truth before them which he had for some time been endeavouring to propagate.

SIR CHARLES VERE said, it struck him that the resolution was defeating the very object for which they had assembled. They had met to agree to become a part of an association which was to be formed in London, and which was to consist of deputations from the various counties throughout the kingdom. They had agreed to send up certain members of the Society to join that association, for the purpose of deliberating and considering in what way the agricultural interest could be best relieved. He then moved the following amendment: "That this Society do enter into no resolution that shall tend to embarrass, or prejudice the deliberations of the Central Association, by leading it to give a preference to any particular subject of discussion, in order that the Central Society may the more surely arrive at a sound and unbiassed opinion of the real causes of Agricultural distress, and the measures that may be applied for its relief with the greatest certainty of success."

Mr. PEIRSON seconded the amendment, which was supported by Mr. MOSELEY and Mr. SHAW.

Mr. Twiss's motion was then put and carried, 20 being in favour, and 4 against it.

It was then moved by Mr. LEWIN, "That a Deputation, consisting of the Committee above named, and the following:—James Newson, Esq., R. Broun, Esq., and W. Bloss, Esq., be appointed to take part in the proceedings of the meeting to be held at Aylesbury on the 12th inst.; at the same time lay the above resolutions before it, convey to Lord Chandos the confidence of this Association, and the hope that its proceedings of this day may meet with his Lordship's concurrence, and the support of the agriculturists of Buckingham."

"And that the proceedings of the meeting be printed and forwarded to each of the local Agricultural Societies."

After a vote of thanks to Mr. Mosely, the meeting separated.

In connection with the proceedings at Framlingham, we subjoin the following extract from a speech of Hart Logan, Esq., who presided at the first annual meeting of the South Suffolk Association for the Encouragement of Agriculture, which took place the same day, at Sudbury.

After the health of "the County Members" had been drunk, C. STEDMAN, Esq., rose, and, after pronouncing a deserved eulogy, gave the health of the Chairman, "Hart Logan, Esq., and Success to the South Suffolk Agricultural Society." The toast was received with long-continued and enthusiastic cheering.

Mr. LOGAN rose amidst the loudest acclamations, and spoke as follows:—I beg leave to return to my friend, Mr. Stedman, my best thanks for the kind manner in which he proposed my health, and I am equally grateful to the company for the warm reception which they have given to the toast. We are assembled to celebrate the first annual meeting of the South Suffolk Agricultural Association, and it must be gratifying to every one present to witness this numerous attendance of respectable and intelligent agriculturists on this occasion. So favourable a commencement augurs well for the prosperity and success of our infant institution. This is the third agricultural society that has been formed within a short period in this county, and if there is one thing more than another that can tend to promote the union so anxiously wished and desired by that champion and friend of the agricultural interest, the Marquis of Chandos, it is societies such as these, (*cheers*), which bring together the landlord, the tenant, and the industrious labourer—they bring together the clergyman and his flock, and I have great pride and pleasure in seeing the list of our members graced by the names of many clergymen of the neighbourhood—than whom no class are more ready to promote the cause of agriculture and to improve the condition of the poorer classes of Society. (*Much cheering.*) I wish to impress on your minds that you ought not to rest satisfied with merely paying your subscriptions. No, if you wish this Society to flourish, to attain that end you must put your shoulder to the wheel, and excite in the breast of your friends and neighbours a warm interest in the cause. (*Cheers.*) This is not a political society. (*Cheers.*) We have no political party—our party is that of the British farmer and the industrious labourer. (*Cheers.*) I am happy to see that Agricultural Associations are now gradually forming in every part of the kingdom; and my opinion is, that they cannot be too numerous; for if we only assist each other, and cultivate a good understanding among ourselves, we shall, "by a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether," be enabled to assume that station—that important station which will tend to give us that weight—to which, as an influential body, we are so justly entitled; and to obtain that relief from our present distress which is so indispensably required. (*Cheers.*) There was a time when the landed interest of the country was considered of so much importance that a public Board of Agriculture was established to protect its interests. (*Hear, hear.*) That Board has since been abolished, and our interests are now placed under the controul of the Board of Trade, and we are, in part, committed to the tender mercies of the President—Mr. Poulett Thomson—the unflinching, the uncompromising, friend of free trade in corn. (*Loud cries of "hear, hear."*) It is only by union that we can at all hope to get relief, for the landed interest is at present like a rope of sand. (*Hear, hear.*) I can only say that if once the Agricultural interest is destroyed—if we are reduced to that state, which the neglect of our interests gives us reason to expect, the merchant and the manufacturer will lose their best customers and supporters. (*Cheers.*) Let the landed interest be once destroyed—let the class from which the riches of the State are derived be ruined, and we



shall be placed in a situation such as this country has never before known. The price of our produce, especially of that article to which we look for the payment of the rent, is now lower than it has been before during the last sixty years. (*Hear, hear.*) Sir John Campbell, in his Address at Edinburgh, said that Agriculture is in a flourishing state at this time—(*cries of "oh, oh!"*)—but it must be evident to you that the state of Agriculture is misunderstood by Sir John Campbell, as he would never have made a statement so much at variance with the facts. (*Cheers.*) Mr. Logan then adverted to the advertisement which appeared in the Ipswich papers last week, convening the meeting of the East Suffolk Society for the Protection of Agriculture, at Framlingham, and it having been read by Mr. Hart Logan, jun., he continued:—This expresses the object which this Society has in view, and which agrees precisely with that sort of union which I should like to see throughout the kingdom. The Secretary did me the honour to address a letter to me requesting that I would attend the meeting (which takes place to-day) with a deputation. My answer was, that their Society had unfortunately fixed their meeting for the same day as ours, and it would be imperative on me to be here, but that I fully concurred in the objects they had in view; and I requested that the Secretary would communicate to me the result of the meeting, in order that if it were necessary, I should call a special meeting, to consider the propriety of our taking up the cudgels in the same way. (*Cheers.*) One Association like this can do but little, but when they are united throughout the kingdom on the same principles and with the same views, I do not hesitate to say, that the agricultural interest will have some chance of being relieved from the distress under which it at present labours. (*Cheers.*) If what I wrote to the Secretary meets the approbation of the present company, I think I may properly say that the Society sanctions it. (*Cheers.* and a general holding up of hands.) Every man connected with agriculture is so much taken up with his own business and at the present moment with the Guardianship of the poor, that I think it would be a pity to call a meeting, when so large and respectable a body appears to be unanimous on the subject. (*Much Cheering.*)

### MEETING OF THE AGRICULTURAL DEPUTATIONS AT AYLESBURY.

On Thursday, Nov. 12, a Meeting of various deputations from the agricultural associations, from all parts of the kingdom, met at Aylesbury, to confer on the best means of proceeding in the next session of parliament, for the benefit of depressed agriculture. The Marquis of Chandos was in the chair, and most able and eloquent members of the associations of Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Leicestershire, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire Buckinghamshire, Herefordshire &c. attended.

The Marquis of CHANDOS, having taken the chair, addressed the meeting:—Gentlemen, I now propose to state to you the reasons why this meeting has been called. Some short time ago certain resolutions were sent to the Bucks Society from the Agricultural Society of Worcestershire, requesting me to call a meeting of the different agricultural societies in England, to propose some measure of general relief, if possible, for the English farmer—(*hear, hear.*) It was therefore felt necessary to follow the expression of that meeting to

which I have alluded, and those resolutions were sent to the different associations in the country. That being done, the meeting of to-day is the result and we have now a deputation of many gentlemen from a great many associations in various parts of this country. From other associations we have received replies, that in consequence of the distance, and not having had time to convene general meetings, deputies could not be sent. Having thus explained the reasons why this meeting has been called, I now beg leave to direct your attention to the other great point for which we have assembled—viz., how we shall proceed in the House of Commons, with a view of obtaining relief for the farmer. From what took place last session, we must feel great difficulty in any plan which we may propose with that object. When the question of the malt tax was proposed last session, it was brought forward under auspicious circumstances—it was a new Parliament—many Members were pledged to aid in procuring some measures which should be favourable for the farmer, of which that was deemed an important one. It is not necessary for me here to say one word of the manner in which that question was treated; but I must say that it did appear to me to be a favourable opportunity of bringing forward that question—(*hear, hear.*) Looking at the decision of that great question in the House of Commons, I feel it to be due to the Agricultural Societies of England, I feel it to be due to myself, to say that I do think it would not be politic to moot the question in the ensuing session (*hear, hear.*), for you would undoubtedly be subjected to a signal defeat; and a defeat so signal would tend to make the public believe that the agricultural interest was not strong in the country; also that it was not strong in the estimation of the government. The question then now is, what is it politic for us to do to afford relief to the farmer? Looking at the state of the country and the state of parties—looking at the manner in which the malt tax question was received during the last session of parliament, my opinion is, that it would not be a wise course to renew that question in the ensuing session—(*hear, hear.*) Many gentlemen in that house will listen to you provided you are united in your views of relief; but if you be disunited you will be a weak instead of a strong party. It has been too proverbial that the farmers are like a rope of sand. You have now an opportunity of acting in concert; and when I tell you what my opinion is—that I do not think the mooted question of the malt tax would be favourable, or that it would tend to produce relief—it is for you to decide. Sir Robert Peel, you know, was desirous of removing some local pressures, which would tend to relieve the farmer from a portion of his burdens. That Right hon. Baronet was prepared to give up such a local pressure; but the present Government took a different view of the subject. The Worcestershire farmers conceive that the removal of the malt tax would relieve them greatly, and I agree with them; but, I again repeat, I do think, were the subject brought forward during the approaching session, it would prove injurious rather than otherwise, because from what transpired last session it is impossible to calculate upon success. Sir Robert Peel, you may recollect, was prepared to make a considerable reduction of burdens by an adjustment of the land tax. There is no doubt, gentlemen, that if the land tax were so arranged, a very large sum of money would be obtained—a sum of two or three millions, which would of course be appropriated to the reduction of some taxation. Now, having stated to you what was done, and what was attempted to be done, in the course of last session, in order to afford relief to the farmer, it remains to ask what is to be accomplished,

or attempted? I cannot conceive that it will be prudent to go into the House of Commons without having some general plan, for without such a system particular nostrums will be advanced—(hear, hear.) It is essential for all parties desirous of obtaining relief for the farmer that there shall be a unity of purpose. What is to be done then? Let us embark altogether with one desire, with one wish, and put aside for a moment private or party feelings, and ask for the appointment of a select committee of the house of commons to inquire into the distress of the agriculturists? I think, if you persevere, you will certainly have a committee appointed, and that committee will report to the house upon the subject whatever may be their views. With regard to some of the nostrums proposed to remedy the evils complained of, I am aware that the currency question is believed by some essential to be investigated; the state of the currency being considered by those persons as the entire cause of the evils in question. My opinion, however, is, that you should avoid mixing up the two great questions together—(hear, hear), otherwise you will have little chance of carrying the great question respecting agricultural distress; and I think if you mix the two questions together you will fail in your object, for the present government, and Sir Robert Peel, with many of his friends, are averse to open the question of the currency, and you will go therefore before Parliament with those two great parties against you. The two subjects are of such magnitude that they ought to be entertained separately. We have no hostility towards any class of his Majesty's subjects, and we ought to avoid all possibility of being so understood. You may rest assured that my wishes for your success will continue, whatever may be your opinion as to the mode of attaining it. I have told you what my opinion upon the subject is, and depend upon it, it will be well to avoid mingling together those two great questions. I beg it to be understood that I am giving no opinion whatever with regard to the currency question. I would have us appeal to the House of Commons for a committee; we only require a jury to give us a patient hearing, for our cause must ultimately prevail. The way, however, to do so, is to conciliate, if possible, all parties. All branches of trade and commerce must be more or less flourishing, as agriculture is affected. I deprecate, therefore, bringing forward any charge against other parties. It is my earnest wish that you should approach the House of Commons, advocating your own cause unmingled with other great questions, and depend upon it you will fail in your object if you mix other questions with that of agricultural distress. Let us be animated with one sentiment from John O'Groat's House to the Land's End, and by asking for a Committee of Inquiry only we shall attain our object. Let us in this way obtain it, but for God's! sake let us not weaken our cause, which is good, by joining it with questions not essential. No parliament, no government, can resist such an appeal. In this county our society is united—we have felt the good effects of it. But if the Agricultural Societies are divided amongst themselves—if they think differently as to the mode of obtaining relief, we shall most decidedly fail. If we once become disunited, we lose our strength, never to gain it again. (Hear, hear.) I have taken this opportunity of giving you my humble opinion, without presuming to place it in competition with that of others who view the matter in a different light. Such, however, it is; and although I may regret that my opinion may differ from that of other people, I shall never cease from pursu-

ing what I believe to be absolutely essential for the success of our cause. (Hear, hear.) Having thus explained the object of the meeting, as well as my own particular views, I have nothing further to add but that I shall be most happy to listen to the sentiments of any gentleman here present who may be disposed to favour the meeting with them. (Hear.)

G. J. TWISS, Esq. observed, that he necessarily, from the novelty of his situation, felt much diffidence in attempting to address them, which he should not have done but for an observation of the noble marquis, that the question of the currency must stand alone, and was totally unconnected with the distress of agriculture. In this he felt compelled to differ entirely with his lordship: in his humble opinion they were inseparably connected that nothing in the world could separate them; to him it seemed totally impossible for any man to contend that the contraction of the currency had nothing to do with the price of agricultural produce. He ventured to contend that every shilling taken from circulation was a shilling taken from the value of that which had to be sold in the market, and it was not denied that there were a hundred millions less in circulation now than in 1818. With regard to another observation of the noble marquis, that a majority of both parties in the house are against entertaining the question of the currency, it might be so, but this, he felt certain that a vast majority of the people out of the house were in favour of an extension of the currency; and, in the event of a dissolution of Parliament, the sense of the country upon that subject would soon be discovered. Then as to the mode of relief suggested by Sir Robert Peel and others—the equalization of taxes—the relief from local burthens,—and others which had been alluded to by the noble marquis—the whole of them together would do just as much to relieve the existing distress as pouring a bucket of water into the sea would increase the waters of the ocean: but the fact was, that landlords, generally speaking, so long as they receive their rents would not trouble themselves to inquire into the question. It was no Radical who was addressing them; he had laboured day and night for months together to return Conservative members for the county to which he belonged, and he was ready to do so again, but he felt bound to say that tenants were wrong to run about the country begging, and borrowing, and reducing their capitals for the purpose of meeting their landlords at the rent-day, and if their farms did not produce their rents they should not mislead their landlords by leading them to suppose they did, and thus induce them to believe, the distress was not half so great as it was, and shut their ears to the question of the currency, a question, however, which never would be fairly inquired into till the whole race of money-mongers and fructifiers were cleared out of the House of Commons,—till the reign of common sense was restored to us,—till our Legislators took plain and obvious truths for their guide, and ceased to be misled by the theories of political economists. (Cheers.)

MR. LEWEN, one of the East Suffolk Deputation, who avowed himself to be a Tory in politics, denounced the present system of the currency, and insisted it must be thoroughly changed. He had been a considerable buyer of corn during the last 20 or 30 years, and had had ample opportunity of witnessing the direful effects of the system. We were now and had been for some time, governed by new-fangled systems. He wished to see again the good old English mode prevail—(hear, hear.) We had been too long under the Frenchified system of Huskisson



and Poulett Thomson. The political economists, the Ricardos of the day, had been too long and too implicitly followed. The country ought to shake off the *incubus* which pressed upon it. He could not endure the thralldom of O'Connell and his tail—(laughing.) What! Was it come to this, to beg of the big Beggarman? —(Hear hear.) The day, he hoped, was not far distant when English feeling would again prevail in the Legislature. (Cheers.) With respect to the currency question, he must be permitted to add, that he knew that a large majority of the body that had sent him, entertained an opinion that it had occasioned the distress of the farmer, and hopes were cherished in favour of an alteration of the system.

The Rev. Mr. CRUTWELL urged the meeting to consider the currency question, and thought that the whole of the pressure upon the farmer was to be traced to Peel's Bill.

Sir WILLIAM YOUNG, Bart. M. P., said his own impression accorded entirely with that of the Noble Chairman as to the propriety of keeping the two great questions alluded to perfectly distinct. He was satisfied that if the Parliament were urged to entertain the question of currency, mingled with the state of distress affecting agriculture, the friends for an inquiry into the cause of such distress would be defeated—(hear). Had they not, indeed, been beaten last session on the question of the currency? If he recollected rightly, Mr. Cayley's motion went to this extent, for a select committee to enquire into the state of the currency, with a view of relieving agricultural distress—(hear, hear). On that question they were defeated by as large a majority as that which existed on the Noble Marquis's motion for a repeal of the malt tax. But if a general motion for an inquiry into agricultural distress were proposed, he (Sir W. Young) was of opinion that it would not be resisted on the part of the Government. It did not follow that because such a motion was carried, therefore all inquiry before the committee upon the currency question was shut out—(hear.) No such thing; for it would be competent to investigate that subject before the select committee. Nothing could preclude such an inquiry.

R. SPOONER, Esq., one of the deputation from the Worcestershire Agricultural Association, said he was sorry to differ from the noble Marquis in the chair, as to the propriety of considering the subject of the currency on the present occasion: he was willing to concede the point so far as to keep it out of the petition to parliament, and was content that that petition should contain one prayer only, namely, for a committee to inquire into *all* the causes of agricultural distress, with a view to provide an immediate and efficient remedy; but all committees hitherto appointed for that purpose had been restricted from inquiring into the currency question; he wished that this meeting should express its opinion upon this important question, in order to prevent such restrictions in future. The noble marquis must be prepared to have the motion for the inquiry met in the usual hacknied parliamentary way:—What plan have you to propose? an inquiry without a specific object will but create disappointment by exciting hopes which cannot be realized; the noble marquis must then be prepared to state his plans: the resolution of this meeting will have the effect of leading his lordship's mind to the full investigation of the subject—the result of which must be to convince the noble marquis, that no efficient relief can be granted but by the adoption of a just and practical standard of value. Should the noble lord state this to be his view of the case, unless we now

express our opinion, he will be met with the assertion, that it is not our view, that he had no right to assume it as such, as the only legitimate inference was, that had that been our opinion, that opinion would have been expressed. Mr. S. then proceeded to prove, from facts, that under the present standard of value, agricultural produce could not for an average of years bear a higher price than it now does; that under the joint standard of gold and silver, a bushel of wheat never for any length of time exceeded in value the Mint price of an ounce of silver; that the present standard must necessarily have the effect of establishing a rate of prices ten if not fifteen per cent lower than the old standard; and clearly pointed out the difference between a single and a double standard, between coin prohibited from being melted and exported, and coin unshackled with such prohibitions; he then explained how unjustly the landed interest had been dealt with, that they had been led on by the resolutions of the House of Commons, past in 1810 and 1811 to submit to taxations, to make family arrangements, &c. under the full conviction that there had been no departure from the standard of value, of course therefore never contemplating the effect now produced by a return to what Parliament declared had never been departed from: and now they are called upon by the same parties who so misled them, to submit to be ruined under the plausible but false plea of national faith;—"national faith" said Mr S. must, and as far as this meeting has the power to say, shall be kept; but it shall be kept towards the debtor as well as the creditor, towards the industrious labourous class of agriculturists as well as towards others. Mr S. alluded to the present prosperous state of trade and manufactures; disclaimed any wish on the part of the landed interest to benefit themselves at the expense of those interests, but doubted whether any reflecting man could come to the conclusion that their prosperity was stable and well founded. The maintenance of a steady state of credit was essential to the continuance of that prosperity, and the basis upon which the credit of the country was now built was too narrow, too easily affected by events which neither Parliament nor Government nor the Bank of England could control, and against which the most calculating and sagacious could not effectually guard, to preserve a steady state of credit. He explained this by shewing that internal commotions, bad harvests, and rumours of war, would inevitably create such a drain for gold, as would compel the Bank of England, in self-defence, to curtail the circulation to a degree to endanger, if not destroy, the present prosperous state of commerce and manufactures; he would not follow this subject further, as he thought he had said enough to induce the meeting to agree to the proposition, that the state of the currency was one great cause of the distress of which they complained,—a cause, which as long as it existed, would aggravate every evil, and paralyze every remedy. One point more he would press upon the consideration of the meeting, that the very persons who now admitted that the alteration of the currency had done much mischief, but now asserted that it was too late to alter, and that the evil was over, were the persons who, when the measure was first introduced, declared that it would create no mischief whatever, and that the largest effect it would produce upon prices would not be more than four per cent.; he had himself argued that question with Mr. Ricardo, and asserted that the ultimate effect would be to depress prices one-third, or three and thirty per cent.; he left it to the meeting to say who then took a right view of the subject,

and called upon them to attend to those now whom experience had shown to be right then, and who now told them in the present standard of value no relief could be given to the landed interest; and who taking Locke as their high authority, told all the other classes of the state, that, notwithstanding present appearances, their security and their prosperity would ultimately be found inseparably mixed up with the ruin of the agriculturists. Mr. S. then quoted some passages from Locke, which he stated Sir Robert Peel had but partially quoted in the year 1819, passages which clearly proved the danger and injustice of original depreciation, but which proved, at the same time, the still more aggravated injustice, and more imminent danger which must follow the diminution of the circulating medium; a necessary consequence of endeavouring to return to a high standard of value, after having adopted a depreciated standard for any length of time. He then showed that the farmers could not expect any relief from an alteration in the corn laws, and that the present laws only inflicted upon them the odium of monopoly without any benefit from protection; he then ridiculed the various schemes which had been adopted for the relief of the farmers,—the shepherd's-dog tax—the parish-boys-in-livery without tax—the reduction of the county-rates—and said he could designate such miserable attempts at legislation, as adding insult to injury. He then reprobated the language used by some members of parliament, in public and private, who admitted, under the present system, the present race of farmers must be demolished; but comforted us with the statement, that the energies of the country would remain, and a new race of farmers be established of less luxurious habits than the present. He called upon the meeting to join in endeavouring to rouse the agricultural interest to a firm constitutional defence of themselves, their families, and their property, and implored the noble marquis not to compel them, by refusing to mix up the question of the currency with the defence of the farmers, to choose another leader in parliament; to him they looked with confidence for the future, as they remembered the past with gratitude, and it would be to them matter of deep regret if they were compelled to commit their cause to other hands; but he assured the noble marquis that the opinions (which he felt he had but imperfectly expressed,) were now almost universally held by the agricultural interest, and had gained too firm a ground to be easily stifled; and if we were driven to the alternative, which he sincerely deprecated, and implored the noble lord not to inflict upon them, either of abandoning their claims of having the question of the currency re-considered, or of seeking a new leader in the House of Commons, painful as it would be, the question must be examined, even at the loss of the noble marquis as our leader. The hon. gentleman's speech, of which the above is but a brief outline, was much applauded throughout.

W. MEDLEY, Esq. of Iver, rose to notice the observation of the noble lord, that if the question of the currency was mixed up with any petition for agricultural relief, it would be opposed by both parties—Whigs and Tories. In answer to this, Mr. Medley stated that so far back as Feb. 1833, he, a private and humble individual, had called a meeting of members of parliament, at the Thatched House Tavern, at which 28 members attended the first meeting, 49 the next, and 98 the third, and 49 more sent in their adhesions to the proposition that *the monetary system of the empire should be enquired into*, and that they would support a motion to that effect

then announced to be brought forward by Mr. Attwood. Mr. Medley hence inferred, that if he, a private individual, could procure the sanction of 147 members to such a measure, surely the noble lord could do much more with his powerful interest. It is true the motion was lost, but only by a majority of 30 or 40. Since which the question of the currency was far better understood; but suppose (continued Mr. Medley) that the noble lord is right in his conjecture, what remains for us to do, but to form a *third party* in the state, an *agricultural party*, and such a party he said would carry all before it. What (said the speaker) does the noble lord mean to say that any House of Commons dare refuse the prayer of their petition?—the petition of five millions of human beings, all agriculturists, and on whose prosperity the permanent prosperity of four millions of manufacturers depend! I repeat, (said he) PERMANENT prosperity, for when the agriculturists flourished was there a town or village that did not share in their prosperity?—a prosperity not to be compared with that transient, temporary, uncertain prosperity afforded by foreign trade, liable to be interrupted every year by war, by balance of exchanges, and various other casualties to which the home trade was not liable. Was not this (he said) like the parent who preferred a stranger to his own offspring—Could any thing be more unnatural? Such absurdities and anti-nationalisms could only enter the brains of such men as Huskisson, Ricardo, Poulet Thompson, and Morrison, and was so contrary to all patriotism and common sense, that he could only look upon such men as enemies to the empire. Could the noble lord (he said) so mistake his position in society, could he be so devoid of honest ambition,—the ambition of doing good to millions, (than which a more noble ambition could not fill the breast of an honest man,) as to refuse the offer now made to him of heading the agricultural interest of the whole country, but to prefer being at the head of a mere county? Surely the noble lord could not be so insensible to the proud and important position he was now called upon to occupy, as to refuse such a prayer? if he did, others would soon occupy it; but he begged he would take further time to consider it. As to Peel's bill, Mr. Medley pronounced it the most bare-faced, iniquitous fraud ever practised in any age or country. Reduce this (he said) to an act of private life and how would it stand?—all the parties would have been transported; and is it the less iniquitous because it is effected by a body of lords and commons, only *thirty* of the whole number understanding its effects. But what were the simple circumstances of the case? An act is passed which its *very authors* confidently assert will only make a difference of four or five per cent.; relying on the truth of this statement, both sides of the house agreed to it;—it turns out, that instead of four per cent., it makes 50, and even 100 per cent.; but, instead of immediately altering it, as would have been done in private life by any man who had made so gross a blunder, the parties making it persist in its continuance, and now, not only have the impudence and ignorance to tell you that it is too late to go back, but have the effrontery to accuse you of a desire to rob them, and to violate public faith. Gentlemen, (said Mr. Medley) I know too well the importance of preserving public faith, and, from principle, will never consent to its violation; but is there no faith to be kept with the agriculturist, with the manufacturer, as well as with the fundholder? As certain (said Mr. Medley) as there is justice in heaven, so certain will the authors of this pretended blunder be brought to justice; and, when that is



done, I shall not desire to live a day longer. That a few men profiting and fattening on the calamities of the many, and having the bare-faced effrontery of accusing those who desired an enquiry into the causes of the general distress, should pretend and affect to say that the subject was of such a very *delicate nature* that it ought not to be at any time mooted, he was not surprised at; but that men suffering by the fraud could *continue* to be so deluded, he really was astonished at their simplicity; it reminded him of the well-dressed shop-lifters, who, when detected in their schemes, affected to have their feelings *hurt* at the charge. Mr. Medley stated that the *late* Sir Robert Peel had asserted to him, that his son's conduct in that bill bearing his name, excited his decided disapprobation, and that he, the father, had warned him of its fatal consequences. Mr. Medley pointed out the folly of imagining that a much less circulation than that we enjoyed during the war could *do now*; that we were at peace since the same property, with a very considerable increase, still existed, and of course required an adequate increased representative, instead of a diminution so serious as had now taken place—he exposed the folly of locking up our gold in this country instead of using it as an article of merchandize, and thus preventing the nations of Europe, who would be thus enriched by it, from trading more extensively with us; these nations (he said) could not, like England, use a paper currency—they had not sufficient credit for it—why then (said he) deprive them by your absurd metallic law of the only or principal means of their so doing? It was like (he said) breaking a man's arms and then reproaching him with an inability to fight. Mr. Medley stated that he had been one of the most considerable discounters in London for twenty-two years; during which period, he had discounted very many millions annually; that he had therefore an opportunity, (as was truly stated by Mr. Spooner) of seeing the fatal effects of Peel's bill on every branch of British industry—he conjured the agriculturists to form a *third party* without loss of time, and to rely on no one *but themselves* for extrication from their distress. He ridiculed the idea of anticipating relief from any other measure than an alteration of the currency, which he recommended to be done by the substitution of a silver standard, at 5s 6d the ounce—this (he said) would preserve the metallic standard, which all parties were so anxious for (he confessed he knew not why, and he doubted if they could) and at the same time release the mass of gold now laying idle in this country and not performing its operations of currency—he was confident (he said) that in one year such a state of *permanent* activity and prosperity would arise that no man could hardly at the present moment contemplate—he deprecated anything approaching to an unlimited paper issue, but urged the necessity of a just and liberal expansion of our currency on a metallic basis in proportion to our increased capital as necessary for the salvation of the country; any attempted relief by taking off the *whole* of the local taxation or any other petty despicable measures would only end in bitter disappointment—it would only be adding insult to injury. The hon. gentleman was listened to with deep attention, and concluded amidst loud cheers.

Mr. BRAILSFORD stated that he had been deputed by the Lincoln Agricultural Society to convey to the general meeting the sense that they entertained of the necessity of investigating the currency question, for unless that course were taken, all means of relief for the farmer would prove futile. (*Hear.*) The Society had instructed him, on Friday last, to hand

the resolutions in question to the meeting, and the first resolution was in favour of a change of standard in value from gold to silver.

Mr. HARCOURT, President of the South Bucks Association, proposed the first resolution, which was seconded by Mr. MEDLEY and unanimously carried. "That the condition of Agriculture is at this time depressed beyond precedent, and demands the immediate attention of the Legislature."

Sir WM. YOUNG, Bart., M.P., again presented himself, and after some observations on the different opinions that prevailed as to the cause of agricultural distress, proposed, the second resolution, viz.—"That petitions be presented to Parliament, praying that a select committee be granted to inquire into all the causes of the distressed state of the Agricultural interest, with a view to its immediate relief."

J. EAMES, Esq., in seconding the resolution, observed, that a member of the House of Commons had stated at a meeting at Worcester, that agriculture was not in the depressed state that some persons represented it, and that he lately had visited a district where it was flourishing, and, when called upon to name, the honourable member mentioned Leicestershire. Now it so happened the honourable member had made a three or four days' visit to the very hospitable mansion of a lady with a fixed income, who resided in the very centre of the county that had deputed his friend, Mr. Hassels, and himself, to attend the present meeting, and he was sure he spoke the sentiments of the Society, consisting of nearly 200 members, when he declared the agricultural interest was in a state of depression never before remembered by any member of the county. Did the hon. member, form his opinion while sitting at the bountiful board of his hostess, or from the cursory glance he took of the farmers in their best coats, as he passed by the corn market where they were assembled?—surely the hon. member did not wish to see the English farmer at market with his coat out at the elbows, for when men have seen better days they do not like to proclaim to the world their altered circumstances. Mr. Eames declared the first resolution would be highly approved by the society to which he had the honour to belong, and concluded by seconding the resolution moved by Sir William Young, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. GIBLIN, one of the Cambridge Deputation, detailed his farming experience for upwards of forty years—demonstrating the intimate connexion between corn and currency; emphatically declaring, that he was ready to mount his cavalry-horse, and shed the last drop of his blood sooner than allow the last shilling to be drained from him.

Mr. MONTGOMERY MARTIN stated that he had accepted with much pleasure an invitation to attend the meeting: he dwelt on the necessity of the farmers combining for the purpose of procuring relief—reminding the assembly, that the House of Commons granted a committee of enquiry into the state of agriculture in 1833—excluded by a bye resolution all investigation into the monetary system, and then announced that the best mode of relief for the agricultural distress was an abstinence from all parliamentary interference. It was clear that ministers would do nothing of themselves—indeed, one minister stated last session, that a sunshiny day would have more effect on agriculture, than any legislative enactment. He (Mr. Martin) had applied to the Government to revive the Board of Agriculture, in order that the farmers might have some legitimate organ for the communication of their wishes and feelings to Government. But Mr. Spring Rice, (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) declared by the following letter to Mr. Martin, that the Government would do

nothing of the kind, because they thought such a measure would be of no benefit to the farmer! (*Hear, hear, hear.*)

Downing-street, Sept. 8, 1835.

Sir,—I am directed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to inform you, with reference to the conversation which passed between you and myself, a few days back, that the government has no intention whatever, of reviving the Board of Agriculture, as they do not conceive that the measure would be conducive to the good-being of the agriculturists themselves.

I am, sir, your very obedient servant,

S. E. SPRING RICE.

He asked the assembly whether the Board of Trade, particularly as at present constituted, was of any use to the farmer? (*Hear.*) Was it not on the contrary decidedly inimical to their interests? (*Cheers.*) Mr. Powlett Thompson, a young man—erst connected with the Baltic trade, was now at the head of the commercial department of this great country, and had openly declared his desire for a free trade in corn, and for lowering the protection which the British landlord now rightly enjoyed against Baltic timber. (*Loud cheers.*) Mr. Thompson had refused the corn returns moved for by Mr. Dilwynn after those returns had been granted by the Treasury, and by the House of Commons. (*Hear, hear.*) Mr. Martin, after adducing other arguments, contended that it was now necessary for the agriculturists to combine their powers and demand from government a comprehensive inquiry into their condition. (*Cheers.*) Lord John Russell had stated the other day at Bristol, that Catholic emancipation was denied to reason and justice, but conceded to intimidation and menaced violence; and it would doubtless be remembered how much parliamentary reform was indebted for its success to the united efforts of societies. He (Mr. Montgomery Martin,) was, constitutionally speaking, averse to the union of societies or bodies of men for political objects, as their natural tendency was to overawe the deliberate wisdom of the legislature. Nevertheless the present case was an exception to the rule, otherwise the great object in view would never be obtained. (*Cheers.*) He (Mr. M.) was desirous therefore, of seeing a Board of Agriculture established in London, and as ministers had, most unwisely, and from the absence of that foresight which ought to characterize those who pretend to be statesmen, refused to take the initiative, it behoved the farmers of England to rise from their supine condition, and co-operate for their mutual protection and support. (*Cheers.*) The object in view, was to centralize the numerous associations scattered throughout the country and now so powerless for want of union. Let all party distinctions and minor differences be abandoned—let their grand effort be the instant establishment of a London Board of Agriculture, to which deputies be sent from every part of the kingdom previous to the opening of parliament, so that government may be compelled to acknowledge the distressed condition of agriculture in the King's speech, and their determination to inquire into the causes thereof; let the Deputies adjourn their sittings from time to time, watching carefully the proceedings of Ministers and Parliament, and conferring with their constituents, not abandoning their posts until measures of full and satisfactory relief be devised and accomplished. (*Loud cheering.*) The hon. gentleman also contended that a Central Board of Agriculture would be of the utmost importance in many other respects, in collecting information as to tithes, to local and county rates &c., in demonstrating that poor laws for Ireland is an English question, and especially in aiding the application of chemistry to promote agricultural improvement and in encouraging new and useful implements of husbandry, &c.

The hon. gentleman, after offering several other observations to the meeting, moved, amidst great approbation, the third resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Twiss of Cambridge, and carried.

"That heretofore all efforts to obtain from the govern-

ment or from parliament, efficient relief for agricultural distress, have failed, and inquiry has twice been refused owing to the divided state of the agricultural body, and their want of co-operation :—

"It is therefore advisable that the various agricultural associations now scattered throughout the kingdom, and hitherto powerless for want of union, do concentrate their forces, and form a grand Central Society or Board of Agriculture, in London."

R. BROWN, Esq., on moving the 4th resolution said, that having taken a part in the proceedings at Framlingham, on the 3rd inst., the meeting had done him the honour to name him one of the deputation to represent the agriculturists of Suffolk upon the present occasion. In discharging that trust he had to lay before the noble Marquis and this meeting, the 6th resolution passed at Framlingham, viz.:—"That a deputation of the East Suffolk Society be appointed to take part in the proceedings of the meeting to be held at Aylesbury on the 12th inst.; at the same time to lay the above resolutions before it, and convey to Lord Chandos the assurance of the confidence of this association, and the hope that its proceedings of this day may meet with his lordship's concurrence, and the support of the agriculturists of Buckinghamshire." The resolutions referred to were resolutions declaratory of the truth, that "the Agriculture of the kingdom was the first of all its concerns, and that it is essential for the peace, welfare, and security of all classes of society, that it should be relieved from its present state of overwhelming distress, by an early and active interposition of parliament," and that it was the conviction of that meeting, as he was now happy to find it was of this, that "the formation of a Central Society in London for giving full effect to the objects of the local agricultural societies would be of the greatest utility to the Agricultural interest." Mr. B. remarked that after having laboured assiduously for several years to promote the formation of a CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, as the only means of procuring relief from the general distress, it was with the highest gratification that he found himself surrounded by parties, unanimously favourable to that object, who represented a large and influential portion of the agricultural body. The tenantry of England for a long series of years had remained suffering and passive—until submission had become imbecility, and apathy crime. They were determined, therefore, from motives of self-preservation, to merge all minor differences of opinion, and to centralize their power under one common head. That accomplished they would then, shoulder to shoulder, crush down in rotation, every opposing circumstance that should militate against the tranquility, the industry, and the welfare of the classes connected with the soil; agriculture was of no politics, it was neither Whigism, nor Toryism, nor Radicalism—and the CENTRAL ASSOCIATION would have no other object or aim than to insist that "on every state the first creditor is the plough, and that in this kingdom, this indefeasible claim shall supersede every other demand." (*Cheers.*) The public welfare required this, for "THE AGRICULTURE OF THE KINGDOM IS THE FOUNDATION OF THE NATIONAL PROSPERITY IN EVERY OTHER MATTER BY WHICH THAT PROSPERITY IS PRODUCED." Agricultural distress had now reached that pitch when for its melioration the land-owners of England and the land-occupiers must go forward together, or the land-occupiers would go forward by themselves. Complaints, not loud but deep, existed, that the rent-receivers were callous to the sufferings of the rent-payers, but he deprecated the idea that the time would ever arrive in which the two classes should cease to consider their interests as common, or refuse cordially in defence of those interests to go hand in hand. The noble Marquis by whose invitation they had met together, had ever been looked up to as the farmer's friend; and in proffering him the confidence of the agriculturists of Suffolk, he felt assured that their resolution embodied the opinions of the whole farming interest of England (*Hear, hear.*) He would, therefore take upon him to propose for the adoption of the meeting a resolution to the effect that the noble Marquis be invited to become the chairman of the provisional committee for organizing the CENTRAL SOCIETY.



(*Loud cheering.*) And he hoped the noble Marquis would not refuse to accept of the post of honour to which the urgent necessities of the farmer, the common safety of the state, and the general well-being of the people called him. (*Loud cheers.*)

R. SPOONER, Esq., rose to second the motion, which he said he did with the most heartfelt pleasure. Deeply he regretted that circumstances should ever have arisen in this great and wealthy kingdom to render a confederation of the agricultural interest necessary. But these circumstances had arisen—circumstances the most exigent, circumstances no longer to be trifled with or to be postponed—and he saw no effectual means of relief, except by uniting the forces of the whole agricultural body, and taking that position which humanity, virtue, and patriotism as well as necessity, called upon them to assume. (*Loud cheers.*) After passing a most eloquent eulogium on the conduct of the noble Marquis as the firm, steadfast, unflinching, tried, and unfailling friend and champion of the British farmer, he concluded, amidst the loudest demonstrations of applause, by seconding the motion, which was unanimously carried.

The Noble Marquis returned thanks to the meeting for the honour which they had done him by passing the last resolution, but begged to decline the Chair of the Provisional Committee for organizing the Central Society. This he did from no want of zeal for the cause, but because he thought as President of the Bucks Association, he could not give his effective attention to both. After some conversation, the meeting expressed a strong hope that the noble marquis would consider the matter, and not give a final answer till the General Meeting on the 15th Dec., which his lordship promised to attend.

WILLIAM SHULDHAM, Esq. addressed the meeting, and stated that he had long been endeavouring to impress upon the agriculturists of Suffolk the absolute necessity of adopting stronger measures for relief from distress than what had hitherto been adopted. He was now happy to say that these feelings were participated by the agriculturists of his county and by the country generally. He considered the formation of the Central Society would give the landed interest a power in this kingdom which they had never yet possessed; and would be productive of results which would speedily raise the condition of the whole producing classes. In order that the Central Society may be organized in a manner that will entitle it to the support of the agricultural interest throughout the kingdom, he had much satisfaction in proposing the fifth resolution:—That it is the opinion of this meeting, that a meeting of Agriculturists be holden at the Freemasons' Tavern, London, at 12 o'clock, on the Tuesday after the Smithfield Show, for the purpose of forming a provisional Committee, with the view of finally organizing the Central Society, consulting as to the cause of agricultural distress, and what measures shall be adopted for its relief, on which day Deputations from each of the local associations be invited to attend.

JOHN MOSELEY, Esq. President of the East Suffolk Society, seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously. Mr. M. remarked that he had been a member of the Board of Agriculture, and never could understand why it should have been dissolved. He expressed his conviction that the greatest good would arise to the agriculturists, in especial, and society in general, from the establishment of the Central Society.

W. MEDLEY, Esq., moved the 6th resolution, which was seconded by Mr. KIMPTON, Hertfordshire, and unanimously carried.—

“That R. Montgomery Martin, Esq., and R. Broun, Esq., be requested to give their assistance to such provisional committee as joint honorary secretaries thereof, and adopt such measures as they shall think most

advisable for the purpose of obtaining a numerous attendance of parties interested in the welfare of agriculture.

R. SPOONER, Esq., proposed, and Mr. THURNALL, President of the Cambridge Society, seconded,—“That the distress of the landed interest first commenced when the present standard of value was adopted, a standard of value which had never been the standard of value in this country, but was a new and arbitrary standard, although it was adopted under the specious pretext of returning to the ancient standard:—that the effect of adopting that standard has been more than to double all the then fixed burdens and encumbrances, and to lower the value of land and the price of produce to one half, and that nothing can save the landed interest from ruin but the adoption of a just and practical standard.” Carried with only three dissenting voices.

It was proposed by Mr. MEDLEY, and seconded by Mr. UMBERS, of Warwick—That it is due to the interests of the British farmer that a system of Poor Laws should be introduced into Ireland.

Carried unanimously.

Mr. TWISS proposed, and Mr. SPOONER seconded, That the cordial thanks of every one present, be given to Lord Chandos.

After the business of the day, a large party dined together at the George Inn, Lord Chandos in the chair, at which many excellent speeches were made.

RIGHT OF FARMERS TO KILL RABBITS—This question has been decided by a Court of Justices of the Peace, in the county of Kincardine, under the following circumstances:—A tenant on the estate of Rickarton, whose farm has been much infested, and his crops seriously injured by rabbits, employed a vermin killer to destroy them; upon which a gentleman, who holds in lease the game on the estate, instituted four separate prosecutions for penalties against the person employed, founded on the Act 2d and 3d William IV., c. 68, for the prevention of trespasses upon property by persons in pursuit of game. One of the cases came on for trial at Stonehaven, on the 2d inst., before a bench of four Justices. The vermin killer proved that he had been employed, and had acted openly as the servant of the tenant; and, on the part of the tenant, it was pleaded that he was entitled by law to destroy rabbits; in support of which plea, reference was made to the decision of the Court of Session in the case of Sir David Moncrieff v. Arnott, in 1828, by which it was found that rabbits are not game, and that a tenant is entitled to destroy them on his farm, in order to prevent damage to his crops. On the other hand, the prosecutor contended that the statute founded on by him had taken away that right, having, indeed, as he stated, been passed for the very purpose of correcting the decision in the case of Sir David Moncrieff v. Arnott. One of the Justices was of opinion that a tenant suffering damages by rabbits injuring his crops is entitled to recover the amount from his landlord; but that the statute founded on now prevents his killing the rabbits without the landlord's leave; and, therefore, that in this case a trespass had been committed, and the statutory penalties incurred. Two of their Honours, one of whom was the Sheriff Substitute, were clearly of opinion that the act does not apply to the case of the tenant, or a person employed by a tenant, *bona fide*, in destroying rabbits on his farm, for the preservation of his crops; that the decision in the case of Sir David Moncrieff had not been affected by the act, and could not be considered as taking away the right of tenants which that decision had established; and that the tenant, in this case, was therefore perfectly justifiable by law in what he had done. The remaining Justice was of opinion, that the leave of the landlord was rendered necessary by the statute in question for entitling a tenant to kill rabbits; but on the ground that the evidence adduced gave him reason to think leave had been granted in this instance, he was not inclined to convict. The complaint against the vermin killer was therefore dismissed, one of the Justices dissenting.—*Aberdeen Herald*.

## AGRICULTURAL REPORTS.

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

The past month affords us little scope for observation on rural affairs. The farmer's principal occupation has been wheat-seeding, and from the rain that commenced on the 24th, much of the strong land remains unsown; however, it is quite *vice versa* with the red land farmer, who does not mind how much it is smeared in, as it generally assists in the destruction of the poppy and other troublesome weeds. The breadth of wheat sown this year is not so great as usual, owing to the extreme low price it makes, and which, but for the failure of the turnip crop, would have been still smaller. We perceive that where part of the turnip crop has failed, in many instances, wheat has been sown. We certainly do not commend the plan, as the return will not be quicker than if all was sown with barley in the spring, and as far as this year goes, barley certainly pays the best. The wheat being good, and much of the up and down land being in a pulverised state, on account of the congenial rains, the early sown has made its appearance, and with a good bold blade. It is very necessary that crows should be well-watched during the time the wheat is chitting, or they will do much damage. We have seen a plan that is frequently resorted to in many parts of England, and certainly with great success; as it is a cheap one we shall recommend our agricultural friends to try. Procure a ball or two of that hemp thread which shoemakers use, and fasten it to the top of sticks about three feet high in a zigzag direction all over the field, and the crows will rarely attempt to settle. We perceive that several of our largest and best farmers have introduced a new plan, (and certainly as far as we can learn a profitable one) of sowing winter beans with tares. They should be sown not later than October; the tares may be eaten off with sheep in April or the beginning of May. The system was introduced into this country, we believe, by a large practical farmer and breeder of sheep, and the result has been very gratifying to those who have tried it. A new kind of winter oat has been tried by one or two of our friends; but of course we cannot speak respecting its merits until another year: it is highly recommended by many eminent agriculturists as producing not only an abundance of food in the autumn and spring, but also large produce when thrashed. A great many vetches have been sown, also a large portion of rye and trifolium; we expect, therefore, a good supply of keep in the spring, as they look promising at present. Potato digging is nearly finished, and, as we before stated, will turn out very bad; the quantity of acres grown is so large, however, that many quarters have been sold at 8s, proving at once that there is no scarcity; the best eating potatoes for family use have been sold as high as 20s per qr. The poor man who pays a high rent for his land will have much to do to raise the amount, to say nothing of his own time and trouble. Owing to the heavy rains which fell on the 24th of last month many hundreds of sheep were driven out of the meadows (which until then had afforded good keep with dry layer) and put to turnips, which we fear will be found to go off very fast, although they have certainly improved; still the later sown ones will produce very little keep, except for a few ewes and lambs in the spring. Many acres have been sold,

and many hundreds of sheep put out by the head; the price per acre varies of course, according to the crop. White ones from 4l. to 5l. per acre; Swedes from 4l. 10s. to 6l. 10s. By the head:—tegs 5d to 6d; sheep 6d to 8d; of Swedes and cut, the latter price. The immense quantity of hay and barley straw, will in a great measure, help out for the failure of the turnip crop. Store beasts are taken into the straw-yard by the week at 1s 3d per head. The thrashing machines have been fully employed all the month, and some difficulty has been found in procuring them—signs, we confess, we are sorry to witness. As most of our contemporaries are grumbling about the badness of the farmers' prospects, we certainly hope to be allowed to advocate their cause in a quiet, but consistent manner. It must, of course, be evident to every sensible mind, that the quantity of grain forced into the market at this early period, is to meet the demands of the landlord. It would, therefore, in our opinion, be a great good, and charitable act, if the Michaelmas rents were put off till a later period. We remember well the time when the steady practical farmer generally had funds enough in his bankers' hands to pay all demands upon him at any day when called upon. Unhappily the case is now quite the reverse; and it is a distressing circumstance that the needy man should be compelled to force his commodities into the market, however bad the price may be. But such is the case. To judge of a man's present situation who took a farm on a long lease, we lay before our readers the average prices of wheat from 1811 to the present time:—

|                                          |     |     |
|------------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| For the five years ending 1816 .. ..     | 88s | 2d  |
| Do. Do. .. .. 1821 .. ..                 | 74s | 0d  |
| Do. Do. .. .. 1826 .. ..                 | 56s | 1d  |
| Do. Do. .. .. 1831 .. ..                 | 62s | 10d |
| In 1832 the average was .. ..            | 58s | 8d  |
| In 1833 .. ..                            | 53s | 1d  |
| In 1834 .. ..                            | 46s | 2d  |
| For the present year it will not average | 40s | 0d  |

No human sagacity could anticipate such a dreadful fall as the above table exhibits. We leave the results to such well judging minds as are more capable of estimating the expenses of growing wheat than we are. Our markets for corn have been rather better for barley; the same depression has been felt in wheat as in our last report. We certainly are unwilling to find fault with the respectable body of corn merchants that attend our markets, but if there is not a combination there is certainly no competition, for they one and all bid and give the same price for all things, but more especially in the barley trade. Oats still maintain their price, and very few are shown; we have seen new ones sold as high as 30s per qr., but these were extraordinary fine ones. Our fairs throughout the country have been dull. Sheep have materially deteriorated in price during the past month; some very useful lambs have been sold at from 20s to 25s per head, and shear hogs from 25s to 30s do; ewes are also considerably lower. The wool trade remains stationary. There will be about 4000 bales of German and colonial wool offered for sale in the early part of the month, which may perhaps cause a dulness in the trade. There has been no material alteration in the meat markets with the exception of pork, which is readily sold at from 9s



to 10s per score. This time last year it could hardly be turned into money, yet the importation of Irish pigs is as large as in any preceding year.

### BERKS.

The variable weather throughout great part of the last month has not been unseasonable, but during the last few days there has been some very heavy rains, and some sorts of land are now become too wet to sow with wheat. The sowing has proceeded as fast as manure could be procured, but there is still a vast breadth of land to get in in some parts of this county. For several years past we have had very mild winters, and the backward sown wheat has produced more per acre than what was sown early; and the consequence is, that the farmers are now in the habit of delaying their wheat sowing two or three weeks later than usual; but the time will doubtless come when there will be a severe winter, and when the early sown will be by far the most productive. The cold wet weather has kept back the wheat from coming up so quickly as we expected, but where it does come up it is mostly with a healthy blade and free from weeds, and seems more likely to stand a severe frost than when it comes up so very quick. We have not heard of any complaints respecting the slug or wireworm, but nearly the whole of the wheat that has made its appearance is thick on the ground and has kept its stock well; but the pieces which have recently been sown are every day nearly covered with large flocks of wood-pigeons, starlings, larks, and other small birds, and all in search of the seed that was not well covered, and we fear that in some instances they will do a considerable mischief; a hard winter is much wanted to lessen the number of these depredators. The land is now become too wet either to tread with sheep or to use the presser or wheel-roller, and it is now impossible to get it so firm at bottom as it ought to be, and we are fearful that on this account the late sown will not stand so good a chance for a productive crop as that which is worked down firm. The trifolium in some places is quite dead and the land sown afresh, and there is much more of it looking of a sickly hue, and not at all like to stand the winter, but on some warm rich soils it at present looks pretty well, and promises a fair crop; but to depend wholly on this plant for spring feed, would, we think, be most unwise, for the young plant is often eaten by insects, and its roots so near the surface that it will be extremely liable to be injured by severe weather, and for green food it lasts but such a short time before it gets into seed, that as a substitute for vetches to feed stock with, it cannot at all be depended upon; nevertheless, it is acknowledged on all hands, that in a green state it is most excellent food for either horses or sheep. In consequence of the failure in the trifolium, many persons are now sowing winter vetches, but we still think that after all, there will not be the usual quantity of vetches sown; and if the trifolium should be altogether destroyed by a hard winter, many of the farmers will find themselves in a still worse condition in the spring for want of sheep keep than they are at the present time. Seed vetches are not very plentiful, and they are still readily sold as high as 5s per bushel. Vetches, rye, and winter barley all lie a long time in the ground before they vegetate, but most farmers consider this circumstance in favour of the crop. We have had a few frosty mornings, and some very boisterous winds, which together have nearly stripped all the trees and underwoods

of their leaves, and in some places the cutting of the copses will commence immediately. The value of underwood, like that of timber, is very much depreciated; and owing to the failure in the turnip crop, hurdles are at present nearly unsaleable, and hoops also sell badly, and there is no sort of wood but that which is cut out for the fire which at all retains its value. Although we have had some warm days, yet we never saw the grass grow less in October than it has in the present year, and although the weather has seemed to be pretty favourable for vegetation, yet there has been nearly a complete stagnation in the growth of the young turnips, grass, meadows, and pastures, and feed is become now so scarce that few farmers have any thing to rely on but hay and fodder until next spring. Sheep are now lower in price than they have been since the ruinous year of 1822; but it is the general opinion that they have reached their lowest point, and at the last fair or two they seemed to be looking rather upward in price. Mutton and pork continue to sell pretty well, and as the few sheep that are at all fitting for the butcher must soon be brought into the market because there is no food that will improve their condition, and as but few sheep can this winter be fattened from the same cause ready for the spring market, it is believed by many that at that time mutton will be high in price. The potatoe crop is a bad one, and in this part of the country it produces only a third of the quantity that it did last year. We see no reason as yet for altering our former opinion respecting the crop of wheat, for although a few late sown patches after rape and turnips may yield pretty well, yet the produce of the principal part of the land will, we are convinced, notwithstanding the abundant crop of straw, be about eight bushels per acre less than it was last year. The price of wheat at the present time is most ruinous, and good fair flour is selling at Newbury at sixpence halfpenny per gallon, and the very best at nine-pence. We have heard of our great grandfathers boasting of their purchasing a gallon of flour and a pound of cheese for a shilling, but it can now be purchased as low as ten-pence; but hundreds of poor creatures will soon find ten-pences more scarce than guineas were a few years ago. No man living can remember common food so cheap as it is at the present time, and never were the producers of this food so badly off. The quantity of barley per acre is on the whole we think greater than it was last year, but the yield out of the rick or mow is acknowledged by the old men to be worse than it has been these 50 years, and it in general takes a good load of straw to produce a quarter of barley. The Chevalier is inquired after, and fetches a high price; but it is so quick of vegetation that it will not do to malt along with other sorts, as it is ready to go on the kiln several days before any of it. In a wet harvest, being so quick of vegetation, we think it will be completely spoiled before the common barley sustains much injury. We are still of opinion, that with great care, and a *superintendence of the process by the master*, the smut in wheat may generally be prevented. The writer of this has occupied three farms, of different soils and in different situations; he has planted annually for 30 years upwards of 100 acres of wheat, and yet he has never sold a load of wheat for one penny the less in consequence of smut, although many farmers in the same situation, and whose land is adjoining that which he occupies, have at times sustained great loss. Smut, in our opinion, arises entirely from negligence; but when once

obtained is not easily got rid of, for the barn-planks, the fan, the sieves, the bushel, the sacks, the seedlip, and even the very chaff and manure is contaminated with the dust, and will propagate the disease, and many farmers being ignorant of this circumstance, often wonder how it is that their crop is smutty, and ascribe it to soil or the situation of the atmosphere, or any thing else but the true cause, and it will be impossible to convince them of their mistake, for so long as there is deception amongst servants, and those servants are employed by negligent masters, there will be smut in wheat, in spite of all that we can say or do. Old wheat is never smutty, except it comes in contact with new dust, as the old dust has lost its power of propagation. The bearded or cone wheat and the red wheat are not so liable to smut, because they are thicker in the skin; but even the cone wheat can be made smutty if you scrape off a part of the bran, and inoculate with the dust of the new smut-balls. Every experiment we have ever tried has convinced us that it is the dust from these balls that is the whole and sole propagator of the disease.—Nov. 2.

#### OXFORDSHIRE.

At this season we have but little to report, we begin as usual with the state of the weather, a matter of vast importance to the English farmer. During the last month we had rain in abundance, which greatly impeded the wheat seeding, so as to delay the finish of this very material branch of husbandry to a later period than usual; some little still remains to be done; what was done when the land was too wet sadly poached, and must render the crop doubtful. The last week or ten days has been much more favourable, and both wheat and vetches have been put in under better circumstances, although late; and winter ploughing is done in a kind and mellow state. The wheat has laid a long time in the ground; the last week has, however, caused it to spring up.

We must again report unfavourably of the turnip crop; owing to the superabundance of moisture, together with cold nights, the stubble turnips have made but little progress. Swedes also have gone on badly, for where the plant was a good one in point of numbers, yet owing to insects preying upon the bulb, the plants are so impoverished, that the tops are wasting away, consequently growth is entirely checked, and were not hay and straw plentiful, the loss would be severely felt; still it must have an effect on the meat markets ere long. At our recent fairs store sheep could scarcely be turned into money. Our corn markets have continued much the same for barley and oats, but wheat is something better, and old beans being rarely to be met with have realised more money, fine ones being worth 6s. per bushel. As thrashing proceeds, the yield of barley from the mow is more and more found to fall short of the expectations formed. Potatoes are now taken up, and the produce is in most instances bad indeed, and will be severely felt by the labouring poor. Fat pigs have been in request, and are selling at 8s. per score.—Nov. 21.

#### PERTSHIRE.

Throughout the past month the weather has been very variable. Some days of serene weather enabled farmers to get up their potatoes; and this operation has, with few exceptions, been concluded. The return is various, according to the nature of the soil and the period of planting; but in general is far below an ordinary average, and a

much greater proportion than usual is too small for the London market.

On retentive soils, sowing of wheat was delayed till a much later period than usual by the rains, and a very favourable seed bed has not been obtained; and even in the lower districts, wheat fields are yet scarcely distinguished by their green appearance. On dry bottoms the seed bed has been more kindly, and the braid is more regular and vigorous.

Turnips continue in a growing state and free from mildew, but from the excess of moisture in the soil they have not accumulated much weight in October. Thrashing has commenced, and the crop turns out as anticipated in former reports. Wheat presents a rather rough sample, and bakers dreading sprout have purchased freely from England. English barley has also been brought here, but an ordinary supply may yet be found of this grain at home with a little to return to the English maltster—much being in fair condition for malting. Several beautiful and weighty samples have already appeared in market—some of the Chevalier variety weighing from 56 to 57 lbs per bushel. The climate in this part of Scotland seems calculated to raise oats in perfection, and competitors in quality from any other quarter need not be dreaded. The most favourite varieties now cultivated are, the Old Copar Grange, the Drummond, the Potatoe, the Red Early, and the Hopeton—the Georgian has long since disappeared. In the Mearns there is a fine old variety called the Kil-drummie; and in the Lothians the Dun oat is cultivated, besides several rarer varieties of Black, Red, and Tartarian—from which profitable selections might be made, and improved varieties obtained.

In the corn market, wheat is at present scarcely saleable except for seed; good samples of Chevalier barley bring from 28s. to 30s. per qr., in other sorts of grain little has hereto been done.

In the cattle market, prices are very low—and for lean stock, prices are not likely soon to advance. Horses bring less money than for some years past. Sheep bring fairer prices. Hay being rather scarce brings about 9d. per stone, old weight. Potatoes have already been shipped in unusually large quantities for the period of the season, and bring about 10s. per boll.—4th November.

#### BEDFORDSHIRE.

The wheat seeding, on the southern side of the county, was pretty generally completed as the last month closed upon us, but not so in other parts. Upon the clay soils it has been a most difficult process, and will in many instances be hardly got over by the middle of the month. The early sown comes up pretty well, but slugs are very numerous, and where the land is left hollow, they are committing great ravages both upon the wheat and the winter tares.

The potatoes and mangel wurzel are for the most part got up; the former is a very deficient crop, especially upon the early gravels; the latter is not extensively grown here, but where it is cultivated, it is, this year, generally very superior to turnips. Of this crop (the turnips) we have no occasion to amend our former report concerning them,—they are bad almost without a precedent. The Swedes are infested with an immense number of brown grubs, rather of the caterpillar species, so that where there is a plant (which is by no means general) they are full of holes, and of bad quality, while the common sorts are almost a universal failure.



**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BEDFORDSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**—The meeting was held on the 2d of last month, and the ploughing match took place in a field kindly provided by Mr. Manning, of Elston, a highly respectable farmer, whose success in the ploughing field of this society is rarely surpassed. The competition was considered unusually great, and the adjudicators had much difficulty in awarding some of the premiums. Mr. Manning was declared first, Mr. S. Bennett second, with several others hard upon their heels. We believe all the winning ploughs were of Messrs. Ransome's manufacture, though there was some remarkably correct work done by a Scotch plough, with wheels, belonging to his grace the Duke of Bedford, and but for the man laying his work too flat for harrowing, it must have stood very high upon the list. The show of stock was not large, but there was a very excellent wether sheep, of the pure Leicester breed, shown by Mr. Bird, of Beeston, which took the first prize, as also a very useful one, belonging to Mr. John Bodger, of the mixed Cotswold and Leicester, which won the second prize; and among the extra stock was a very handsome young short-horned bull, shown by Mr. S. Bennett, of Beckering's Park.

The company dined, as usual, at the Swan Inn, Bedford, which consisted of the most noble the Marquis of Tavistock, Lord Charles Russell, M.P., Francis Pym Esq., President, William Stewart, Esq., W. H. Whitbread, Esq., &c., &c., with a large body of the most respectable agriculturists of the county. After the awarding the premiums for ploughing, for the best sheep, and also to a large number of servants and labourers in husbandry for long and faithful servitude, a very interesting discussion took place upon the breed of sheep, occasioned principally by Lord Tavistock reading a very able letter from the Duke of Bedford, upon the propriety of keeping the different breeds of animals distinct, and at the same time offering an additional premium for the best pure half-bred Leicester ram. The discussion was carried on with spirit; the breeders of the pure bred Leicesters contending, of course, for superiority, while those who had been crossing with a Cotswold ram, contended that they had got a more useful and profitable description of sheep.

The subject is a very knotty one, and one of the greatest importance just now, but when wise and great men are at issue, for your reporter to give an opinion would probably remind his readers of the sentiment we have somewhere met with, that "Fools rush in, where angels fear to tread." It is admitted, however, on all hands, that the first cross of almost any pure bred animals will produce a very useful description of stock; but it must be equally admitted that by going on with the mixed breed, you are sure to inherit the bad qualities of both breeds. This was very ably treated on in the noble duke's letter, and it is certainly confirmed by very extensive experience. Our paper is too nearly exhausted at present to go into this subject farther, even if we could muster sufficient confidence; but as we have no interest to serve but that of society, and as we are wont to give our opinion fearlessly, at some future time, in all probability, we may direct our agricultural readers to this subject more at large.—Nov. 6.

#### EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

The weather through the whole of the month has been highly favourable for sowing wheat, and it is only in peculiar situations that it can be con-

sidered to have been too wet for putting this seed into the ground with advantage. If, therefore, it were possible to prognosticate upon the produce at the time of sowing the crop, we might augur favourably of it; but that this is not the case is proved by the result of the past year. The seed time was inauspicious in the extreme—the land was so dry that the wheat was not generally put into the ground until long after the usual period, and what was sown before the very end of October came up thin and at different times—yet the crop has turned out more than usually productive. It is in vain to attempt to prophecy in these matters; all that we can do is to state what is present and what has passed. The potatoes are small in size and below the usual quantity—300 bushels per acre is this year a full crop, and the average is below 200. Turnips are deficient on the whole, though in particular instances they are found excellent. Grass has been plentiful through the month; and perhaps in the town districts the growth of it has been such as to justify some fears for the effect that it may have upon the sheep. Should the rot again appear, it would give the finishing stroke to many of those farmers who have yet held up under the losses that have accumulated upon them during several past years. We would earnestly recommend the free use of salt for the flock; we will not assert that it will cure the disease when fully established, but it is certainly an antidote, and acts powerfully as a preventive of rot. A very small quantity of corn scattered over the salt troughs will soon give the sheep a relish for it, and the expense is too trifling to bar the constant use of it. The fall in the value of sheep and cattle of all descriptions, which commenced in September, has continued to the present period. Wheat, 34s., barley, 26s., oats, 16s. per qr.; beef and mutton 5s. per stone; and store stock almost unsaleable. We cannot quote these prices without adverting to the melancholy situation in which farmers are now placed. Year after year but adds to their distress, and the wonder is, not how many have sunk under it, but that so many should yet remain able to cultivate the soil. Much longer this state of things cannot continue, but brave men will not fall without a struggle; and we would hope that not only every land owner and land occupier, but that every man, whatever be his business or profession, who lives by these two classes, will unite in pouring petitions to Parliament to relieve, if possible, the great mass of the people of Great Britain from the ruin which hangs over them.—Nov. 3.

**CARSE OF GOWRIE.**—Wheat on low lying rich fallows is bulky, but the quality indifferent. On the Braes the return has been fair, and the quality fine. A new variety has been lately introduced, called the 'blod-red,' which promises to be very prolific, not liable to lodge, moderately early, and a fine plump sample: it is something like the golden Essex variety, but the sample more plump. The farmer must now look about him for improved varieties of seed, or, in boxing phrase, "he must go to the wall." The Chevalier barley has been introduced to the district, and has had a fair trial; the result is such as to ensure extended culture. This part of the crop turns out well, and may prove remunerating. Oats turn out an ordinary average at the mill. The Hopeton oat still maintains its character—the only drawback being a liability to seg-root. The return of potatoes is indifferent. On moderately dry soils they are small, scabbed, and not much above three-fourths of an ordinary return. On very dry gravelly bottoms, and also on retentive rich lands, the produce comes nearer an ordinary average. Turnips are close, but not well swelled, except on open soils.

The land was, throughout the months of September and October, too moist to promote rapid growth ; and the temperature is now too low to produce much addition to their present weight.

## GENERAL AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR OCTOBER.

I am of opinion that nothing can be more remote from the truth, nothing more ridiculous, than to talk of the commercial prosperity of the country at a moment when the agricultural interest labours under unparalleled depression ; the latter may be regarded as the basis of the former ; and therefore, when the one is very sickly, the other cannot enjoy genuine health. It is true, much bustle may be observed in the commercial world, and much business may be transacted also ; but since the circulating medium of the country was not merely crippled, but reduced to comparative nothingness, by Peel's Bill, the profits arising from commercial transactions have become reduced far below the fair remunerating average. The same cause has operated in the same way in the manufacturing districts, where we perceive the smaller manufacturers swept away, the business thrown into the hands of the greater capitalists, and the wages of the workman reduced to so scanty a pittance as scarcely to afford him the means of a miserable existence.

The enormous demands made upon the resources of the country by the late war produced a factitious state of things : the necessities of life rose in price beyond all precedent, beyond the utmost stretch of all anticipation : the landholders, therefore, raised their rents, and the cultivators of the soil cheerfully submitted to the increased demand, conscious of their capacity to discharge the obligation. While the progress of the late war raised the price of the productions of the ground beyond all calculation, commerce was monopolized to a very great extent, by this country, and, on the whole, a degree of seeming prosperity pervaded every ramification of trade and commerce, which has since been followed by the most disastrous consequences. Peace and prosperity ought to go hand in hand ; but no sooner was the sword returned to its scabbard than the industry of this country was energetically met by foreigners, and our commercial monopoly, which had been cemented with rivers of blood, crumbled to pieces. A decline in business became perceptible immediately ; yet things might have been let down to their natural level without incurring that terrific havoc which has marked the retrocession caused by the ruinous monetary measure above mentioned. Extensive circulating medium, and extensive credit, the one the natural consequence of the other, were indispensable in order to support the declining business of the country, which the violent outrage committed by Peel on the currency contracted most ruinously.

From this period the agricultural interest, which had been on the wane ever since the conclusion of the war, declined with fearful rapidity ; and from that factitious state of things, which raised the price of the bushel of wheat to thirty shillings, we have arrived at a period when the average price of this indispensable article of human existence scarcely reaches five shillings, or one-sixth of the maximum just mentioned ! Of what avail therefore, is it to the agriculturist to talk of the promising appearance of his crops, since no crop which it is possible for the ground to produce can yield him a subsisting remuneration.

While such is the state of things in this country

we find that the late harvest proved abundant all over Europe : the price of corn, therefore, is lower in the markets of our continental neighbours even than that which rules in this country. However, as regards the prospect of the newly-sown wheat, generally speaking, the weather has been propitious ; and though some raw harsh frosty winds occurred towards the middle of last month, the young wheats were not in a state to sustain injury from their chilling influence or operation. Corn was brought to the sickle at an earlier period than usual ; and, therefore, the seed was got into the ground accordingly, and had time to take a firm hold on those friable lands found in some parts of Oxfordshire and other places before the commencement of the equinoctial gales which frequently make such havoc under other circumstances : that is, when seed time has happened so late that the tender sprouts were not sufficiently rooted in the earth.

An early harvest can scarcely fail to produce a good seed time for wheat, because it enables the husbandman to take advantage of the weather ; but, although an early sowing time is suitable for most parts of the kingdom, for the midland and southern counties in particular, it is not found to answer so well in Lancashire. If wheat be sown unusually early in the Palatine just mentioned it gets too forward prior to the winter, and suffers very much if that season happens to be severe. It is a common observation amongst the laborious farmers of Lancashire that they do "not like two summers upon their wheat," alluding to fine weather which frequently occurs at the end of the month of October, and the beginning of November : if the wheat be well up before Christmas, they are satisfied ; the land is principally a light sandy black soil. On the stiff clays of the county of Chester, on those of Yorkshire, Leicestershire, &c., wheat can scarcely be sown too soon.

The potato crops in Lancashire (where this highly useful vegetable is cultivated more extensively, and attains a much greater perfection, than in any part of the kingdom,) failed very much in the year 1833 and 1834, owing, beyond all question, to keeping the same ground too long under the plough and the potato fork ; the present year has scarcely produced a fair average crop ; but abundantly sufficient to supply the market, as the price would scarcely average eighteen pence per bushel of 85 or 90lbs. The war price was seldom under three shillings, and occasionally reached seven. The farms in Lancashire are small ; the cultivators of the ground are a very hard-working industrious race ; and as, owing to the very numerous population of this county, and the many large towns which it contains, a ready sale is experienced for the minor productions of the garden, the farmers are enabled to meet the pecuniary demands made upon them more easily than the same class of persons in other parts of the kingdom.

The grazier and the dairyman have not suffered in the same proportion as the agriculturist, as beef and mutton, as well as cheese and butter, have not experienced so great a depression of price as every kind of grain without exception.

The heat and uncommon dryness of the weather which characterized the summer of the present year, and particularly the latter end of it, proved injurious to the turnip crops, more so than to mangle wurtzel, while the aftermath was unable to make its appearance till a period too late to render that essential utility which is generally derived from it. All that fine grazing country on the north-western side of Northamptonshire, as well as the grass lands from



this county to the banks of the Trent in Derbyshire, suffered severely from the excessive drought which occurred at the latter end of the summer.

The grazier may, perhaps, be enabled to procure the means of existence by the present price of his produce; but I must honestly confess I can discern no prospect of bettering the condition of the agriculturist, unless the expenses of government and the interest of the national debt were reduced in some degree of proportion to the descent which has been experienced in the various ramifications of busy life. Peel's Bill, while it reduced the cultivator of the soil to beggary, nearly tripled the property of the fundholder; and consequently enhanced the enormous sum bequeathed to the originator of this baneful measure by his father, precisely in the same manner! Is this consistent with reason and justice?

I well recollect observing, some years ago, the persevering efforts made to cultivate many of the moorlands of the north, even half way up the dreary hills; I well recollect their return to moorlands on the decline in the price of grain. Of the policy of the corn laws I was always inclined to doubt, and at length we have arrived at such a state that, notwithstanding the most ample legal restrictions, the price of

agricultural produce will scarcely pay for the cultivation of the land, to leave rent altogether out of the question. No legal enactment, however, of this description can reach the source of the disease, and consequently no permanent cure can be expected: indeed, temporary excitement cannot be thus produced. The *commercial prosperity of the country* is frequently rung in our ears; yet the paradox is presented to our eyes of bread being offered at a price immeasurably low, and the labouring classes of the community, the busy instruments of the *commercial prosperity*, unable to purchase sufficient to supply the cravings of nature!

The price of wheat may be regarded as a criterion of every other grain; thus, if we take the price of wheat at 5s, barley may be quoted a trifle more than 3s 6d; while oats are under 3s. Beans have, for many months, supported the best comparative prices of agricultural produce, and may be quoted at the present moment at 4s 6d or 4s 9d per bushel. Hay and straw are low in price, and experience a dull sale. In the London markets coarse meadow hay finds a sluggish sale, at from 56s to 65s per load of 36 trusses. Good average qualities from 70s to 75s.

## AGRICULTURAL INTELLIGENCE, FAIRS, &c.

**EXETER GREAT MARKET** was very largely supplied with what are now termed Fat Bullocks; the fact, however, is that the scarcity of keep renders it almost compulsory with many to drive their stock to market in an unripe state, as otherwise they will be likely to lose something of that degree of condition which the summer's feeding has enabled them to attain; but further than this also, it must be admitted that such is the present state of things as to agricultural produce, that there are those with whom stern necessity has no law. Although then so much was driven in, there was nothin like first rate beef, the best not realizing above 8s. per score, while some of the Heifers met a sale at £20, and £20 and a-crown a pair, or about 7s. per score. The supply of butcher's Calves was not large, and they bore a proportionately good price, the best of them, estimated at about 30lbs. the quarter, obtaining 55s. a-piece, or 5½d per lb.; and the quotations being from 4½d to that price per lb. There was a good show of Sheep, and as well as butchers, a few farmers in the market disposed to purchase, the consequence of which was that the sale was better than for many preceding weeks, although it cannot be said with anything like decided improvement in price. Some Exmoor Horn Sheep estimated at 13lbs. a-quarter, which are now much esteemed at the stall, obtained a guinea a piece, or 6d. per lb.; and a lot of Dartmoor Wethers, estimated at 17lbs. a quarter, and also a good article in the way of sale at the stall, 27s. a piece or 4½d per lb. Prime Wethers too, estimated at 20lbs. the quarter, realized 30s a piece, or 4½ per lb., and Ewes of about the same estimated weight, 26s 6d a piece, or 4d per lb. There were pretty many Cows and Calves, but the best not beyond a medium rate; notwithstanding this, however there was a fair stroke of business doing at from £8 to 10 guineas, or from 7s to 7s 7½d per score. There were also many poor Steers, Heifers, and Barreners, but in which trifling business was doing at from 4s. 9d. to 5s 6d. per score. Barreners getting into condition, were 6s. per score.

**PORK.—CARCASES.**—In this market the supply of English Pigs was not beyond half the extent of that of the preceding week, but many of these were particularly prime, and the morning most favourable for show-

ing them to advantage. Notwithstanding this, however, prime dairy fed meat could not obtain a better price and must again be quoted at from 6s 3d. to 6s 6d. but larger Pork was rather better worth; in fact, nothing but the very largest Pigs being below 6s.; the quotations for these being from 5s. 6d, to 6s. per score. There were only about a score Irish Pigs in the market, and these in two or three hands, the quotations for them being from 5s. to 5s. 6d. per score.

**YEovil FAIR.**—There was a considerable number of Beasts, but generally of a very inferior description; the sale was dull at from 7s to 9s per score, and great numbers were driven away unsold. The Sheep Fair was the largest known for many years, and the greater part met with purchasers at an advance of price to what has lately been obtained at the fairs recently held in this neighbourhood. Pigs were in great plenty, and at reduced prices, yet little business was done. There was a considerable number of horses, but with the exception of a few good cart colts, they were of a very rough description, and but few purchasers.

**At HAWICK WINTER FAIR**, a great number of cattle were shown, but the demand was very dull, and inferior beasts could scarcely be sold. Two year old cattle were from 30s to 40s, and stirks were from 20s to 30s below the prices of last year. Good milch cows, near the calving, were selling readily at fair prices. Prices may be quoted as follows:—Good stirks, from 4l 10s to 5l 15s, and even 6l 6s; inferior stirks, from 3l to 4l 4s; two-year-olds, 6l to 8l 5s; fat kyles, 5s to 5s 3d per stone; calving cows, 9l to 13l 10s, and inferior cows, from 4l 10s to 8l.

**AT ANDOVER SHEEP FAIR**, there was about the average number of sheep, which met a dull sale, at the following prices:—Ewes, 20s to 28s, wethers, 22s to 32s, lambs, 16s to 22s. The quantity of cheese pitched was large, but a great portion remained unsold. The average prices were—Skim, 23s to 28s, caward, 40s to 44s, Somerset, 48s to 58s per cwt.

**At JEDBURGH FAIR** there was a good show of stirks, which met with a slow demand, at prices varying from 2l 15s to 5l 5s a head. There were no fat cattle in the market.

**STAMFORD FAIR.**—This great annual fair appears to have regained all its pristine vigour and importance. The show of horses on Monday was uncommonly numerous, and a great many were sold for tolerably good prices. In the best days of Stamford fairs, before any schisms and heart-burnings had divided and severed the interests of the town, there never were more than 8,000 sheep penned for sale, and it is an important fact to lay before our readers that we can state, on the authority of one of the oldest butchers in the town, that at this fair we had very near 7,000 penned, and a very brisk sale experienced at fair prices. On Tuesday the supply of Scotch, Irish, and Hereford beasts, was almost as great in proportion as the show of sheep, and the trade was extremely animated, there being an uncommon attendance of buyers. The show of fat beasts was also better than for many years past, and good prices and a ready sale realized.

**THIRSK FORTNIGHT FAIR.**—The show of cattle was rather limited, and but little was doing in the market. A large show of sheep, of which some were sold at low rates. Beef, 5s to 5s 6d per stone. Mutton, 4½d to 5d per lb.

**WHEAT.**—Average prices of wheat sold at Wood-bridge market within the last seven years :

|                                                       | £     | s.     | d.  | per    |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|-----|--------|
| For the year ending Michaelmas, 1829—                 | 1     | 14     | 7   | cmb.   |
| 1830—                                                 | 1     | 11     | 5½  |        |
| 1831—                                                 | 1     | 14     | 2   |        |
| 1832—                                                 | 1     | 9      | 11½ |        |
| 1833—                                                 | 1     | 7      | 5   |        |
| 1834—                                                 | 1     | 4      | 9½  |        |
| 1835—                                                 | 1     | 1      | 5½  |        |
| Average price for seven years ending Michaelmas ..... | 1835— | 1      | 9   | 1½ 6-7 |
| Quantity sold in the year ending .....                | Cmbs. | Bush.  |     |        |
| Michaelmas .....                                      | 1834— | 83,344 | 2   |        |
| Ditto .....                                           | 1835— | 84,550 |     |        |

In the Norwich Gazette printed by Henry Crossgrove, St. Edmund's, from April 23, 1715, to April 30, 1715, the following is stated to be the prices of grain.

|                 |                            | Oct. 1835   |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| Wheat from....  | 28s to 32s per quarter.... | 33s to 35s  |
| Rye do. ....    | 21s to 23s do.             | 34s to 36s  |
| Barley do. .... | 21s to 23s do.             | 27s to 35s  |
| Oats do ....    | 12s to 16s do.             | 20s to 23s  |
| Malt do ....    | 17s to 27s do.             | 40s to 62s  |
| Beans do ...    | 22s to 24s do.             | 30s to 42s  |
| Peas do .....   | 32s to 36s do.             | 33s so 40s  |
| New Hops....    | 9/ 10s per pocket          | 3/ 9s to 8/ |
| Coals .....     | 26s per chaldron           | 25s         |
| Salt .....      | 5s per bushel              |             |
| Butter .....    | 27s a firkin               |             |
| Coffee .....    | 5s 10d per lb.             | 2s to 3s    |
| Loaf Sugar....  | 1s 2d per lb.              | 10d         |

## BONES.

Since the 12th of October there have passed the **SOUND**, or by **ELSINORE**, and the **GREAT BELT**, ships loaded with Bones, bound for Hull, 2; for Newcastle, 1; for other parts of England, 3; and for Scotland, 2.

## RETROSPECT OF THE WOOLLEN TRADE.

**LEEDS.**—At no corresponding period within the last ten years have the commercial and manufacturing operations of this district been carried on with so much activity and spirit, and under appearances so encouraging as thus far into the present year. The eventful year 1825, indeed, is the only one which can at all be brought into comparison; and certainly the first nine months afforded a spectacle which might bare away the palm; but its glories became suddenly eclipsed. The extra-commercial investments to

which recourse had been had in the ardour of excitement, when all the direct avenues to commercial enterprise, legitimate and illegitimate, had become literally crammed, began as early as September, even to show equivocal signs. Spanish and Columbian Bonds; shares in mining companies with unpronounceable names and in the endless variety of projects by means of which simple cupidity lent itself to the purposes of deeper and more cunning adventure;—all these came tumbling down, and by the end of October their share in the support of the common delusion was already withdrawn. Through the month of November the same shock was communicated to each successive link in the grand chain of speculative enterprise. On the 24th of that month came the criminative and recriminative communications between Government and the Bank of England as to who should bear the blame of the approaching storm; and then followed the crash which laid all these wild extravagances in the dust; shook our commercial frame to its very centre; and brought us, in the words of Mr. Huskisson, to “within forty-eight hours of a state of barter;” that is, so nearly to a state of existence but one degree removed from the savage state.

It cannot be improper nor unprofitable to keep these things in our minds, and apply them as a test occasionally to passing events. So far as we may detect parallel symptoms, they will be of use as a warning; and if we find none we shall proceed with the greater confidence. The state of our currency, the nature and direction of the speculative operations of the moment, the manner in which the latter may be encouraged by the former, and how far the facility enjoyed is likely to prove a temptation sufficiently great to overbalance discretion; these are the points which in such case of comparison would have to be examined. That our currency must at this time be ample, in the most liberal sense of the word, is a point which we may assume without hesitation, if we look only at the numerous establishments of Joint Stock Banks of issue which have spread themselves over the face of the country, in addition to the old established private banks, within the last two years. All these Banks want profit to divide amongst shareholders at the regular periods; without custom there can be no profit; and we all know that in a state of competition which renders solicitation for custom necessary, the soliciting party will naturally be expected to hold out some advantage as an inducement, and cannot adhere so rigidly to the principle of caution as he otherwise might do. This appears to be the unfavourable view which might suggest itself in reference to our currency. But it will be remembered that the very constitution of these banks imparts to them a character, a responsibility, a stability to which many of the old race of one pound note manufacturers were strangers; here we have at all events some chance of redress to set up against the risk of even an occasional want of discretion. On the other hand, we have the further security of such checks as government has provided for controlling the issues of paper by requiring periodical returns of their amount; and then, again, the Bank of England has learnt a lesson of wisdom from bitter experience, which she now uses, not only by a careful attention to her own issues, but also by the exertion of all her influence to prevent extravagance and irregularities in other establishments.

It may be assumed with just as little hesitation that the spirit of adventure is by no means dormant amongst us at the present moment. True, we have no joint-stock milk-companies, steam-washing companies, soap-bubble-companies, or the like; the wonder is that the nation could ever have regarded such mountebank impositions with gravity. They have had their day; and as to their directors, their managers, the charlatans for whose benefit the puppets were moved;—what has become of them, and whether they ever paid a shilling of their debts or not, the public, fortunately for them, is too heartily sick of their exploits to enquire about. But of Railway projects we have a plentiful crop: all those of 1825 have been revived, and new ones are added to them. Many of these are, no doubt visionary, and destined for an untimely end; and the facility with which shares are taken up, even for the least promising



of these speculations, indicates the existence of a disposition in the public mind such as we have alluded to. Yet it must be remembered that of all the motely projects of that same harlequin year, Railways form about the only one which has come to maturity; has proved itself feasible, profitable, useful; at any rate, therefore, we may consider that we have solid experience for our guide now; and we may feel disposed to regard any little ebullition of speculative zeal, founded upon such a basis, without much alarm.

We have been induced to enter thus far into a consideration of these signs of the time, from a conviction that they are not without their influence upon mercantile affairs generally. It is the nature of the excitement to spread. Wherever it may first break out, and however partial may be the extent of its operation for the moment, sooner or later it communicates all around, and ultimately no part of the scene of action is entirely free from its effects. There are problems in the present state of prices which we think may be solved by a reference to this community of feeling or impulse, and so far it is desirable to keep in view the facts; at the same time we have been careful not to testify a degree of alarm which we really do not entertain. Our object is to indicate, and to inculcate, caution only.

Immediately after the close of the German wool fairs, last summer, we gave a comparative view of the prices obtained, shewing how very little they had varied in three successive years; the whole extent of fluctuation which had been experienced during that period must, therefore, have been limited to the interval between one clip and the next; and it is very remarkable how regularly prices fall back within their accustomed limit as the season of the clip approaches. Since that period the attempt to unsettle prices has been again repeated; and in the face of past experience as well as of present data, that attempt as even not been without success: foreign wools are considered higher in this market by about 10 per cent. than they were last June.

The continued activity of our manufacturers, all this time, will of course suggest itself as, in some measure, accounting for this advance; although the contest between the wool seller and the manufacturer has been none of the smoothest, and the struggles of the latter to make ends meet in such a state of things have been none of the slightest. It might naturally be concluded that a demand so constant and effective must seek far into the supplies, yet we find upon examination that these supplies themselves have been very considerably augmented this season in comparison with former years.

The total quantity of foreign wool upon which duty had been paid in this year up to last Tuesday was lbs. 29,802,256  
And up to the same period last year only..... 26,552,929

The excess therefore is .....lbs. 3,240,327

Or nearly one-eighth of last year's supply. This excess it further appears, is caused entirely by the extra importations into the port of Hull, consequently of German wools, the total quantities being—

This year.....lbs. 11,429,804  
And last year..... 7,620,795

Here then we have another element to guide us in the formation of our opinion: if it shall appear that the stocks in Germany have been very much reduced by these exportations to England, and that a consequent scarcity, and rise of prices, have taken place there, we may fairly say the effect is accounted for; let us make the best of it. But first let us see how matters really stand there. The prices obtained at the summer German fairs, it will be remembered, were highly satisfactory to the growers, who had been led to apprehend that some serious reduction from the prices of the preceding year's clip would have to be submitted to. This we conceive to be the proper test as to what constitutes a remunerating price: that which satisfies the producer. We hear, occasionally, of unremunerating prices, when all that is meant is that prices do not remunerate the second or third hand speculator, who leaves the cost of production entirely out of his view.

The Autumn Wool Fairs in Germany have been held during the past month. They are, of course, secondary in importance to the summer Fairs; but still their result will furnish an index as to the state of the market there. We select the report of the Breslau Fair as the most important. The total quantity brought to market last month was,

From Silesia..... cwt. 1,935  
" the Duchy of Posen ..... 5,573  
" other parts..... 774

Total cwt. 8,282 \*

And the total quantity brought to market at the corresponding Autumn Fair of last year was less by 1,526 cwt. Here then, we perceive no indication of falling off in the supply. As to prices, we can give no quotation which would be intelligible as a means of comparison, but the report says—"the expectations of the growers are by no means fulfilled: the buyers held off and endeavoured to depress prices. For the wool from the Duchy of Posen, for instance, the prices asked could not be obtained, and thus many a second-hand dealer will find himself deceived." Our German friend writes up to the mark at once, without circumlocution: and we may spare our readers the infliction of any commentary upon the text.

The state of the English wool market is yet more anomalous. The prices of English wool for the last two years have always been out of all proportion to the prices either of foreign wool or of any other article of raw produce. For the clip of 1833 the growers obtained an enormous advance; during the excitement which prevailed through the latter half of that year a still greater advance took place; and for the clip of 1834 the growers were naturally anxious to profit by it. But the allusion had passed away; the buyers were no longer sanguine, and the consequence was that a very considerable proportion of that clip remained unsold. The same incongruity of view, between grower and buyer, has continued to prevail from that time up to the present moment. We have recently conversed with a buyer who has been amongst the long-wool growers in Lincolnshire, and with another who has just visited the short wool-growers of the north of England, as far as the boarders of Scotland. They are both intelligent practical men, entirely unconnected with each other, and their reports agree to the letter. Comparatively little has been sold; in a great many cases the whole of this year's clip is held; in some cases two year's clip; and in others even more. Attics, chambers, bed rooms; every nook and cranny are filled with wool, which they evince no disposition to sell; if they do name a price it is generally 10s per pack higher than the same wools would fetch even here on the spot. And yet prices here continue extravagantly high. The worsted trade has all along languished under their depressing influence; and the sole circumstance which has operated as a relief to the spinner has been the extraordinary prices he could obtain for that portion of his combing fleeces which is available for clothing purposes, the demand for certain descriptions of low heavy woollens having continued remarkably brisk during the whole of the last two seasons. But we have no right to calculate upon the continuance of even this partial demand. Practices have already been resorted to in the manufacture of these low heavy goods, in order to diminish the burden of price, which must ultimately tend little to maintain their reputation in the market; and we need not say that whenever confidence becomes impaired, more particularly during a state of things at all approaching excitement, the reaction is uniformly violent.

Many other considerations press upon us in reference to this subject, but for the present we have said enough. We think we have entered sufficiently into detail to justify the general view with which we begun this article, and we reserve ourselves for further examination on another occasion.

\* The total quantity brought to the great Breslau Summer Wool Fair was 51,102 cwt.

## REVIEW OF THE CORN TRADE IN MARK LANE, DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER.

In taking a retrospective view of the corn trade during the past month, little opportunity has been afforded of congratulating the farmer on any improvement in his prospects, nor has much benefit been derived by the factor or speculator; the same want of animation characterising the proceedings, as has now unfortunately prevailed for many months; not that the finer qualities of wheat have suffered any depreciation in value, but, on the contrary, have evinced firmness in their currencies, but the bulk of the supplies consisting of secondary and inferior qualities, many samples have been forced off at ruinously low rates. The prevalent opinion however regarding the wheat crop appears to be, that though inferior in produce to the yield of 1833 and 1824, particularly so in the Southern and South Eastern parts of the Kingdom; yet taken as an aggregate, it will be equivalent to a fair average: the surplus of old wheat on hand, at the period of the new being brought into the consumption being equal to the amount for two or three months. In reference to the unusually large consumption of wheat, both in a manufactured state, as well as being mixed with feed for sheep and cattle, used likewise by maltsters and distillers, added to the failure in potatoes, a most important article to be included in any speculation, founded on the consumption of wheat, looking also at the full employment of the manufacturing classes of our population, it may be assured with much probability, that the supplies will be barely commensurate to the demand until another harvest; in anticipation of which, prices are likely to improve during the ensuing spring and summer: and even after Christmas the trade may exhibit an improved aspect; and at all events however, it will attain a greater degree of steadiness than can be expected during the present customarily dull period of the season. It is also to be recollected, that wheat is now realising rates, which farmers a few years past never imagined to have witnessed under the protective system of the corn laws, and if the estimation is well founded, that the crop is not more than an average, it would naturally follow, that purchases made at the prevailing low currencies, will ultimately yield a profitable return. BARLEY has generally proved a plentiful crop. OATS have yielded a large produce per acre, and more ground cultivated with the article than is usual in this country. BEANS are more productive than last year, but not to the extent at first expected. PEAS have given an ample return. More RAPESEED than usual has been sown,

and the whole secured in excellent condition, and the quality fine. The crop has been nearly all brought into the consumption, and we are, as in former seasons, becoming dependent on foreign imports. Both white and brown MUSTARDSEED has yielded well, and quality fine. TREFOIL a fair crop, and much of last year's growth still on hand. CLOVERSEED—white seed has been a very short crop, and the quality not fine; the first cutting of red, owing to the protracted dryness of the season, was small, but the quality superior; the weather, however, proving very unfavourable during the whole period of the second cutting, a large proportion of the seed was lost; the quality is inferior, and not even half an average saved. The cultivation of TRIFOLIUM INCARNATUM has been much increased; it has yielded a satisfactory produce, and a large breadth has again been sown. TURNIPS have throughout a large range of the country turned out an extensive failure. POTATOES are likewise very deficient in produce, calculated by some dealers at two-thirds of the usual growth. In Scotland both these valuable roots are good crops, and in Ireland potatoes are generally favourably reported, but for the consumption of the metropolis, large supplies, in addition to the production of our own neighbourhood, will be required throughout the year. The first cutting of HAY was abundant, and well secured, but the second growth, in consequence of the long continuance of the drought, has been extremely short, though there is now good feed on all the pastures.

The crops in Scotland and Ireland have no doubt been deteriorated by the weather, but the yield having been a full average, quantity has been produced and remains on hand, though the quality is inferior, which will have the effect rather of depressing than enhancing the prices.

The supplies of wheat throughout the month have been very moderate, and upwards of 13,000 qrs less than during October. This falling off in the receipts may be attributed to the farmers having been busily engaged in out-doors operations, the weather having been very favourable for sowing, and the flail being employed in thrashing out seed corn, instead of contributing to the market; notwithstanding the limited amount of the arrivals, the trade has manifested little animation, the damp foggy weather having affected the condition of the bulk of the samples; fine dry wheat has been alone in request, and even this demand has been principally confined to white quali-



ties, which for superior descriptions have realized an improvement of 1s to 2s per qr; prime red sorts in the early part of the month also obtained 1s per qr more money, but towards the close receded to the same amount, while secondary and inferior samples have experienced a continually dull and heavy sale, and are 1s to 2s per qr cheaper than at the termination of October. The principal shipments of bonded wheat have been to Halifax, Hobart Town, Madeira, Amsterdam, and Norway. The offers have been at low rates, from 18s to 22s, and several purchases have been effected on these terms; good Danzig wheat is held at 28s.

Though no ostensible alteration has taken place in the top price of town-made flour, yet the trade has been languid, and 36s the highest rates realized, except under particular circumstances, and ship qualities have become 6d to 1s per sack more depressed. Bonded flour has met purchasers for shipment to the West Indies, Mauritius, and South America, the deficiency of the wheat crop in the United States, and advance in the currency of flour having induced holders to speculate in the export of the article; sour qualities have obtained 17s to 19s.

The alterations which have taken place in the averages consist of an advance of 1s per qr on wheat, the aggregate average of the kingdom having declined to 36s and a fraction, and the duty increased to 50s 8d; the duties on oats, rye, and peas are 1s 6d per qr higher, and on beans 1s 6d per qr lower.

Though the receipts of barley have exceeded those of the previous month by nearly 7,000 qrs, yet, considering the abundant crop of the article, the supplies have been much more limited than could have been anticipated, more especially as the article is bearing a higher relative value than wheat; and, in reference again to the produce it will be found, that, taking the last five years, the arrivals of barley this season have been, comparatively, very moderate, calculating the periods from the 1st of Sept. to the close of Nov. in each year—

|         | English. | Scotch. | Irish. | Total. |
|---------|----------|---------|--------|--------|
|         | Qrs.     | Qrs.    | Qrs.   | Qrs.   |
| 1831 .. | 80,304   | 12,309  | 1,845  | 94,458 |
| 1832 .. | 60,374   | 3,171   | 45     | 63,590 |
| 1833 .. | 65,498   | 2,384   | 416    | 68,298 |
| 1834 .. | 50,869   | 14,574  | 8,558  | 74,001 |
| 1835 .. | 62,580   | 2,485   | 2,686  | 67,751 |

The arrivals of barley, though they have exceeded those of the preceding month, yet considering the plentiful crop and period of the year, have been less than might have been expected, particularly from Norfolk, the bulk of the supply having been received from Essex, Kent and Suffolk. The finer qualities of Chevalier forming a small proportion of the receipts, and having been sought after by the ale brewers, have obtained an advance of 2s to 3s per qr., and fine selected common malting was bought at 1s per qr more money; good secondary descriptions, which are found with the better sorts to malt this season, tender and kindly, maintained until towards the close of the month, their former rates,

but supplies increasing, with an impression on the part of the maltsters, that they would soon be materially augmented, checked the demand, added to a good stock of malt being on hand, and prices consequently receded 1s per qr, and on inferior descriptions, and distilling qualities, 1s to 2s, distillers purchasing but sparingly; grinding parcels were also 1s per qr, lower. A few parcels of *curiously* fine Chevalier barley have been sold at prices 2s to 4s above the general quotations; one lot weighing 58 lbs brought 38s, and another of the unusual weight of 60 lbs, 40s per qr; this latter sample was most remarkably fine, and colour unexceptionable, and warranted to weigh the amount specified; it was Norfolk barley, brought to this weight by being frequently passed through the machine, and could not therefore be termed a natural growth. Irish barley has been selling on very low terms, say 9s to 11s per barrel free on board, but the weight light, and on arrival has been obtaining very little money, good grinding of 27 to 28 stone to the quarter, is only now noted as worth 20s to 21s; fine 30 stone, 21s to 23s; demand has existed for the article in Bond for export, nearly 4000 qrs having been exported to Portugal, and upwards of 1200 qrs to Norway, the prices realized have been about 13s to 15s per qr.

New malt has continued saleable, having proved heavy, tender and bright; fine old malt has also obtained the former rates, but at the latter part of the month, the trade was more languid and prices, except of the finest parcels, were barely maintained.

The importations of oats from England have been moderate, and from Scotland very limited, but the falling off from the Northern parts of the kingdom, has been nearly equalized by the arrivals from Ireland, though the supplies generally have been less than buyers anticipated. The new Scotch oats have come to hand very inferior to the usual growth of the country, and are much out of condition, being muggy and heated, and sold at very depressed rates; Angus as low as 18s to 19s, extra 21s. Many of the latter parcels of Irish have been light, and were bought at very low figures; English qualities have been purchased at an improvement of 6d to 1s per qr; indeed dry fresh new oats generally have been taken off by the consumers at the relative prices, in preference to good old corn, and consequently it has been very difficult to work off any quantity of old oats at the late high quotations, which have in consequence receded. The trade has been by no means animated, and though the samples have been cleared off during the successive weeks, it has been in many instances with a slight abatement in price; white Irish oats have receded 6d to 1s per qr, but black must be quoted higher to the same amount. The free on board sales in Ireland have given way 3d to 6d per barrel; and it is to be regretted, that the sanguine temperament of the trade in the sister Isle, is keeping up the price of oats relatively above our market rates, and looking forward to improved quotations; while the general feeling of the trade in Mark Lane is, that the present currencies will not be maintained. Several shipments of bonded oats have been made to the West Indies, besides 2000 qrs to Boston U. S.; 600 qrs to the Mauritius, and nearly 800 qrs to Jersey; prices of Riga and Aarchangel qualities being 7s to 10s; Danish, Holstein, and Swedish, 9s to 12s; Brew, 13s to 14s.

The stock of old beans being nearly exhausted, prices gradually advanced, and were 2s to 3s per qr dearer, but in the middle of the month, the supply rather increasing, prices did not further improve; the quotations of new were also enhanced to the same

amount; but larger arrivals in consequence being received, the article receded 1s to 2s per qr.

White peas have found ready sale in order to complete the government contract, of 1,000 qrs; and prices have advanced 2s per qr, and the market until the close of the month became bare of samples, but supplies arriving from Essex and Kent, caused the trade to become dull; maple and grey peas have also improved in value, but the sale not brisk.

Rapeseed as well as linseed, have had their quotations materially affected by the failure in the whale fishery of Davis's Straits. The former article advanced 3l to 4l per last, and the latter 6s per qr; a few foreign supplies however, having arrived of rapeseed, prices have given way 2l to 3l, and linseed maintaining its improved rates.

During the month of November, the following quantity of grain and flour has arrived in the port of London:—

|               | Wheat.<br>qrs. | Barley.<br>qrs. | Malt.<br>qrs. | Oats.<br>qrs. |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| English ...   | 31,198         | 33,031          | 15,555        | 9,194         |
| Scotch ...    | 90             | 1,795           | ...           | 6,648         |
| Irish .....   | ...            | 1188            | ...           | 63,856        |
| Total in Nov. | 31,289         | 36,914          | 15,655        | 79,698        |
| Total in Oct. | 44,980         | 28,623          | 12,048        | 74,538        |
| Foreign...    | ...            | ...             | ...           | 89            |

|               | Beans.<br>qrs. | Peas.<br>qrs. | Linseed.<br>qrs. | Flour.<br>sacks. |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
| English ...   | 4,363          | 6,092         | 66               | 36,417           |
| Scotch....    | 20             | 30            | ...              | 280              |
| Irish... ..   | ...            | ...           | ...              | 311              |
| Total in Nov. | 4,383          | 6,122         | 66               | 37,008           |
| Total in Oct. | 7,091          | 8,257         | 137              | 38,825           |
| Foreign ...   | 350            | 1,242         | 1,8514           | brls. 4,355      |

The grain markets throughout France, exhibit a steadiness of character as regards price, and fine wheats are realising fully the previous currencies. Opinion also appears in favour of an enhancement in the price, as seed has not been generally favourably sown, and little wheat has appeared above ground compared with previous years at similar periods; the quantity of fine quality also bears a very small proportion to the bulk, and will therefore maintain a higher relative value, preventing flour of best quality from declining in value; and though some months must elapse before another harvest, yet the prices being so low, are more susceptible of any casualty to cause them rapidly to advance; farmers therefore seem inclined to hold part of their stocks, until they can form some better idea as to the result of the harvest of 1836. Markets also will in all probability be less plentifully supplied than was expected, and which will contribute to keep up the currencies. On the coast of Brittany and adjacent ports much business was passing in wheat, for shipment to the southern French ports; and at Marseille the imports are being anxiously expected, the stock of free qualities on hand not exceeding 8,000 qrs, and lower Loire samples were selling on delivery at 45s 8d. At Paris, cloverseed was heavy sale, and prices nominal at 46s to 48s the cwt; at Rouen it was dull at 45s to 48s; at Bordeaux old seed was selling at 32s to 36s, and new quality had obtained 46s, with an active demand, and a cargo of 100 bales was being shipped for Ireland.

The Italian markets remain firm for wheat. At Genoa the supplies being short, higher rates were obtained for hard wheat. At Leghorn white Tuscan wheat was held at 42s 4d; red ditto at 36s 8d;

Odessa, 25s 5d to 29s 8d. At Trieste wheat was firm, Italian qualities obtaining 26s to 28s 11d; an export demand had been experienced for Indian corn at 15s 6d to 20s 9d. Rapeseed had been in request for the North; prices of Odessa seed were noted at £20 per last.

In Canada the weather had become cold and some oats still green. At Montreal new wheat from Upper Canada had been sold at 4s 11d per 60lbs; the quality of the new growth is various, and requires care in its selection, in order to store for shipment. Old wheat was worth 5s 1d per 60lbs, and new 4s 11d. Archangel wheat was realizing 4s 3d and a cargo of foreign wheat had arrived from Hull, the value of which is not stated.

In the United States of America prices of flour are exhibiting a tendency further to improve. At New York, western canal flour was obtaining 27s 7d to 28s 5d per barrel. Genesee wheat 48s per qr. At Philadelphia, wheat was worth 46s 6d to 47s 4d per qr. and cloverseed 22s 6d per bushel.

At Odessa the arrivals from the interior having been latterly limited, and the exports considerable, the stocks were much diminished and prices firm: hard wheat was quoted at 21s to 23s 7d; soft ditto 19s 8d to 21s 8d per qr.

At St. Petersburg the frost having set in earlier than usual had impeded the navigation, and as in all probability the shipping season had closed, the trade was languid in seed, for fine Morschansky and similar qualities, however 45s 10d was demanded, though the offers generally did not exceed 44s 6d; middling sorts have been bought at 42s 3d and the more inferior parcels are offering freely at 34s 11d to 38s 10d per qr. Rye remains steady, and in other articles of grain there is no marked alteration. At Riga crushing linseed was noted at 37s 3d to 39s 10d, and fine, 41s 2d. Wheat nominal; best Courish, 27s 9d. At Danzig the trade was in a very inanimate state, and prices, unless a sudden change should take place, were expected further to recede, so that best wheats might perhaps be obtained at 24s; it is justly remarked in the Danzig advices, that many contingencies may cause a depression in the value of grain below the remunerating price, which may be termed in some measure its intrinsic value, but that it is impossible this can long remain, and an investment in fine grain at such low figures is nearly certain of turning out profitably in the end. In Mecklenburg wheat was noted at 21s to 22s, and at Rostock some purchases had been made at 21s, for export to Norway and Denmark. Barley was quoted at 15s; Linseed, 47s. In Holstein, wheat has been purchased for shipment both at Kiel and Lubeck to Russia, at 22s to 23s. Barley obtaining 15s, and rapeseed scarce, at 33l 10s to 34l. Linseed, at Lubeck, 45s to 46s. At Hamburg, the wheat trade was dull, and prices declining, particularly the Lower Elbe qualities. The sale of rye, barley, and oats, was confined entirely to the local consumption. Red Cloverseed was in less request, but prices steady; fine Bohemian had been sold at 51s 6d per cwt, other good qualities at 50s. White seed, owing to the short supplies and stock, was evincing a tendency to advance. At the ports on the Elbe as well as the lower parts of the Baltic, rapeseed has advanced from 2l to 4l per last in consequence of the unfavourable news from the whale fishery, and the top quotations at Hamburg have been as high as 36l 10s, but at the close of the month these prices were not supported. In Holland, prices of Wheat continued to improve, owing to the restrictive laws, and rape and linseed had risen in value, from the causes above stated.



## CURRENCY PER IMPERIAL MEASURE.

| BRITISH.                                 | Nov. 1.          |                  | Dec. 1. |    |
|------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------|----|
|                                          | s.               | s.               | s.      | s. |
| Wheat, red, Essex, Kent, Suffolk.....    | 32               | 35               | 32      | 38 |
| White.....                               | 33               | 44               | 33      | 44 |
| Norfolk, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire..... | 31               | 35               | 30      | 35 |
| White, do. do.....                       | 32               | 37               | 32      | 37 |
| West Country Red.....                    | 31               | 35               | 31      | 35 |
| White, ditto.....                        | 32               | 37               | 32      | 37 |
| Northumberland and Berwickshire Red..... | 30               | 34               | 30      | 35 |
| White, ditto.....                        | 32               | 36               | 32      | 36 |
| Irish Red.....                           | 30               | 34               | 30      | 34 |
| Ditto White.....                         | 34               | 35               | 33      | 35 |
| Barley, Malting, new.....                | 30               | 32               | 30      | 32 |
| Chevalier, new.....                      | 31               | 35               | 30      | 36 |
| Distilling.....                          | 28               | 31               | 27      | 30 |
| Grinding.....                            | 24               | 26               | 22      | 25 |
| Irish.....                               | 24               | 25               | 22      | 23 |
| Malt, Brown.....                         | 35               | 40               | 35      | 40 |
| Ditto, Chevalier.....                    | 60               | 62               | 60      | 62 |
| Ditto, Norfolk and Suffolk Pale.....     | 46               | 54               | 46      | 54 |
| Ditto Ware.....                          | 58               | 61               | 58      | 61 |
| Peas, Hog and Grey.....                  | 28               | 32               | 28      | 34 |
| Maple.....                               | 30               | 35               | 30      | 37 |
| White Boilers.....                       | 32               | 37               | 32      | 39 |
| Beans, small.....                        | 34               | 40               | 36      | 42 |
| Harrow.....                              | 31               | 33               | 32      | 40 |
| Ticks.....                               | 29               | 36               | 29      | 38 |
| Mazagan.....                             | 30               | 30               | 30      | 34 |
| Oats, ENGLISH feed.....                  | 17               | 22               | 17      | 21 |
| Short small.....                         | 21               | 24               | 21      | 23 |
| Poland.....                              | 21               | 25               | 21      | 24 |
| Scotch, Common.....                      | 22               | 26               | 18      | 24 |
| Berwick, &c.....                         | 26               | 28               | 21      | 27 |
| Potatoes, &c.....                        | 27               | 29               | 21      | 28 |
| Irish, Feed.....                         | 16s 0d to 17s 0d | 15s 0d to 16s 0d |         |    |
| Ditto Potatoes.....                      | 20s 0d 22s 0d    | 18s 0d 21s 0d    |         |    |
| Ditto Black.....                         | 16s 0d 18s 0d    | 16s 0d 18s 0d    |         |    |
| Bran.....                                | 8s 0d to 10s 0d  | per bushel.      |         |    |

## PRICES OF FLOUR,

| Per Sack of 280 lbs.                       | Nov. 1. |    | Dec. 1. |    |
|--------------------------------------------|---------|----|---------|----|
|                                            | s.      | s. | s.      | s. |
| Town-made.....                             | 33      | 35 | 36      | 35 |
| Norfolk, Suffolk, Kent, and Essex.....     | 27      | 30 | 27      | 29 |
| Sussex and Hampshire.....                  | 27      | 30 | 27      | 29 |
| Superfine.....                             | 32      | 31 | —       | —  |
| Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and Stockton..... | 27      | 29 | 26      | 28 |
| Northumberland, Berwick, and Scotch.....   | 27      | 29 | 26      | 28 |
| Irish.....                                 | 27      | 29 | 26      | 28 |
| Extra.....                                 | 30      | —  | 29      | —  |

An Account of the Quantity of Grain and Flour imported into the United Kingdom during the month ending the 5th Nov. 1835; the Quantity on which the Duty has been paid for Home Consumption, and the quantity remaining in Warehouse.

|                                       | Wheat.<br>qrs. | Barley.<br>qrs. | Oats.<br>qrs. | Rye.<br>qrs.  |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Quantity imported....                 | 1,624          | 2               | 8,062         | ..            |
| Do. entered for home consumption..... | 1,031          | 22              | 44            | ..            |
| Do. remaining in warehouse.....       | 620,361        | 58,652          | 241,970       | 3,476         |
|                                       | Peas.<br>qrs.  | Beans.<br>qrs.  | Maize<br>qrs. | Flour<br>cwt. |
| Quantity imported....                 | 847            | 236             | ..            | 1,746         |
| Do. entered for consumption.....      | 411            | ..              | ..            | 4,972         |
| Do. remaining in warehouse.....       | 6,226          | 1,738           | 757           | 271,279       |

## STOCK OF GRAIN AND FLOUR IN BOND IN THE PORT OF LONDON ON THE 5TH NOVEMBER.

| Wheat.  | Barley. | Oats.  | Beans. | Peas. | Flour. | Cloversd. |
|---------|---------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-----------|
| qrs.    | qrs.    | qrs.   | qrs.   | qrs.  | cwt.   | cwt.      |
| 261,781 | 15,616  | 83,627 | —      | 2,800 | 64,331 | 18,591    |

## PRICES OF HOPS IN THE BOROUGH.

|                            | NOVEMBER 1. |          | DECEMBER 1. |           |
|----------------------------|-------------|----------|-------------|-----------|
|                            | £ s.        | £ s.     | £ s.        | £ s.      |
| East Kent Pockets.....     | 5           | 5 to 6 2 | 5           | 8 to 6 12 |
| Mid-Kent Pockets.....      | 3           | 15 5 12  | 4           | 10 6 6    |
| Weald of Kent Pockets..... | 3           | 10 4 4   | 3           | 12 4 8    |
| Sussex Pockets.....        | 3           | 3 4 2    | 3           | 3 4 4     |
| Yearlings, Bags.....       | 3           | 0 4 0    | 3           | 3 4 2     |
| Old Olds.....              | 1           | 1 2 10   | 1           | 1 2 10    |

## BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS MARKETS.

|                             | Per ton. |           |      |           |
|-----------------------------|----------|-----------|------|-----------|
|                             | £ s.     | £ s.      | £ s. | £ s.      |
| NOVEMBER 1. DECEMBER 1.     |          |           |      |           |
| Ware, Scotch reds.....      | 4        | 5 to 4 15 | 4    | 5 to 4 15 |
| Marsh Champions.....        | 3        | 15 4 5    | 3    | 15 4 5    |
| Common reds.....            | 3        | 15 4 5    | 3    | 15 4 5    |
| London whites.....          | 3        | 10 4 0    | 3    | 10 4 0    |
| Shaws.....                  | 3        | 5 3 15    | 3    | 5 3 15    |
| Middlings, Scotch reds..... | 3        | 15 4 0    | 3    | 15 4 0    |
| Marsh Champions.....        | 3        | 0 3 10    | 3    | 0 3 10    |
| Common reds.....            | 2        | 15 3 10   | 2    | 15 3 10   |
| London whites.....          | 2        | 10 3 5    | 2    | 10 3 5    |
| Shaws.....                  | 2        | 5 3 0     | 2    | 5 3 0     |

Chats, 11 to 17s per ton. Onions, 2s to 3s 6d per bush. bask.

## SMITHFIELD MARKET.

Per stone of 8lbs. to sink the offals.

|                    | NOVEMBER 1. |          | DECEMBER 1. |          |
|--------------------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|
|                    | s. d.       | s. d.    | s. d.       | s. d.    |
| Inferior Beef..... | 2           | 0 to 2 2 | 2           | 0 to 2 2 |
| Do. Mutton.....    | 2           | 4 2 6    | 2           | 4 2 6    |
| Middling Beef..... | 2           | 6 2 8    | 2           | 6 2 8    |
| Do. Mutton.....    | 2           | 6 3 0    | 2           | 6 3 0    |
| Prime Beef.....    | 3           | 6 4 0    | 3           | 6 4 4    |
| Do. Mutton.....    | 3           | 4 4 0    | 3           | 4 4 4    |
| Veal.....          | 3           | 0 4 8    | 3           | 0 4 10   |
| Lamb.....          | 0           | 0 0 0    | 0           | 0 0 0    |
| Pork.....          | 3           | 0 4 0    | 3           | 0 4 6    |

## WOOL MARKETS.

## SCOTCH.

Per Stone of 24 lbs.

|                               | NOVEMBER 1. |           | DECEMBER 1. |           |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
|                               | s. d.       | s. d.     | s. d.       | s. d.     |
| Laid Highland Wool, from..... | 10          | 0 to 10 6 | 10          | 0 to 10 6 |
| White Do. Do.....             | 13          | 9 14 6    | 13          | 9 14 6    |
| Laid Crossed Do. Do.....      | 13          | 0 14 0    | 13          | 0 14 0    |
| Washed Do. Do.....            | 14          | 6 16 0    | 14          | 6 16 0    |
| Laid Cheviots.....            | 14          | 0 16 0    | 14          | 0 16 0    |
| Washed Do.....                | 18          | 6 20 6    | 18          | 6 20 6    |
| White Do.....                 | 28          | 0 30 0    | 28          | 0 30 0    |

## FOREIGN.

The public sales of Colonial and other Wools, the progress of which we referred to in our last communication, having concluded, the sales continuing up to Saturday evening last, we give the following as the correct averages obtained for Australian and Tasmanian Wools:—The finest fleeces of Australian offered went off at from 2s 7d to 3s per lb, and the low and inferior Wools from 1s to 1s 6d per lb, middling qualities being quoted at from 1s 8d to 2s 5d per lb. The Van Diemen's Land Wool, for the best qualities offered during the sales, ranged between 2s and 2s 7d per lb, middling, between 1s 6d and 2s, and low Wools, from 11d to 1s 5d per lb. The sales of Messrs. Marsh and Co., on Friday, and Messrs. Simes and Co. on Saturday, were nearly as fully attended as the previous sales. There were a greater number than usual of spinners, clothiers, and dealers in Foreign Wool present, who purchased with great activity from the lowest qualities up to those of 2s 6d per lb. Since the conclusion of the sales, an active demand has existed, but the supply is not equal to the demand, and this has checked business. The importations of Wool, this week, have amounted to very nearly 900 bales, namely from Germany, 530 bales, from Russia, 200 bales, and from Spain and Turkey about 150 bales.—*Mark Lane Express*, Nov. 23.

# THE POLITICAL COMPANION

TO

## THE FARMER'S MAGAZINE.

[Our object in appending a Political Companion to the Farmer's Magazine, was to put our readers in possession of the opinions of the most talented journalists of the day, on *both* sides of any important question which might come under discussion. We trust, therefore, that in giving insertion to articles, which seem opposed to the agricultural interest, we shall not be considered as acquiescing in the doctrines therein advanced, our sole purpose being to enable our readers to estimate the truth or detect the fallacies of the arguments advanced.—ED. FARMER'S MAGAZINE.]

### AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS.

(From the Times.)

Agricultural associations and meetings in support of them, furnish topics to which we have a more lively pleasure in drawing public attention than to party dinners and their usual appendages—to wit, the crimination of political adversaries, the widening of breaches and perpetuating of hostilities between those who might better serve their country by a hearty co-operation in the general management of her affairs. Three great agricultural meetings have taken place within these few days:—one at Aylesbury, where the Marquis of Chandos presided—one at York, under the name of the Yorkshire Central Agricultural Association, of which the chairman was Mr. Cayley, M. P. for the North Riding, the proceedings of which we reported yesterday—and a third, at Shrewsbury, Lord Darlington in the chair, with an account of which we this day present our readers.

Lord Chandos is, we make do doubt, a conscientious and well-meaning nobleman. But one amongst our reasons for rejoicing at the progressive increase of these agricultural societies is the frequency of discussion, amongst agriculturists themselves, which must result from such institutions, and the consequent opportunity which will thereby be afforded for correcting the errors of respectable men, whence the noble Marquis himself, perhaps, may not be the last to profit. Lord Chandos, to do him justice, does not propose any fresh quackery with the circulating medium, as if the currency question were at all involved with that of what his Lordship terms the “distresses of the farmer.” But the noble lord we conceive to be as far astray on the other side, when he starts as an important question “for the House of Commons,” how *that* assembly shall proceed to legislate with a view to obtain relief for the farmer. For our own parts, our opinion has always been that no substantial relief can be administered to the farmer from within the walls of Parliament, and on that point we would recommend the noble Marquis to turn back to a speech delivered not many weeks ago by Lord Stanley—a person whose interest in the real prosperity of the farmer is not inferior, we suspect, to that of many noblemen in Great Britain, and who, like a man of sense and honour, declared that he could not encourage the agriculturists to depend on legislation for any sensible relief from their embarrassments.

Lord Chandos reverts to his own motion of last year, for the repeal of the malt-tax, as a measure which would have effectually served the farmer. It hardly appeared to us at the time that the noble Lord had considered the subject in all its bearings, or indeed in any of them, political, financial, or in relation to the agriculturist, whether landlord or tenant.

In the first place, the introduction of such a question at that moment could not fail to perplex and weaken the Government which the noble Marquis professed to support; second, the State must have been insolvent had the malt-tax, producing 5,000,000*l* per annum, not been replaced by any other impost; and finally, *non constat* either that the landlord would have derived any benefit from the substitution of a tax on property for one on malt, or that the tenant would have been suffered by the same landlord to share with him one single sixpence of the profit accruing from whatever modification of taxes. Mr. E. S. Cayley, in his opening speech at York, announced that it had now become necessary for all agriculturists to “be unanimous,” admitting that hitherto they had entertained much diversity of opinion. We trust, therefore, that the first point on which they prove themselves unanimous will be in getting rid of the numberless heresies which have hitherto prevailed amongst the agricultural body, (we allude more especially to proprietors of the soil than to occupiers,) touching the causes, or cause rather, wherein the distress of the farmers has originated, as well as of the absurd and empty nostrums which are hourly proposed by way of remedy.

The state of the currency has no more to do with the embarrassments of the agricultural interest than the course of Halley's comet. The wildest of the currency doctors do not pretend that we should return to an *inconvertible* paper currency. Then what, in the name of wonder, would they desire? Will they assert that every man ought to have a facility of raising money, whether he has property wherewith to repay his loans or not? A pretty state the creditors would soon be reduced to in that case! Well, then, if that extravagance be given up, what further? Do the papermongers affect to say that, taking paper and gold together, there is too contracted a currency in this country? Why, so far from it, that money never was so cheap, the current interest on mortgages being not so much as 4 per cent., whereas during the blessed papyrocracy the market price of money exceeded the legal rate of in-



terest—namely, 5 per cent., and country gentlemen were forced to cheat the law, raising loans by way of annuity at 7 or 8. Is there, then, a difficulty in procuring specie? If so, most other countries are worse off in that respect than England, inasmuch as the English sovereign bears a premium almost everywhere on the continent, and we believe in the United States. But the fallacy of all this talk about currency is obvious to any disinterested person of common understanding. It was not because paper was plenty during war time that the agriculturists flourished—it was because the *universal demand for corn* to support the extended and wasteful operations of a war which was only conterminous with the habitable world, progressively raised the price of the article so required, the supply very generally falling short of the demand, and therefore threw continually increasing prices into the producer's pocket.

The absence of a corn law during the war, and the encouragement thus held out to importation, were never then felt by the British farmer or landlord, because, with all the aid of corn from foreign countries and from Ireland, the wants of the market were scarcely ever adequately answered. But things are changed. Prices have fallen, as the relative demand for agricultural produce has fallen below that level at which the growth of England and Ireland united are found adequate to an abundant supply. Thus the converse of the condition which we were placed in during the war has now succeeded. As the largest importations which could in the former case be executed in nowise operated to reduce prices, or to make the agriculturist clamour for a corn law, so at present, from the unexampled reduction of prices, which the corn law was enacted to prevent, it has ceased to operate as any protection whatever, and is reduced, in fact, to a mere *caput mortuum*, amounting to a palpable and almost ludicrous demonstration of the solemn folly of those other sages—the prohibition doctors—who ascribed to a corn-law, as its infallible consequence, the stability of "remunerating prices," and insisted that low prices and repeal of the corn-law were convertible terms. If the British agriculturists insist on a certain recipe for the rise of prices here, and the consequent prosperity of the farmer and his landlord, let them indulge O'Connell in the fancy for a repeal of the Union, for which he and his junior partners in Downing-street are at work with such laudable vigour, and then, when Ireland shall have fairly broken from her moorings, we see no motive under heaven for treating her more favourable than we treat other foreign countries, or for hesitating to impose upon her cattle, corn, butter, and every description of raw produce, a protecting duty in favour of our own land, its owners, and its occupants.

However, to come at once to the *rationale* of this subject, Mr. Bather, at Shrewsbury, has hit the nail upon the head. It quite rejoices us to see a strong and clear mind dealing so unceremoniously with all descriptions of humbug. The landlords, according to this straightforward speaker, must have done with obliquity and mystification. They must no longer go about the bush—they must *lower their rents*. We have harped upon the same string in this journal ever since the nostrum of legislating upon a matter which was susceptible of no substantial adjustment but from the spontaneous dealings of man with man was first propounded—that is, ever since the landlords chose to put a false colour on a plain case, and to twist, and shirk, and equivocate, and attempt to relieve their tenants at everybody's expense but their own.

There is, we repeat, but one cure, and that must

be administered by the landlords, not by Parliament. Reduce your rents, gentlemen, and you will thus effectually relieve your tenants. We do not like to see men fussing and sputtering, and throwing the country into hot water, when a single exercise of their own volition, and a slight practical rebuke of their own selfishness might subdue the artificial storm, and clear the stirred-up puddle, and at all events prove that they themselves were disinterested and sincere.

#### AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS.

(From the Standard.)

A meeting of agriculturists, composed of deputations from several counties, assembled on the 13th November, at the George-inn, in Aylesbury—the Marquis of Chandos presided. The purpose of the meeting was to consider of the course to be pursued in order to obtain from parliament, in the next session, that relief of which the deeply depressed agriculture of the country stands so much in need. The noble president addressed the meeting in a very able speech, in the course of which he pointed out the hopelessness of any attempt to obtain the repeal of the Malt Tax—adverted to Sir Robert Peel's design of removing many local burthens—also to the plan of the same right hon. baronet for a new arrangement of the land tax by which several millions would be gained to the country, to the benefit of which the agriculturist would have the first and the fairest claim—demonstrated the importance of the agriculturists acting with combination and perfect union—and finally, recommended an application to parliament for a committee to inquire into the state of the agricultural classes, unconnected with any other subject, as the course best calculated to obviate jealousy or resistance from other quarters, and to insure complete and cordial union amongst the agriculturists themselves. Several gentlemen appeared to be anxious to connect the agricultural question with the question of the currency; and it is very plain that against this imprudent and somewhat anomalous association of distinct questions, it was that Lord Chandos sought to guard. The caution of the noble marquis in this particular, is proof alike of his good sense, and of his zeal for the interest of the farmer. The bill of 1819 was passed unanimously in the House of Commons; its *active* ill consequences have long since ceased as respects all classes of society, except the agricultural class. The public mind is not yet prepared to understand what we may call the inert mischief of the principle that binds down the industry and enterprise of all mankind to a fixed scale, commanded by the quantity of gold and silver available to a few nations. At present a repeal of the bill of 1819 would be positively injurious, for a time, to the non-agricultural proprietary classes, though all would gain by it in the end. The Reform Bill has given to these non-agricultural proprietary classes the command of the legislature; it is, therefore, a matter not to be doubted of that any attempt to repeal or to tamper with the bill of 1819, would be almost as unanimously resisted in the House of Commons, as the bill itself was carried. We regret this, and probably so does Lord Chandos; but we must all act upon truths which we regret when they stand plainly before our eyes; and, therefore, in justice to the noble marquis, we must acknowledge the wisdom of his advice to the agriculturists, which amounts shortly to this—not to ensure the failure of their prayer for relief, by linking to it an impossible condition—not to place the agricultural interest in direct collision with all the other pro-

proprietary classes in the country, more particularly with those classes to which the Reform Bill has assigned the absolute control of the legislature.

In order to explain to our agricultural friends some of the difficulties of the case, we will lay before them our view of the twofold operation of the bill of 1819—the first temporary—the second permanent. The temporary effect of the change in the currency was an aggravation of the weight of all debts, including every kind of pecuniary engagement. This for a time affects injuriously all classes without exception, save the small-money-lending class, to whom it is an advantage. For a very short time it affected all equally. The only debts or pecuniary engagements, however, of long continuance, are those which relate to landed property, incumbrances, leases, and the like. Others can scarcely extend beyond a single life; the majority of them not beyond a year or two. In the sixteen years, therefore, that have passed since the passing of the bill of 1819, deaths, insolvencies, and payments, have extinguished all the occasions of discontent which the bill in question presented to the non-agricultural classes. But not only have these classes ceased to feel any inconvenience from the effect of that bill—they derive what is in all cases an apparent, and in some an actual advantage, from the low prices of the necessities of life which have followed it, and from the restraint which it fatally imposes upon credit and speculation. Every man not connected with agriculture, down to the very poorest, thinks that he is benefitted by the low price of provisions. He thinks erroneously; but it is useless to reason with him. He can buy a four-pound loaf for eightpence, while a four-pound loaf cost his father a shilling. If you tell him that his father could earn twelve pounds of bread notwithstanding, while he can earn but six, like all vulgar reasoners he will believe in the apparent good he has, and pay no regard to that which is merely promised. The poor dread nothing so much as high prices, though by high prices the poor are ever the greatest gainers. Ascending from the poor to the proprietary classes, engaged in trade and commerce, we find that they have a direct and substantial interest in the limitation of the currency. Such a limitation protects the monopoly of the proprietary classes, against the intrusion of speculative and enterprising industry. This is, certainly, no good effect of such a limitation, for the best constitution of society is that which, while it protects property from lawless violence and fraudulent abstraction, affords the most ample opportunity and even temptation to dissipate wealth in any courses not vicious.

Here, then, ends the temporary operation of the bill of 1819; it ends in enlisting in its favour many of the poorer classes, though against their best interests, and all the non-agricultural proprietary classes, upon more rational grounds. The permanent operation of a limited currency is rather inert than active—it has been already hinted at; it is the restraint which it imposes upon enterprise and speculation. The most disinterested philosophers and statesmen have scarcely learned, as yet, to appreciate the enormous magnitude of this evil. Can we expect that it will be acknowledged in a House of Commons, returned by a constituency of 101 householders, all interested in the continuance of that evil? But this, after all, is the question for the agriculturists at present. Will any House of Commons to be elected upon a law, which promises to be permanent, ever rescind or tamper with the bill of 1819? We say, never; and every passing year will render such a determination, if we may so speak, less

possible; because every passing year will give to the classes who send the majority to parliament, new reasons for adhering to a limited currency. The best service, indeed, that can be rendered to the agricultural interest is to fasten upon their minds the conviction that they have no hope from an enlargement of the currency, because such an enlargement is a moral impossibility. At present they are the only class of any political importance who think that they suffer by the restrictive operation of the bill of 1819. All other classes, we repeat it, think, though erroneously, that they are gainers. These other classes, as the agriculturists know to their sorrow, have a preponderance in the legislature; and it is vain to hope that these other classes will, upon any considerations of justice or patriotism, forego the advantage of which they deem themselves in possession.

The course, then, to be pursued by the agriculturists is a plain one; it is to look elsewhere for compensation to them, for those evils which they alone now suffer from a change that has been confessedly beneficial to the parties to whom they make their appeal; and that which is properly the first step in such a course, is that pointed out by the Marquis of Chandos. We have no doubt that if the agriculturists apply for a committee to consider of the distressed state of agriculture, unconnected with any other subject, they would obtain it; and it is our firm belief that the appointment of such a committee will lead to some measure of substantial and adequate relief—not impossibly to a repeal of the malt tax, accompanied by Sir R. Peel's proposed new arrangement of the land tax, or to some equivalent measure. At all events, the Marquis of Chandos has nobly discharged his duty to the farmer; more usefully certainly, and more devotedly, when he draws them from a devious pursuit into the right path, than when last year, under the influence of a chivalrous sense of honour, he abandoned his seat in the Cabinet, and stood in opposition to his political friends, to lead an enterprise, which, as all knew at the time, must be unsuccessful.

#### ASSOCIATIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF AGRICULTURE.

(From the Kelso Mail)

It would be an idle waste of our time and space to enter into a minute detail of the purposes for which such Associations have been formed, throughout almost every district of the empire, or to defend them from the attacks which have been made upon them by political partizans and the disciples of the "Free Trade" school. The fact, originating out of whatever combination of causes, that the agricultural interest has been for many years suffering under great depression, while both the manufacturing and the commercial have enjoyed comparative prosperity, was sufficient to arouse the attention of the agriculturists to their own condition, and prompt the inquiry, how it happened that a period of general prosperity to the other classes of the community should prove to them one of unexampled difficulty and adversity. In investigating the causes of this apparent anomaly it was impossible not to perceive, that by the union and combination subsisting among the commercialists and manufacturers, they had been enabled to act with promptitude and effect upon the Government of the country, and to procure the enactment of measures calculated to promote and insure the advancement of their own individual interests. Conceiving also, that the tendency of some of the



measures actually adopted, and of many of the doctrines openly professed, was opposed to the general welfare of the country, as well as directly hostile to their interests, as a class, the agriculturists felt the necessity imposed upon them of adopting the example set them by others, and of combining in their own defence. This necessity they felt to be the more imperative, because it was, if not the avowed, at least the apparent principle upon which the existing Government proceeded to be guided in their adoption of measures, by the amount of excitement and agitation by which such measures were pressed upon them, rather than by a consideration of their intrinsic merits. With a view to their own security and protection, therefore, they determined to form themselves into local associations, and to give efficiency to the measures and exertions of their friends in Parliament, by their own *out-of-door* efforts. But while they thus combined for the declared object of ensuring to themselves that amount of consideration in the legislature, to which they thought themselves equitably entitled, they expressly disavowed any intention of advancing their own interests at the expense of others. They avow themselves to be desirous of "promoting the introduction and enactment of such measures as may be deemed beneficial to the Agricultural Interest," but this avowal is accompanied by the important qualification—*so far as may be consistent with the prosperity of the other branches of industry*. To the purely defensive principle upon which such Societies are founded, it is, we conceive, impossible to urge any reasonable objection, and the question comes to be, by what means can the limited purposes for which they have been formed be most effectually promoted. One great impediment in the way of accomplishing the object for which such Societies were instituted, has hitherto been the want of some acknowledged head. Diffused as these Societies are over the whole extent of the country, and each of them acting independently, and without concert with the rest, their individual exertions have been deprived of that force which they would have possessed by having their united efforts simultaneously directed to one common end. To remedy this imperfection, it has been proposed to establish a Head Society in London under the name of "The Royal Agricultural Society," which shall form a centre of communication for the Societies established throughout the United Kingdom. Such a central Society is so obviously necessary to the furtherance of the objects of local associations, that the only subject of wonder is, that its establishment should not have already taken place. From a report of the proceedings at a meeting of the "East Suffolk Society for the protection of Agriculture," held on Tuesday the 3rd instant, it appears that the propriety of co-operating with a Central Society was discussed, and that resolutions approved cordially of the proposed plan were unanimously adopted. But the "East Suffolk Society," at whose meeting a deputation from the Provincial Committee of the Central Society were present, and explained at length the purposes for which it was to be instituted, proceeded still farther and immediately appointed several of their members to co-operate with the Central Society. This example we have no doubt will be imitated by the other local associations throughout the country, and if so "it cannot," in the words of the *Mark Lane Express* "be for an instant doubted, that a body thus organised, having no political object in view, and acting on the principle of protecting its own interests, so far as may be consistent with the prosperity of the other branches of industry, may be productive of eminent national advantage."

## THE IRISH POOR.

(From the Sun.)

The lamentable condition of the poor of Ireland, of which we are every day receiving the most heart-rending accounts, is calculated to fill every feeling mind with doubts of the presence of an overruling, all-beneficent Providence in that unhappy land. To ponder upon the scenes of wretchedness with which even the industrious poor are familiar—to contemplate the appalling spectacle of helpless infants and decrepid old creatures perishing with hunger—to dwell upon the anguish of a parent driven by the sight of his famishing children to trample upon the sacred laws of God and man by violating the property of his neighbours, and perhaps entailing upon himself an afterlife of shame, suffering, and remorse, is enough to fill the mind with dark uncertainties, only reconcilable by the conviction that Heaven will, in its own good time, adjust the balance between the oppressor and the oppressed.

But in the meanwhile we must not shut our eyes to such a state of things. England assumes the right of governing Ireland, and is, therefore, responsible to a certain extent for evils which could not exist, did she not tolerate them. The Irish people stretch forth their hands, and cry to us for help. We must—it is our duty to endeavour to relieve them. During the long time the Tories swayed the destinies of the people of this country the great bulk of the English population knew less about the condition of Ireland than they did about the situation of the slaves in our plantations. The Court party neither sought nor desired to ameliorate the condition of any portion of the Irish people, with the exception of the Orange faction, into whose hands the nation was virtually delivered up, as a reward for supporting by its Parliamentary influence the grossest abuses in church and state. A reform in Parliament has, amongst other things, made England acquainted with the actual condition of Ireland, as well as served to point out the only means by which the sufferings of the inhabitants can be ameliorated. We can no longer deceive ourselves with a hope that we have acted up to our convictions, unless we actually compel the Irish landlords to contribute towards the support of their tenantry, by the establishment of a wholesome system of poor laws. In fact, without poor laws nothing can be done which shall permanently relieve the Irish people. Railways, and canals, and the drainage of bogs, and the cultivation of waste lands, would do much to improve that country; but our conviction is, that neither railways will be laid down, nor canals dug, nor bogs drained, nor waste lands cleared, till the absentee landlords find themselves burdened with the maintenance of an able-bodied, useless tenantry.

We are glad to find that Mr. O'Connell is now convinced of the necessity of making a legal provision for the poor of Ireland; and that henceforth we may calculate upon his co-operation in support of such a measure. Nothing, however, can be more preposterous than his references to the evils caused by the abuse of such a system in England. Mr. O'Connell ought to know that there is not the slightest comparison between the relative condition of England and Ireland. In this country there are no wastes to reclaim—no outlets for the establishment of any process of remunerating industry. Ireland is to this country what the prairies of the far west are to the best cultivated farms in the neighbourhood of New York. Until the vast internal resources of England were brought into full play her poor laws were among her national blessings, because they gave the most powerful impulse to her industry;

but when manufactures were established, and trade carried on, and the means of constant employment procured for the whole of her people, then they were found to be fraught with evil, because they hold out inducements to idleness, of which the more vicious were ever ready to take advantage. Before Ireland has any reason to apprehend the evils which England has suffered from the establishment of poor laws, her people must have advanced to the same stage in the cultivation of the liberal arts; the progress of manufacturing industry; the exploring of mines; and, we would add, without offence, the knowledge and the practice of social and self-government. When Ireland begins to rival England in these things, then she shall be justified in talking of amending or abolishing the laws for the maintenance of a system of able-bodied voluntary pauperism—but not before.

### THE AGRICULTURAL INTEREST.

*(From the Chronicle)*

We give elsewhere an account of the proceedings of a meeting of the East Suffolk Agricultural Society. It is lamentable to perceive that the delusions, under which a large portion of the friends of the agricultural interest labour, with respect to any permanent benefits to be derived from a depreciation of the currency, exercised its full and potent sway over the majority of this assembly. It will be seen that, in spite of the sound arguments of the more reasonable portion of the speakers, the currency doctors succeeded in so mystifying or misleading the judgments of their auditors, as to induce a majority of the meeting to concur in resolutions connecting the relief of agricultural distress with what is quaintly called an expansion of the currency, (clipping down the sovereign, and making four sovereigns into six, is certainly one way of expanding the currency); but another fallacy not less to be deplored, though more readily to be accounted for, is the notion entertained by many of this class, and favoured occasionally by others who must know better, viz. that the distress of the agricultural interest can be removed by any Parliamentary enactments. We beg in perfect sincerity to ask the landlords and tenants of England, what they can possibly desire for agriculture, in the shape of legislative protection, more than they already have? Is not the commerce of the country hampered and the manufacturing interest already taxed for the benefit of land, by a system of duties on foreign corn, which amount virtually to prohibition? And are not foreign nations, who might carry on a trade most beneficially to all parties, are they not compelled to close their ports against British manufactures, and disabled from purchasing from us, because we refuse to take the only commodities they have to offer in return? Can they desire more than a perfect monopoly of the home market? But again, can it be reasonably argued that the local taxes affecting the landed interest are sufficient to be considered as a cause of agricultural distress? Yet what beyond trifling modifications, or alterations of this kind, can Parliament possibly do, even though it be entirely devoted to the particular interests of this important section of the community? It seems unfortunately to be taken for granted, in meetings of this description, that agricultural prosperity can be induced by some miraculous interference of the legislature. That the landlord must receive a full rent, and the farmer a full compensation for his time and capital, or else the legislature is to blame, and the whole country must be appealed to, to give instant relief. But why should this be looked for in agri-

cultural more than in any other investments of capital? Might not the merchant as well expect to have the losses of trade made up by a Parliamentary grant, and argue that the capital invested in merchandize to Rio or Leipsic ought to bring him in certain returns, and to enable him to maintain a certain station, and to live at a certain scale of expense? Where is the class or section of the community that would not allege claims to Parliamentary interference, if such a line of argument as this were to be considered valid and legitimate? The agriculturalists would do well to consider seriously, first, whether the grievances under which they suffer are at all dependent upon acts of the legislature; and secondly, whether it be possible by any alterations which Parliament can enact, to make any permanent amelioration in their present condition. We suspect that the only legitimate remedy is to be found in a systematic reduction of expenses and charges of every kind, of which the demands of the tax-gatherer form but a very small and inconsiderable part.

### STATE OF THE AGRICULTURISTS.

*(From the Morning Post.)*

The agricultural classes of the community are sustaining, and have long sustained, very grievous injury from a progressive reduction in the prices of the various productions of the soil, unaccompanied by that mitigation of the burdens which are imposed on them by the State which they believe might have been afforded during a period in which the State has been enabled to remit taxes to a considerable amount, and has, in fact, remitted them, but in such a manner as to confer by far the greater share of advantage upon other classes already in a state of comparative prosperity.

In the general proposition, that, with a surplus of revenue at its disposal sufficient to warrant a considerable, a rapid reduction of taxes, the Government might have done more than it has, in fact, accomplished, for the relief and support of the suffering owners and occupiers of land, the agricultural interest unanimously concur. Some differences have, however, existed among them as to the mode in which this support and relief might have been most advantageously administered. They are, from their position, and the nature of their vocations, deprived, in a considerable degree, of those opportunities of discussion and of concert which enable the manufacturing and commercial classes to agree in the pursuit of a definite and common object, and of commanding the attention of the Government and Legislature to their united voice. Hence, as the agriculturists have at length discovered, they have failed to obtain justice from a Government and Legislature solicitous chiefly of *clat* and popularity, and deeming all the purposes of good Government sufficiently attained if they can so manage the affairs of the nation as to secure to themselves the noisy applause of the multitude which occasionally assemble in our manufacturing and commercial towns.

It was incidental to the situation of the agricultural position of the population that the suggestions of individuals of their body should be too easily taken for an expression of their unanimous or general opinion, and that any error into which particular persons were betrayed should be imputed to the whole class by politicians little anxious for their welfare, and abundantly solicitous for the favour and applause of the condensed masses of people, who ignorantly imagined that they had interests adverse to those of the landlord and the farmer. From misconceptions or misrepresentations of this class, it is



plain that the agricultural classes have sustained very material injury.

Against such injury we rejoice to find that the landed interest have adopted the most efficacious means to protect themselves for the future, by the establishment of a point of re-union, a centre of communication, in London, under the name of "The Royal Agricultural Society of Great Britain and Ireland." The first steps towards the establishment of this most valuable and necessary association were taken at the meeting held at Aylesbury no longer ago than the 12th instant, under the presidency of that zealous and enlightened friend of the agriculture of Great Britain, the Marquess of Chandos, and a detailed plan of the nascent society is now before us. We have no doubt that it will greatly contribute to the future protection and welfare of the important classes for whose advantage it is instituted; for it will supply those desiderata the want of which has hitherto kept the political influence of the landed interest of the country so far below the level of its real power and importance—the means of an easy interchange of thought, and an efficient concentration of strength.

It will, we apprehend, by the aid of this useful institution, be very speedily discovered that the landed interest, as a body, not think it could conduce to their advantage to disturb afresh all the contracts and all the relations of society, by any kind of tampering with the currency. It will be very speedily discovered that the landed interest, as a body, do not desire that any tax should be abolished for their benefit which the revenue cannot spare, consistently with the preservation of public faith and the effective maintenance of every necessary or useful establishment, or for which an adequate and preferable substitute cannot be found. But it will also, we hope and believe, be speedily discovered, that the fair claims of the landed interest to such relief as their condition demands, and as the State can afford, may no longer be safely withheld by any body of Ministers, however desirous they may be to gratify and flatter the pot-house politicians of large towns, and to attract to themselves the vociferous acclamations of assembled multitudes.

We congratulate the landed interest most sincerely on the measure they have adopted, and confidently anticipate that it will be productive of the most important and beneficial results.

It is impossible for us to dismiss this subject without adverting to the train of observations which the present movement of the landed interest has elicited from some of our contemporaries. One of them, in particular, who has lately hoisted Conservatory colours, and (as if in mourning for his own metamorphosis) has only hoisted them half masthigh, avails himself of the occasion to bring a railing accusation against both landlords and tenants, to tell them that they have no claim to pity or relief, inasmuch as they are themselves the authors of whatever losses or sufferings they have endured, and to insult them by admonishing the landlords to lower their rents, and the farmers to become holders of the plough, and make their wives and daughters betake themselves to the poultry-yard and the dairy. It would, we feel, be doing too much honour to this silly and malignant trash to bestow upon it any lengthened notice. The writer cannot but know that rent is not an arbitrary impost, dependent upon the mere will of the landlord, but as much a matter of fair, equal, and independent contract between two parties, as the bargain made by a newspaper proprietor when he orders a fount of type, or takes a new reporter into his employ. And why should

farmers more than any other men be admonished as to the manner in which they ought to conduct their own business? Why, especially, should instruction upon this subject be obtruded upon them by persons who evidently know nothing of the subject of which they presume to treat? The shallowest person in the world must at once perceive that the occupier of a farm of any considerable extent could not more ruinously misemploy his time than by devoting it to the manual operations of agriculture. The most prejudiced man in the universe must admit that agriculture is reduced to a deplorable state, from which, if possible, it ought to be redeemed, when the occupier of an extensive farm—of necessity a considerable capitalist—a man daily engaged in large and important transactions, and employing in a wide sphere of action the qualities of skill, diligence, sagacity, and enterprise, cannot, without imprudence, exempt his wife and daughters from the druggery of milking his cows and feeding his pigs. All grocers do not make their wives and daughters weigh sugar and figs; nor do linendrapers, haberdashers, and hosiers, generally require the females of their family to measure Irish, or adjust for their customers the paraphernalia of stockings, garters, and shoestrings; nor do attorneys teach them to engross; nor do the proprietors of newspapers employ them in revising slips or cutting down the penny-a-liners. Why, then, in the name of common sense, should it be pretended, unless it be merely to gratify and flatter the cockney frequenters of the tap-room, that a ruined farmer is unworthy of commiseration if his wife and daughters have perchance been indulged in any more elegant recreation or refined employment than the poultry-yard and the dairy can afford!

## AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SPECTATOR.

Sir—Your report in the last week's *Spectator* of the speech of the Earl of Darlington, at Bridgnorth, encourages me to lay before the public a plan of certain relief to the agriculturist. Since the prices of their produce have gone back to those of 1790, it is but justice the rents should go back to what they then were. The Tithes should in like manner be reduced; and those who have patronage in the Church should sign a declaration that they would only bestow such patronage on those from whom they expected a just consideration for the farmers, and make the rent a standard for tithes. I calculate that in those parishes now paying twenty shillings an acre rent, the tithe will average four shillings; so that if such rents are reduced to fifteen shillings an acre rent, the farmer should have also a reduction of one shilling an acre on the tithe; and thus the owners of the land and the tithe join hand and heart in the relief of agriculture. Another relief would arise from an Association or Joint-Stock Company for the purchase of tithes now in the hands of lay proprietors. Let such Association now receive three per cent. yearly on each hundred pound share; and as they can afford it reduce such purchased tithes to the level of the adjoining parishes. No wrong will be done to any one proprietor, but ultimately a great good, not only to the agriculturist, but to the whole community,

Nov. 5, 1835.

AN ENGLISHMAN.

## TURF INTELLIGENCE.

Training is indispensable to the racer, as well as to the pugilist; producing in each case strength, wind, and vigour. The muscle of each when properly trained, will be found repulsive to the touch, or, in other words, very hard, and very elastic. In consequence of such an improved state of the animal system, the muscle of the pugilist repels as it were the blows of his antagonist, and they consequently make much less impression than if inflicted under other circumstances, that is, where the flesh is soft or flabby. Hence may be easily perceived the advantage resulting to the racer from the strength and extreme springiness of his tendon and muscle.

In training the racer, the first object of consideration should be the constitution of the individual: there are greedy feeders, good feeders, and delicate or shy feeders. The first class will require more exercise than usual, and perhaps more physic and bleeding also; for the second, the administrations just mentioned should be more moderate; the third class, however, are the most troublesome to manage: it is difficult to bring a horse into condition that will not eat: delicate feeders may be recognised not only by their thin carcase or meagre appearance, but frequently by a peculiar expression of the eye, understood by those who have thoroughly studied the subject, but which would be difficult to image to the mind of the reader by the beautiful science of writing.—Mr. Thompson's Orthodox presents the indications of a delicate feeder, (the peculiar expression of the eye, amongst the rest) in a very remarkable manner.

There are few better tests of genuine blood than training; none but a thorough-bred horse can eat the quantity of corn, or endure the severe exercise, deemed requisite for the racer. It may very easily be perceived, that, where an animal is supplied in reckless profusion, with the most nutritious food, that his system must be on the verge of disease; to counteract which in the racer, not only exercise and sweats, but physic and bleeding also, become necessary; by which means, in due process, the tendon becomes very full and very hard, the muscle large and firm—indeed the muscle can never be rendered too large, so long as it is divested of fat; but if a particle of fat remain, the horse's condition is not perfect. We have frequently heard trainers remark that such a horse has too much flesh upon him to run, or that he would run better with less flesh. The fact is, no horse can have too much flesh (which constitutes muscle) if it be completely divested of fat, as we have just before observed. It will be eagerly remarked by way of replication, that some horses will carry more flesh than others; which is very true, but the circumstance does not disturb our position in the most trifling degree. We are scarcely aware of an art or science; which will not admit of systematic arrangement—indeed no human operations can proceed properly unless upon systematic principles, we will therefore adopt this very eligible mode in the observations we purpose to make on Training. In regard to one horse carrying more flesh than another, this may vary according to the constitution of the animal, but the principle is, that, where the bone is large, the tendon will be found in proportion; and consequently, inasmuch as these

constitute the base upon which the muscle must be raised, where the bone and tendon are large, much muscle may be laid upon them by training. It has not unfrequently fallen to our lot to listen to observations in which small bone and large tendon have been considered as the acmè of perfection; that, as the bone was small the animal would be less encumbered with its weight; and that, on account of its inelasticity, it contributed nothing to power and speed. Such a theory, considered in its true light, as a mere flight of ignorant fancy, may be all very well in its way—ridiculous enough; since it is in direct opposition to the laws of nature. A very trifling knowledge of anatomy will enable us to perceive that as the tendon is fastened to, and supported by, the bone, the one must be in proportion to the other: trifling differences or variations may be found, but no case can be produced where *very large tendon* is found adhering to *very small bone*. If such an instance could be brought forward, it would be found a malformation of the parts, and instead of increasing the strength and speed of the animal, could scarcely fail to operate in the inverse ratio.

On going over his Majesty's stud at Hampton Court, some weeks ago, the Colonel (amongst many other nags) fell under our observation. This beautiful horse finished his racing career some years ago; but his condition, nevertheless, was admirable: on passing our hand down his foreleg from the knee to the pastern, we found the tendon uncommonly well developed, very firm, and very elastic. The tendons of the two Arabians (lately arrived from the Nabob of Oude) were soft and receded from the touch, owing to their lack of condition; these horses, be it remembered, had just been landed from a four months' voyage, some hundreds of miles over a stormy sea, of the injurious effects of which they bore incontestible indications. The Colonel and these Arabians presented the opposites, of *Condition* and *no Condition*. Yet the condition of the former was not exactly that of the racer. The Colonel's exercise consists of longeing two hours each day.

The most perfect condition which ever fell under our observation was the instance of the Marquis of Sligo's Economist, when, four years ago, he ran at Liverpool. We never recollect placing our hands upon a crest which answered the touch so well. This horse had been trained by Mr. Pierse of Richmond.

Amongst the generality of those persons who follow the occupation of Trainers, the process is regular, if not *mechanical*, and consequently those constitutional differences or variations which cannot fail to exist, are not sufficiently taken into consideration; or, we may say, not sufficiently understood. What may be called the dictates of nature are, therefore, not unfrequently, disregarded; and if in preparing horses for the course, natural or physiological causes are not duly considered, they can never acquire the requisite condition to enable them to put forth the utmost of their powers. Hence it may be perceived, that, although the business of training may be systematised and consequently simplified, yet, it should be always subject to those practical variations, which difference of constitution imperiously demands.

The system generally adopted by professed trainers, is to commence operations at four o'clock in the



morning, by brushing the horse over: this being done, and the horse having finished his corn, he is taken out to exercise; which should be regulated according to his age, the state of his flesh, &c. At the close of his exercise, he is watered, and takes a canter. When he returns to the stable, wipping, leg-rubbing, brushing &c., ensues; afterwards feeding; when the door is closed, and the animal left to himself, free from all kind of disturbance. All this is finished as early in the day as possible. A similar ceremony, but of short duration, takes place about three hours afterwards: when the stable door is again closed for several hours; and the horse is then subjected to exercise, or rather perhaps to airing, and is watered, &c. as in the morning. At eight o'clock, he is fed and racked up for the night.

The administration of physic ought, like exercise, to be regulated by circumstances, such as the state of the horse, the quality of his constitution, &c.

That horses are frequently over-trained, we have not the least doubt, and that many horses are thus prematurely destroyed, we feel equally confident. What but an excess of training caused that splendid horse Priam, to leave the course at so early a period? Speaking generally, the excessive sweats to which racers are subjected, are highly injurious; the animal economy of the horse is unable to answer such improvident demands without suffering deterioration. In fact, this inordinate expression of the animal juices, prevents the acquisition of that firm fulness of tendon and muscle indispensable to the perfection of condition.

The ground upon which the racer is trained merits consideration. Very hard and very wet grounds are highly objectionable. The best ground for the purpose is that which is clothed with absorbent elastic turf, generally found on the borders of moors; and if it contain some gentle undulation it is to be preferred.

As to public or professional training establishments they may be convenient enough under some circumstances; but there is nothing so very occult or mysterious in the business of training as to render it unattainable by ordinary capacity, or prevent those who keep racers from having them trained under their own immediate inspection: we have known several trainers who occasionally practiced legerdemain, but were no conjurors after all: we could designate some half score of this sort, only that such an enviable pre-eminence might perhaps appear invidious. It generally happens that trainers receive the stakes won by the horses under their care; and it is no uncommon circumstance for clerks of the races to have to transmit sums of money to distant parts, owing to those sums not having been deposited in their hands in due time. On one occasion, a friend of our's had to transmit twenty-five pounds, under such circumstances, to a little cunning trainer, still on the Turf. For which purpose he was about to enclose a twenty pound note and a five pound note: he was in the act of enclosing them in the requisite letter, when, recollecting some suspicious circumstances in the conduct of the wily agent to whom they were to be addressed, he called in the assistance of two disinterested friends, who made the usual memorandums, inclosed the note, sealed the letter, and dropped it into the post-office. The precaution proved essentially necessary. The receipt of the letter was acknowledged, as well as the receipt of five pounds, but the larger note (the twenty) was positively and impudently denied. The person who had transmitted the money, aware of his invulnerable position, paid no attention to the business till it had assumed a formal appearance; the owner of the horse to whom the 25 pounds were due, accompanied by the trainer,

visited the clerk of the races, and demanded twenty pounds; the honest trainer offering to confirm his doubted veracity by an oath in the presence of a magistrate: when at length the two respectable persons who had witnessed the transaction in the manner already described, were brought forward: the truth immediately flashed across the mind of the owner of the horse: the trainer, who up to this moment, had supported his falsehood with unparalleled effrontery, became abashed and was covered with confusion.

Yet we have not found the disease of dishonesty and fraudulent dealing, absolutely epidemical amongst trainers; as we could name a score, whose conduct we have had many opportunities of observing, and whom we believe to be very upright honest men.

What are called public training stables must have the effect of reducing the number of horses which would otherwise be brought to the post for the great stakes, as was rendered manifest by the slender field which appeared for the late Doncaster St. Leger; the powers of the various competitors in the same stable having been previously ascertained, the owners of such as are considered to have no chance, choose rather to lose the half forfeits than risk the whole sum upon an animal of whose quality no doubt can be entertained. Moreover, the system offers greater temptation for trainers and jockeys to bet, and enables them, with more facility, to bet foully:—a betting trainer and a betting jockey cannot be otherwise than objects of suspicion. On every view of the case, public training stables offer a temptation to swindling and robbery; which, it is well known, have proved irresistible in many instances. And that racers can be as well trained as possible in the master's own stable or privately, we need no better proof than that afforded by the horses of Mr. Mostyn, under the management of that civil upright man of good plain sense, John Blenkhorn.

The Marquis of Westminster, by way of giving a fillip to the refrigerated state of Turf affairs, has boldly challenged the world, his colt, Touchstone, carrying 8st. 10lbs., against any competitor, without exception. This would appear noble daring; since the challenge is thrown in the teeth of several superior nags, namely, Plenipo, Glencoe, and Rockingham: Queen of Trumps is out of the question, she could not afford to give a year against such a racer as Touchstone. With Plenipo, Touchstone could have no chance; and the Marquis must have been aware, before he issued his challenge, that he would not come against him. We think Glencoe superior to Touchstone; and we are further of opinion that Rockingham would beat him. Touchstone has been beaten by General Chasse, and the former has successfully opposed the General. Touchstone, out of Scott's stable, proved himself superior to General Chasse; but when brought forward by his owner (the Marquis of Westminster) was unsuccessful against the same horse. The enigma is susceptible of satisfactory explanation. Touchstone is a greedy feeder, and therefore requires more than ordinary exercise, in order to attain that perfection of condition so essential to the racer. The private training ground of the Noble Marquis is not clothed with that soft elastic turf so grateful to the feet of the horse; and, as some suspicions were entertained of Touchstone's fore legs, it was thought very hazardous to give him the requisite exercise upon hard ground. The training ground used by Scott is of a different quality; upon it Touchstone can receive his gallop without risk to his legs: and hence may be perceived the reason of his success and discomfiture when opposed to the same horse.











